I have come to understand interim time ministry much like a bridge. The bridge is one we walk across together from the time of ministry with the last settled pastor to the beginning of a time of ministry with a new called, settled pastor. The poster, in the Vestry where all can see the work of this time as it progresses, is titled Communication, and says, “An open mind and free dialogue will strengthen the bridges that unify us.” Conversations between people are the best ways of communication if we truly listen and hear them out of who each is, their life experience, and what has value and gives meaning to them. Often, the things of value and meaning to other’s lives speak also to us in our values and in what gives meaning to our lives.

I believe we have to work ever at our ability to build bridges to the “other”, and to even sometimes understand that “otherness”, if we are to be authentic in our Christian beliefs and journey together as church.

We are on the way across the bridge of this interim time walk with a Transition Team to help maintain the bridge we walk across in our transitional conversations. The conversations are needed 1) to clear away past hurts, disappointments, and feelings, and move into a new place of unity that lets the old go under the bridge; and 2) to provide needed discernment and information for the Search Committee to complete the Church Profile. The Search Committee will begin their work when the Transition Team’s work is done.

Key to the Transition Team’s work is to define the topics and the format of the needed conversations, as well as to keep a record of the conversations. The Team will also provide the framework for a Covenant of Conversation that will keep us safe in our conversations and our walk together through this time.

The bridge we walk depends on the needed spiritual work we do together in our prayers, our songs, our worship ways on Sunday, at special services of worship, and in the centering moments of our meetings. The spiritual work is the underpinning of the bridge as it keeps the bridge strong and whole. There are always places to fix the best we can just like the springtime pot holes. All we do during this time is meant to make for a smoother walk into the future ministry with your called settled pastor as a good fit for who you are now and are becoming in this place.

May we ever stay close in this walk together as we live positively in God, through God, and with God. Our work is meant to live into new healing, and fruitfulness beyond what we can see now.

In the peace Christ gives,

Linda
Would you like to meet with Rev. Linda? She is working in town on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Sundays and is available to meet with you. Though she will be in the office when she doesn’t have appointments or meetings, Linda will also keep open office hours on Thursdays from 9:00 am to Noon if you would like to drop by to see her. Please feel free to contact Pastor Linda at 356-7573 or email her at Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org

Please note: During Holy Week (April 9-16), Pastor Linda will be working in town on Palm Sunday, Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday, and Easter Sunday.

Phyllis is in the church office Tuesday through Thursday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm except when she has to run over to the church building or downtown for an errand. However, she will be away until April 4, and the church office will be closed while she is gone. The week of April 2, the church office will be open Wednesday, April 5, through Friday, April 7.

Executive Council
Interim Minister: Rev. Linda Hatch
Moderator: Chris Magri
Treasurer: Amanda Adams
Clerk: Kim Daellenbach
Financial Secretary & Fundraising: Brenda Scribner
Minister: Position Vacant
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: Gil Riley
Member at Large: Robin Beck
Member at Large: Wendy Huish
From The Moderator

Long, long ago, far back in the misty past, in an era barely within the feeble grasp of memory – in February 2016, to be precise – our congregation voted to run a capital campaign. Since that time discussions have been held, votes have been cast, buildings have been renamed and repurposed, but no capital has campaigned. Pastors have departed and pastors have arrived, but no wheelchair has lifted. Feasibility studies have been conducted and goals have been adjusted, yet still the rain leaketh in and the heat leaketh out. But, lo, the time has come, the time is now: this is the month when the capital campaign will finally begin.

While churches don’t exist for the purpose of raising money, this campaign will be an important means to an end, undergirding much of what we’ve talked about over the past three years. Three years ago I was serving on Old South’s visioning team, listening to your input and helping to distill it into our vision statement and associated action items. The powerful attachment that many of you feel toward our historic church building came across loud and clear: our sanctuary helps you to feel closer to God. You also expressed pride and delight over the many ministries housed in our buildings. Finally, you reiterated our long-term desire to become even more welcoming by making those buildings handicapped-accessible – and then last January you further emphasized that desire by naming it our highest-priority visioning item.

Well, if we love these buildings and want to keep them and keep using them and make them accessible to all, we have to take care of them. That takes money. Let’s be clear: not all congregations make the choices we’re making. Some choose to shrink. Some choose to leave their historic homes for newly constructed buildings. Our choices weren’t inevitable, so having made them, we now have to do what’s needed to implement them, to make them work.

It’s up to us to make this happen, it’s our time to shine. We can be grateful for all the contributions made by previous Old South generations, founding the church and sustaining it and providing stained glass and a pipe organ and a generous endowment and a mission house; but folks, now it’s our turn to rise to the occasion. So when you think about the capital campaign and how you might contribute, please think about it prayerfully, and please think about the future generations who will look back at us with gratitude for having put forth our best effort.

Chris Magri
Happy Spring, Everyone! There is not too much to report this month. However, as March closed the 1st Quarter of 2017, I would like to update you on our income and expenses.

We have not had many unexpected things this 1st Quarter outside of the weather! We did have to spend for more shoveling, plowing, and sanding than we are accustomed to given the big storms we had.

As of the printing of the Telstar, our expenses for 1st Quarter 2017 were $56,337.27 and our income was $60,443.15.

Amanda Adams

Save the Dates

Special Gathering with the Transition Team

Sunday, May 7, following worship: Please save this date to join members of the Transition Team following our worship service for an Agape Meal and to begin transitional groundwork and beginning conversation for the important work ahead of us. More details will be shared in the church bulletin, Sunday morning announcements, and the weekly emails in the coming weeks.

ANNUAL PROGRAM MEETING

SUNDAY, MAY 21
AFTER WORSHIP

Please plan to attend this important meeting to elect officers and new committee members and to receive annual committee reports and approve by-law changes. Instead of the regular coffee hour, everyone is encouraged to bring food to share with others (cut up vegetables, cheese and crackers, deviled eggs, fruit, cookies, muffins, sweet breads, etc.). If you have questions about the Annual Meeting, please contact the church office (778-0424) or Moderator Chris Magri (magri@maine.edu).
TEAM WORK

On March 5th, I had the privilege of attending the first meeting of our Transition Team. I was lucky to get a sneak preview of what lies ahead for our church in the coming months. Our Transition Team members are: Jean Longyear, Wendy Oakley, Mary Sinclair, Roy Scribner, Rina Bardo, Jen and Gabe Civiello, Karyl Condit and Donna Wheeler.

As I understand it, the work of this team will be to custom design an interim experience for Old South! The team will pool their varied experiences of our church and discern what they feel are the things we most need to talk about before we call a new settled pastor. Then, they will invite us to a series of conversations based on these topics. Each conversation will guide us into a safe and spirit-filled environment where we can express our feelings and listen to one another.

The conversations have potential to draw us closer together, simply because we don't have to come to a decision at their endings. All we will be asked to do is speak from a place of openness and listen carefully as others do the same.

During each conversation, the Transition Team will listen for the voice of the congregation. What they learn from us will be passed on to the Search Committee.

In this way, the conversations will be opportunities for all of us to have input in the creation of our new church profile. The church profile is the document that the search committee will send to pastoral candidates who are interested in discovering who we are.

The conversations will also be opportunities for all of us to have input in the choice of qualities and skills we wish our next settled pastor to possess. Our thoughts will help shape the lens through which the search committee decides which pastoral candidates might be best for Old South.

If we are to be true to the UCC tradition of including the congregation's voice in all major decisions, it is important that the congregation has a chance to speak before the search committee goes to work.

I hope that everyone will join in this new way of discerning who we, as a church, wish to become. Come with an open mind and heart to hear the thoughts of others. Come knowing that your own thoughts will be heard and respected. Come because we ARE the United Church of Christ and we walk together.

Blessings and Peace,

Shelley

(Your Deacons: Rina Bardo, Roger Condit, Linda Fournier, Thad Gunther, Gretchen Legler, Wendy Oakley, Betsy Riley, Michelle Scribner, Fred O. Smith, Carole Trickett, Ryan Westbrook-Vigue, Shelley Griffith, chair)
As I write this article I can tell you that we have prepared for providing “on-site, real-time” presentations of detail information and description of the proposed Capital Campaign projects within the Church complex during the informal discussion session after Church service this coming Sunday, March 19th. We are hopeful the information we provide will help you to better understand these projects and enable you to give us your input on priorities.

Meanwhile, as a result of the congregational approvals voted on at the February 5th Annual meeting several project activities have been launched:

- Protection 1, the fire alarm system operator for the Church complex, has begun installing the final complement of devices in the facility to complete the full code compliance requirements. This work includes smoke and heat detectors throughout the lower level of the Newman Wing as well as alarm “pull stations” at all exits of the complex and audible/visual emergency alert devices in all locations within the building.
- A. Mauris & Son, Plumbing and Heating, is installing the sprinkler system in the basement of the Holman Mission House.
- Joe’s Electric is installing the smoke detector and alarm system as well as the emergency and EXIT lighting in the Holman Mission House.

We have been plagued by problems with the Vestry exit door leading out to the UMF parking lot for quite some time.....the “crash bar” would not stay reliably locked, and, the door closer would not ensure complete closure of the door at all. Consequently, this door would often remain unnoticeably unlocked. All of these deficiencies have now been rectified.

A significant unbudgeted item caught us by surprise in that the fire suppressant system over the gas range in the kitchen has come up for its twelve-year replacement. The cost for this work being $1050 was just over the Property Trustee approval limit but the Executive Council did approve this expense so we are now good until January 2029!

Over the past several months the Property Trustees had been working on drafting an OLD SOUTH CHURCH Emergency Evacuation Policy & Procedures document. This document was presented to the Executive Council for considered adoption and was enthusiastically received.

Gil Riley, Chair
April Committee Meetings

Christian Ed
To be Announced

Deacons’ Meeting
Sunday, April 9, Matthew Room following worship

Financial Trustees
Tuesday, April 11, HMH at 5:30 pm

Outreach, Justice, Witness
Tuesday, April 18, Matthew Room at 6:30 pm

Property Trustees
Tuesday, April 18, HMH at 6:30 pm

Pastoral Care Team
will meet next on May 2, 1:00 pm, HMH

DON'T FORGET...

Retirees Lunch
Calling all retires! Join us for the monthly Retirees Lunch on Monday, April 3, at Noon in the Vestry of Old South. Please bring a dish to share and join in the fellowship of the meal.

E-Waste Recycling Event
Saturday, April 22
9:00 am – 1:00 pm
Hannaford Parking Lot

Don’t throw those old and broken computers, monitors, TVs and other electronics out! Old or broken electronics, also referred to “e-waste”, will be collected at the annual Earth Day Every Day! Disposal and recycling event. Individuals can bring in their old or broken electronics for free. Businesses that have a large number of electronic components should contact eWaste Recycling Solutions at 207-449-1709. A detailed list of allowed items is available at www.ewastemaine.com. This event is co-sponsored by the Fundraising Committee and the Outreach, Justice and Witness Committee. Free will monetary donations will be accepted to assist in supporting the church’s community service, outreach and youth programs.
News & Upcoming Events

Bread for Benefit
Sunday, April 30, following worship Vestry

Plain loaves $3
Herb and Assorted, $4

Women’s Retreat: Three Remaining Spaces!
A women’s retreat will be held at the Marie Joseph Spiritual Center in Biddeford, Maine, May 26 – May 28, 2017. The $210 cost of the retreat includes accommodations, 6 meals, program expenses and more. You may begin making payments this month to reserve space today. Confidential partial scholarships are available. Please contact the church office if you would like to attend.

Annual Yard and Plant Sale Donations
The yard and plant sale date will be June 2-3. We need your donations of books, household goods, and decorations. Start gathering those unwanted lamps, platters, pottery, crystal, exercise equipment, books, decorations, and more now! Donations will be accepted beginning Tuesday, April 11 (church office, Tuesday through Thursday 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. Additional hours to be determined.). Please help us: no clothing, electronic items, or broken items. Thank you!
The Old South Concert Series continues on Thursday, April 20th as a collaborative blend of Maine and Canada share musical talent with “Songs Beyond Borders. Jam Session will begin at 6:15 pm and concert to follow at 7 pm. Adults $15 with discounted student prices ($10/$5). Refreshments by donation. Ticket reservations call 207-491-5919

Songs Beyond Borders is an ongoing project between the East Coast Music Association, New England Celtic Arts, and the Maine Arts Commission to provide a cross cultural exchange between Maine and the Maritimes. Maine’s talented musicians/singer-songwriters include Denny Breau and Heather Pierson and the Canadian artists include Nova Scotia’s Ian Sherwood and PEI’s Ashley Condon.

Volunteers are needed to help with an evening meal for the band and sound tech (served in the Matthew Room), set up and serving of refreshments in Vestry, donations of dessert type items and snacks, cashier/greeter, and clean up. Please contact Debbie 207-491-5919, Brenda 207-299-3686, or Hallie 207-778-0111.

Old South Church proceeds benefits the Old South Handicap Accessibility Fund.
Spiritual Direction: An Opportunity

Would you be interested in participating in a spiritual direction small group? Carole Trickett is looking for 3-4 participants who will commit to meeting for 4 sessions to listen together for where God might be speaking in your lives. This year, we will aim to gather together sometime after Easter on weeknights in the early evening to provide the most flexibility to participants. Carole is currently training Spiritual Direction at the Alycon Center on Mount Desert Island. Carole shares the following about spiritual direction:

*Working with a spiritual director provides one with a companion who will explore life in the light of faith. Through this conversation people explore their personal relationship with God, have an opportunity to sort out their many questions, their fears, their joys, and even find clarity in this fast changing world. Working with a spiritual companion could be an exploration into deep waters which, somehow is surprisingly, freeing.*

If you are interested in learning more about participating in the spiritual direction small group, please email Carole at cwtrickett@gmail.com or speak with her at church.
News & Upcoming Events

Upcoming Events (Save the date!)

Coat & Cupboard Open
Sunday, April 2, 9:00-11:00 am
Holman Mission House

Free monthly Community Lunch
2nd Saturday at noon ~ September to June ~ $ Donations accepted

Family Easter Anticipation Party
Sunday, April 9, 11:00am-1:00 pm
Newman Wing Chapel

Old South Congregational Church Concert Series
Ticket Reservation Line 207-491-5919
6:15 pm Jam Session - 7 pm Concert

Thursday, March 23rd- The Irish Descendants
Thursday, April 20th - Songs Beyond Borders Part 1
Thursday, May 18th - Ozere

Old South Church Concert proceeds benefit the Old South Handicap Accessibility Fund

E-Waste Recycling
Saturday, April 23, 9:00 am-1:00 pm
Hannafords Parking area, Rt 2 & 4, Farmington
Donations support Outreach Programs

Yard Sale & Plant Sale
Friday, June 2nd and Saturday June 3rd
Holman Mission House

Strawberry Shortcake, Tuesday, July 4th at Pierce House

Pie On the Porch, Saturday, July 22nd, Holman Mission House
Thank you for your generous contributions to the One Great Hour of Sharing special mission offering. At the time of Telstar distribution, the final tally on donations had not yet been completed. It’s not too late to contribute! Please send your donation to: 227 Main Street, Farmington, ME 04938 or drop in the Sunday morning offering basket. Mark donations for “OGHS.”

**Outreach, Justice and Witness** will be meeting in the Matthew Room at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, April 18. 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.

**The Lenten Labyrinth**

Our Sunday School youth are collecting donations of nonperishable items for the Lenten Labyrinth. They are building it in the upstairs Luke Room (next door to the Nursery) and collecting canned and boxed food, as well as basic household and toiletry supplies (shampoo, deodorant, etc.) to "build" the labyrinth "walls". Your donations to the Labyrinth will be donated to the local food closet after Lent and may be dropped off in the Luke Room or in the box in the Narthex. Thank you for your support!
Bread for the World - Offering of Letters
Sunday, April 30th, after worship in the vestry

The 2017 BFW Offering of Letters campaign urges Congress to invest in and protect vital policies and safety net programs, including WIC, global nutrition, SNAP, and refund tax credits. Great progress has been made in reducing hunger and poverty in our country and around the world, but this work remains unfinished.

Please join us on April 30 to write letters to our congressional representatives. Sample letters, printed letters, envelopes and postage will be provided.

Sponsored by: Outreach, Justice and Witness, Old South Church

Community Lunch

The extremely cold weather was not enough to deter us from having a very successful Community Luncheon in March. I posted on Facebook that you know it’s not a great day when it’s bright and sunny, 10 a.m., and the temperature is -5 degrees. But in spite of that, we served about 180 meals, including 102 that were delivered. A special “THANK YOU” to all the volunteers, and especially our DRIVERS who were out in the extreme cold.

The April Community Luncheon will be held on Saturday April 8th. The menu will be: Roast pork loin, rice pilaf, green beans and biscuits. As usual, our favorite God’s Kitchen Crew will be providing cakes for dessert.

Stan Wheeler
Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs

Medical Equipment Lending Program

We need volunteers! Our medical equipment lending ministry, Annie's Beanpole at Old South Church, receives a steady stream of inquiries from people in need of crutches, shower seats, bedside commodes, wheelchairs, etc. Requests are received by a volunteer through messages left on the church answering system. The volunteer responds to the messages, arranges a mutually agreeable time to meet at the Holman Parish House and gives out the needed equipment. If we don’t have the needed item, we ask that you call and let the individual in need know. Each volunteer is on call for two to two and a half weeks. Would you like to take part in connecting people with free equipment that allows them to live a reasonably comfortable, dignified existence? Please speak with Randy Oakley or anyone else associated with OJW. Thanks for your help!
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY IN HONDURAS
Honduras Partnership, Maine Conference UCC

Letter from Craigen Healy, volunteer from Shorey Chapel

I'm writing to you from Honduras to let you know about an exciting opportunity to travel here as a volunteer for eleven days, June 29-July 9. The Maine UCC Honduras Partnership plans to send a group and you could be part of it.

We’re looking for some more people to join our volunteer team going to support a medical clinic in the mountain town of Subirana by building a security fence to protect the clinic and equipment there.

With all the publicity Honduras received for violence in the last eight years that may sound alarming, but please allow me to reassure you that Subirana is a small town in a safe region of the country, and that our teams follow strict security procedures - no going out of the compound without supervision, no night driving, stay in pairs, and staying away from the cities where the violence has been notorious. In addition, the crime rate has gone down, thanks to efforts by Honduran officials, U.S. inner city social work projects done through Honduran organizations and serious concern by Hondurans that something big had to be done. Bob and I would not have taken our teenage grandchildren if we didn't think it was safe.
The leader of the group going June 29- July 9 will be May Schumacher of Buxton. This will be her tenth trip to lead, almost always with teenagers mixed in with adults. Dick Waddell has participated in many of her trips.

The focus will be on building a security fence of cement and heavy wire fencing around the clinic building. Restoration of this thirty-something year old clinic needs to start with security so that valuable medical instruments and supplies can be left there with confidence. If you can’t see yourself doing heavy work don’t worry. You will be able to help by holding a baby while the mother works or encouraging others. For years the clinic served many surrounding indigenous villages up in the gorgeous mountains. It was funded by the Evangelical and Reform Church of Honduras social/medical arm during the days that Riverside Church in New York City provided significant funding for rural development in Honduras.

Since that time there have been occasional "brigades" of medical professionals doing examinations and treatments for short periods. We hope to facilitate the increase of these kinds of clinics.

One of the most helpful advantages we have in bringing groups from Maine to Subirana is the support staff who live there. Perhaps you remember the teenage band, "El Vid", who came to Wilton, Pilgrim Lodge and other places in the summer of 2014. One of their chaperones was Sandra Bustillo, sister-in-law to the president of the Synod in Honduras at that time. Sandra is a very good, dynamic and positive Christian woman. She and her husband Juan, also an admirable and educated leader, have moved to Subirana to work with the church there and to bring the clinic up to a good level of functioning. They will be priceless advisors, helpers, translators for our group in June and July.

I personally feel called to attract teenage leaders to visit the Third World with the goal of developing realistic relations with people whose lives are very different than ours yet who share our feelings, hopes and dreams. The Christian focus of these mission trips is another life-changing element being offered them.

I hope you will consider this proposal. We’ll be thrilled when adults and/or young people sign up for this trip. The cost should be around $1,300 or $1,400 plus spending money for snacks and church offerings. Air and land transportation is included. Please contact the leader, May Schumacher at schumacher@roadrunner.com to find out more or to sign up.

Craigen Healy, Shorey Chapel and Honduras Partnership

For more information on the Maine Conference and the Honduras Partnership, you may also check this link to read about past and future trips, review application materials, and view photos: http://maineucc.org/honduras-partnership/
Annual Yard and Plant Sale volunteers needed: If you would like to help organize this annual fundraising event, please contact Brenda Scribner at 299-3686 today! The yard and plant sale date will be June 2-3. In addition to volunteers, we need your donations of books, household goods, and decorations. Start gathering those unwanted lamps, platters, pottery, crystal, exercise equipment, books, decorations, and more now! Donations will be accepted beginning Tuesday, April 11. Please help us: no clothing, electronic items, or broken items. Thank you!

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!
Sunday School
It’s time to celebrate Easter! Together we conclude our Lenten journey---and celebrate the joy and wonder of the Resurrection. We'll observe Palm Sunday (April 9) service, in the Chapel following the Time with the Children. Also on Sunday, April 9, everyone is warmly invited to our “Family Easter Anticipation Party,” a fun and simple mix of crafts, games, and easy-to-eat food. The fun begins at 11:00 am, and concludes by 1:00 pm. Bring a friend!

In addition, this month we’ll take a final walk or two through the Lenten Labyrinth (located in the room next to the Nursery); then, on Easter Sunday, we'll pack up all donated food and deliver it to the Care & Share Food Pantry in Fairbanks.

Our April Sunday School lessons will include:
April 2--Jesus teaches a lesson about two houses (Matthew 7)
April 9--Palm Sunday (Luke 19-22; John 13)
April 16--Easter Sunday (no lessons, as we'll all remain in the sanctuary to celebrate together)
April 23--no Sunday School (school spring vacation)
April 30--the road to Emmaeus (Luke 24)

For children ages pre-K through grade 5
April 2, 9, and 30
9:45 am to 10:30 am.

BBC (Middle and High School)
Our final Coat & Cupboard day is April 2. Plan on BBC lessons April 9 and 30--we’ll be “off” for school spring break on April 23.
For students in grades 6 - 12
April 9, 30
9:45 am to 10:30 am
Youth Group
Coat & Cupboard wraps up this month (April 2). We'll need to discuss how we want to pack and store our inventory of coats. We'll also need to discuss what worked--and what didn't--and what we can do to improve our service to the community next fall.
In addition, we'll have some special guest speakers at our Sunday evening meetings---with compelling stories to share about how their faith has guided their life journeys. As always, everyone's welcome, so invite a friend or two!
For teens in grades 6 - 12
Youth Group meetings: April 9 and 30; 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm
Jodie's house (164 Russell's Mill Road)

God's Kitchen Crew
It's time for Easter---and carrot cake! Plus, we'll be playing a goofy new rabbit-hopping, egg-laying game....really!
For children in grades 2 - 5
Wednesday, April 5,
3:00 pm - 4:45 pm

Soup Group
Are you up for a culinary challenge? Get ready to chop, peel and stir as we concoct a big stack of delicious chicken pot pies, which we'll freeze and store in the church kitchen. The pies will then be available as folks in our church and greater community need them.
For students in grades 5 - 8
Monday, April 10 2:00- 4:45 pm

Children & Youth
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Children & Youth

**Lenten Projects/Programs Wrap-Up**
For children in Sunday School, we'll reach the “bottom of the bag”---the Lent-in-a-Bag, that is---with the black-paper Good Friday and white-paper Easter Sunday (plus, that hidden treat). Teens will also conclude our Lenten Photography Project, which we've been posting on Facebook.

**Bread for Benefit**
We sell bread once this month---April 30. Who’s scheduled to work?
8:30 am bread prep shift: Thad, Zack
10:30 bread sellers: Daphne, Charlie
10:40 pot scrubbers: Emmett, Daphne

**Want more information about Youth Programs at Old South? Join our e-mail list!** Every week we send updates and detailed information about what’s happening with kids and teens at Old South. To join the e-mail list, send a note to: Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org.
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 April.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Passage(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fifth Sunday in Lent</strong></td>
<td>Ezekiel 37:1-14</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 2, 2017</td>
<td>Psalm 130</td>
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<td>Romans 8:6-11</td>
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<td>John 11:1-45</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liturgy of the Palms</strong></td>
<td>*Acts 10:34-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 9, 2017</td>
<td>or Jeremiah 31:1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sixth Sunday in Lent</strong></td>
<td>Psalm 118:1-19</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Liturgy of the Passion</strong></td>
<td>Isaiah 50:4-9a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 9, 2017</td>
<td>Psalm 118:2-29</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Sixth Sunday in Lent</em>*</td>
<td>Matthew 21:1-11</td>
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<td>Philippians 2:5-11</td>
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<td><strong>Resurrection of the Lord</strong></td>
<td>*Acts 10:34-43</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 16, 2017</td>
<td>or Jeremiah 31:1-6</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Easter Day</strong></td>
<td>Psalm 118:1-2</td>
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<td>Colossians 3:1-4</td>
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<td>John 20:1-18</td>
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<td>or Matthew 28:1-10</td>
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<td>Matthew 26:14-27:66 or Matthew 27:11-54</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Second Sunday of Easter</strong></td>
<td>*Acts 2:14a, 22-32</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 23, 2017</td>
<td>Psalm 16</td>
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<td>1 Peter 1:3-9</td>
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<td>John 20:19-31</td>
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<td><strong>Third Sunday of Easter</strong></td>
<td>*Acts 2:14a, 36-41</td>
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<tr>
<td>April 30, 2017</td>
<td>Psalm 116:1-4</td>
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<td>1 Peter 1:17-23</td>
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Lenten Vesper Service
Please join us on Wednesday evening, April 5, in the Matthew Room at 5:30 pm for a service of song and prayer.

Palm to Passion Sunday, April 9
9:30 am Worship at Old South
*Jesus rides a donkey into Jerusalem, hailed as a king.*

Maundy Thursday, April 13
5:30 pm Candlelight Service of Communion and Tenebrae, Sanctuary
*Jesus and his disciples share the Last Supper of wine and bread.*

Good Friday, April 14
Farmington Area Ecumenical Ministry Service
Noon at Henderson Memorial Baptist Church
*Jesus is crucified on the cross.*

Easter Sunday, April 16
Approximate time: 5:54 am, FAEM Sunrise Service on Voter Hill
9:30 am Worship at Old South
*Jesus rises from the dead.*

_Easter Lily Memorials and Celebrations will be listed in the May Telstar and in the Easter Sunday bulletin._
Partial camp scholarships for youth from Old South are available through Old South Church through the generosity of the Women of Old South. Funds are raised for scholarship through the annual Harvest Supper under the direction of Brenda Scribner. Need based scholarships are also available through the Maine Conference; the deadline to apply for assistance through the Maine Conference is May 15. Please check the www.pilgrimlodge.org above for information regarding camps, the application for scholarship assistance and registration.

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.”
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
INSTAGRAM.COM/OLDSOUTHLOVE
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.
Would you like to meet with Rev. Linda? She will be available in the office on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays unless she has appointments or meetings and will keep open office hours on Thursdays from 9:00 am to Noon if you would like to drop by to see her. Please feel free to contact Pastor Linda at 356-7573 or Linda@FarmingtonUCC.org.

The church office will not be open through April 4. Phyllis will be in the office Wednesday, April 5 through Friday, April 7.