

Old South Church

United Church of Christ

October 2017 Telstar

Rooted in faith, Growing in love, reaching for justice

A Message from Pastor Linda Hatch

It is easy to forget that interim time ministry is about more than filling out a church profile to bring a new settled minister to the church. The time and its ministry, yours and mine, is a process that seeks not just needed information from the congregation, but working through anger, frustration, and loss associated with a pastor's leaving. The process takes time for it works with and waits for any plans already in the works, such as a capital campaign, to be in place.

"For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1) This scripture goes on to lift up that there is a time to break down and a time to build up, as well as, a time to lose and a time to seek. It is about God's time and not ours. The work we do is to be healing in ways that draw the congregation ever closer together. As all voices are heard the way is made clear, built up, and focused on the ministerial qualities of the pastor for whom you search. Expectations of that person and that position of ministry have to be grounded in clarity and the reality of the ministry you seek to do here with that called minister.

A church does not call a minister into old hurt and unclear future desires for ministry. A church calls a minister into a healthy congregation, sure in its ministry and resources. It is also important to name well the unknowns that may need that person's understanding and gifts.

Old South's Transition Team works with the conversations and other sources to pull together the church profile. They bring this information together for the whole Body of Christ in this place. We have one more scheduled conversation for facing the needs, realities and expectations you all have. It is not an easy process and it does take patience, which is a spiritual gift.

Rev. Linda Hatch

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Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org

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Director of Children and
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Old South Church

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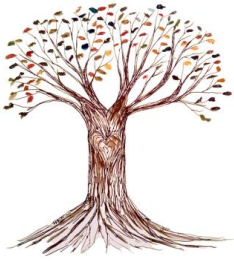
Find us on Facebook at:

Old South First
Congregational Church

Find us on the web at:

www.FarmingtonUCC.org

*No matter who you are
or where you are on
life's journey,
you are welcome here.*



It is a changing time for churches in today's culture. We work through by God's grace and your faithfulness in this process. Thank you for each of your voices and for each team member's commitment and caring. It will come together and be a new beginning.

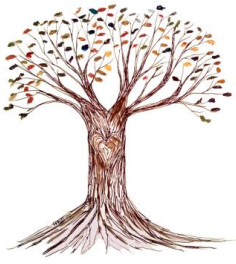
Blessings ever on this walk together as it now moves forward rooted in the love of Christ,

Linda

Would you like to meet with Rev. Linda? She is working in town on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays and available to meet with you. Linda will be in the office when she doesn't have appointments or meetings. Please feel free to contact Pastor Linda at 356-7573 or email her at Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org

Executive Council

Interim Minister:	Rev. Linda Hatch
Moderator:	Chris Magri
Treasurer:	Amanda Adams
Clerk:	Shannon Munro
Financial Secretary & Fundraising:	Brenda Scribner
Director of Children and Youth Ministries:	Jodie Gunther
Chair, Christian Ed:	Arin Hilton
Chair, Diaconate:	Shelley Griffith
Chair, Financial Trustees:	Marilyn Hylan
Chair, Outreach, Justice & Witness:	Randy Oakley
Chair, Personnel:	Joanna Backman
Chair, Property Trustees:	Barb Fortier
Member at Large:	Robin Beck
Member at Large:	Wendy Huish



From The Moderator

It's October, a beautiful time here in Maine, a season I missed very much during the years I lived in Georgia and Louisiana. We know that the crisp weather and colorful foliage won't last; we know that the leaves will fall and Gifford's will close and Nature will go dormant; but still we enjoy the fall while it's here and relish the fact that in a year we'll cycle back to it.

Although autumn is an ending of sorts, this October will also mark new beginnings at Old South: the handicapped accessibility project will finally be getting underway. We've talked about it, we've voted on it, we've raised money for it, and now at last we'll do it. Well, more precisely, the Property Trustees will do it -- but the rest of us will look on with pleasure. There are three major components of the project: a large section of the rear parking lot will be paved; automatic door openers will be installed on six doors; and, of course a three-level wheelchair lift will be installed at the rear of the Newman Wing. Taken together with smaller improvements such as interior door levers and a fully accessible unisex bathroom, this project will put physical reality behind our frequent claim, and strong desire, to be fully welcoming to all comers.

Part of me wishes that church seasons were like the seasons of the year, so we could be assured of having good things cycle back again and again. Alas, we don't get such guarantees! I don't know which challenges we'll be facing a year from now, what we'll be doing with the space in the Holman Mission House, how our budget will be holding up, whether we'll have a settled pastor. . . . But, just as each season of the year has its pleasures in addition to its difficulties, I trust that along with whatever problems come our way, happy developments will occur as well. Sure, we need to take the challenges seriously, but we also need to be attuned to the joys of Church. Who might start attending worship once we're handicapped accessible? How will our youths' new "Pancakery" UMF-outreach project develop? Which important community agency, or home-grown project, might soon be housed at HMH? Perhaps that's my faith: I have no idea which good things will happen for us, or when they'll happen, but I trust that they *will* happen. Faith is trust in God, so let's trust, and let's be ready to celebrate the positive in whatever season we find it.

Chris Magri



From the Treasurer

On September 24th, we had a business meeting to discuss moving our investments to HeadInvest which is an investment management firm out of Portland, ME. They manage the investments for the Maine State Conference. At the meeting, the members of the congregation voted for this change in investment management.

Also on September 24th, we held another Transition Meeting. This time is so valuable as we move forward to select a settled pastor. Thank you for your time and energy and patience as we move through this selection process.

October means budget planning for the Financial Trustees. Please be in prayer with us as we look to 2018 and to funding our operations. We all believe that God has us here to be a light in our community and we want nothing more than to be good stewards of our time and our finances.

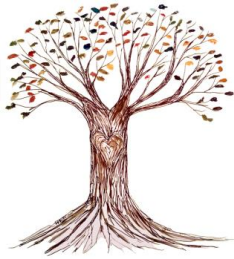
At the writing of this article, our expenses to date are \$156,878.76 and our income is \$167,339.50

Peace to you all,
Amanda Adams
Treasurer

From the Property Trustees

The Property Trustees are ramping up for a busy year as we begin work on a number of projects. For a very long time everyone here at Old South has worked very hard at fundraising and planning to live out our mission and make our church accessible to all and that dream is finally happening. The first step will likely be paving of the parking lot sometime in early October. In the meantime, we will work with Maine Accessibility Corporation to order the lift and prepare the building for installation. If all goes as planned, the lift should be installed in late November to early December. There are a number of other smaller items that will also be completed in the meantime, but the hope is by the end of the year, Old South will be welcoming and accessible to all.

Barb Fortier, Chair



From the Financial Trustees

The capital campaign has raised \$120,000. If you have not been contacted by the capital campaign committee, please leave a message with the church office. Due to summer vacations, committee members have not reached all of their contacts.

The Property Trustees have begun the process of making the church and Newman Wing handicap accessible. A paving contract has been signed and work will be done in October. There is a meeting scheduled with Maine Accessibility to set a contract and order the lift for the Newman Wing. The Property Trustees will report on this in TELSTAR.

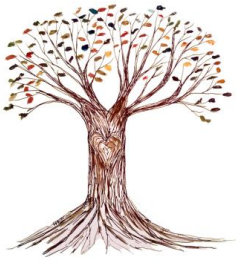
The Fund Raising Committee was busy over the summer with the 4th of July strawberry shortcake and Pie on the Porch events. The Celtic concert series started again in September. Brenda encourages all of us to sign up for Hannaford cards and other script cards. We receive a percentage from these sales.

All church committees need to start thinking about and planning their budgets for next year.

We are looking for a non-profit group or groups to rent the Holman Mission House. Several possibilities were discussed at our monthly meeting.

Amanda suggested to Jodie that she use our UMF Outreach Fund (budgeted) for "Pancakery" information distributed to UMF students. She also mentioned that we may want to put a locked cover over our church sign. The letters are being rearranged with inappropriate messages.

Marilyn Hylan, Chair



The Deacons' Corner

Dear Old South Family,

This month I would like to speak with you about the Diaconate's "Flock" program.

The "Flocks" have been around for a little over 10 years and they began as a way to build a network of support within our church family. In the program, each person in the congregation receives a Deacon and becomes part of that Deacon's flock. The Deacon will then reach out to the individual members of his or her "Flock" and be available to respond to questions, concerns and needs.

Over the years the "Flock" program has been interpreted in different ways. Some have felt that the Deacons should be available to offer pastoral care. Others have suggested that the "Flocks" might act as conduits of communication between the congregants and the governing structure of the church. Still others have proposed that the Deacons write to their "Flocks" to personally invite them to church events.

All of these different interpretations of the "Flocks" have led to some confusion in the congregation as well as among the Deacons. With a smaller Diaconate and therefore larger "Flocks" per deacon, We felt that it was time to take another look at this venerable institution.

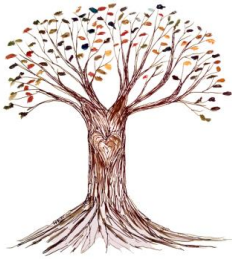
What we discovered, after discussion and discernment, was a need to return to the original intent of the program: to help build a network of support and connection within our church community.

Each person at Old South will still have a Deacon, but, instead of filling a pastoral care role or carrying information between the congregation and the governing bodies of the church, your Deacon will simply serve as a point of contact between you and the church. This means that she or he will primarily be available to listen to your questions, needs and concerns. She or he may also be able to help by suggesting resources, individuals or groups within the church.

We will change the name of this service from "Flocks" to one that reflects an equality of relationship. (For want of a final decision, for now we will refer to them as Deacon Groups. Any suggestions?)

Finally, we will contact each of you to determine what relationship you would like to have with your Deacon. Would you like to be contacted and, if so, how? Or would you rather be the one to initiate the contact if you need it?

Soon, if not already, you will receive a short questionnaire that asks these questions. Please return it as soon as possible so that we will know how we can best serve you!



By simplifying this program, the Diaconate will have more time to devote to the aspects of church life that are closest to your hearts: meaningful worship and spiritual growth, getting to know and understand one another, practicing honest and loving communication and being "formed by God to transform the world".

Shelley Griffith, Chair of the Diaconate

Lay Prayer Ministry at Old South Church

In December 2016, Ryan Westbrook-Vigue's lay ministry of prayer was recognized by blessing Ryan and the work he does centered on prayer. At this time, Ryan vowed to pray for the church as he is able, and the congregation vowed to pray for him. This is a ministry of holding light, prayer, and sacred intention for all of those who lift up prayers in our worship service, whether members or not. If this is a ministry that you feel called to participate in, please contact Rev. Linda or Shelley Griffith, Chair of the Deacons.

Dear Church Family,

Greetings from your Lay Prayer Chaplain! I am so excited to be adding this new article in our monthly newsletter. It is hard to find the words to express what a blessing and humbling privilege it is to be able to join with you during times when you need to be held in prayer, rejoice with you in your joys, and celebrate the blessings in your life. First Thessalonians 5:17 says, "pray without ceasing," that is why I strive very hard to live my life as a "Living Prayer." When I was approached about becoming your Lay Prayer Chaplain it felt like I had been given a matching puzzle piece to my Soul and Spirit. I am humbled when you come to me knowing the trust and faith you place in me and I will hold your prayers in the utmost confidence. I am so blessed to know that I can be here for you and that you know that being your Lay Prayer Chaplain is something that I never take lightly or for granted. Please know that I am always here for you. I look forward to sharing more about prayer and things that surround prayer with you in this monthly article. If you might be new to our Spiritual Family I want to personally welcome you. If you would like to reach me for prayer you may leave your prayer requests in my "mailbox" in the narthex, contact the church office or e-mail me at westbrookvigue@gmail.com. I am always available for your prayer requests, if you need me to join with you in prayer, to celebrate with you, or to add you to my prayer list I am always available to you. Lastly, I want to thank each of you from the depths of my soul for entrusting me with your prayer needs.

Prayerfully yours,

Ryan Westbrook-Vigue
Lay Prayer Chaplain



News and Upcoming Events



October Committee and Group Meetings

Christian Ed	To be determined
Deacons' Meeting	Sunday, Oct 8, Matthew Room following worship
Executive Council	Wednesday, Oct 4, 6:00 pm
Financial Trustees	Tuesday, Oct 10, HMH at 5:30 pm
Outreach, Justice, Witness	Tuesday, Oct 17, Matthew Room at 6:30 pm
Property Trustees	Tuesday, Oct 17, HMH at 6:00 pm
Staff Meeting	Tuesday, Oct 10, HMH at 10:00 am
Transition Team	Thursday, Oct 5, HMH at 5:15pm

Church Membership: Are you interested in learning more about membership at Old South? Please contact Rev. Linda for more information. We hope to have a new member Sunday sometime soon!

Do you need a name tag? Please contact Phyllis in the church office (778-0424 or Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) Thank you!

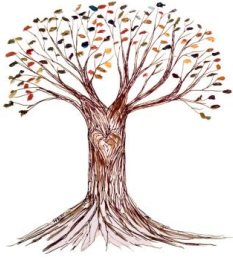


Yarn Available for Prayer Shawls

A supply of yarn is available to give to anyone willing to knit or crochet a shawl, lap blanket, or throw for the Old South Prayer Shawl Ministry. The yarn has been donated by caring supporters of this ministry, for which we are very grateful. Please see Myrna Vallette (778-4387 or myrna.vallette@gmail.com) to get some yarn, patterns, guidelines, and/or more information.

The next Retirees Lunch will be shared at Noon in the Vestry on **Monday, October 2**. Shepherd's Pie will be served. Please mark your calendars and join us for lunch! Bring a side dish to share if you would like. For more information, contact Dick Giard at 897-6228.





News & Upcoming Events



We thank everyone who has taken the time to join us for our transition conversations. We have had three so far. These conversations are an opportunity to be in community with your church family and to participate in the process to create our church profile which is used in the pastoral search process.

The Transition Team will be using material gathered during these conversations and additional information about our church to create our church profile. This is work that used to be done by the Search Committee. Thank you for your participation, love and support for this important work.

Mark your calendars for the next in the series of transition time conversations on Sunday, October 15. The questions we share and discuss will be different and lead us further along on our path to completing the important work of this interim time. Please join us if you can!

Transition Team

Rina Bardo (phone: 778-9978, email dnrbardo@gwi.net)

Jen and Gabe Civiello (phone: 645-2180, email civielloja@gmail.com)

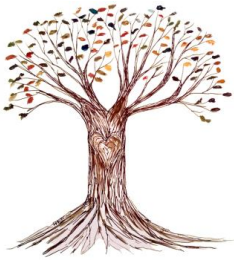
Karyl Condit (phone: 778-3722, email krcondit2@gmail.com)

Shelley Griffith (phone: 639-2013, email sgriffith875@gmail.com)

Roy Scribner (phone: 602-0561, email rbike02@gmail.com)

Mary Sinclair (phone: 712-2930, email mary.sinclair@maine.edu)

Donna Wheeler (phone: 778-3642, email donna.wheeler71@gmail.com)



News & Upcoming Events



Barrule Brings Manx and Gaelic to Old South

Circle Thursday, October 27th on your calendar for a performance at Old South featuring Barrule. Barrule elevates the Isle of Man's native music to a new level of performance and musicianship; they are a knockout live act performing Manx tunes and Gaelic songs seldom encountered in the wider world. Steeped in the history and mythology of its Celtic and Viking ancestry, the Isle of Man sits quietly in the Irish Sea. Continuously self-governed since its parliament was created by Viking invaders over a thousand years ago, few people outside the Isle of Man know of this singular culture: a language and music so nearly lost, born through recent generations on the tongues of a mere handful of families, it now grows strong again. Barrule's fresh approach to traditional Manx music evokes an atmosphere that reflects the diverse natural beauty of the island: from rousing marches, jigs and reels to sorrowful slow airs and beautiful songs sung in both English and the Manx Gaelic language. Stories are told of ancient Celtic Gods, of unrequited love, of the toils of island life. And always the sea is close by.

Doors open at 6 pm. Jam session begins at 6:15 with the concert to follow beginning at 7. Adults \$15.00 with student discounted rates of \$10/\$5. Ticket reservations call 491-5919.

Volunteers and donations of refreshments are needed. Please contact Debbie Davis-Robinson 778-5948, Brenda Scribner 299-3686 or Hallie Yorks 778-0111 if you are able to help or donate refreshments.

Old South's proceed will benefit the Newman Wing handicapped accessibility fund.

Thank you,
Debbie Davis-Robinson



News & Upcoming Events



It's the harvest supper.
Come gather with us.

Harvest Supper – November 4, 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

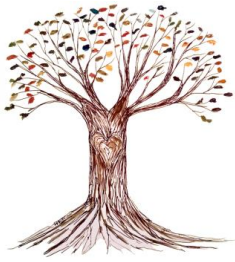
Mark your calendars for this year's Harvest Supper, from 5:00-6:00 pm, Saturday, Nov. 4. The menu will be roast turkey, baked ham, assorted side dishes, and homemade pies. The Harvest Supper is the main fundraiser for Pilgrim Lodge camperships and is held the first Saturday of November. We need donations of food (items that keep long or can be frozen can be donated now) or money to purchase the food items, and people to help set up, serve and clean up. If you are able to help, please contact Brenda Scribner.



All Saints' Day at Old South Church

During worship on November 5, we will have a celebration of All Saints Day and remember the loved ones who have passed from this life into God's eternal embrace. If you would like us to read the name a particular loved one or saint of the church, please send their name to Phyllis at phyllis@farmingtonucc.org no later than Wednesday, October 25.

The deadline for the November Telstar is October 10. Please have all submissions to Phyllis in the church office by this date. Thank you.



Mission & Outreach

Outreach, Justice and Witness will be meeting in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Oct. 17. This is an open ministry with no fixed membership, and we encourage you to stop in, see what plans are in action and help us to serve God's people both locally and globally.



Food Closet Item of the Month: Canned Soup and Canned Tomatoes

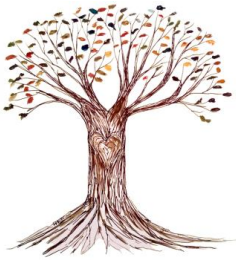
Your donations of these items and other nonperishable food and toiletry items are welcome. You may bring items to the church, and donations will be delivered to Care and Share. Thank you for your continuing support of this ecumenical ministry.



Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries(JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

Along with most UCC congregations, we will receive the NIN offering on **October 1, 2017** as part of our World Communion Sunday observance. Thank you for your support.



Mission & Outreach

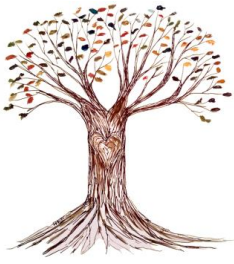


We got a good start to the 2017 – 18 program year, which I believe is our 15th year of this ministry providing comforting and nourishing meals to the hungry and the lonely. Usually our September meal is rather lightly attended, but this time we served about 135 meals. To put this into perspective, when we began doing these meals, the “target” number of meals was 120, and there were many meals that served less than that. Over the past 2 – 3 years, however, we have grown to the point that my usual “target” is now over 150, and there have been several months where we have served around 180 meals.


Our next meal will be on October 14th, and the menu will feature chicken stew with biscuits, with cake for dessert. We continue to be very grateful to Jodie Gunther and God’s Kitchen Crew for their hard work in providing desserts for us.

We are always in need of volunteers to help out with setting up tables and serving meals (and cleaning up, o course). This is always a very rewarding experience and requires NO LONG TERM COMMITMENT. And, even if you can’t pitch in to help, we always appreciate having members of the church come in to share a meal and fellowship with the folks who come to eat.

Stan Wheeler,
Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs



PRAY for those impacted.
GIVE generously to support relief and recovery efforts.
ASSEMBLE cleanup buckets.
VOLUNTEER in the long-term recovery efforts.



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Hurricane Relief and Recovery Efforts through the United Church of Christ

Many of you have been asking about the possibility of donating to the areas that have recently been impacted by hurricanes. You may GIVE to support hurricane relief and recovery efforts by clicking on the link to make a secure online donation. Gifts may also be made at Old South marked for "Hurricane Relief." Donations may be sent directly to United Church of Christ, Financial Services - 6th Floor, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.

To learn more, please check the UCC Disaster Ministries site at:
<http://www.ucc.org/disaster>



Fundraising

Ongoing Fundraising Programs



Hannaford and Merchant Gift Cards

Hannaford cards and merchant gift cards may be purchased on Sundays before Church and during coffee hour and at the church office during office hours. Check out the selection of ready to use gift cards of local, regional and on-line merchants at the Fundraising Committee Table or in the church office!



Do you shop at Amazon?

Be sure to do your shopping through Amazon Smile and Amazon will donate .5% of your total to Old South. There's no cost to you and once you choose Old South as your charity, there's nothing else you need to do. You can go to smile.amazon.com and click select on First Congregational of Farmington. Thank you to those of you who have been utilizing this giving method already!



Children & Youth



It's time to begin our Thanksgiving Basket mission project! This month, our Sunday School children will be collecting food items to make a "proper" holiday meal. On November 19, we'll pack up all donations and bring them to the Care & Share Food Closet in Fairbanks. Once again, we are collecting:

- * canned peas
- * cranberry sauce
- * canned pumpkin * evaporated milk
- * stuffing mix
- * potatoes
- * boxed pie crust mix

We'll also be collecting monetary donations, which will help us to purchase 50 frozen turkeys.





Children & Youth



BBC

We open Coat & Cupboard this month! Plus, we take two field trips as part of our Confirmation journey--first, to the Basilica of St. Peter and Paul in Lewiston, then to **Eastpoint**, a “mega” church in South Portland. We'll be observing ways other congregations worship, pray, sing, conduct rituals and sacraments, and more. We'll listen for how they describe their relationship with God, and their relationships with other people within (and outside of) their church. Each time we visit a faith community, we'll build in time afterward to talk, reflect, and discuss how the experience differs from our worship services and our **theology at Old South**. In addition, we have two Sundays to be “at home” in our own sanctuary.

God's Kitchen Crew: The Pumpkin Bowling Tradition Continues

It just wouldn't be October if we weren't rolling a pumpkin or two around in the Vestry. And, of course, we will be baking those cakes for the Community Luncheon! We meet up Wednesday, October 11, from 3:00 pm to 4:45 pm. Bring along a friend!

For kids grades 2-5

Wednesday Oct. 11 3:00 pm to 4:45 pm

Confirmation Discussions

This month, we take a close look at Statements of Faith--and begin to work on our own. What do we *really* believe? What church teachings do we question, or not understand? How do we perceive the Trinity--the interconnectedness of God, Jesus, and the Spirit? We meet **Sunday, October 22, 6:30 pm to 8:15 pm at Jodie's house (164 Russells Mill Road, approximately 3 miles from Old South)**. Dessert included!

For students in grades 8-12 Sunday, October 22 6:30-8:15 pm



Children & Youth

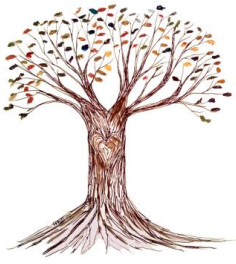


The Pancakery

We continue our unusual new mission project--a “pop up cafe” to serve delicious free brunch to our UMF student neighbors. Twice a month, we offer free coffee, tea, and juice, plus an assortment of “grab-and-go” foods (muffins and such), as well as made- to-order fresh pancakes. We’re adjusting our menu, tweaking our arrangement of furniture, and spreading the word about our free food to our college-student neighbors.

Pancakery Staff: students in grades 5 - 9 Sunday, October 8 and 22 11:00 - 1:00 pm





Children & Youth



Bread for Benefit

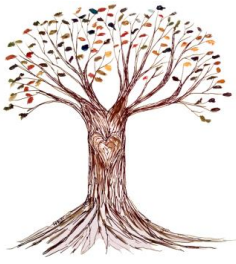
We sell bread just once this month--**October 22nd**. Our "Bread Sched" has Emmett and Charlie working the 8:30 am shift, then Grace and Zack selling bread at 10:30 and Dominic and Abby washing pots. But, of course, everyone can pitch in to make this fundraiser a success!

For students in grades 8-12 October 22 8:30 am and 10:30 am



Share Your Joy: Special Project Sundays

It's an easy way to make a big difference in a child's life: help out with Sunday School "special projects" at Old South. Do you like crafts and art? Silly games? Cooking? Simple mission programs? The Christian Education Committee is looking for volunteers **who'd be** willing to assist with special projects and events throughout the year. Please contact Jodie at Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org or Arin Hilton at Arinhilton@gmail.com.



Children & Youth

How Do I Find Out More?

Don't miss a single youth activity! Sign up for our email newsletter, "Old South Kids This Week," to receive updates, news, photos, and more. Just send a note to Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org. We also post regularly on Facebook; new this fall-- dedicated Facebook pages to The Pancakery, Coat & Cupboard, and Old South Teens

October Schedule

October Youth Programs Calendar

Sunday, Oct. 1: Sunday School lesson: Esau and Jacob; BBC: Coat & Cupboard open today! (*Youth Group: Please arrive at 8:30 am to help open the "shop"*). No evening youth group.

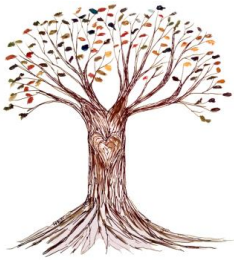
Oct. 8: Sunday School special project day; BBC in worship; Pancakery 11:00 am - 1:00 pm; Youth Group at 6:30 pm (?)

Wed. Oct. 11: God's Kitchen Crew (3:00 - 4:45 pm)

Oct. 15: Sunday School lesson: Baby Moses; BBC field trip to Basilica of St. Peter and Paul, Lewiston (we depart 8:15 am); no Youth Group tonight

October 22: **Sunday School lesson: The Burning Bush; BBC "work" day; Bread-for- Benefit sale; Pancakery 11:00 am - 1:00 pm; Confirmation Discussion 6:30 pm (at Jodie's house 778-8515)**

October 29: Sunday School lesson: 10 Plagues; BBC field trip to Eastpoint Church in South Portland (depart 8:45 am!); no Youth Group tonight



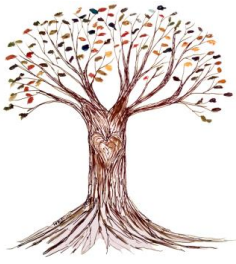
Worship & Music



Revised Common Lectionary

The Revised Common Lectionary is a list of Bible passages followed by the majority of mainline Christian churches, including the United Church of Christ. Pastor Linda will be following the Revised Common Lectionary each week. You will find the lectionary readings below for October.

Proper 21 (26) Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost October 1, 2017	<u>Exodus 17:1-7</u> <u>Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16</u>	<u>Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32</u> <u>Psalm 25:1-9</u>	<u>Philippians 2:1-13</u>	<u>Matthew 21:23-32</u>
Proper 22 (27) Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 8, 2017	<u>Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20</u> <u>Psalm 19</u>	<u>Isaiah 5:1-7</u> <u>Psalm 80:7-15</u>	<u>Philippians 3:4b-14</u>	<u>Matthew 21:33-46</u>
Proper 23 (28) Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost October 15, 2017	<u>Exodus 32:1-14</u> <u>Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23</u>	<u>Isaiah 25:1-9</u> <u>Psalm 23</u>	<u>Philippians 4:1-9</u>	<u>Matthew 22:1-14</u>
Proper 24 (29) Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 22, 2017	<u>Exodus 33:12-23</u> <u>Psalm 99</u>	<u>Isaiah 45:1-7</u> <u>Psalm 96:1-9, (10-13)</u>	<u>1 Thessalonians 1:1-10</u>	<u>Matthew 22:15-22</u>
Proper 25 (30) Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost October 29, 2017	<u>Deuteronomy 34:1-12</u> <u>Psalm 90:1-6, 13-17</u>	<u>Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18</u> <u>Psalm 1</u>	<u>1 Thessalonians 2:1-8</u>	<u>Matthew 22:34-46</u>



Music and Worship



Join the Choir!

Adult Choir rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 7:00 PM, in the Matthew Room. Although previous experience with choral music is helpful, all are welcome to join! So get the rust off your vocal pipes and come along to join the fun by raising your voice in songs of praise to Almighty God!



Vesper Services

On the Wednesdays of November and December, Rev. Linda will be offering Vesper Services. These services are approximately 20-30 minutes long and are held in the Matthew Room and begin at 5:00 pm.

The dates are:
November 1, 8, 15, and 29
December 6, 13, 20

All are welcome.

The Living Water Association, Maine Conference and the United Church of Christ

News from the Living Water Association

The Fall Meeting of the Living Water Association of the Maine Conference will be held at Old South Church on Sunday, Nov. 5., at 1:00 pm.



Maine Conference UCC

The 86th Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ will be held at: Gracie Theater, Husson College, Bangor, Maine and will convene at 9:00 a.m., Saturday, October 21, 2017. Agenda items include:

- Proposed Bylaws of the Maine Conference and, in that connection:
- Amendment of the Maine Conference Charter to allow for 13 voting members of the Board of Directors
- Amendment of the Maine Conference Charter to allow for 5 to 7 members of the Trustees
- Proposed 2018 Conference Budget
- Slate of Officers Elect



UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Would you like to learn more about the United Church of Christ? Please check the United Church of Christ website for more information about our denomination:

<http://www.ucc.org> On this site, you may sign up for "Weekly Seeds" a reflection based on the Revised Common Lectionary readings for each Sunday of the year. There is also a link to an electronic daily devotional called, "The StillSpeaking Daily Devotional."



Get Connected

OLD SOUTH CHURCH

First Congregational Church of Farmington
235 MAIN ST. (Church) ~ 227 MAIN ST. (Office)
FARMINGTON, ME 04938
TEL: (207) 778-0424

WORSHIP: 9:30 AM SUNDAYS

OFFICE HOURS: 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM, Tuesday through Thursday



<http://www.farmingtonucc.org/>



www.facebook.com/OldSouthFarmington



[TWITTER.COM/FARMINGTONUCC](https://twitter.com/FARMINGTONUCC)



[INSTAGRAM.COM/OLDSOUTHLOVE](https://www.instagram.com/OLDSOUTHLOVE)



[PINTEREST.COM/OLDSOUTHCHURCH](https://www.pinterest.com/OLDSOUTHCHURCH)

Old South Statement of Identity

“In Christ there is no longer Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for all are one...”

(Galatians 3:28)

Walking toward God, we, the members of (Old South) First Congregational Church United Church of Christ, Farmington, Maine, seek through God’s Grace to be a congregation that includes all persons who desire to live God’s Love, as shown to us through the teachings and example of Jesus Christ. We respect and embrace differences of gender, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identification, mental and physical ability, as well as racial, ethnic, or socioeconomic background. We welcome all to share fully in the life and leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of participation in our congregation. We are an open and affirming church: open to all, and affirming of all God’s beloved children. No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here.

October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9:00am Coat & Cupboard (HMH Carriage House) 9:30am World Communion Sunday (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room)	2 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	3 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	4 6:00pm Executive Council (Holman Mission House) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	5 5:15pm Transition Team (HMH Meeting Room)	6	7
8 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Deacons' Meeting (Matthew Room) 11:00am Pancakery (Old South Church) 6:30pm Youth Group (Offsite)	9 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	10 10:00am Staff Meeting (HMH Meeting Room) 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 5:30pm Financial Trustees (HMH Meeting Room)	11 3:00pm God's Kitchen Crew (Kitchen, Vestry) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	12	13 9:30am Peeling Party (Kitchen) 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	14 12:00pm Community Lunch (Kitchen, Vestry) 2:00pm Upward Bound (Kitchen, Vestry)
15 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room)	16 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	17 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:00pm Property Trustees (HMH Meeting Room) 6:30pm Outreach, Justice, Witness (Chapel)	18 2:00pm Gold Leaf Institute (Kitchen, Matthew Room, Vestry) 7:00pm LinQ/LGBTQ Support Group (Chapel) 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	19 6:00pm Third Thursday Group (Newman Wing)	20	21 9:00am Maine Conference Annual Meeting at Husson College, Bangor (Offsite)
22 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 10:45am Bread for Benefit (Vestry) 11:30am Pancakery (Church Parking Area, Kitchen) 6:30pm Confirmation (Offsite)	23 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	24 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	25 7:00pm Choir (Matthew Room)	26 7:00pm Barrule Concert (Sanctuary)	27 1:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room)	28
29 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room)	30 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	31 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)				