

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON
CALENDAR

OCTOBER - 2011



www.oldsouth.org

**SCARED
FOR
GOOD!**

HORRIFIC HARRY HUFF
Organist

**A
SPINE-
CHILLING
HALLOWEEN
BENEFIT
ORGAN
CONCERT**

**SAT
OCT
29
7:30 PM**

Old South Church in Boston
GATHERED
1669.





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 *Our “signature service,” grand & expressive*

HEALING Worship: Sunday, October 9th 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

- October 2nd** **World Communion Sunday & Invite a Friend to Worship**
*Senior Minister Nancy S. Taylor preaching ❖ ASL Interpreter
 The Sacrament of Communion ❖ Welcome to Interim Minister for Discipleship Ron Buford*
- October 9th** **Access/Disabilities Awareness Sunday** *Senior Minister Nancy S. Taylor preaching*
- October 16th** **Candidating Sunday for Brent Damrow**
*Acting Executive Assistant Minister Brent G. Damrow preaching
 ASL Interpreter ❖ New members welcomed*
- October 23rd** **Hymn Festival Sunday** *Interim Minister for Discipleship Ronald L. Buford preaching*
- October 30th** **Reformation Sunday** *Senior Minister Nancy S. Taylor preaching
 Music from the Old South Ringers*

Invite a Friend to Worship

Thursday, September 29th and Sunday, October 2nd

The Communications Committee and Sanctuary in the City Task Force have collaborated on the first ever, church-wide invite-a-friend campaign. Old South’s three weekly worship services—Jazz, First, and Festival—will be particularly accessible to newcomers that week. Members and friends of Old South are invited and encouraged to pray about who they might invite, grab one (or a few) of the stylish, thought-provoking postcards promoting this event (available at the Front Desk), and hand it to a friend or drop it in the mail. The postcard has also been mailed out to nearly 8,000 “recently relocated” households in the Boston area. Pray that God’s blessing will touch people through this program. It starts with you!

Hymn Festival Sunday

October 23rd Festival Worship

The Old South congregation is a community that loves its hymns and sings them lustily! We will celebrate the rich contribution to faith-building through song on Hymn Festival Sunday. The service that day will include five hymn medleys, drawn from a myriad of faiths and traditions. It is the sincere hope of the Music Ministry at Old South that the congregation will gain an increased appreciation for hymnody as a superb resource for the edification of our worship, as our hymns of praise ascend heavenward.



GENEROSITY

I love fall with the cooler nights following the still gloriously warm days, the last flourish of flowers in the garden and the feeling of abundance at the sight of farm stands piled high with vegetables. This year Old South's stewardship theme is "With God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26). This seems to fit in perfectly with autumn. I feel God's gift of a cool breeze making a sunny afternoon working in the yard enjoyable rather than a chore. I see God's smile at the joy of gathering an armful of orange and yellow marigolds to decorate the windowsill. I hear God's laugh at the delight in biting into a freshly picked ear of corn hot from the stove. God made all these things possible and I want to turn around and give these gifts back. One way to give back is through giving to Old South Church. If you feel as I do then with your giving to OSC you will make all things possible.

—Pam Holland, Stewardship Committee

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.

CONNECTIONS Class *Saturday, October 1st, 10 am, or Monday, October 3rd, 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 helen@oldsouth.org.

Disciple Bible Studies

These high-investment studies seek to transform their participants into Disciples through studying the Bible. They encourage active participation, critical thinking, spiritual reflection and community; and require regular weekly attendance and daily homework and prayer. Dinner is included at a cost to participants.

Invitation to Genesis: *Thursdays beginning October 6, 7 - 9 pm.* In this 10-week study, participants will dive deep into one of the most important books of the Bible—the one where it all began! Must be able to commit to 8 of 10 weeks. Facilitated by Anne Brown and Rory Razon. To participate, e-mail roryrazon@yahoo.com.

Invitation to the Old Testament: *Thursdays beginning October 13, 7 - 9 pm.* In this 8-week study, you will hear the story of God and of God's people through the many voices of the biblical text: narrative, poem, history, prophecy, and more. Must be able to commit to 6 of 8 weeks. Facilitated by Mark Schueppert and Bob Kosturko. To participate, e-mail mschueppert@jri.org.

Theological Book Group *Mondays beginning October 30th, 6 pm*

The Theological Book Group meets each week to discuss the text that the group has chosen. The texts have varied from dense theological writings to simple memoirs. Members take turns facilitating the discussion of the week's reading. Watch the announcements for the next book choice.

Environmental Stewardship Workshops *Wednesdays, October 26th - November 16th, 7 pm*

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light, which provides a faith based response to climate change, introduces a new series of workshops: *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.



MEET *Small Group Ministry & beyond at Old South*

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



Special Regional Fellowship Hours

Twice a year, a different region or neighborhood is invited to a special fellowship hour following Festival Worship concurrent with the traditional fellowship hour. There you will be able to meet neighbors, learn about programs in your area, and shape new initiatives. For the schedule, visit www.oldsouth.org/regional-fellowship.

Church Activities and Service Fair *Sunday, October 2nd, 10 am and 12 pm*

Have you thought about volunteering for a service project, joining a bible study group or singing in the choir? On October 2nd, following both First and Festival Worship, you will have an opportunity to meet with representatives from all the activities and service programs at Old South Church.

West of Boston Potluck *Sunday, October 2nd, 5 pm in Lexington*

Join the Pioneers (as we call ourselves) to shape or renew friendships at our Fall round-up! Arrive around 5 pm and leave when you need to. Please bring food for six people and a beverage. For directions, RSVP to boultons2@yahoo.com. *Yeeha!*

LGBT & Friends *Sunday, October 9th, 12:50 pm*

LGBTF will host Andy Lang, Executive Director of the UCC Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Concerns, the parent organization of the Open and Affirming (ONA) Program, for lunch and conversation. Share your thoughts about the most important achievements of Old South's Open and Affirming ministry. Discuss new ways in which we can offer God's Extravagant Welcome, network with other ONA churches, and advocate in the public sphere.

Mood Disorders Support Group *Fridays, October 14th and 21st, 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.

North of Boston Potluck *Friday, October 14th, 6:30 pm in Winchester*

We will gather at the home of Ron and Betty Smith. Please bring food for six people and a beverage. Newcomers are especially welcome. RSVP to northofboston@oldsouth.org.

South of Boston Potluck *Sunday, October 16th, 5 pm, Location TBA*

Bring a dish for six and an appetite for good food, good conversation and good fun. Contact Marilyn Jackson Adams at marilynjacksonadams@gmail.com.

Retired & Ready *Monday, October 17th, 11 am*

Correen Demers, a personal trainer from HealthWorks, will return to demonstrate balance, core, strength and stretching exercises. Dress accordingly. Men are most welcome to attend. Please bring \$5 to offset the cost of lunch. RSVP to SimpsonCha@aol.com.

Faith on Tap *Tuesday, October 18th, 6:30 pm at McGreevy's Pub (911 Boylston St.)*

This month we will be led by OSC member Erin Hull on "Christian Love, Dating and Marriage." Contact Alliea Group at aegroupp@yahoo.com.



SERVICE AND MISSION

Clothing and Eye Glasses Drive

There is a critical need for women's suits as 43 trainees in Training, Inc.'s current session prepare to interview for employment. Additional clothing drive needs include men's suits and other work appropriate clothing, such as outerwear, shoes and accessories; as well as casual clothing for men and women and children's clothing. For the first time, we will also collect eye glasses which will be given to the Lions Club for distribution in underdeveloped countries. Receipts (to a maximum of \$500) are available for clean, ready-to-wear clothing.

Habitat Build Day *Saturday, October 1st, 9 am - 3:30 pm in Roslindale*

Join other Old South Church members as we continue work on Habitat for Humanity Greater Boston's recently purchased house at 51 Navarre Street in Roslindale. Up to 10 volunteers can be accommodated. No construction experience is necessary. Volunteers must be at least 16 years old to work on the construction site. To volunteer, e-mail OSCHabitat@gmail.com.

Sunday's Bread *Sunday, October 30th, 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 Wednesday, October 26.

Pancake Breakfast Fundraiser *Sunday, November 6th from 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.

MEET Continued

Young Adults Group *Sunday, October 23rd, 12:30 pm*

Join undergrad and graduate students and young professionals for our monthly luncheon. Contact Catherine Allard at catherine@oldsouth.org.

Old South Knitters *Sunday, October 30th, 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.

October Birthdays *Sunday, October 30th during Fellowship Hour following Festival Worship*

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.

JP, Rozzy, Westie, Dot Potluck *Sunday, October 30th, 5 pm, Location TBA*

Join us as we grow our relationships—with one another, with our neighbors, and with God. Bring food for six people along with a beverage. Everyone is invited, no matter where you live. RSVP to reception@oldsouth.org.



Executive Assistant Minister Position

The Executive Assistant Minister works under the direction of, and in close cooperation with, the Senior Minister: supporting special projects and events, representing the Senior Minister as necessary at meetings and functions, liaising between the Senior Minister and various constituencies (including interfaith and ecumenical partners), and generally providing staff assistance with the Vision for the 21st Century (including, but not limited to small groups, communications, and regional programming). A called member of the ordained clergy, the Executive Assistant Minister will assist with worship and pastoral leadership as schedules permit and necessitate.



At its September meeting, the Church Council voted to recommend to the membership calling **Brent R. Damrow** to serve as our permanent Executive Assistant Minister. Brent has been serving in an acting capacity for a year. This past March a search committee was formed—Candace Kosturko, Karen Hand, Reid Leonard, Timothy Longman, Jim O'Donnell and Nancy S. Taylor—to fill the permanent position.

Brent will preach candidating sermons on Thursday, October 13 at 6 pm Jazz Worship and on Sunday, October 16 at 9 am First Worship and 11 am Festival Worship. There will be opportunity for questions and answers following each service.

By order of the Council, a Special Meeting of the Members is called for Sunday, October 16 at 12 noon for the purpose of voting on the recommendation to call Brent Damrow to serve as our Executive Assistant Minister.

A service of ordination to the Christian Ministry for Brent is scheduled for Sunday, November 20 at 3 pm at Old South Church.

A Bell Raising Weekend *October 14th - 16th*

In June, an 1801 Paul Revere Bell made the journey from Westborough, MA, where it resided for 210 years, to its new permanent home at Old South Meeting House, Old South Church's ancestral home. The Meeting House has been without a bell in its clock tower since 1876, when Old South Church sold the building, taking the bell to our new church home in Copley Square. To honor the historic addition to its tower, the Meeting House is hosting a three-day celebration.



On Saturday at 11 am, the **Old South Ringers** will present "A Salute to Bells," a blend of traditional American folk hymnody and contemporary bell pieces. Learn about this proud historic musical tradition and its role in the Music Ministry at Old South Church. Free to members of Old South Meeting House and Old South Church; included with museum admission for all others. Then on Sunday at 1 pm the festivities culminate in a bell raising ceremony on the plaza across the street from the Meeting House. Music accompaniment will include the **Old South Choir**, joined by the Boston Children's Chorus, the Back Bay Ringers, and brass from the Boston Landmarks Orchestra. Free and open to the public. Visit www.oldsouthmeetinghouse.org.

Jeff Makhholm, OSC member and Church Historian, and member of the Board of Directors of the Old South Association, is the architect and builder behind the new bell wheel for the 1801 Paul Revere Bell. No stranger to such craftsmanship, Jeff designed and built Old South Church's 220-pound bell wheel in 2006.

(Photo: Julie Sterling Photography, courtesy of Old South Meeting House, 2011)

Wild Sunrises CD Release

Wild Sunrises is the first ever solo recording of Old South's magnificent 1921 E.M. Skinner organ, op. 308, played by Minister of Music Harry L. Huff. The music was written entirely by the young Harvard composer Carson P. Cooman, and reflects a myriad of styles, exploiting the kaleidoscope of colors found on this world-class instrument. Visit www.oldsouth.org/content/cds for audio clips. The CD is on sale at the Front Desk for \$15.



HEARD IT *at* COUNCIL

September 13, 2011

Council had a full agenda as members began looking ahead to the new church year. Before beginning the official business of the evening, Council members were given the opportunity to review and reflect on their personal faith statements. These statements have taken the form of bible verses, hymns, poems, and more.

The first order of business was to consider the motion to recommend Brent Damrow as our permanent Executive Assistant Minister. Search Committee chair Candace Kosturko presented council with Brent's many qualifications and impressive accomplishments. Council members enthusiastically seconded and approved the motion to introduce Brent as a candidate for the position. A special Meeting of the Members of Old South Church in Boston will be held on Sunday, October 16th to vote upon the call of Brent Damrow as Executive Assistant Minister.

A good portion of the meeting was focused on Old South's By-Laws. On behalf of the Leadership Committee, David Becker presented Council with proposals for changes to the By-Laws. Proposed changes include the adaption of inclusive language, the defining of consistent term limits for committees, and allowing for increased membership on committees to reflect our growing congregation. Council members will continue to consider these proposed changes, which will be presented to the congregation for a vote at Annual Meeting.

Jon Geldert updated Council on the activities of the Vision Task Forces, which each had a busy summer. The Sanctuary in the City Task Force has organized "Invite a Friend to Church Sunday" on October 2nd. Postcard invitations advertising this event have been sent to Boston newcomers, and Old South Church members are encouraged to give these postcards to friends. The Christians in Formation Task Force has planned a "Small Group Fair" event on October 2nd. Representatives from the church's small groups will staff activity tables in order to encourage members, friends, and visitors to join a group. The Faith at the Crossroads Task Force is in the process of discerning what initiatives to undertake in order to encourage the Old South community to reflect on and engage in sacrificial service.

Finally, Council recognized the substantial role that Rev. Nancy Taylor played in putting together the interfaith service of remembrance on the tenth anniversary of September 11, 2001. On that positive note, Council closed the meeting with a "Litany for Evening" from the New Century Hymnal.

TRANSITIONS

E-mail submissions to amy@oldsouth.org

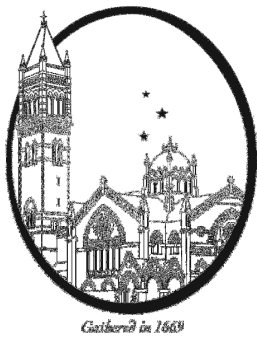
OSC friends Angela and Colin Pape welcomed son **Ari Lincoln** on August 7th weighing 8 lbs., 5 oz at 21" long.

OSC members Erik Brenner and Veronica Cuevas Brenner welcomed son **Sebastian Eli** on August 21st weighing 9 lbs., 3 oz at 21" long. Sebastian kept the Brenner tradition of first born on a Sunday and the Cuevas tradition of all males born in August.

OSC members Meredith and Niels Peetz-Larsen welcomed son **Christian Rhein** on September 10th weighing 7 lbs., 10 oz.

OSC member **Tom Oppedisano** received his Master of Science in Finance from Suffolk University Sawyer School of Management.

OSC member **Nate Davis**, a sophomore at Dartmouth College, appeared on NBC's group singing competition show "The Sing-Off" with his cappella group, The Dartmouth Aires, on September 26th and advanced to the next round. Each week one group will be eliminated. Once the competition is down to three groups, viewers are given a chance to vote for their favorites. The winner will be announced during the finale on November 28th.



OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON

A Congregation of the United Church of Christ

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An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ
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Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister & Quinn G. Caldwell, Associate Minister
Ronald 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