

Old South Church

United Church of Christ

September 2017 Telstar

Rooted in faith, Growing in love, reaching for justice

A Message from Pastor Linda Hatch

Dear Friends,

As we come together in September, we continue our transition process from a good place. In June we worked through our Second Congregational Conversation. We have a good sense of who this diverse congregation is in this present time, as well as who our many neighbors are, and how we are a neighbor to them. Thanks to the Transition Team and their efforts, here is some of what has been lifted up in our conversations together.

There is excitement about being a neighbor to each other in many ways here at Old South. There is intentionality about the ways we listen, welcome, accept, help out and support one another. The sharing of grief, joy, meals, and projects helps build relationships right here at Old South. Our committees and groups provide a structure for sharing. As we serve, everyone seems to pitch in and help and, in that, receives love, blessing, and the inspiration to do more. There is thought to be a willingness to serve but little patience for committee meetings.

There are many activities going on that serve the community around Old South. Old South has friends that can be counted on to help us in our many projects and our fundraising for area needs and ecumenical outreach. We welcome and affirm all people in our worship and work in love. Worship is central as where we feel filled spiritually and inspired to reach out even when it stretches our comfort zones. Our local community is challengingly diverse and has a disparity of wealth and poverty.

In the national and global neighborhood, we reach out in ways that support the Honduras Partnership and the students at CEVER. We remain strongly committed to Fair Trade Coffee and are aware of how our church funds are invested. We actively send letters supporting various causes to legislators. We are active with Terracycling and e-waste disposal. There is a strong desire to reach out to refugees and immigrants in need of resettlement and other support or help.

Rev. Linda Hatch

Interim Minister
Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org

Jodie Gunther

Director of Children and
Youth Ministries
Jodie@FarmingtonUcc.org

Phyllis Pederson

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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.*



We need to be ever aware of our language, as the way we talk makes a difference in how others are seen. We want to respond to any crisis with needed fundraising and resources.

Old South knows how to love. We are reaching out to UMF students and to others locally. We need to stay connected to our center. There is concern about taking on new activities, yet there is desire to pay attention to people persecuted and suffering around the world.

Our Congregational Conversations will resume with one planned for Sunday September 24 and another on October 15. Our questions will naturally become more specific and difficult as we narrow in on our vision action plan and newer possible things needed or wanted in ministry here now and moving forward. How this congregation sees and names itself and its purposes, now and for the coming years will lead to well named expectations for the called and settled pastor you search out to work with you in God's on-going and new purposes for Old South.

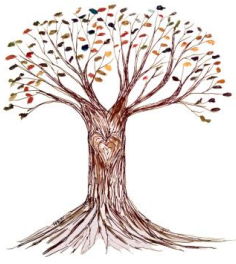
The prophet Jeremiah says, *"Blessed are those who trust in the Lord...they shall be like a tree planted by water, sending its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.* (Jeremiah 17:7-8)

May there be peace and blessings in this walk together through difficult times,
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:	
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

Here at Old South the church year unofficially begins in September, so let me welcome everyone back to Regular Life and express the hope that your summers were relaxing, energizing, and fruitful. I'll devote this message to two thoughts: why our church needs you, and why the world needs churches like ours.

Our faith community, like any community, is always changing, as people join and people leave, as life circumstances ebb and flow, as our oldest members step away from duties and younger people step up. As a result of such changes, we currently have a number of important positions to fill. We need a clerk, someone who will record the discussions we hold and the decisions we reach. We need a couple of deacons, people who will tend to our spiritual needs. We also need a couple of property trustees, people who will keep our physical plant in running order and will oversee the church renovations that will soon be starting in earnest. And, most immediately, we need a "boilermeister," someone who will be the primary person in charge of regularly monitoring and cleaning out our pellet boiler. We absolutely *must* have such a person in place before the heating season begins -- and, hey, this is Maine, the heating season isn't all that far away. Please prayerfully consider whether you might be able to serve your congregation in one of these vital positions.

Just as we need you, the world needs us. I could use this as a jumping-off point to talk about some of our missions, but in fact I have something more somber in mind. I'm writing just a few days after the campus of my alma mater, the University of Virginia, was thronged by torch-bearing white supremacists, who then marched through the city of Charlottesville spewing hatred and violence, culminating in injury and death as a car plowed into a crowd. While we can certainly point to social advances that have been made in recent decades, it is disheartening that bigotry has not entirely faded away, is not something to be found only in history books, is even threatening to make a bit of a comeback. But I think we have a role to play here. Our message -- that absolutely everyone is a beloved child of God, that we are all of infinite worth, that there are no exceptions whatsoever -- is a message our nation needs to hear again and again. Together we can raise a prophetic voice against oppression in all its ugly forms; together we can bring our ancient faith to bear on the troubles of the modern world. Living that faith here in Farmington doesn't have the drama of an angry march, but with a kind act here and a tolerant word there, people of conviction can change the world by changing hearts. Thanks to all of you for being part of this community that tries to follow the Way that Jesus showed us.

Chris Magri



From the Treasurer and Trustees

From the Treasurer

Year to Date (August 29) Income: \$150,132.41

Year to Date (August 29) Expenses: \$140,254.14



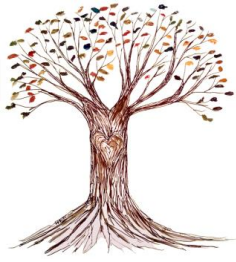
Update on Capital Campaign Projects from the Property Trustees

Thanks to the generosity of our many donors in the Capital Campaign, we are ready to begin the work of making the church handicap accessible. The work will begin with the paving of the rear parking area closest to the Newman Wing entrance, and then work will move inside the building. While a date has not yet been set to begin this work, the Property Trustees are in the process of arranging the contracts with the various parties to get things started.

From the Financial Trustees

At our last meeting, Brenda reported 19 pledges for capital campaign. Barb Fortier reported that the Property Trustees were planning to have the handicap paving in the parking lot done this summer. The next Financial Trustees meeting will be September 12, 5:30, HPH.

A date for an all church meeting regarding the change to a new financial investment company will be on September 24, 2017 after church. We know this is a Transition Conversation Day; we anticipate that the meeting will not be lengthy as we have shared background information with you at the last Annual Meeting and the church family has indicated their desire to have these changes made. Materials regarding the Business Meeting will be shared in advance of Sept. 24. Stay tuned!



Deacons' Corner

Dear Church Family,

The Deacons welcome you to the start of a new program year at Old South!

We hope that these glorious and too-short summer months have brought you joy and many opportunities for your spirits to be refilled. This summer I found myself marveling at how the sunlight can happen to find one particular leaf in the forest!

On August 17th, the Deacons had a retreat. We tried a new approach to exploring the various issues and concerns that come the Diaconate's way. Instead of barreling in with everybody in a rush to express his or her opinion (as is our usual way!), at this retreat we started with silence. Then, each person had a chance to speak to the issue without interruption. Finally, when everybody shared his or her thoughts we returned again to silence and sought to discover where God might be present in the words that were said. Perhaps the experience was like looking for those particular little leaves in the forest upon which the sunlight shines.

We at Old South are moving into a busy Fall and, along with the many other things that will be going on, the Transition Team will be continuing the series of open conversations which we began in the Spring. These conversations are IMPORTANT! They are important because they are opportunities for each person at Old South to have a voice in naming the qualities that we seek in our next pastor. They are important because they are opportunities for each of us to contribute to the development of a profile of our church as we see it today. The profile will be sent to prospective candidates and will help the search committee find a pastor who can partner with us as we seek to follow God's call.

The dates of the next conversations are September 24th and October 15th. Come and let your own particular and very important point-of-view be heard. Each of our voices is like that single leaf in the forest that the sunshine happens to find!

Blessings to all,
Shelley

P.S. Oh yes, by the way, there are two openings on the Diaconate. If you are interested in serving the church in this way, please speak to a Deacon or to a member of the Nominating Committee.

(Your Deacons: Rina Bardo, Roger Condit, Mary Sinclair, Ryan Westbrook-Vigue, Carole Trickett, Wendy Oakley, Michelle Scribner, Fred O. Smith, Linda Fournier, Shelley Griffith and our new Junior Deacon, Grace McIntosh.)



News and Upcoming Events



September Committee and Group Meetings

Deacons' Meeting	Sunday, Sept. 10, Matthew Room following worship
Executive Council	Wednesday, Sept. 6, 6:00 pm
Financial Trustees	Tuesday, Sept. 12, HMH at 5:30 pm
Outreach, Justice, Witness	Tuesday, Sept. 19, Matthew Room at 6:30 pm
Property Trustees	Tuesday, Sept. 19, HMH at 6:00 pm
Staff Meeting	Tuesday, Sept. 12, HMH at 10:00 am



Please join us in worship on September 10 for the start of a new Sunday School year at Old South. The choir will be singing and our youth will begin their Sunday school classes. Please join us!



Prayer Shawls to Make or to Give

Would you like to knit or crochet prayer shawls, throws or lap blankets for the Old South Prayer Shawl Ministry? Please come to a gathering on Tuesday, September 12, from 1-2:30 pm in the Newman Wing Chapel. We will have guidelines, patterns and a limited supply of yarn to get you started. Contact the coordinator, Myrna Vallette (778-4387 or myrna.vallette@gmail.com), for more information. (We hope to make this a monthly get-together; we will discuss whether a different day or time would be better.)

Many of those who have received a blessed prayer shawl, throw or lap blanket from Old South Church have felt love, comfort and the healing presence of the Holy, and truly appreciate the gift. If you know of someone who is in need of a prayer shawl, please speak to Myrna Vallette, Rev. Hatch, or Phyllis Pederson and we'll help you pick one out.

For those of you who have completed prayer shawls or are working to finish one, there will be a prayer shawl blessing at Old South on Sept. 17. Please bring your donations in for blessing or contact Myrna Vallette for more information.



News & Upcoming Events



Mark your calendars for the next in the series of transition time conversations on Sundays, September 24 and 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.

Transition Team

Rina Bardo (phone: 778-9978, email dnrbardo@zwi.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)
Jean Longyear (phone: 778-6739, email reginaly9@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)



Church Business Meeting

Before the Transition Conversation on Sunday, Sept. 24, there are plans for a Special Business Meeting. At this meeting, we will vote on changing the investments to new management. Information about this possible transition was shared at the Annual Meeting in May, and we will share information prior to the Sept. 24 vote as well. The Call to Meeting will be posted soon. We will stay in the sanctuary following worship before a quick break leading into our Transition Conversation. Please save the date and join us!



News & Upcoming Events

Bread for Benefit Sales Dates for September

September 10 (during Coffee Hour)
September 24 (after the Business Meeting
and before the Transition Conversation) in
the Vestry



Retirees
Luncheon

The next Retirees Lunch will be shared at Noon in the Vestry on **Monday, October 2**. Please mark your calendars and join us for lunch! For more information, contact Dick Giard at 897-6228.



Small Dinner Groups

Small Dinner Groups

Would you like to have a meal with six-to-eight other Old Southerners once a month or so? Sign up on the sheet posted in the Vestry, and the church office will be in touch with you! We will put the groups together and let you know who is in your group. The groups meet either at Holman Parish House or in your home. The host provides the main course and the others bring side dishes and dessert. This is a great way to get to know some of the church family in a casual setting and all about fellowship! If you have questions or want to sign up by e-mail (Phyllis@farmingtonucc.org) or by phone (778-0424) please be in touch. Or, just sign up on Sunday! The “deadline (though we always take *latecomers!*)” is *Tuesday, Sept. 26*. This year, we would like to make groups of six, if possible, to allow the groups the flexibility of inviting additional participants to each meal or perhaps deciding to join another group for a meal. Please sign up for this fun activity!



News & Upcoming Events

Upcoming Schedule of Benefit Concerts at Old South



Còig

The electric, youthful, and multi-talented Cape Breton's fiery Celtic style band, Còig, will take the stage at Old South Church on Thursday, September 14 at 7pm. With Celtic style as its musical core, Còig easily shifts between century old tunes of past generations to original and contemporary compositions, featuring the band's range of over a dozen instruments (vocals, fiddles, piano, guitar, banjo, mandolin, viola, bouzouki, whistles, and more). Members include fiddler, Chrissy Crowley, highly sought after multi-instrumentalist Darren McMullen, fiddler and vocalist Rachel Davis, and high intensity piano player, Jason Roach. For more information about Coig visit <https://www.coig.ca/>.

Doors will open at 6 pm with a special jam session, a "Jam for Jody" beginning at 6:15 to honor Jody. Friends of Jody Kasregis are invited to gather for a very special jam session to honor her sudden passing and great love of music. Jody led jam sessions at Skye Theatre for 13 years. Those of us who have been attending Celtic music events hosted by New England Celtic Arts remember her with great fondness. Adult admission is \$20 with discounted student rates of \$5/\$10. Students playing in the jam session will receive free admission to the concert. Refreshments will be served during the jam session and intermission by donation. Old South Church's proceeds will benefit the Old South Handicap Accessibility Fund.

To volunteer, donate refreshments or reserve tickets call Debbie Davis Robinson at 207-491-5919 or Brenda Scribner at 207-299-3686.

Upcoming concerts include the band Barrule on Thursday, October 26, and the ECU Heat Share Fuel Assistance Benefit Community Christmas concert will take place on Thursday, December 14 featuring Matt and Shannon Heat and a Child's Christmas in Wales.



Mission & Outreach

Outreach, Justice and Witness will be meeting in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, Sept. 19. 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: Pasta and Pasta Sauce

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.

Community Lunch

It's hard to keep track, but I believe we are entering our 14th year of serving healthy, nutritious and comforting food to our neighbors in the Farmington area. In case you're reading this and you're NEW to OLD South, we have a FREE Community Lunch on the second Saturday of every month except for July and August. People can call and ask for delivery, or they can come to the church and share in the fellowship around the table.

Our menu for September will be: Roast Pork Loin with gravy, mashed potatoes, peas and biscuits. There will be a sign-up sheet posted on the door to the kitchen and we ask folks to sign up to help in whatever way they can, either with a donation of food or a willingness to help with setting tables, serving, or cleaning up.

As always, even if you aren't able to help, you are invited to join us on September 9th to share in the meal. We have found that the folks who come to eat really enjoy being able to talk with church members.

Stan Wheeler

Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs



Mission & Outreach



UNDERWEARNESS

HELPING CHILDREN ONE PAIR AT A TIME

Western Maine Underwearness Project

The Underwearness Project is an organization that collects underwear for children. Often, underwear and socks are items that children in families struggling to make ends meet are lacking. Underwear isn't generally offered at thrift stores and the cost of new underwear and socks can add up for families.

Outreach, Justice and Witness has placed a collection box in the vestry at Old South. Please consider purchasing a package of underwear (underpants or undershirts) or socks, child through teen sizes, to donate. The Western Maine Underwearness Project organizers will distribute the items to places such as the homeless shelter and schools where they can be given out to kids in need.

On behalf of Outreach, Justice, and Witness,
Sherry Jenckes



Fair Trade Coffee Ordering

Old South members and friends may join the group ordering of fair-trade certified, wholesale coffee, tea, chocolate and food items from Equal Exchange. The next order deadline is by 6 pm Monday, September 18. Contact the coordinator, Myrna Vallette, at 778-4387, or by email at myrna.vallette@gmail.com, to order or to get more information.



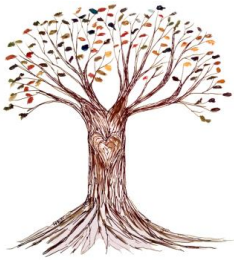
Mission & Outreach



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.



Mission & Outreach



Called to Serve?

Here are just a few of the opportunities to lend a helping hand to ministries and program needs of Old South:

Annie's Beanpole – medical equipment loan program

Community Lunch – free monthly meal for the community

Food Closet – help distribute food to our community

Kitchen Crew – help to keep the church kitchen in tip top shape!

Coffee Hour – host coffee hour

Sign Board – be a substitute helper to maintain the event calendar in front of the church

Concert Series – Help distribute promotional material, providing and serving a meal for the performers, provide refreshments, cashier, greeters, clean up and more. Contact Debbie Davis Robinson to sign up.

Coat Closet – Donate your gently used jackets, coats and hats to help provide warmth to another

Service Recordings – Plan to be in church most Sundays? Volunteer to learn how to use the sound equipment to record the services for uploading to the church website.

Warming Centers – In January and February, there are countless ways to help at the Warming Center. Volunteer to provide a pot of soup, or be a greeter or other helper on Thursdays.

Committee Work or Serving as a Church Officer: Various positions are open on committees. Please contact Chris Magri or the church office for more information.

World Concern – share your concern during worship. Contact Rev. Linda for more information.

Do you have a special skill that you would like to share with your church family? Please contact us in the church office (778-0424 or farmingtonucc@myfairpoint.net). Thank you!



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



Welcome Home! We gather to journey together in a new Sunday School year. You can find a complete overview of our lessons, activities, programs (and more!) with the “**Old South Youth Programs Calendar Chart**” at the end of this article. In addition, copies of our program calendar, as well as a fun “Welcome Home!” end-of-summer project and an important Sunday School registration form, have been mailed to families. If you do not receive a packet in your mailbox, please contact us and we’ll get one to you!

In addition, our weekly “*Old South Kids This Week*” email newsletter resumes this week. We’ll also be posting exciting updates to our ongoing Youth Group mission project, **Coat & Cupboard**, on our Facebook page “*Old South Teens*”. Plus, we’re launching a delicious new project for students in grades 5-9: **The Pancakery**. Not on our mailing list? Please contact me, Jodie Gunther, at Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org.





Children & Youth

Sunday School & BBC

Lessons, activities, programs, and more begin this month. Once again, we'll have traditional Sunday School for children, and BBC (Bible Breakfast Club) for older students. Our first classes will be held on "Welcome Home Sunday," Sept. 10, during the worship service (the lessons begin at approximately 9:45 am, after the Time with the Children in the sanctuary). We're excited to welcome three new Teacher Assistants---students from the University of Farmington---who will regularly work with our children to help facilitate crafts, games, activities, and more. Each Sunday, these Teacher Assistants will work under the guidance and leadership of our Sunday School Superintendents. We plan to "introduce" our TAs to the congregation in next month's Telstar.

This fall, our Sunday School lessons will review stories from the Old Testament, including the adventures of Joseph, Moses, Samson, Joshua, and Ruth. (We'll move to the New Testament after Christmas). We will also have "special project days," which will enable us to explore our faith with fun multi-class events-- art, theater, games, or cooking projects, as well as mission work.

God's Kitchen Crew: Return of the Kitchen Gang

Calling all kids in grades 2 - 5: We have 12 cakes to bake for the September Community Luncheon, and we need your help! As in seasons past, we'll mix in some silly games and crafts, too, for a fun-filled afternoon. Our first meeting will be Wednesday, September 6, from 3:00 pm to 4:45 pm. Bring along a friend!

For kids grades 2-5

Begins Wednesday Sept. 6

3:00 pm to 4:45 pm

Acolytes: Carrying the Light of God into the Sanctuary

Children in grades 3 - 6 are invited to help participate in each Sunday's worship service by serving as acolytes, carrying the light of God into the sanctuary at 9:25 am. We will be posting a new fall schedule soon---if you'd like to be included, but need training, please contact us! We'll arrange a training session for our "new recruits" early in September.

For kids in grade 3-6

Begins Sunday, Sept. 10

9:15 am - 9:30 am

Old South's Nursery

Infants and toddlers are always welcome at our Nursery. Clean, safe, and comfortable, the Nursery is open from 9:20 am through 10:45 am each Sunday morning. Our Nursery staff provides a welcoming, nurturing environment; all staff is background checked for safety.



Children & Youth

Confirmation & Youth Group

Once again, we're taking the best parts of Youth Group and Confirmation---and combining them! This fall, we meet Sunday evenings 6:30 -- 8:15 pm at Jodie's house (164 Russells Mill Road, approximately 3 miles from Old South). Dessert *always* included!

One Sunday each month will be a Confirmation Class meeting, where we'll introduce different core elements of our faith---scripture, prayer, faith, tradition, sacraments, mission, and so on. Confirmation Sponsors will be invited to participate in these sessions. Then, subsequent Youth Group Sundays will dig deeper into these elements, using movies, "TED Talks," art, music, special guests and more. In May 2018, students will be invited to participate in a Confirmation ceremony and blessing.

For students in grades 8-12

Begins Sunday, Sept. 10

6:30-8:15 pm



The Pancakery.

Hot. Fresh. Free.

Open 11:30 - 12:30
2nd and 4th Sundays of the month
In the faculty/staff parking lot next to Scott Hall

The Pancakery

Who can't resist a hot, fresh--and FREE--pancake or two? This month, we launch a crazy-but-fun project: a "pop up cafe" to serve delicious free brunch to our UMF student neighbors. On the second and fourth Sundays, the "staff" of The Pancakery will set up in the Vestry-side parking lot for one scrumptious hour. We'll have colorful tables and chairs, a bright friendly banner, and maybe even a little jazz music. Plus, stacks and stacks of pancakes, coffee, and tea, and more.

Pancakery Staff: students in grades 5 - 9

Begins Sunday, Sept. 10

11:00 am - 1:00 pm



Children & Youth

Bread for Benefit

It's one of our tastiest assignments---making freshly baked bread to sell after the worship service on Sunday mornings. This year, we'll be selling bread two times each month (check the Youth Program Calendar Chart for dates). We'll need all youth group members to lend a hand to keep this highly successful program running smoothly. Look for a complete assignment schedule--sent via email and posted on Facebook---soon!

For students in grades 8-12

Intermittent Sundays throughout the year

Job Shifts: Bread-prep @ 8:30 am; Bread-selling @ 10:45 am; Pot Washers @ 10:45 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.

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.





Children & Youth



September Schedule

9/6 Wednesday

God's Kitchen Crew 3:00 - 4:45

9/10 "Welcome Home" Sunday

SS special project day

BBC in worship

Bread for Benefit sale

Pancakery 11:00 - 1:00

Youth Group 6:30 - 8:00 (@ **Coat&Cupboard!**)

9/17 SS special project day

BBC "work" day

Confirmation Class 6:30 - 8:15 (@Jodie's)

9/24 SS lessons

BBC in worship

Bread for Benefit sale

Pancakery 11-1:00

Youth Group 6:30 - 8:15 (@ Jodie's)



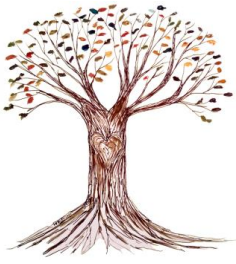
Worship & Music



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 September.

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 3, 2017	<u>Exodus 3:1-15</u> <u>Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b</u>	<u>Jeremiah 15:15-21</u> <u>Psalm 26:1-8</u>	<u>Romans 12:9-21</u>	<u>Matthew 16:21-28</u>
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 10, 2017	<u>Exodus 12:1-14</u> <u>Psalm 149</u>	<u>Ezekiel 33:7-11</u> <u>Psalm 119:33-40</u>	<u>Romans 13:8-14</u>	<u>Matthew 18:15-20</u>
Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 17, 2017	<u>Exodus 14:19-31</u> <u>Psalm 114</u> <i>or</i> <u>Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21</u>	<u>Genesis 50:15-21</u> <u>Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13</u>	<u>Romans 14:1-12</u>	<u>Matthew 18:21-35</u>
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost September 24, 2017	<u>Exodus 16:2-15</u> <u>Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45</u>	<u>Jonah 3:10-4:11</u> <u>Psalm 145:1-8</u>	<u>Philippians 1:21-30</u>	<u>Matthew 20:1-16</u>



Music and Worship



InnerRhythm

InnerRhythm is Old South's drumming ministry. 12 years ago women of Old South formed a percussion group which plays tambourines, hand drums called tars, and hand percussion. Drumming together has been a spiritual journey for the drummers. InnerRhythm plays occasionally for worship and celebrative occasions locally and for the LWA Association. We all learned "from scratch."

If you would like to learn more InnerRhythm and about drumming, you are welcome to visit us at 5:30 pm most Tuesdays. Or contact any one of the InnerRhythm members: Fran Addicott, Mardy Bogar, Karyl Condit, Sherry Jenckes, Sheri Leahan, and Donna Wheeler.

Special Music for the Summer *Thank you*

A special note of thanks to those of you who provided music during the summer months. We thank: Ryan Westbrook-Vigue, Beth Hatcher and Cecilia Dean, Bruce McInnes, Shepherd's Pie, Jane Parker, Fran and Pete Addicott and Friends, and Patricia Hayden.



Join the Choir!

Adult Choir rehearsals will commence on Wednesday, September 6 at 7:00 PM, in the Matthew Room. Although previous experience with choral music is helpful, all are welcome to join Patricia and Bruce for an exciting and challenging year ahead. 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!

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

News from the Living Water Association

The Living Water will not have an outdoor worship service this year.

Maine Conference News

The Maine Conference Annual Meeting will be held at Husson University on Saturday October 21st, with the Pre-Annual Meeting Retreat on Friday October 20th at All Souls UCC in Bangor.



Come with the Maine Conference to Italy!

Ten Days and Eight Nights

April 24 - May 3, 2018

\$3350 per person

Art, History, Food, Fellowship, Faith

The glory of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, a mass audience with Pope Francis in St. Peter's Square, the Colosseum and Forum [learn more](#) (opening still available at time of Telstar printing).

[Printable Registration](#)

[Trip Timeline and Optional Tours](#)



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.

September 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary)	4 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	5 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	6 1:30pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room) 3:00pm God's Kitchen Crew (Kitchen, Vestry) 6:00pm Executive Council (Holman Mission House)	7	8 10:00am Peeling Party (Kitchen)	9 12:00pm Community Lunch (Kitchen, Vestry)
10 9:30am Worship "Welcome Home Sunday" (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 11:00am Deacons' Meeting (Matthew Room) 11:00am Bread for Benefit Sale (Vestry) 11:30am Pancakery (Church Parking Area, Kitchen)	11 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	12 10:00am Staff Meeting (HMH Meeting Room) 2:30pm Just Friends (Chapel) 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 5:30pm Financial Trustees (HMH Meeting Room)	13 5:15pm Transition Team Meeting (HMH Meeting Room)	14 9:00am Arts Institute of Western Maine (Matthew Room) 7:00pm Coig Concert Fundraiser (Old South Church)	15	16
17 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 6:30pm Confirmation Class (Offsite)	18 2:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Matthew Room) 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	19 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:00pm Property Trustees (HMH Meeting Room) 6:30pm Outreach, Justice, Witness (Chapel)	20 7:00pm LinQ/LGBTQ Support Group (Chapel)	21 6:00pm Third Thursday Dinner for UMF Students (Matthew Room)	22	23
24 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (HMH Gathering Room) 10:30am Special Business Meeting following Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Bread for Benefit Sales (Vestry) 11:00am Pancakery (Church Parking Area, Kitchen) 11:00am Transition Conversation (Vestry) 6:30pm Youth Group (Offsite)	25 6:00pm Buddhist Group (Newman Wing)	26 5:30pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	27	28	29	30