



Rooted in faith, Growing in love, reaching for justice

Beloved Old South,

Again this morning I am faced with a question that is starting to feel all too familiar –do I watch the murder of yet another unarmed black man in our country, or do I keep scrolling through my newsfeed?

I do not want to watch the video of Terence Crutcher being shot by police. It is no small thing to witness the end of a human life. I've been in the room when people die, and I can tell you that bearing witness to the passage of life is a very sacred thing. And watching death play out on my computer screen feels painfully irreverent. To view a death that is "trending" in the news also feels like complicity in the culture of violence-as-entertainment.

Every death viewed on the screen desensitizes us to the realities of violence, and frankly, diminishes the sanctity of life. This man deserves the dignity of not having a million people watch the last few seconds of his life as though it were a show that we watch before bed.

Yet I also recognize that if I turn away, it's a choice I make out of privilege. That kind of violence is not a daily factor where I live. It doesn't follow me home, or watch me closely, or stop me on the corner because of my skin color. So in choosing to not look, I am choosing the privilege of my own relative safety, my own sheltered world.

But what if choosing not to see is part of the problem? What if refusing to read the comments section that follows the news story – something I try hard never to do – just means I don't have to look in the face of what people of color have to look in the face every day?

It's hard to know how to educate ourselves without numbing ourselves. It's hard to know when to speak and when to magnify other voices. It's even harder to move from awareness of

Old South Church

United Church of Christ

Telstar, October 2016

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Old South First
Congregational Church

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"Old South Church is called to be a spiritual home where diverse hearts and minds are welcomed, nourished, and formed by God to transform the world."



privilege to taking meaningful action. And yet, naming our privilege and not doing anything to dismantle the system that names some as valuable and others as disposable, is like seeing a fire and never calling 911.

I'll be honest, I haven't quite known how lead a conversation on faith and race, but I know that I am called to pick up this cross if I want to follow Jesus. That is why I am so grateful for the work of our leaders in the United Church of Christ and hope you will join me on **October 27, November 3, 10, and 17 from 5:30-7 pm** as we work our way through the UCC's new curriculum, *White Privilege: Let's Talk - A Resource for Transformational Dialogue*. This curriculum is designed to invite congregations to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive, and bold conversations on race.

Additionally, I hope you will join me at the Maine Conference Anti-Racism Training on **Saturday, November 5th from 9:30-4:30** at High St. Congregational Church in Auburn. It will be a powerful day, led by Rev. DaVita McCallister, that will help equip us as a congregation with tools for becoming anti-racist allies.

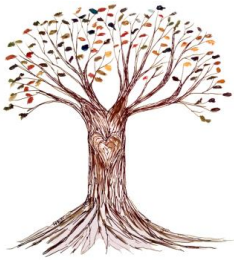
Friends, I have no easy answers to offer, but I am grateful we have tools from our faith to guide us towards building a more Beloved Community? Won't you join us?

Blessings on the journey,

Alexis



Would you like to schedule a check-in with Pastor Alexis? Please contact her by phone at 778-0424 or email at alexis@farmingtonucc.org to schedule a visit. You may also stop by during her office hours on Tuesdays between 12-3. Please note, on Tuesday, Oct. 4, Alexis will be in the office from 1:00 – 4:00 pm.



From The Moderator

Many of you will have heard the saying, "May you live in interesting times." It's allegedly a curse. But the interesting thing about interesting times at church -- building problems, budget problems, disagreements, tough decisions -- is that as Christians we get to hope that the best is yet to come, that the ultimate result will be a blessing rather than a curse.

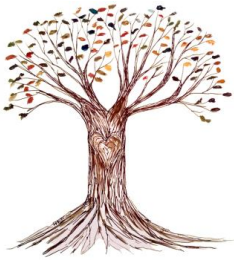
One of the two big things going on this fall is the \$275,000 Capital Campaign, which will run during November, with campaign solicitors visiting you at home to talk about the church's needs. Some of those needs involve major building upkeep, such as repairing the leaking brickwork on the north face of the church; some involve strategic improvements, such as insulating ceilings to save on heating bills; and the very highest goal is to make the building handicapped accessible, so that it will finally be entirely true that "All are welcome." Taking care of an historic church building can be difficult, and it isn't terribly glamorous, but the payoff will be a beloved spiritual home that's better equipped than ever to meet our future needs.

So too, our ongoing discussion of the Holman Parish House has the potential to transform a contentious problem into new life. My prayer is that everyone who can possibly make it will attend the October 16 Our Turn to discuss our options.

And let's be clear, that includes those of you who do not have strong views, or any views at all, on the fate of HPH. Why? Because, as you may recall from the spring, HPH is just one element, not even the biggest element, in a much larger issue: our financial future. That's what we really need to discuss, with the October 30 vote merely marking the start of whatever is to follow. Who do we want to become? How can we most effectively share our spiritual and material resources with the Farmington community? What changes must we make in order to become a growing, thriving 21st-century congregation? We need to hear every voice, every idea, from long-timers and newcomers alike, on October 16 and in the months that follow.

It's "big picture" time, folks. Just as our Capital Campaign will both restore our heritage and fund wonderful changes, we need to discern more broadly what we should keep from our past and what we should change in order to be Jesus's followers in new times. Interesting times. Let's all have faith that times like these have blessings to offer us.

Chris Magri



From Your Treasurer

Happy October, Everyone! I hope everyone is enjoying apples or pumpkins or some other form of delicious winter squash or fall veggie.

Even though my winter amnesia is still in full swing, the cooler temps and changing colors are a clear reminder Winter is coming. With that said, please be on the look-out for upcoming information about our Winter ministry opportunities and begin thinking now about how you might be able to contribute either financially or with your time. As we all know, Winter can be a very challenging season for many in our community.

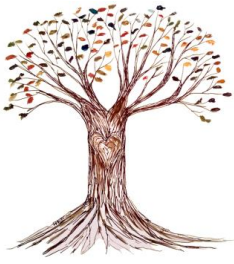
The Financial Trustees are gearing up to begin budget preparation for 2017. It seems weird to be thinking of 2017. I don't know about you, but I can't figure out where 2016 went!! It's like I blinked, and it went right by.

In terms of Financial News, we will soon begin the Stewardship Campaign in conjunction with the Capital Campaign. I encourage you to prayerfully consider what your family will be able to offer in support for the upcoming year. If you do not currently pledge, I would like to encourage you to consider doing so. In Faith, we passed a deficit budget for 2016. We have in faith in God and faith in each other that we can surpass that deficit expectation.

Speaking of the budget, at the time of Telstar printing, current income is \$175,541 and total expenses are \$166,463. Keep in mind, this is a very *general* overview of our finances and should not be construed to mean that we will definitely end up with a positive balance at the end of 2016. (However, we hope and continue to pray for that outcome!) If you are interested in viewing a copy of the Treasurer's Report, please contact Phyllis in our office.

I would like to add a final side note regarding your Pledge Card for 2017. If you opt to include UCC Membership Dues as part of your pledge, we ask that you make and designate a separate payment from your pledge payment(s). As of 2016, the cost is \$15.32 per member in your household. Paying for the membership dues we are assessed through the Maine Conference and our Association really does help us to better allocate those receipts for budget reporting. Thanks so much!

Peace,
Amanda



Deacons' Corner

"A SPIRITUAL HOME"

From time to time somebody asks: "Are we still working on our vision's action items?"

The answer, quite simply, is "YES!"

Many action items are being addressed by the church as a whole. To name just a few: we are working toward handicapped accessibility, collaborating with local schools to address food insecurity, developing a relationship with UMF students and engaging in a serious and ongoing conversation about how "to achieve financial and physical stability."

For our part, the Deacons are seeking direction from the action items as well as from the vision statement itself. Here are two examples:

1) There are a number of action items that pertain to the Diaconate and, at our retreat this summer, we decided to tackle Action Item #7: to "broaden the range of musical offerings in worship on a regular basis." We feel that this change is important now, as our congregation becomes more diverse, to enable all members to feel a sense of belonging during worship. Our brain storming yielded some exciting ideas and we agreed, along with Bruce McInnes, our choir director, and Patricia Hayden, our organist, to make 2016-2017 a year of musical experimentation. This fall, keep your eyes and ears open for the new and different!

2) The Deacons are listening to the heart of Old South's vision. Our mission is to "care" for the Old South community. This caring can take many forms, including seeking ways to deepen our congregation's experience of Old South as a "spiritual home". This fall, the Deacons will partner with the Christian Education Committee to create an opportunity for our faith family to draw closer. We have called this offering an "Agape Meal". Roughly translated from the Greek, "agape" means "the Love of God experienced through community". Agape meals were common in the early church; the disciples would often share a meal together when they gathered for worship. Our "Agape Meals" will occur monthly right after worship, and will be a time when we can all sit down together and experience a good meal and fellowship. The first "Agape Meal" will happen on October 2nd and we hope that you will join us as we share the Love that "gathers us in" and "holds us together"!

As deacons at Old South Church, we hear our congregation's yearning (both individually and collectively) to be part of a faith community that is a "spiritual home":

A place that reflects our deepest values...

A place where we feel loved and whole...

A place where we can practice the LOVE that will transform the world...

A place where all our voices are heard and all our songs are sung!

Shelley Griffith

Your Deacons: Roger Condit, Michelle Scribner, Ryan Westbrook-Vigue, Betsy Riley, Fred O. Smith, Mary Sinclair, Gretchen Legler, Carole Trickett, Linda Fournier, Thad Gunther, Jr Deacon, Rina Bardo, Shelley Griffith, chair



News & Upcoming Events



Agape Meals: Starting on October 2, we will “extend the table” on Communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month) to include a church-wide lunch after worship. Our middle school *Soup Group* will prepare two types of soup for us to share and others are welcome to contribute a dish to share **if they wish** but it is not expected. This will be an opportunity for intergenerational relationship-building and deeper discussions about our faith. Old South Movie Studio will meet at the same time so parents will be free to attend.

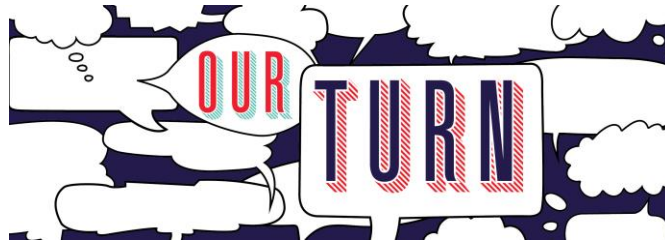
Living Water Worship Service: All are invited to celebrate the new Living Water Association, as both the Franklin and Kennebec Valley Associations dissolve, going through death to rise again as God's new creation! Our Choir Master extraordinaire, Bruce McInnes, will be leading an interchurch choir, and our own InnerRhythm will be offering special music. So please come and celebrate at 2:30 pm at South Parish UCC in Augusta on October 2nd - the more, the merrier!



Please join us at the October Retirees Lunch on Monday, October 3, at Noon in the Vestry (Assembly Room) at Old South Church! The menu features lasagna. Bring a dish to share if you are able and join us! Have questions? Contact Dick Giard at 897-6228.



News & Upcoming Events



******Our Turn Gathering and Special Business Meeting******

Please join us at an “Our Turn” to discuss ideas regarding Old South’s properties as they relate to our present, future, and finances. Don’t miss out on this important conversation October 16, immediately following our church service. Information regarding the possible repurposing of space, rededication of use, or sale of the Holman Parish House will be shared and discussed. A Business Meeting will be held on Sunday, Oct. 30, for a formal vote. Childcare will be provided at the “Our Turn” meeting and the Business Meeting.

Traci Blackmon | John Dorhauer | Da Vita McCallister | John Paddock | Stephen G. Ray

WHITE PRIVILEGE let's talk

A Resource for Transformational Dialogue

Oct/Nov Discussion Group - "White Privilege – Let's Talk"

OJW and Pastor Alexis are partnering to offer this new UCC curriculum, which is designed to invite members to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive and bold conversations on race. The curriculum and the webinars will lead participants through four areas of focus:

- telling the story of your spiritual journey through the lens of race;
- looking at the dynamic of a culture in which whiteness is the established norm;
- learning how America attaches a cash value to whiteness;
- inviting the participants to commit to becoming an ally in the pursuit of racial equity.

These four sessions will take place on Thursday October 27, November 3, 10, and 17 from 5:30-7:00 pm in the Matthew Rm. We will also plan to attend a day-long Anti-Racism Training held by the Maine Conference on Saturday, November 5 in Auburn.



News & Upcoming Events



Fresh baked bread will be available for purchase from the Youth Group following worship on October 23 and 30. There are a variety of loaves available including plain, herb, raisin, or cheese. Plain loaves cost \$3 while specialty loaves are \$4. Look for their table in the Vestry!

Share Your Joy: Become a Sunday School Teacher!

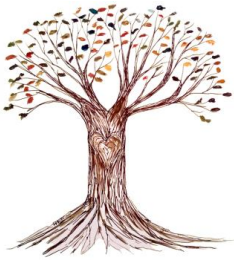
It's an easy way to make a big difference in a child's life: become a Sunday School teacher at Old South. The Christian Education Committee is looking for new teachers who'd be willing to serve just once or twice each month. We have engaging curriculum, plenty of supplies, and flexible dates. Please contact Jodie at Jodie@FarmingtonUCC.org or Arin Hilton at Arinhilton@gmail.com.



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

Harvest Supper—November 5th, 5:00 pm-6:00 pm

Mark your calendars for this year's Harvest Supper from 5–6 p.m. on Saturday, November 5th. The menu will be roast turkey, baked ham, assorted side dishes, and homemade pies. The Harvest Supper is the main fundraiser for Pilgrim Lodge camperships each year and is held the first Saturday of November every year. We need donations of food (items that keep long or can be frozen can be donated now) or money to purchase the food items, and people to help with set up, serving and clean up. If you are able to help with the Harvest Supper, please contact Brenda Scribner (or 299-3686).



News & Upcoming Events

Special Office
HOURS

Church Office News

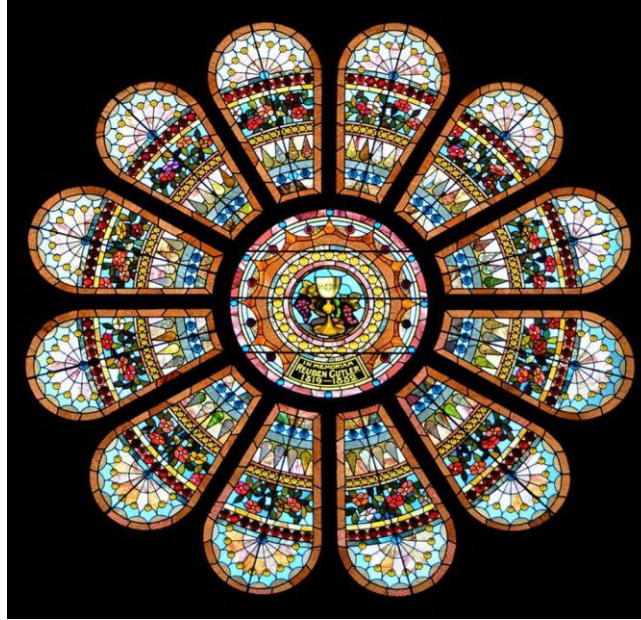
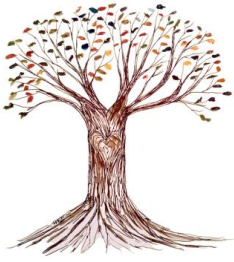
Phyllis will be working a flexible schedule late October and early November. This is due to a surgical procedure for a family member scheduled on October 25. If we are able to identify the hours the office can be open, times will be shared through the weekly emails. Thank you all for your kind and loving support!

Name Tags

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

Telstar Deadline for November

The deadline for submissions for the November Telstar is October 10. Please submit all articles to Phyllis (Phyllis@FarmingtonUCC.org) no later than October 10. Thank you.



Notice

To the members of the First Congregational Church, UCC of Farmington, Maine:

You are hereby notified that, in accordance with the By-Laws of the Church, a special meeting will be held on Sunday, October 30, immediately following the worship service.

The purposes of said meeting are:

1. To vote on two different proposals: to sell the Holman Parish House or else to keep the property and rededicate our use of this space.
2. To transact such other or further business as may properly come before said meeting.

Dated at Farmington, Maine, September 22, 2016.

Kim Daellenbach, Clerk



Mission & Outreach

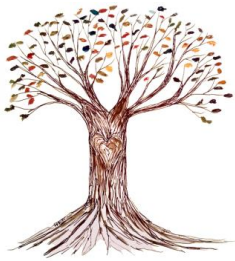


Outreach, Justice, and Witness is an open ministry with no fixed membership. We encourage you to join us and see what we're up to, and help us serve God's people both locally and globally. Our next meeting date is to be announced. Please contact Randy Oakley (roakley@roadrunner.com) for more information and check your bulletins and weekly email.



Neighbors in Need Special Offering

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the US. One-third of NIN dollars support the Council for American 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. We will receive an offering for the United Church of Christ NIN offering on October 2 at Old South. Thank you for your support.



Mission & Outreach



The Community Luncheon Ministry of Old South Church kicked off its 14th year of ministry to the hungry and lonely of our Community on September 10th. We served about 125 meals of Roast Pork Loin, rice pilaf, green beans, applesauce and cake. For much of last year our numbers were up in the 150-180 range, but we normally start off the year a little slowly. September is the time when it's still nice weather, some people are away, etc. October is also usually a little slower because it coincides with Columbus Day weekend. But we fully expect that as the year moves forward we will be back to last year's numbers.

I say all this because we are always in need of volunteers. We have a small, but very dedicated "Kitchen Crew" that always shows up to prepare the meal, and we work very well together. And there are other folks who always show up to help with peeling vegetables, setting tables, delivering meals, serving meals, and cleaning up. But we are always in need of more new folks, because sometimes some of the "regulars" just have other things to do. Unlike many other church volunteer activities, there is no long-term commitment. You can come help once, or you can come every month. It's up to you. But, please, do come join us to help serve our community.

The October lunch will be on October 8th, and the menu will feature Chicken Stew with a biscuit, and there will be cake for dessert. We are again this year very grateful to God's Kitchen Crew for their willingness to provide cakes for our meals. We hope to see you in October!

Stan Wheeler and Rocell Marcellino, Co-chairs





Mission & Outreach

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 Wednesday, October 19th. Contact the coordinator, Myrna Vallette, at 778-4387, or by email at myrna.vallette@gmail.com, to order, get more information, or to be added to her email notification list.

Ordering information:

View the many different products online at <http://shop.equalexchange.coop/> to decide what you want (or look at a catalog, which is available in the narthex). The prices that are visible on the website are retail; ask Myrna to look up the wholesale (your actual) price. Please note: The wholesale price is available only when buying by the case (e.g., 6 12-oz. bags of coffee, 10 pounds of coffee beans, etc.). If you want anything less than a full case, you will have to pay the retail price.

Payment is due to Myrna by the order date. Make checks payable to Myrna Vallette, and mail to 189 Marwick Road, Farmington, ME 04938; or pay via PayPal to myrna.vallette@gmail.com. The ordered items will be available for pick up at the Holman Parish House the following week when the office is open (usually Tuesday through Thursday).



Care and Share Food Closet

The Care and Share Food Closet located at 508 Fairbanks Road (lower level of the Fairbanks Community Center) serves residents from the towns of Farmington, West Farmington, Farmington Falls, New Sharon, Chesterville, Temple, New Vineyard, New Portland and North New Portland who meet federal eligibility guidelines for food insecurity by providing a 4-5 day supply of food per household once a month. Care and Share is open Monday—Friday from 12 Noon to 2 PM. You can help by volunteering to staff the Food Closet, donating financially or with your food contributions. This month, the Outreach, Justice and Witness group has designated canned tomatoes and canned soup as the item of the month. Contact the church office (778-0424) for more information about volunteering or donating. Thank you!



Mission & Outreach



Old South's Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are truly thankful for the 15 prayer shawls that were blessed during the church service on June 12th! Four were donated by members of the bereavement group, two were made by a summer visitor who also knits prayer shawls for her home church, one was left as an anonymous gift, and the rest were knitted or crocheted by our "regulars."

Many of those who have received a prayer shawl have felt love, comfort and the healing presence of the Holy, and truly appreciate the gift. Please consider joining us in knitting or crocheting a prayer shawl, throw or lap blanket for the Old South Prayer Shawl Ministry.

The coordinator, Myrna Vallette, has many patterns to choose from, and a supply of yarn that was purchased with funds donated by those who support this ministry. All you have to do is ask for them!

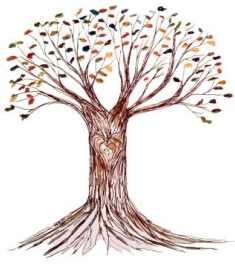
Do you know of someone who is in need of a prayer shawl? Speak to Pastor Alexis, Phyllis Pederson or Myrna Vallette and we'll help you pick one out.

canned soup and canned tomatoes

Please bring your donations to the church on Sundays or to the church office during office hours and items will be delivered to the Food Closet. Thank you.

This Month's Item





Children & Youth

Sunday School

It really is “all-fun-and-games” in Sunday School this month, as we continue on our journey through Old Testament stories. Each week, we’ll be engaging in a different activity that reinforces our understanding of these stories. Join us as we play, create, cook, and sing our way through our lessons!

In addition, we invite everyone to stop by the Chapel to see our newest prayer station—a stained-glass “window.” Each week, our prayers will be added to the “window;” over time, our prayer station will become more and more colorful. As always, Sunday School classes are offered for students in grades K - 5.



BBC: Middle- and High-School

Both BBC classes are continuing through our study of the Book of Acts this month. Middle-school students use a video exploration to compare the DVD with Bible texts. High-school students, meanwhile, summarize each segment of Acts with our own “Sharpie” artwork.

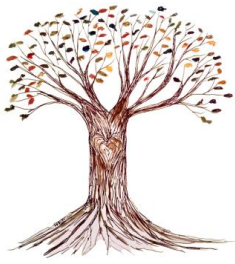
BBC classes will not meet the first Sunday of the month; instead, we plan to launch our new mission project, Coat & Cupboard, from 9 am to 11 am. (We will observe Communion with the help of a “roving” server, who will bring the elements to us from the Sanctuary.)



God’s Kitchen Crew: Return of the Kitchen Gang

Pumpkins are lurking everywhere this month--in our games, crafts, and maybe even our cakes! Once again, kids in grades 2 - 5 will meet up to bake 12 cakes for the October Community Luncheon. Please join us Wednesday, October 5, from 3:00 pm to 4:45 pm. Bring along a friend!

For kids grades 2-5
Wednesday October 5
3:00 pm to 4:45 pm



Children & Youth

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!

For kids in grade 3-6

Each Sunday morning

9:15 am - 9:30 am

Youth Group: Confirmation....and Conversation

Last month, we worked hard to get "Coat & Cupboard" up-and-running. We still have more work to do, but we can begin to turn our energy and attention toward Confirmation & Conversation nights. We'll continue to meet Sunday evenings 6:30 -- 8:00 pm (*location TBA. Also, we may decide to cancel the 10/9 meeting for the holiday weekend. Watch your email and Facebook for updates!*) Our Oct. 2 meeting will be a review and critique of the morning's "Coat & Cupboard" event. Subsequent evening discussions will explore what Confirmation is--and *isn't*. Get ready for challenging podcasts, TED Talks, movie segments, and more!

For students in grades 7-12

Sunday evenings 6:30-8:00 pm (possibly, no meeting 10/9/16)

Location: TBA

Old South Movie Studio

This fall, we step into the New Testament as we use costumes, props and plenty of humor to re-tell our favorite stories. Our films are edited, then put up on Facebook and YouTube for everyone to enjoy.

For kids pre-school through grade 6

Begins October 2

11:00 am to noon

Soup Group

Kinda like "God's Kitchen Crew," only a little more "culinarily sophisticated," for students in grades 5 - 8. Once a month, we'll be stirring up some mega batches of soup (which will be used by the church for another great new program...more info on this soon!) Each month, we'll kick things off by heading to Tranten's at 2 pm to shop. Then, at 3 pm, we'll roll up our sleeves and get to work in the church kitchen. After the dishes are washed, we'll enjoy a snack, a quick game, and more!

For kids in grades 5-8

Thursday, Oct. 27

2:00 pm (3:00 pm for 5th graders) to 4:45 pm

Mission Trips: Not November, but March!

Because of our deep commitment to the launching of "Coat & Cupboard," we voted on Sept. 11 to cancel our trip to Ecclesia's CityReach (Boston) on November 18-20. Instead, we have decided to use the \$1,200 toward our mission work here at home. However, we look forward to serving once again at Preble Street, in Portland, March 17-18. Students in grades 7 -12 are warmly invited to join us!





Children & Youth

Bread for Benefit

It's one of our tastiest assignments---making freshly baked bread to sell after the worship service Sunday mornings. This month, we'll be selling bread October 23 and October 30. We'll need all youth group members to lend a hand to keep this highly successful program running smoothly. Check Facebook and email for your "job assignment" this month!

For students in grades 7-12

October 23 and 30

Bread-prep shift 8:30 am; Bread-selling shift: 10:45 am; Pot Washer shift: 10:45 am

Share Your Joy: Become a Sunday School Teacher!

It's an easy way to make a big difference in a child's life: become a Sunday School teacher at Old South. The Christian Education Committee is looking for new teachers who'd be willing to serve just once or twice each month. We have engaging curriculum, plenty of supplies, and flexible dates. 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.

October Youth Programming Calendar:

Sunday, Oct 2: BBC @ Coat & Cupboard (9 -11 am); Sunday School (9:30 am); Movie Studio (11:15 - noon)
Youth Group (6:30 - 8:00 pm)

Wednesday, Oct. 5: God's Kitchen Crew (3:00 - 4:45 pm)

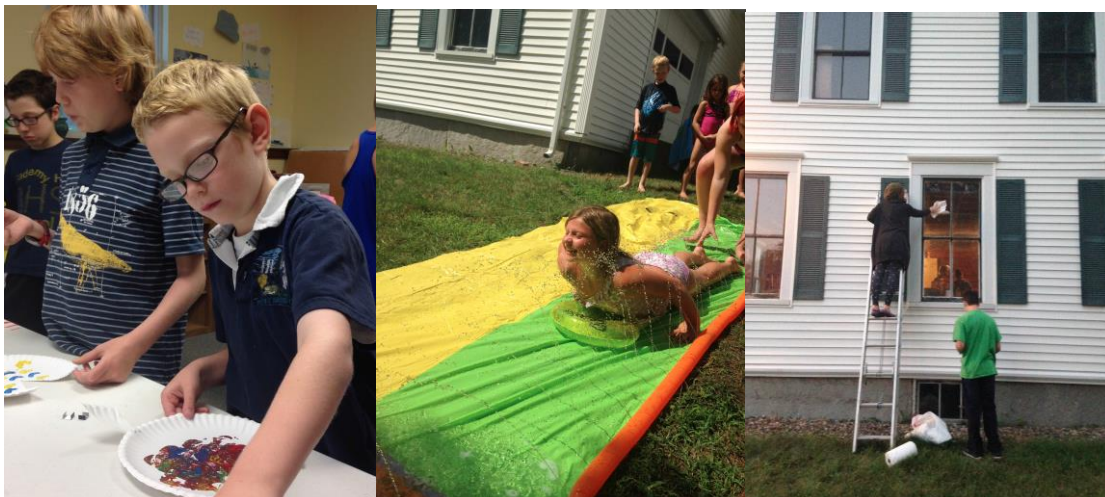
Sunday, Oct. 9: Sunday School and BBC (9:30 am); Youth Group (??? TBA)

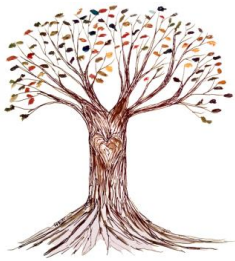
Sunday, Oct. 16: Sunday School and BBC (9:30 am); Youth Group (6:30 - 8:00 pm)

Sunday, Oct. 23: Sunday School and BBC (9:30 am); Bread-for-Benefit; Youth Group (6:30 - 8:00 pm)

Thursday, Oct. 27: Soup Group (2:00 pm/3:00 pm to 4:45 pm)

Sunday, Oct. 30: Sunday School and BBC (9:30 am); Bread-for-Benefit; Youth Group (6:30 - 8:00 pm)





Fundraising



Scrip Card Program

Gift Giving While Giving to Old South

Check out the Fundraising Committee Table today to learn about the variety of gift cards that are available to purchase through the Scrip Program. Please note, the Fundraising Table will not be open on October 2.



Bonhomme Setter

On Thursday, October 20th the Old South Church concert series in partnership with New England Celtic Arts bring Bonhomme Setter to Farmington. Doors open at 6pm with pre-concert jam session to follow. Any local student that plays in the jam session gets free admission to the performance. Ticket prices are adult and students (\$20/\$10). The band takes stage at 7 pm. For more information about the band visit www.bonhommesetter.com or check the Old South website at www.FarmingtonUCC.org

Volunteer opportunity range abound! Help with a dinner meal including set up and clean up, donate food and beverages, set up/serve/cleanup for refreshments served in the vestry, cashier/greeter, and close up. Sound and Light sponsors for the evening are Charlotte (aka Charlie) and Chandler Woodcock and Saddleback Ridge Wind. Please contact Debbie Davis-Robinson 207-491-5919 or Hallie Yorks 778-0111 to sign up and/or to reserve your tickets.

On Thursday, November 3, there will be a concert at Old South featuring the Dardanelles. Stay tuned for details!



Worship & Music



Sundays in October

October 2	Acts 4: 32-37	Communion Sunday Moving from “about me” to “about God” <i>Worship will be followed by Agape Meal</i> Living Water Association Worship (2:30 pm,
October 9	Acts 17:16-28	God never stops seeking us Deacons’ meeting
October 16	Acts 11:1-18	There is no us v. them, only us <i>“Our Turn” following worship</i>
October 23	Acts 16: 20-34	Learning to live from a place of trust <i>Bread for Benefit</i>
October 30	Acts 4: 13-22	Equipped to serve – what the saints of our church have taught us about service. <i>Bread for Benefit</i> <i>Special Business Meeting following worship</i>

Revised Common Lectionary readings may be reviewed at:
lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu

For each week, the RCL website has added scriptural reflections based on a featured art image as well as prayers.

You may also elect to receive devotions based on the revised common lectionary readings from the United Church of Christ by signing up at www.ucc.org/daily_devotional



Worship & Music

Revised Common Lectionary

We are in the season after Pentecost in Year C according to the 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. Although Rev. Alexis often draws upon the Revised Common Lectionary, worship service planning is also often based on themes relevant to the life of Old South. If you would like to study the lectionary that will be used in church each Sunday, please contact Phyllis in the church office. Below, you will find the Revised Common Lectionary for the month of October.

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 2, 2016	<u>Lamentations 1:1-6</u> <u>Lamentations 3:19-26</u> or <u>Psalm 137</u>	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u> <u>Psalm 37:1-9</u>	<u>2 Timothy 1:1-14</u>	<u>Luke 17:5-10</u>
Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost October 9, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7</u> <u>Psalm 66:1-12</u>	<u>2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c</u> <u>Psalm 111</u>	<u>2 Timothy 2:8-15</u>	<u>Luke 17:11-19</u>
October 10, 2016	<u>Deuteronomy 26:1-11</u> <u>Psalm 100</u>		<u>Philippians 4:4-9</u>	<u>John 6:25-35</u>
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost October 16, 2016	<u>Jeremiah 31:27-34</u> <u>Psalm 119:97-104</u>	<u>Genesis 32:22-31</u> <u>Psalm 121</u>	<u>2 Timothy 3:14-4:5</u>	<u>Luke 18:1-8</u>
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost October 23, 2016	<u>Joel 2:23-32</u> <u>Psalm 65</u>	<u>Sirach 35:12-17</u> or <u>Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22</u> <u>Psalm 84:1-7</u>	<u>2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18</u>	<u>Luke 18:9-14</u>
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost October 30, 2016 (If All Saints not observed on this day)	<u>Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4</u> <u>Psalm 119:137-144</u>	<u>Isaiah 1:10-18</u> <u>Psalm 32:1-7</u>	<u>2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12</u>	<u>Luke 19:1-10</u>



Maine Conference and the UCC

From the Franklin Association Moderator

Rev. Cathie Wallace

This is an exciting time in the life of the Franklin Association of churches!

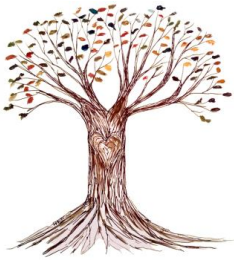
As a reminder, we are the seven United Church of Christ (UCC) churches of Franklin County: Old South, First Congregational in Wilton, Shorey Chapel in Industry, New Sharon Congregational, Phillips Community Church, First Congregational in Weld, and Rangeley Congregational.

For the past year, we have been in conversation with the eleven churches of the Kennebec Valley Association about union. Representatives from all but one of both Associations' churches came together in February at Old South and reached consensus to move ahead with this. Here are some of the reasons:

- Enhanced community
- Best-practice sharing; more ideas to share and percolate
- Opportunities for Members in Discernment (MiDs) to serve a variety of churches; increased opportunities for part-time ministers to work at two or more churches.
- Enhanced mission work and Association worship
- MORE FUN!
- Filling Association committees, particularly the crucial Committee on Ministry (oversees and supports both ministers and the health of the churches)
- Getting to Resurrection – dying as Kennebec Valley and Franklin Associations and rising as a new, spirit-filled Body of Christ.

On Sunday, October 2nd at 2 pm at South Parish, Augusta, both Associations will have brief Fall Meetings separately, and vote to dissolve in order to come together. Then, a short meeting of the combined Associations will focus on a vote for union, and the Living Water Association of UCC churches will be born!

All are welcome to attend! The celebration worship that follows our business meetings will introduce us to each other in God's deep space, so please mark your calendars and plan to attend.



Maine Conference and the UCC

Maine Conference Ani-Racism Training

Where: High Street Congregational Church, UCC (106 Pleasant Street, Auburn)

When: November 5, 9:30 am to 4:30 pm

Cost: \$10 (lunch provided)

Facilitator: Rev. Da Vita D. McCallister from the Connecticut Conference UCC

Rev. Da Vita “Day” McCallister is a partner, mother, ordained minister, entrepreneur, philanthropist, writer, and advocate for marginalized communities. She currently serves as the Associate Conference Minister for Leadership and Vitality in the CT Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Why Should You Attend?

Because racism is a sin that prevents us from being God’s beloved community.

Because racism affects all of us, in ways both subtle and overt, intentional and unconscious.

Because anti-racism work is hard. It is best accomplished in communities of support, challenge, and inspiration.

To Register: go to the Maine Conference Website (www.maineucc.org)

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



Would you like to learn more about the United Church of Christ? Please check the United Church of Christ website for more information about our denomination: <http://www.ucc.org>
On this site, you may sign up for “Weekly Seeds” a reflection based on the Revised Common Lectionary readings for each Sunday of the year. There is also a link to an electronic daily devotional called, “The StillSpeaking Daily Devotional.”



Get Connected

OLD SOUTH CHURCH

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

WORSHIP: 9:30 AM SUNDAYS

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



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



www.facebook.com/OldSouthFarmington



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



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



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

Old South Statement of Identity

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

(Galatians 3:28)

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

October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> The church office is open Tuesday through Thursday from 8:00 am-4:30 pm. Rev. Alexis is her office on Tuesdays from Noon to 3:00 pm, except on Oct. 4 when her office hours are 1-4:00 pm. </div>					1
2 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (Holman Parish House) 11:00am Agape Meal (Vestry) 11:15am Movie Studio (Luke Room) 11:30am Coat & Cupboard (HPH Carriage House) 2:00pm Association Meeting (Offsite) 6:30pm Youth Group (location to be determined)	3 12:00pm Retirees Lunch (Vestry) 6:00pm Zen Buddhist sanga (John Room (next to Chapel))	4 5:15pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:00pm Civility Group (Matthew Room)	5 2:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Chapel) 6:00pm Executive Council (HPH Meeting Room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	6	7	8 12:00pm Community Lunch (Kitchen, Vestry)
9 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 9:30am Farmington Friends (Holman Parish House) 11:00am Deacons' Meeting (Matthew Room)	10 6:00pm Zen Buddhist sanga (John Room (next to Chapel))	11 5:00pm Financial Trustees (HPH Meeting Room) 5:15pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:00pm Civility Group (Matthew Room)	12 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	13 5:00pm Music Diversification Group (HPH Meeting Room)	14	15
16 9:30am Farmington Friends (Holman Parish House) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Our Turn (Vestry) 6:30pm Youth Group (location to be determined)	17 6:00pm Zen Buddhist sanga (John Room (next to Chapel))	18 5:15pm InnerRhythm (Chapel) 6:30pm Property Trustees (Holman Parish House)	19 12:00pm "Moving On" Lunch (Vestry) 2:00pm Bereavement Support Group (Chapel) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	20 10:00am Staff Meeting (HPH Meeting Room) 6:30pm Concert Prejam Session (Vestry) 7:00pm Concert (Sanctuary)	21 9:00am Buttons for Babes Board Meeting (Holman Parish House)	22 Maine Conference Annual Meeting (Offsite)

23 9:30am Farmington Friends (Holman Parish House) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Bread for Benefit (Vestry) 6:30pm Youth Group (location to be determined)	24 6:00pm Zen Buddhist sanga (John Room (next to Chapel))	25 5:15pm InnerRhythm (Chapel)	26 4:30pm Christian Ed (Matthew Room) 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal (Matthew Room)	27 2:00pm Soup Group (Kitchen) 5:30pm White Privledge Group (Chapel)	28	29 3:30pm Upward Bound (Kitchen, Vestry)
30 9:30am Farmington Friends (Holman Parish House) 9:30am Worship (Sanctuary) 11:00am Bread for Benefit (Vestry) 11:00am Special Business Meeting (Old South Church)	31 6:00pm Zen Buddhist sanga (John Room (next to Chapel))					