Old South Church is a loving, welcoming and inclusive Christian community, which gathers for worship where we are challenged spiritually and socially. This results in awareness and a call to action. As Christian stewards we provide diverse educational programs and engage in meaningful outreach. We are a recognizable Christian force within our community.
Talk and the Walk

The General Synod of the United Church of Christ just completed meeting in Milwaukee. Some nuts and bolts (read “boring”) work was done like electing officers and creating a committee to examine how resolutions should be brought to and acted on by General Synod. There were some expected pronouncements on the need to de-escalate international conflicts and an endorsement of the Green New Deal. At least 500 delegates also walked the talk by taking it to the streets and joining a protest against immigration policies at the local ICE office.

The work of the wider church at the national setting can often seem to have little connection to us on the local level. This is particularly true since the wider church speaks TO the local church, not FOR it. Not to mention that all decisions apart from the authorization of ministers are made by the local church with no outside or higher authority able to change them. Still, there is great value in our connectivity when it comes to a collective voice and visionary leadership.

Here at Old South we have been looking at nuts and bolts work in the past couple of months, so brace yourselves for some scintillating conversation about our constitution in the coming months! Yes, it is important to get our “talk” right. Part of that talk is looking at what constitutes our vision, mission, and covenant. We have all of those, but don’t necessarily reference them often. So if we failed to walk the talk, we could be forgiven for not knowing the “talk.” But each week we hear our Welcome Statement. And each week we have a chance to live that welcome or make liars of ourselves by repeating it. I’m happy and proud to say that we clearly walk that talk well. Just ask anyone who is new here. Just this past Sunday we had a couple choose to worship with us, each driving considerable distance, precisely because they read our Welcome Statement on the web site. They assured us that we lived up to our words. We are also interviewing a potential organist who is willing to drive 2.5 hours to get here because he is so disappointed in the church where he is and wants to be in a place that believes what we do.

So when you feel a bit bedraggled by the mundane wear and tear of church business, remember that you are making a difference. Our witness is like a pebble tossed in a pond. The ever-widening ripples reach much farther than you may imagine.
The rain may have stopped us from enjoying the Dell on Sundays, but it has not dampened our enthusiasm. Many great things are taking place. The rummage sale was a success. We had a large turn out for the Pride and the Kirtland Strawberry Festival parades. Bill Knox and “friends” helped sort 6000 pounds of donated food for our Pantry, which continues to serve an ever growing number of people in our community with help putting food on the table for their families. Busy hands and bodies are fixing up the Church grounds, and our 200th year anniversary planning is well underway. Thanks to everyone for helping to carry our Old South’s various missions. More importantly, thank you for being a part of Old South Church. We are much more than just a random collection of people with similar faith. We have a long a history of helping and comforting people, and each other. 200 years (almost) and counting!

~submitted by Bud Stanley, Moderator

It is vacation time along with backyard gatherings and making home improvements. Check out the over 750 merchants who want to support Old South as you make your purchases with their gift cards. There are hotel chains, restaurants, clothes, food, gasoline, and home improvement and garden stores. You can even have a scrip wallet on your phone so you don’t need a handful of cards. Order your scrip today or purchase Heinen’s and Giant Eagle cards every Sunday. If you have questions, please see Mary Jones. Cards will be ordered July 14 and 28, delivered the following Sunday.

Old South has received almost $1600 this year from scrip sales!

We met via email, which is the preferred method for our small but mighty group.

Old Business: Lindsey received thank you notes from Emily and Olivia thanking CE for the gift cards and books for senior graduation. We would like to continue that tradition.

New Business: Lindsey would like to thank the nursery and Sunday School volunteers from this last school year (Sept. 2018—May 2019) and asked for recommendations on how to do that. We decided to host a September Sunday Coffee Hour as a thank you to the volunteers and also as a request for volunteers for the upcoming school year. We suggested Lindsey showcase teaching materials, crafts, photos, etc. during the Coffee Hour so people can see what volunteers do, ask questions and generate some excitement for the new year. There will be a singer/songwriter coming to Lindsey’s mom’s church in Elmore in September that Lindsey would like to take the youth group to for a lock in and a chance to meet with other youth groups. She would also like to plan a Fall Family Fun Day around the time school starts up. We didn’t discuss Peace Camp at this meeting, so I’m not sure if Lindsey is still planning on doing an event one Saturday this summer. More to come on that.

~submitted by Jenna Jontz
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**July 2019**

- **3rd**: Blood Drive
- **6th**: 7:30 pm Food Pantry
- **7th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **8th**: 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **9th**: Missions
- **10th**: 10:30 am Crafters
- **11th**: 1:00 am Women’s Fall Fellowship, 6:30 pm Cabinet
- **12th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **13th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **14th**: 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **15th**: 7:00 pm Trustees
- **16th**: 7:30 pm CE
- **17th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **18th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **19th**: 7:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **20th**: 10:00 am Worship
- **21st**: Quilts of Valor, 10:00 am Worship
- **22nd**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **23rd**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **24th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **25th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **26th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **27th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **28th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **29th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **30th**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts
- **31st**: 6:00 pm Boy Scouts

**SUN**: 10:00 am Worship

**MON**: 10:00 am Worship

**TUE**: 10:00 am Worship

**WED**: 10:00 am Worship

**THU**: 10:00 am Worship

**FRI**: 10:00 am Worship

**SAT**: 10:00 am Worship

**SUN**: 10:00 am Worship
Ruth Paces, a devoted Old South member now living in Florida, wrote about the year 1953 when “there was a big campaign to get new members.” War was over...”the time was ripe to gather in these new couples. During (Rev.) Messner’s ministry, it was deemed older women would babysit for younger couples... to go and call on other young couples. Mrs. Bingham, Bill’s mother, was our baby sitter...We called upon Bill and Jane Byrn, Keebler, Bob and Norma Rankin, Joe and Jean Maurice (who lived across from the church and the church later bought their property). There were three others that I can’t remember. All joined the church and became good friends of ours. The campaign was a huge success...Today, (2013), Jean (Maurice) is living right around the corner from me and we see each other often. Later I took a two year course with Mr. Nutting on the Bible and it opened my eyes. Later a course with Mr. Headings at the Mentor Unitarian Church...Leader was the Harkness Professor of Religion at Case Western Reserve. It was a real eye opener and answered a lot of my questions on religion. I’m a renegade. (Husband) Bob and I had some wonderful friendships through the church, lots of fun, and it helped to make me the person I turned out to be. This is history!!

Come See Irwin Shung In Performance Tuesday, July 23rd at 12:30pm Performing the Goldberg Variations by Bach In Mixon Hall at the Cleveland Institute of Music

Irwin Shung was a beloved organist and accompanist here at Old South Church for many years. From Irwin: “I love this piece with all my heart and have been growing with it for the past ten or so years, and would so enjoy seeing some so the Old South gang at CIM!”

This is a FREE concert. For more information visit: https://www.cim.edu/concerts-events/lunch-listen-recital-072319
Garden Tour!

It’s Weedin’ Season!

The weeds are gaining on us! Our original garden walk was rained out (surprised?), but several of us made the circuit around the building on June 16th and made some notes of areas that need attention. I’ll be putting together a pdf with pictures and notes for each spot and will keep a list of who’s planning to do what.

To get us started, Dorothy Maltby has called dibs on the ramp sedums. Joyce Raymond planted annuals around the flagpole and bell. Bud Stanley and Chuck Haas are handling our grass mowing this summer. Shirley Brown has asked me to warn that the hydrangea section of the Memorial Garden is steep. (She should know, she worked there nearly every week last summer.) So I’ll add, from Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, “Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor. If either of them falls down, one can help the other up.” And, it is more fun!

So, gather your family, or ministry members or a buddy or two and pick a spot to beautify. Take a picture before and after so we can celebrate the progress we’re making. You may dedicate your work to the memory of a loved one, or to honor and thank someone who has done a good deed for you. We will acknowledge the dedications weekly in the Heavenly Herald and monthly in the SteepleViews.

If you would like to help, but don’t have tools, or aren’t sure how to start, you can partner with someone who has the knowledge, but not the knees (haha). So, that’s also a shout-out to our faithful gardeners who might welcome a force multiplier in the form of a younger back! Speak up, and bit by bit we’ll be amazed at what we can do together.

A link to the whole list will be sent out with next week’s Heavenly Herald, and Deb Schirm will update it weekly. Email Deb at schdeb92@aol.com or call 440-256-3327 to volunteer, with questions or suggestions, or just to be included in the information loop.
Did you know that 821 million people worldwide are hungry? Hunger is one of the greatest injustices facing our world, but it doesn’t have to be this way. Ending hunger is possible, and it is possible in our lifetime. You can help make it happen.

We are counting on you to join us by reaching out to your fellow family members and friends to build a walking team. Once teams/individuals have chosen to walk you can click on the Kirtland CROP Hunger Walk page and register. Reach $100 in donations **online** by August 15th and receive a beautiful woven scarf. 25% of all donations will go directly to the Kirtland Food Pantry housed at Old South Church. 75% help end hunger worldwide.

Please consider joining us to fight hunger here in our community and around the world. As recruitment leader I am here to help with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,

Lisa Yelenosky 440-796-7044  lpyelenosky@sbcglobal.net
Kirtland CROP Hunger Walk Page registration  [https://www.crophungerwalk.org/kirtlandoh](https://www.crophungerwalk.org/kirtlandoh)

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**HAVE YOU SEEN THE “LOVE WINS” OLD SOUTH CHURCH RAINBOW SHIRTS?**

The original order is sold out. Top Shelf Embroidery has pricing for a new order, Youth to Adult sizes. Most shirts are $12, $13 for XXL and $14 for XXXL. If you are interested in a shirt, Contact Mary Jones mkjones1216@gmail.com to order or leave a note in the office mailbox. Please pay when ordering, cash only.

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Order Deadline Extended! Get Your Order in Now
The Trustees Ministry had a very good month financially in May. As our treasurer remarked it was the best month he has seen at Old South Church since he started with us in 1999. We ended May turning our annual deficit into a positive amount of $8637.87 from a monthly deficit for April of $2068.47. We are now in the black in the monthly budget and we are $628.58 ahead of our annual proposed budget. It was a very very good month for Old South Church. We owe this shift in large part to a donation of over $12,000 made by credit card, the rest comes from keeping our expenses in control and in our regular monthly pledge amounts.

On another note, Old South Church will be making internal repairs to our Steeple to seal it up from the water leakage that has been evident for many years. We also will be repairing the handicap ramp on south parking lot to bring it back to its original condition. Both repairs are scheduled for mid-summer to minimize the inconvenience to our congregation. With these two projects completed we will have the major repairs completed to be ready for our 200th Anniversary.

We hope your summer has been wonderful so far, and we wish you a restful and peaceful continuation of summer. God has certainly been good to us in 2019. Thank You to everyone for all your help, devotion, and prayers for our Church.

~submitted by Chuck Haas

RSVP to Nick Dybo by Thursday July 11th
The OSC Lake County Captains Game Outing
Sunday, July 21st @1:30pm
Family Fun Sunday
Pre-game catch, autographs & more!
Ticket Options: $8.00 for single ticket OR $20.00 per person for game ticket and 90 minute buffet.
(Buffet is from 12:45-2:15pm and is located in left field BBQ area tent and includes hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, baked beans, chips, cookies, and beverages)
Nick will deliver tickets at church July 14th. Payment due at that time.
If you need other pickup arrangements, let Nick know!!
RSVP: Please text Nick Dybo at 216.906.8818 or email: nicholas.dybo@gmail.com
Women’s Fellowship met on Tuesday, June 25th. Thank you to all, especially Peggy and Bill Kranz, for any and all the help putting on the Rummage Sale. It went quite well.

We discussed some projects for us to spend the results on (plus some). We conferred with the Trustees and have elected to cover the expenses to do the necessary repairs to the steeple. We are covering the costs of the paper goods, beverages, and dessert for the anniversary dinner.

We are in the process of purchasing a new refrigerator for the big kitchen downstairs. The old one bit the dust. We have also allocated funds for:

- **Forbes House (Lake County battered women’s shelter)**
- **The Green House (Geauga County battered women’s shelter)**
- **Habitat for Humanity**
- **Salvation Army-Painesville**

Additional charities are being considered and will be included at the next meeting. These are some of the places that the funds go to from Bazaar or any of our other projects.

*~submitted by Nancy Romelfanger*

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**PLEASE**

I NEED YOUR HELP

I HAVE A PROBLEM

I have been afflicted with a case of leftover—it is. As a result, I have developed some mold, mildew, and a bit of a case of body odor.

My aides are in the process of giving me a good cleaning, but to prevent a recurrence, I will need your cooperation! Please, DO NOT leave leftovers in me! They are NOT being used.

The end result is my malady.

Drinks do not spoil as readily, so they may be left safely —BUT— please mark on them the date that they were used, else they will be thrown out for safety’s sake.

If you have bakery that you want to leave for the next coffee hour; wrap it up well and store it in my freezer compartment. Be sure to contact the host for the next Sunday to let them know there are items to be used.

Otherwise, any leftovers need to be taken home, given away, or put in the rubbish.

I really appreciate your assistance in keeping me healthy and odor free.

My aides appreciate it as well.

Thank you —The Anchor Lamp Room refrigerator

(with a little help from Nancy Romelfanger)
June is LGBT Pride month, chosen to commemorate the Stonewall riots which occurred at the end of June, 1969. Pride events are held during this month to recognize the impact LGBT people have had in the world.

Cleveland held its annual Pride Parade on Saturday, June 1st. About 15 members of Old South Church marched with several other UCC churches. The route was a little different this year, but again ended at the festival held in Public Square. Those who have attended the parade for many years noticed how many more participants were in the parade and how MANY more spectators were all along the route. In the general atmosphere of negativism and “me first” attitude, it is encouraging to see so many people being positive and supportive of everyone. Thank you to everyone who participated to make this parade a successful statement of remembrance and support.

~submitted by Mary Jones
Kirtland Kiwanis Strawberry Festival Parade!
Office

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9 a.m.—Noon
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Wayne Danko
Treasurer: Wayne Danko

Darlene Williams
Financial Secretary: Darlene Williams

Judith Higbee
Music Director: Judith Higbee

Serving you at Old South Church:
An Open and Affirming Congregation
9802 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, Ohio 44094
Old South United Church of Christ