

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON
CALENDAR

NOVEMBER - 2011

www.oldsouth.org



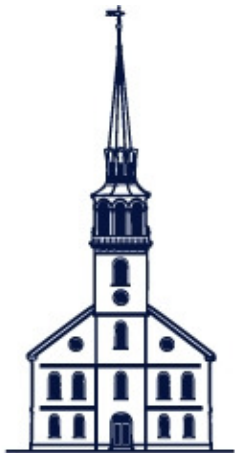
Q: What do a harbor full of tea, witch hysteria, a midnight ride, and a famous kite have in common?



A: Old South Church!

56th **MEETING HOUSE SUNDAY**

November 20, 2011 11:15 AM Washington & Milk Streets



Old South Church has seen many famous congregants weave the fabric of American history - from Patriot Sam Adams to Judge Samuel Sewall, from Minuteman William Dawes to Founding Father Benjamin Franklin. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, Old South Church returns to the very walls that witnessed the men, women, and events that helped shape this nation, our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House, for Festival Thanksgiving Worship.

The service begins at 11:15 am. Preludes begin at 10:45 am. Music will include the Old South Choir under the direction of Minister of Music Harry Huff, the Old South Ringers handbell choir, and brass and piano. Rev. Nancy Taylor will preach and the Governor's Thanksgiving Proclamation will be read. Church member David Vogan, who peals OSC's bell every Sunday morning, will this time invite worshippers by ringing Old South Meeting House's newly installed 1801 Paul Revere Bell.

Visit oldsouthmeetinghouse.org for directions. The Meeting House is easily accessible by all subway lines. For those needing transportation, a bus will depart from Old South Church (Boylston and Dartmouth Streets) at 10:20 am and 11 am. A returning bus will depart the Meeting House at 12:45 pm. Childcare for children five years and younger will be available at Old South Church. 9 am FIRST Worship will be held as usual in the Gordon Chapel.

(Photo, top center: Old South Church's cornerstone inscribed with the dates of our three houses of worship: 1670 for the Cedar Meeting House; 1730 for Old South Meeting House; and 1873 for our present Back Bay building.)



WORSHIP

JAZZ Worship: Thursdays at 6 pm *eclectic & bathed in candlelight*

The familiar Gordon Chapel becomes as mysterious and beckoning as the Gothic cathedrals it emulates, and the old story of our faith is made new through intimate, eclectic, full-body worship. The Willie Sordillo Trio, Interim Minister for Discipleship Ron Buford, and the Holy Spirit are your guides as you move through a rhythm of music, silence, and spoken word that will freshen the faith of longtime Christians and invite new ones to deeper discipleship.

FIRST Worship: Sundays at 9 am *informal & vibrant*

Scripture, song, communion, inspirational preaching, reflective prayer, and a pick-up choir that will lift your spirit—if that sounds like your cup of cider, come join us in the intimacy and Gothic beauty of Gordon Chapel. Childcare is available!

FESTIVAL Worship: Sundays at 11 am *grand & expressive*

HEALING Worship: Sunday, November 13th at 10 am in the Children's Chapel

All are welcome to this time of prayer and reflection as we "practice the presence of God" and seek healing and hope.

Festival Worship, Sundays at 11 am in the Sanctuary

November 6th	All Saints Sunday <i>ASL Interpreter ❖ Sacrament of Baptism</i>	<i>Associate Minister Quinn G. Caldwell preaching</i>
November 13th	Consecration Sunday	<i>Guest Steward J. Mary Luti preaching</i>
November 20th	Meeting House Sunday (see cover story) <i>ASL Interpreter ❖ Music from the Old South Ringers</i>	<i>Senior Minister Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i>
November 27th	First Sunday in Advent <i>Sacrament of Communion</i>	<i>Interim Minister for Discipleship Ron Buford preaching</i>

Bless! A National Conference *Thursday, November 10th - Friday, November 11th*

Reclaim the art of blessing and experience the ways in which this ancient rite is shaping a vibrant, urban, progressive Christian community. Join us for a national conference of worship leaders—presented by the United Church of Christ's Local Church Ministries, Old South Church and the SALT Project—where Old South's clergy will examine and present blessing as theology, ecclesiology and Christian practice and demonstrate that Old South's vitality is directly related to the learned art and the oft-practiced act of blessing. The conference will conclude with a national service of blessing for "Mission: 1," the UCC's denomination-wide mission campaign to confront hunger and food-related injustice. To register, visit ucc.org/bless.

Consecration Thursday & Sunday and Celebration Lunch *November 10th and 13th*

At all three worship services we will joyfully consecrate to God our financial giving for 2012. Guest Rev. J. Mary Luti will preach. Be sure to bring your Giving Cards. During worship we will offer our cards as a symbol of returning to God a portion of what God has provided to us. No gift is too big or too small. On Sunday, at 12:15 pm, you are invited to join us for a Celebration Lunch on the second floor. RSVP to reception@oldsouth.org. In the event that you are unable to join us, we ask that you give careful consideration to your pledge and return your completed Giving Card to Old South by Thursday, November 10.



The Metropolitan Boston Association of the United Church of Christ and Old South Church in Boston invite you to attend a Service of Worship ordaining

BRENT R. DAMROW
to the Christian Ministry

Sunday, November 20, 2011 at 3 pm at Old South Church in Boston
A reception will follow the service.

LEARN

Bible Study *Sundays, 10 am*

Prepare to experience worship more deeply by studying and reflecting on the preaching text(s) for the day. Led by Field Education Intern Shawn Fiedler.

Environmental Stewardship Workshops *Wednesdays, November 2nd - 16th, 7 pm*

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light, which provides a faith based response to climate change, introduces *Spirituality & Sustainability; Moving from Faith to Action*. Participants will explore how the core values of faith call them to sustainable living and will learn practical and effective actions to take as an individual, a faith community and a nation. Free will donations accepted. Register to vince@MIPandL.org.

Reading the Bible from the Margins II *Sundays, November 6th and 13th, 10 am*

The lens by which we read the Bible is not the only one through which the texts can be read. We will examine other lenses to see how select biblical texts are read by people in different social and geographic locations. Join us for this exciting journey of discovery of how alternate readings can enhance our own understandings. Led by Theologian in Residence Don Wells. RSVP to reception@oldsouth.org.

Theological Book Group *Mondays beginning November 14th, 6 pm*

God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible by Adam Nicholson - Jacobean England was both more godly and less godly than the country had ever been and the entire culture was drawn taut between these polarities. This was the world that created the King James Bible, the greatest work of English prose ever written. Come celebrate the 400th anniversary of this most important of books with us!

CONNECTIONS Class *Saturday, November 19th, 10 am and Monday, November 21st, 6 pm*

For those interested in church membership, this three-hour class invites you to explore Christianity, the United Church of Christ (our denomination), and Old South's rich history, programs, small groups, and service opportunities, and to consider your own place at Old South. You need only attend one of the two sessions. RSVP to Interim Minister for Discipleship Ron Buford at ron@oldsouth.org. For those who join, new members will be welcomed during JAZZ Worship on December 8th and during FIRST and FESTIVAL Worship on December 11th.



MEET *Small Group Ministry & beyond at Old South*

For up-to-date information on all of Old South Church's gatherings, visit oldsouth.org.



Mood Disorders Support Group *Fridays, November 4th - 18th, 2 pm*

A peer led support group offering a safe, secure and confidential setting for those who struggle with mood disorders. Contact Janice at (617) 236-0265.

Coffee & Conversation with the Pastors *Sunday, November 6th, 10 am*

If you're new to Old South Church, Coffee & Conversation is a great way to get to know the pastors and other newcomers, and ask questions about the life of this church. Whether you're interested in learning more about our Small Group Ministry and service opportunities, have a burning theological question, or simply wonder how the pastors spend their days, where they studied, and what they believe, this is the place to ask! RSVP to Interim Minister for Discipleship Ron Buford at ron@oldsouth.org.

North of Boston Potluck *Friday, November 11th, 6:30 pm in North Reading*

We will gather at the home of John and Mary Ann Lape. Please bring food for six people and a beverage. Newcomers are especially welcome. RSVP to northofboston@oldsouth.org.

Young Adults Group *Sunday, November 20th, 12:15 pm*

Join undergrad and graduate students and young professionals, ages 18-35, for lunch and fellowship. We will gather outside of the Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington Street, following Festival Thanksgiving Worship and then walk over together to Faneuil Hall promptly at 12:30 pm. E-mail etoppedisano@gmail.com.

LGBT & Friends *Tuesday, November 22nd, 6 pm*

LGBTF will gather offsite for food, fellowship, and fun. Watch the bulletin and website for details. E-mail shawn@oldsouth.org.

Faith on Tap *Tuesday, November 22nd, 6:30 pm at McGreevy's Pub (911 Boylston St.)*

Food, drink, conversation, and God, all in one place! This month we will be led by OSC member Lucy Costa on Christian friendship. Contact Alliea Group at aegroupp@yahoo.com.

Old South Knitters *Sunday, November 27th, 10 am*

The Old South Knitters gather together on the last Sunday of every month to practice the art of creating prayer shawls. During the rest of the month, the group meets informally during Early Café. Contact Diane Raymond at diane.raymond1600@gmail.com.

November Birthdays *Sunday, November 27th during 12:15 pm Fellowship Hour*

Join members and friends for Old South's monthly celebration of birthdays. We celebrate with candles, cake and song. All are invited to join in the festivities. Hosted by the Congregational Care & Support Committee.



GENEROSITY

“With God all things are possible.” I don’t know about other people, but sometimes, when I see the persistent disparities in our society, I wonder about these words. At other times, they are, for me, a prayer of thanksgiving and hope. This month, each of us is being asked to pledge our support to Old South. When I let go of my cynicism and open my eyes to God’s action in and through Old South, I want to put my money to the hope and commitment embodied in our *Vision for the 21st Century*. We have before us a bold, some would say daunting, Vision. But I do believe that “with God,” all things, even the conquering of cynicism and doubt, “are possible!”

—Nancy Richardson, Stewardship Committee

Communications Survey

The Old South Church Communications Committee would like you to participate in a quick survey about the various ways in which the church communicates with you. Please take a few minutes between now and November 6 to complete the survey at <http://oldsouth.breeninc.com/survey> and tell us what you think! The Committee will use the information collected to help the congregation stay as well informed as possible.

SERVICE AND MISSION

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser *Sunday, November 6th, 9:45 - 10:30 am*

The Church School and Youth Group invite you for homemade pancakes in support of the Allston-Brighton Food Pantry. The suggested donation is a box of wholesome cereal, or \$5 per person, \$10 maximum per family.

Allston-Brighton Food Pantry *Saturday, November 19th, 9:15 am - 1:30 pm*

Want to feed the hungry? Volunteer at the Allston-Brighton Food Pantry for their big Thanksgiving food basket distribution. Volunteers will escort patrons through the food selection process. To volunteer, e-mail erinhull@gmail.com.

Sunday’s Bread *Sunday, November 27th, 12:30 - 4 pm on Beacon Hill*

Help feed the hungry on the last Sunday of each month at the Church of St. John the Evangelist, 35 Bowdoin Street on Beacon Hill. We work alongside volunteers from other churches, synagogues, and service groups. Dress in comfortable clothes and shoes. To volunteer, email sundaysbread@yahoo.com by Tuesday, November 22.



MUSIC

NEW Children's Choir

The Children's Choir, under the direction of Linda O'Donnell, provides an opportunity for children to participate in the Music Ministry of Old South Church. Members receive vocal training while preparing a variety of songs and anthems for FESTIVAL Worship. The Children's Choir is open to elementary school children beginning in the first grade. Rehearsals are held on Sunday mornings at 10:15 am in the fourth floor Tower Room. E-mail childrenschoir@oldsouth.org.

Chorus Pro Musica *Sunday, November 6th, 3 pm*

CPM, Boston's historic chorus known for its continuing tradition of excellence under the leadership of Music Director Betsy Burleigh, proudly launches its 63rd concert season, *Chiaroscuro: From Darkness To Light*, at Old South Church. Featuring Zoltán Kodály's *Missa Brevis* and works by Brahms, Tallis, Matsushita, Lauridsen, Walton, and Dove. Organ accompaniment by OSC Associate Organist George Sargeant. Tickets \$25 - \$45. 10% off for Old South Church members! Use code OSC10 at checkout. Visit choruspromusica.org.

Musicians of the Old Post Road *Sunday, November 13th, 3 pm*

Musicians of the Old Post Road presents *Riddle Me This*, with selections from J.S. Bach's Musical Offering, a "musical circle" by Bach's student Johann Kirnberger, and Marin Marais' masterwork *La gamme* (The Scale), which will be performed in its rarely-heard expanded orchestration. Tickets \$30, \$25 seniors, children admitted free. Visit oldpostroad.org.

Berklee Concert *Wednesday, November 30th, 7 pm*

Berklee Society of Composers presents a concert of classical chamber music written by Berklee student composers. Free admission.

Old South Ringers Handbell Concert *Friday, December 2nd, 7:30 pm*

The Old South Ringers proudly present *Here We Come A-Caroling*, a musical romp through some of our favorite Christmas carols. Start your holiday season on the right note! Free admission.

Holiday Arts & Crafts Fair *Saturday, December 3rd, 10 am - 4 pm*

Do you hear what I hear? It's once again time for the Old South Church Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair! Artists and craftspeople from Old South and beyond will exhibit and vend their unique wares: something for every taste, age and pocket. Come and enjoy this annual church event, complete with festive music and the scent of hot mulled cider in the air. E-mail AdrianaRepetto@verizon.net. Sorry, vendor space is full.



Christmas Flowers

Beginning in November contributions in honor or memory of loved ones and special events will be accepted for the display of poinsettias on the chancel during Advent and Christmas. The cost is \$15. Cards will be available at the Front Desk and may be returned to the attention of Helen McCrady. Or send your message and make payment online; visit oldsouth.org/online-giving. **The deadline is Sunday, December 4.**



HEARD IT *at* COUNCIL

October 11, 2011

The flow of discussions at Council's October meeting suggested that the Old South community can expect many new and exciting initiatives for the coming year. Council members were pleased to welcome Interim Minister for Discipleship Ron Buford to his first Council Meeting; he is thrilled to be a part of Old South Church. Historian Jeff Makhholm, Minister of Music Harry Huff, and the Chairs of the Operations Committee, Christian Education Committee and the Vision Working Group all had especially significant news and updates to share.

Jeff Makhholm reported that the Old South archives will soon be available online. Two archive interns from Simmons College are assisting the Head Archivist at the Congregational Library with this project.

It promises to be a year rich with musical events. Chair of the Christian Education Committee, Marcia Gregg, was excited to introduce a motion to hire Linda O'Donnell to serve as the new Children's Choir Director. Linda brings several years of experience both as an elementary school music teacher and director of youth choirs at South Church in Andover. Council unanimously approved this motion. Harry Huff reported that the Music Committee is planning a robust music program for children; and that the Communications Committee will be assisting with efforts to promote the Children's Choir and music program. Harry also reminded Council that the OSC Choir will be singing at the raising of the Paul Revere Bell at the Old South Meeting House.

Paul Kuenstner summarized the findings of Wiss, Janney, & Elstner Associates, an engineering firm that has been developing a 20-year capital plan for Old South Church. The renovations needed do pose significant financial challenges for the Church. Paul reported that the most immediate need is the renovation of Old South's heating and cooling systems. Funding options for this project will be discussed in more detail at the next Council meeting.

Debby Kuenstner provided Council with an update on the work of the Vision Task Forces. She asked for Council's authorization to spend some of the Vision Fund for the three Task Forces; Council approved the use of these funds. She also requested that Council approve the hiring of Rev. June Cooper to serve as Old South's Theologian-in Action. In this role, June will lead Old South in a campaign to build up the urban body of Christ. In June's words, the campaign will "empower, transform, and stimulate our community of faith to become servants in the City, conforming even more to the image of God."

Vard Johnson has ushered in a new way for Council to close meetings; he has now asked Harry to lead members in a sung benediction as they say goodnight. At this meeting, Council sang "His Eye Is on the Sparrow."

TRANSITIONS

E-mail submissions to amy@oldsouth.org

Old South Preschool Teacher Laura Dillon and her husband Ryan Clifton welcomed son **Jack Thomas Clifton** on October 9th weighing 7 lbs., 11 oz.

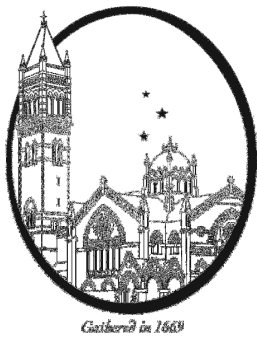
On Sunday, October 16th, the Old South congregation unanimously voted in **Brent Damrow** as Executive Assistant Minister, a position he previously served in an acting capacity. A service of ordination to the Christian Ministry for Brent is scheduled for Sunday, November 20th at 3 pm at Old South Church.

OSC members Stefan and Kathryn Bewley welcomed son **Franklin Patrick** on October 19th weighing 7 lbs., 11 oz.

OSC members Doannie and Holly Tran welcomed son **Elliot Vinh** on October 20th at 1:03 pm.

OSC member **Terry Howell** (Associate Minister Quinn Caldwell's partner) has accepted a new job as Quality Manager for Rheonix, Incorporated in Ithaca, NY. Quinn will join Terry and their son Asa in January.

OSC member **Ian Holland** received a call to serve as pastor to First Church Swampscott, UCC beginning November 21st.



OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

645 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116
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Boston, MA 02116

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Fax: (617) 536-8061
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Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister & Quinn G. Caldwell, Associate Minister
Ron Buford, Interim Minister for Discipleship
Harry L. Huff, Minister of Music & Organist
Patricia Hazeltine, Church School Director

*All Old South Church staff can be reached through the main switchboard at 617-536-1970.

Staff Directory

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Worship Services

FESTIVAL Worship in the Sanctuary

Sundays at 11 am

FIRST Worship in the Gordon Chapel

Sundays at 9 am

JAZZ Worship in the Gordon Chapel

Thursdays at 6 pm

HEALING Worship in the Children's Chapel

Second Sundays at 10 am