

if 6 of one or two trustees who served to manage this account since it was created. served 33 years, and Ben Butler, the trustee before Alden, served 20 years. The members hereby thank Alden for his faithful 31 years of tending this account.

church on Sunday, June 7, as we honor Alden Mitchell.



Trustee Meetings

5:30 – 6/1, 10:30 am, Holman Parish House
6:30 – 6/3, 6:30 pm, Holman Parish House
After worship, Matthew Room
6:30 – 6/9, Potluck, 6:00 pm, Assembly Room
After worship, Matthew Room
6:00 pm, Holman Parish House

Justice and Witness

Our Social Justice Ministry is looking at ways to “green” our church, and will continue this work. 115 letters were written for the Bread for the World Offering of Letters 2009. The U.S. House of Representatives in Congress asked that they co-sponsor the Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act, the first reform of foreign assistance programming in 48 years. Letters to our senators and representatives regarding foreign assistance reform as well, to make our foreign assistance funding more effective. Justice and Witness will meet at 6 pm for a potluck supper meeting before we break

Sherry Jencke

W: *Everything Must Change: Jesus, Global Crises, and a Revolution of Hope*, by Brian D. McLaren, a former sort of renegade evangelical pastor: if you look for him online, one of the possible search keys that Google finds in this book he only briefly alludes to the outrage that he has generated in certain circles, focusing instead on how Christianity can be made relevant to this life and not just to the afterlife. His overall question: “What are the good news of the kingdom of God – to the world’s greatest problems?”

McLaren argues that roughly two billion people made more of a difference in the world beyond Sunday morning than the other 6 billion. He then presents a number of different breakdowns of the most pressing problems: one of these lists, the UN Millennium Development Goals, is familiar by now at Old South, but not to me, were new to me. His point is that traditional faith communities haven’t addressed these “political” issues. He sees God’s kingdom on Earth as it is in heaven. Furthermore, McLaren sees this inaction as contributing to the fact that “a message purporting to be the best news in the world should be doing better than this.”

McLaren sees our society as a system gone haywire: a “suicide machine.” The three cogs of the machine are the “profit” (business, agriculture, iTunes), the “security system” that safeguards our prosperity from criminals as it passes laws, shares the wealth, and shares the burden of paying for security. This machine must operate on a constant flow of inputs (like oil) and outputs (like pollution). And the central gear that meshes with

er this means military security or just rich people hiding behind walls and guard dogs. In this year of election, it is good to read McLaren’s account of “the capitalist narratives,” which tell us that stimulating and satisfying the end of life and that the invisible hand of the market has a magical power to cure all ills.

different framing narrative, “good news” centered on God – but that story is different in McLaren’s in the traditional view. This section of the book will sound familiar to anyone in the congregation who has read the perspectives of Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Jesus, says McLaren, did not come to offer a new behavior, but to invite us to transform ourselves and thus transform this world starting right now. The Herodians and Sadducees felt that cooperating with the occupiers was the realistic thing to do. The Zealots felt that God would send a liberator if the people were pious enough; the Essenes felt that society was entirely corrupt and went out to the desert to live an alternative to empire, a different narrative, summarized by McLaren as “God is king, and we can live in an alternative to Caesar and Caesar’s power.” Thus we are to trust God rather than striving for wealth, seek reconciliation together rather than thinking in terms of us vs. them. Thus when Peter can’t accept that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus famously compares him to Satan for buying into that inappropriate narrative.

McLaren’s “inappropriate framing stories that must be rejected – even within the church, where the Second Coming was the same violence that Pilate once employed. The book came alive for me in its second half, where he discusses problems: the persistent tendency of religious leaders to bless wars, the violence of the war on terror, the unreality of defining progress as ever-increasing consumption in a world of finite resources, the ineffectiveness of those declining resources, the futility of hoping that the world’s poor will forever peacefully accept this work more than in the past and have many more material things and yet have grown less and less. McLaren discusses how Jesus’s message relates to those problems. For example, he takes the stark demonstration of “a radically different economy, one that doesn’t depend on spending more and more and more already have and sharing.” Is that economic vision unrealistic? Well, compared to what? To a world where a billion-plus Chinese live like Americans? The status quo can’t be sustained. Jesus asks us to do this good news as the way to achieve an alternative society. Filling in the practical details will be hard work for us in God’s framework.

Outreach Ministries

This project has been completed for this year and we thank those who stopped to look at the kits in April and made a donation or purchased needed items to complete the kits. We were able to assemble 100 health kits and 6 baby layettes which totaled 26 lbs. These were delivered to Portland, ME, with all the other kits donated by churches around the State, to the Church World Service. Wouldn’t it be interesting to know in what part of the world the kits from our church

you goes to Marian Mitchell who donated almost all the items for the baby kits, to the school bags and to the ladies who helped shop, pack and deliver – Peg Adams, Polly neva Worthley.

Thank you to all who gave donations, their time and effort to make this project possible.



are Food Closet needs you too! The Food Closet currently is not staffed properly 1 days. If you can offer two hours a week to the Food Closet, please contact the church help. There is an immediate need; training will be provided.

Church World Service Blanket + Sunday

l who contributed to this year's Blankets + Sunday Special Offering. Our church donate \$80 of their Sunday school money to Church World Service. Combine , we were able to send a total of \$533.00 to Church World Service.

Mission at the Eastward

n August a team from Old South Church will be taking part in Mission at the East to help a family in this area with repairs to their home. Our jobs in the past fixing broken windows, putting up siding, painting, and even helping to add a fun to you, please join us for the whole week or for a day or two. Questions? :28, or just sign up on the sheet posted in the vestry to join our work party!

Community Lunch

Community Luncheon was held on May 9th and we served 120 meals of roasted chicken and corn. This is continuing the trend of seeing more people participate in our meal. It was especially gratifying that so many people responded to our urgent plea enough. Thanks to you all!

We will be serving our "traditional" June barbecue, consisting of hamburgers, hot dogs with cole slaw and brownies for dessert. This has been our traditional way of ending spring to take the summer as a break. However, we have decided to continue our mission.

We did this last year with mixed success, but we decided that with the continued support of our other new feeding program (the Thursday meal site), that we would turn the Lunch ministry.

to believe, but we are approaching the end of our sixth year of Community Lunch and all the continuing support that we have received from the congregation, and since we have been able to help in so many different ways.

Stan Wheeler
Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs

Plant Sale and Yard Sale June 5th-6th

Notice! It is not too late to divide and pot up some of your perennials to donate to the Holman Parish House. Need pots and labels? There is an assortment of pots available in the side entrance to the vestry/assembly room and are available 24/7. If you have them there. If you are unable to dig and pot, please let us know. We are more than happy to "dig in"! To help with the plant sale organizing we ask that plants be priced ahead of time; need to be identified with a tag. Additional information on the tag would be especially where it needs to be planted in shade, part shade or sun. The categories will be Perennials, Herbs, Vegetables and Houseplants. Invite your gardening family, neighbors and friends to come and shop for some new plants. PLEASE NO invasive plants! Plant sale at Holman Parish House Porch beginning Tuesday, June 2nd. Plants can be dropped off on June 5th between 7 and 7:30 am. Plant questions contact Debbie Davis-Robinson 778-561-1156.

WARNING!!!! Donate your unwanted items to the annual 2 Day Yard Sale to be held on Friday June 6th at the Holman Parish House. If you have items to donate please contact the Fundraising Committee. Assistance is available to transport items that you are unable to help moving some large and/or heavy items. Donated items must be in good condition (i.e. puzzles and games) and packaged together. Categories will include: housewares, furniture, toys, recreational equipment, collectables, tools, etc. PLEASE NO CASH If you have clothing to donate please speak with Debbie or Sueli about the Comoros or Honduras 2010 partnership trips.

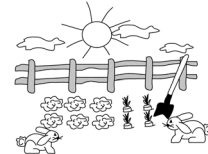
this will be the calendar

middle page calendar



are needed for the following duties:
sorting and pricing
: from 7 am set up to 10:30 on Friday and Saturday
ift from 10:30 am to 2 pm take down on Friday and Saturday
) help with the yard sale please let Sueli know or leave your name with the church
is 2 day sale will benefit Old South's outreach, community service and youth prog

Committee
obinson, Sueli Gaewsky, Barb Fortier and Linda Fournier, Wendy Huish and Bren



ery Day! Old and broken electronics or "e-waste" will be collected for DEP appr
Saturday, June 6th from 9 am to 3 pm at the Farmington Aubuchon Hardware parki
l., Route 2 & 4. Old South First Congregational Church of Farmington is partneri
ions of Auburn to provide an opportunity for responsible recycling of tvs, compute
devices for free. For a list of other electronics and universal waste that will be acc
n.

ers and parishioners of Old South, if you are not physically able to transport any el
recycle. Volunteers are needed to collect and transport electronics for those in ou
ically able. Please contact Rich Robinson 778-5948 or Ed Davis 778-2866 if you
o be of assistance.

For more information contact 778-5948 or the church office at 778-0424 ext. 3. Thank you for their support.



Serving Up Strawberry Shortcakes

Strawberry Shortcakes will be served up on July 4th at the Pierce House lawn, Main St, noon. Volunteers will be needed to: pick strawberries at Pikes' farm prior to the day the berries are picked on July 3rd and serve on through noon. Contact Wendy Huish, Debbie Davis-Robinson, or leave a message with the church at Old South Church outreach, community service and youth programs.

Committee Update May 19, 2009

• purchased by Old South from 2/25 to 5/17 \$30,000.00 ~ Resulting in bonus card

Cards income from 2/25 to 5/10 \$150.00

• many cards can be purchased every Sunday from before church beginning at 9 am and through church. Orders are called into Hannafords each week on Monday mornings and are ready for pickup. If you are unable to get to the FRC table on Sunday morning and want to purchase a card, please contact a member of the Fundraising Committee. Checks are made payable to Old South Church and in the memo area write "Hannaford". Cards can be purchased in \$25.00 increments and in the memo area write "Hannaford". Cards can be purchased in \$25.00 increments and in the memo area write "Hannaford". Cards can be purchased in \$25.00 increments and in the memo area write "Hannaford". Cards can be purchased in \$25.00 increments and in the memo area write "Hannaford".

• Card orders can be made and processed anytime just for the added cost of postage, and the end of each month to order any of the cards from the extensive list of participants can be placed on Sunday mornings at the Fundraising Committee Table, left at the church acting as a member of the FRC. Checks are made payable to Old South Church and in the memo area write "Hannaford". Processed orders are received by the FRC within 4 days. So support the Scripps Club members from the merchants and restaurants where you shop and dine out. The committee has had them to sell on Sunday mornings: LL Bean, Dunkin Donut etc. to offer some cards from time to time.

• Supporting the work of Old South Church Fundraising Committee

• Robinson, Sueli Gaewsky, Barb Fortier and Linda Fournier, Wendy Huish and Brenda

• Confirmation program for ninth and tenth graders is on for next school year! Rev. Cathy and Tim Wallace will co-teach the class. The regular meeting time will be 5-7 pm. There will be two retreats at the start and finish. Our schedule will be as follows:

• 2009 — kick-off overnight retreat at the Richmans' lake house (we plan to invite students to join us on the Saturday afternoon to share their experience — and to thank everyone to church for a Confirmation-year blessing), October 18, 25, November 14, 21, 28; April 9-11, Trip to Boston; May 9, Confirmation Sunday

tion for 2009-2010

• 1 year, Rev. Cathy can only facilitate one adult program at a time. Choices, choices, choices for the fall? How about a book group on Barbara Brown Taylor's new book "spiritual treasure in the bodily experiences of human life on earth"? Or, a series of Churches conversation entitled For the Peace of the World: A Christian Curriculum? Or, Bible Study? Please weigh in by contacting Rev. Cathy at 778-4694 or so@oldsouth.org or 778-4694!

CORNER

BIBLE SCHOOL Grades K-8th Grades

• Fun, Bible stories, crafts, games and food!!!
When: June 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, July 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, August 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, September 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, October 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, November 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, December 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, January 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, February 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 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News

School year culminates with Celebration Sunday on June 7th. What a terrific year we

Working teachers this past year, including: Karri McCarthy, Anne Charles, Rebekah Roberts, and Carl and Joanna Backman. Our teachers are essential for a Sunday School

is fun.

On Sunday, we will also give Bibles to our Old South kids who are completing third

McCarthy, Meghan Charles, Zoe Huish, and Maggie Murray. During this Intergenerational we will offer another old favorite song—we expect the congregation will be joining in and will be serving delicious food during coffee hour.

Next, there will be no Sunday School program during the summer months, although the school will be. We look forward to Welcome Back Sunday on September 13th. Our regular Sunday School will begin on September 20th. As always, we invite members to teach with us. Because we will have a new teacher each grade level, we can work with your schedule. Next fall, we will begin using a variety of ideas and activities to help us teach the stories of our faith.



Women's Retreat - Sign-up Now!

Women's Retreat, "Spirit Seasons," will be held at Rockcraft Retreat Center on Sebago Lake, July 13-15. The retreat leader is Rev. Phyllis. This is always a wonderful occasion for spiritual depth, fun and fellowship. If you are interested, please contact Phyllis or Rev. Phyllis.

Cost per person is \$155. We do have scholarship funds as well – please contact Phyllis or Rev. Phyllis. The retreat committee is Rina Bardo, Erlane Dyke, Nelia Farmer, Linda Fournier, Shelley Griff

UCC Women's News

of Christ Events

will feature intergenerational, participatory time. Leaders will be Valerie Tutson, a Rhode Island, and Whendi Cooke, singer, songwriter, musician and visual artist from together they will lead women 14 and up in creating expressions of the journey as six CONNECTIONS through art, music, dance, faith and fun! Website for more information <http://www.uccwomenscelebration.org>.

Looking forward to seeing you at CELEBRATION VIII in Burlington.



UCC & ME newsletter:

How we got to the June 6, 2009 special meeting

As the budget began to get tighter, the Community Life Commission suggested to Council to consider its responsibility regarding conference properties. In 2007, the Council directed the efforts of Pennell Center, Pilgrim Lodge and Rockcraft. Amidon Associates was hired with an eye to existing space, its use and effectiveness, as well as code, life safety, and aesthetics. As part of the overall consideration, it was decided to get feedback from members. In the late fall of 2007, a series of 16 town meetings were held throughout the state, using a variety of persons unrelated to the Conference. A Town Meeting Committee was then charged with gathering responses and return to Coordinating Council with their findings. After much discussion, Council developed the Next Generation proposals. These proposals went to the 2008 Conference. There small group meetings were held to get additional members feedback. Sifting through the responses was a time consuming task and generated more questions. After reviewing the findings, Council hired Scott Simons Architects, an independent architectural firm, to conduct a feasibility study. Using all the information generated from our meetings with Conference members, our own meetings with stakeholders, the Facilities Committee and staff, and drawing on the experience of other options and recommendations for the long term use and development of Mt. Rockcraft Retreat Center, Rockcraft Retreat Center, and Pilgrim Lodge. At the Feb. 13, 2009 meeting Council, the architects presented their report. After considerable discussion the Council recommended to the conference membership a recommendation to sell the Rockcraft property during the 2009 in Waterville. He

We hold in our prayers

Longyear
and her family
Hawkins
and Mitchell
and her family
and her partner, Jan

Paul and Cynthia Judkins
DeeDee and Duke Ramsey
Carol Tucker and her family
Betty Backman, Carl's mom

Shannon and the Ru

mily Harriett Griffith Pat Eudy Cheriese Shanti and he

*and her family, at the death of Gretchen's mother
and his family, upon the loss of his father, Miles
'women and their families
s daughter and granddaughters
Vernig, Dale Bardo's niece
re in abusive relationships
Alzheimer's, and for those who care for them
; for their aging parents, and for those parents
struggling with substance abuse problems and for
those who love them*

'Junco and our brothers and sisters in Honduras

My request that you would like to have added to the prayer list that appears in our
mail the church office (778-0424). Thank you.



ger Condit:

L. Mencken prompts me all the more to be mindful of homeless people all over the
who visited our church on Good Friday. This quote's opening line makes me think
*"A home is not a mere transient shelter: Its essence lies in its permanence, in its
solidification, in its quality of representing, in all its details, the personalities of the p*

letters will be emailed to those of you who have an email address listed
I would like to be on our email list, please send your email address to the

farmingtonucc@myfairpoint.net

*Listen
for the
Lord*

o take with you

Taylor, *An Altar in the World*

when my whole heart was open to hearing from God what I was supposed to do

at answer was no help at all. The ball was back in my court again, where God
I could be a priest or a circus worker. God really did
was so relieved that I sledded down the stairs that night. Whatever I decided
t what I did but how I did it that mattered. God had suggested an overall purp
ply the particulars for me. If I wanted a life of meaning, then I was going to f
myself.

nd the work of Martin Luther helpful in this regard. A monk who became conv
learer to the heart of God than any other, he left the monastery to proclaim th
'whatever our jobs in the world happen to be, Luther said, our mutual vocation is