

# THE FAMILY VISITOR



FEBRUARY 2006, VOLUME 36 NO. 6

OLD SOUTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

READING, MASSACHUSETTS

## *Fun for the Family in February!*

On Sunday, February 12th from 6 to 7:30 PM in the vestry, we will have a fun time which is themed around God's Creation. We begin with a craft and then gather around a "campfire" for singing and conversation. Our snack will be s'mores.

*March Family Night: All Church Talent Show on March 12th*

*April Family Night: A special night geared toward the holiday season on April 9th.*



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## *Preparing For Ash Wednesday*

Our Ash Wednesday service is on March 1st, at 7:30 in the chapel. Please come to this very important worship service that begins the season of Lent. In the past, this service has been highly meaningful for those who attend. Our choir will join us this year.

As we prepare ourselves, these words from our *Book of Worship* are very helpful. "Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith. The form and content of the service focus on the dual themes of sin and death in the light of God's redeeming love in Jesus Christ... The use of ashes as a sign of mortality and repentance has a long history in Jewish and Christian worship, and the Imposition of Ashes can be a powerful nonverbal and experiential way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation. This practice is the historic focus of Ash Wednesday observance and gave the day its name."

Please come to this very meaningful and important service! It can be a powerful way to begin your season of Lent.



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## *"We do not have to think alike to love alike"*

At the December Administrative Board/Church meeting the proposal made by the Reconciling Taskforce was widely accepted. The following is the text:

*We, the members of Old South United Methodist Church, believe that all persons are of sacred worth and need the ministry and guidance of the church in their struggles for human fulfillment, as well as the spiritual and emotional care of a fellowship that enables reconciling relationships with God, with others, and with self. While we are not all of one mind on the interpretation of the Bible in regard to the issue of homosexuality, we affirm that God's grace is available to all. We commit ourselves to be in ministry with and for all persons regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender, and socio-economic class. All people are truly welcome to become members of our church community.*



This vote culminated about a year and a half of work by the Taskforce that was selected and commissioned by the Administrative Board to study what it would mean for Old South to become a reconciling congregation, to provide that information to our members, and to organize opportunities for feedback and sharing of ideas.

The Taskforce's work was not always easy because of the diversity of opinions on the issue of homosexuality. After careful and loving consideration of many divergent views, we feel the Inclusive Statement that we fashioned reflects where Old South is at this time. We feel that we have been true to Wesley's statement, "We do not have to think alike to love alike." Thanks be to God for Old South who, despite divergence of opinion, has always united in its ministry to love and serve God completely, and to cherish others as children of God.

## Old South Newsline

### *Wal-Mart Film and Brunch*

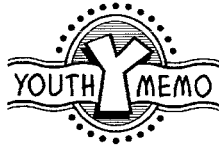
The controversial new film *Wal-Mart: the High Cost of Low Price* will be shown at Old South on Sunday Feb. 12 after the 10:45 service. A light brunch will be served. All are welcome to come.

This 30 minute film shows the ways Wal-Mart has used its powerful position to exploit workers, suppliers and even governments to give us low prices. Sponsored by the Church and Society Committee.

### *Jr. UMYF*

Thanks to the parents and youth who came to our first gathering in January. We discovered a new unit of measurement...bananas.

We also shared ideas for the future of Jr. UMYF. The consensus is to begin meeting once a month. Each meeting would combine fun with an outreach or mission or other special project. We may also participate in special events. Watch the bulletin board by Pastor Pam's office for a March gathering. The Jr. UMYF at Old South is for youth grades 6 - 8.



### *Talent Show*

Old South will have a Talent Show on Sunday, March 12th beginning at 6PM. This will be a great time to hear and see the talents of members of our community. There are many ways to participate in the Talent Show:

1. Share a talent such as singing, music and silly dog tricks.
2. Display personal artwork on table set-up around Fellowship Hall.
3. Be part of the intermission snack crew: make/buy snacks and/or set-up and serving of snacks and drinks.
4. Be part of stage crew: coordinate sound, stage set-up and acts.
5. Be part of the audience, cheer, clap and enjoy the entertainment!

There will be a sign-up sheet outside of Pastor Pam's office for those who would like to present or be part of the stage crew and snack crew. This would be a great opportunity to invite friends to meet the Old South community. If you have any questions or ideas please contact Pastor Pam.

### *New Old South Photo Directory*

If you can snap a photo, jot down a date, or dial a telephone you can be part of the new Photo Directory Team. Please see Kim Gold or leave a message at the church office for information on how you can make this the best directory ever.

### *Vacation Bible School*

There will be an organizational meeting for this summer's Vacation Bible School on Tuesday, February 14th at 7PM. Youth and adults interested in helping are welcome. We are looking for crafters, leaders, leader assistants, station leaders, builders/decorators, directors and more. Come and learn about this year's VBS and where you might fit in. Please contact Pastor Pam with questions or ideas.

### *Save the Date!!*

*Men of Hope Voices of Faith ~ the Vocal Group*  
April 1 ~ 7:30 p.m.

Last year this wonderful gospel ensemble wowed us with their energetic and spirit filled gospel concert. They will be back to share their gift of music and Praise. Keep this date open. It is a "don't miss" event!

### *Book Club*

"MILLION BITS AND PIECES" by James Frey is the club's book for February. We will meet at the home of Nancy White on Thursday, February 23 at 10:00 to discuss this Oprah Book Club book. It promises to be an interesting discussion, so please try to join us then.

#### **Deadline for the March Family Visitor: Friday morning, Feb. 10**

Articles submitted early are greatly appreciated and may be hand written or typed, but please submit on disk or send by e-mail if possible to:  
[churchoffice6@yahoo.com](mailto:churchoffice6@yahoo.com)

Thank you!  
Carol Rogerson



## Pastor's Corner

### *It's February!*

Christmas decorations have long been put away and the Reading town common no-longer glows with color at night. Our thoughts now turn to recognizing the valentines in our lives and preparing for school vacation! Our gospel readings in February (see "Revised Common Lectionary" on page 9) help us see the divine side of Jesus through stories of healing and Jesus' transfiguration.

The healing stories are interesting to me, perhaps because of my years working as a paramedic. The fact that the healings are spiritual as well as physical has become important to me. The man from Mark 2:1-12, that was lowered into the building, was forgiven of his sins as well as his body healed.

The church is a place for healing. As people hear the word of God preached, prayers shared, and music sung they feel comfort and reassurance. As members of God's church, we aid in spiritual and physical healing. We do this through encouragement, hugs, sending cards, and listening to those in our community. We also bring healing to those outside of our community by sharing the healing texts from the gospels, prayer and inviting people to our worship services and church activities. Do you know someone that needs some healing? Spend some time with them and invite them to Old South.

Peace in Christ,  
Pastor Pam

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### *Lenten Adventure 2006*

#### **Going Back to the Roots: An Experience of Worship from the Early Church**

As Protestant Christians, we try to connect again and again with the Biblical roots of our faith. These faith roots are the groundings that anchor us in beliefs and practices that go back to Jesus himself. To do just that in our worship life, a central practice of our spirituality, this year's Lenten Adventure is called "Going Back to the Roots: An Experience of Worship from the Early Church."

Each Wednesday night in Lent, from 6:30 to 7:45, starting on March 8 and running 5 consecutive Wednesdays until April 5, we will gather for a potluck meal. But it will not be just a potluck; it will be a meal where worship is integrated into the meal itself. This was the practice of the early church. They would share together in a meal, breaking bread, sharing in prayer, song, and scripture. Our pastors and some of our musicians will share. In addition, anyone around the table will be free to share as well. As Paul the apostle says in 1 Corinthians 14:26 "When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation." The hope is for a worship experience that is open to all of us, reflective of our various gifts, and a real connection to our earliest practices as Christians. This meal and worship experience will be in the place of our regular Wednesday evening chapel service. Also, it truly is a potluck! Bring whatever you like. If we have 10 macaroni and cheese casseroles, then so be it!

So please join us each Wednesday evening in Lent for time of renewal and feeding, a time of going back to our roots.

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### *Music Notes*

Happy New Year! Thank you one and all for all the music: singing, bells, children, and trumpets! It was all beautiful! THANK YOU for your gifts of time and talent!

So, now we begin the new year. Handbells continue to rehearse on Mondays, and Chancel Choir on Thursdays. If you are interested, contact Susan at the church office, or by e-mail: [musicholloway@yahoo.com](mailto:musicholloway@yahoo.com). Children's choir (grades 3-8) will begin at 6PM on Jan. 26, in the choir room. They are scheduled to sing at the 8:30 service on Feb. 26. Please contact Susan if you have children that are interested.

MEET THE ORGAN ~ Come up to the organ after the 10:45 service on Feb. 26 and be introduced. Susan will give a tour (back, front, and other parts) and let you play a little if you want.

"LENTEN ORGAN MEDITATIONS" an organ recital will be on the first Friday in Lent, March 3 at 7PM. Susan will be performing works by Bach, Dubois, and others. See you there!



## Christian Cooperative Preschool

The children at CCP have been enjoying winter activities with favorite stories: *Frosty the Snowman*, *Hamilton Duck*, *The Snowman*, and some new books that are sure to become favorites: *Snow Day* and *Stranger in the Woods* (it's a snowman!). They have made winter scenes with lots of cotton balls, coffee filters, polyester batting and paint. Valentines Day will soon be here, and thoughts of preschoolers will turn from winter white to the pink and red of special valentine cards shared with friends.



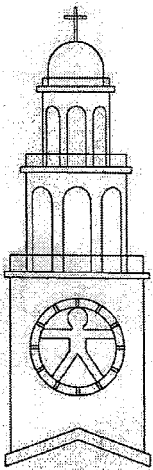
Our annual registration open house was held on January 11. New families were invited to visit the classrooms and tour our wonderful facilities at Old South. Information packets and registration forms were available for those interested in registering for the school year beginning Sept. 2006.

Registration for siblings of currently enrolled children and active participating Old South Church members took place on January 30, and community registration will be accepted on February 7 in order of the postmark date on returned forms. If you have missed these registration dates, call Melanie Kelley to find out if we still have openings for fall: 781-944-0612.

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## Clock Tower Kids

The Children at Clock Tower Kids will be exploring the globe with our latest fun theme "It's a Small World." Our activities will be based on different cultures around the world. While immersing ourselves in the countries we visit we will be experiencing, language, foods, games and activities native to these lands. The Clock Tower families come from many different ethnic backgrounds. It is exciting to be able to draw on the many wonderful traditions of each family. A large component of this theme will be cooking activities. We will be asking families to share recipes that are native to their own heritage. At the end of this unit the children will be provided with all of the recipes to bring home and continue to enjoy throughout the year.



### OPEN HOUSE ~ WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 15<sup>th</sup> ~ 6:00-7:00pm Clock Tower Kids Enrollment for September 2006

Clock Tower Kids will begin enrollment for the upcoming school year in March 2006. If you or someone you know is looking for after school care for a child in Reading in grades K-5, please contact us at 781-944-3124.

Current CTK Member Enrollment - 02/27/06 to 03/03/06

Old South Member Enrollment - 03/06/06 to 03/10/06

Open Enrollment to Public - 03/13/06

*Spaces are limited and fill quickly so please don't delay in calling 781-944-3124.*

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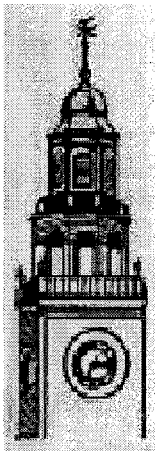
## The Light's on and There's Somebody Home

God's work is in evidence daily at Old South. Pass by most any time and you will see activity. Worship, music, community outreach, education and after-school care. For years people like you and I have been supporting this community of faith with our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service.

Many of those gifts over the years have served the church in quiet but profound ways; a Wesleyan ideal. The upkeep of our church buildings has been funded in part by gifts to the Permanent Memorial Fund, otherwise known as the Endowment Fund. Memorial gifts and bequests are made to a fund, the interest from which is used by our Trustees to maintain the church building and parsonages.

Endowment can be a daunting word, but it's really quite simple. Gifts large and small build up in the fund. Principal is not touched, so gifts work in perpetuity. Today we benefit both from gifts of long ago and those from the most recent times.

As the lights burn at Old South, let's be thankful for the faithful of yesterday and give of ourselves so that the faithful of tomorrow may continue God's work within these walls.



## Gift Card Fundraiser Update

The gift card orders through New England Script were a painless way to raise money for Old South. This Beverly based company was very pleasant to work with and went out of their way to make sure we received the gift cards in time for holiday giving. We will continue to collect gift card orders each month. There is a new form available, as postage costs increased, and Burger King no longer participates. Remember the vendors who give us big rewards – such as Marriott at 12%!

Copies of the form will be in the vestry in a big bag hanging on the bulletin board. Completed order forms and checks will be picked up the first Sunday of each month. Gift Cards should be ready 2 weeks later and Jody Avtges will distribute. Any friends can use this form – just make sure they make checks out to Old South. If you have questions about the program, call Jody Avtges at 781-942-5756 or [jodyavtges@gmail.com](mailto:jodyavtges@gmail.com). Thanks for shopping with us!



## Your help is needed for an important ministry in the church!!!

We had a wonderful response to our fall request for help with children's activities. Almost every week was full!! Now we need to replenish those names for the winter and spring. I am now taking over the children's activities instead of the toddler room and am asking for your help. There will be a new list of dates in the vestry. If you can sign up for one Sunday and help out, the church would really appreciate it. Also we are looking for donations of old puzzles or games that can be put into the activity box. These activities would need to be appropriate for kids in grades K-3. You can leave them in the office with a note that they are for the children's activities box. Thank you in advance for your help!! Please feel free to call or email me if you have any questions!!

Sarah Fennelly  
[thefennellys@comcast.net](mailto:thefennellys@comcast.net)  
781-944-1223



*I would like to have my Family Visitor sent by e-mail:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

*Drop this form off in the church office  
or contact us by e-mail at [churchoffice6@yahoo.com](mailto:churchoffice6@yahoo.com)*

## Winter Update from the Board of Trustees

### The Board

The Board of Trustees continues to adjust to the ebb and flow of members, and the never-ending demands of our old church. Mr. Jack Beckwith an invaluable member of Trustees finished a 3-year term this December. His expertise in security issues, fire protection, fiscal responsibility, and building maintenance serve the board well. We will miss Jack and are hopeful that he will return in the future. We welcome a new member to our Board, Henry Marcy, and appreciate his interest and willingness to serve. The current board members are: Elaine Webb, Bruce Austin, Peter Avtges, Karen Roscoe, John Boullie, and Henry Marcy. This leaves three openings on the board. Reverend Steve Notis, Phyllis Maxwell, and Carol Rogerson currently support the board. The Trustees invite anyone who may be interested in participating on the board to contact Elaine Webb.



### Fall Projects Update

Bruce Austin and Peter Avtges continue to lead the Commission on Maintenance (COMO). A major effort every fall is the transformation of the sanctuary and the church for the joyous Christmas season. The list of things that needs to be put up and then taken down seems to expand every year and it all gets done thanks to Worship, COMO, and their small band of volunteers. Here are just a few of the things that go up and down, the sanctuary stage, wreaths, candles in all the church windows, pew candle holders, choir pews, and signs. They can always use volunteers for various projects. Contact Bruce or Peter if you would like to add your name to the list of COMO volunteers. Special thanks to Ron Boucher for his help this fall.

Several smaller projects were completed; fixing locks, urinals, circulating pumps, pipe access panel, additional computers, software updates, and painting various parts of the church and Main Street parsonage. Eagle Landscaping provided the mowing this fall as a donation. Our Boy Scout Troop once again did a great fall clean up. Polonski Tree Service donated much needed pruning and trimming of the trees at the church and Baker Road property.

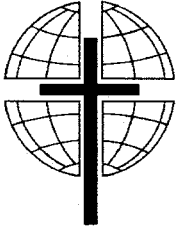
A project that looked small but grew as we dug into it was the removal of a General Electric stove/fridge/sink unit on the second floor. This was replaced with a new sink at a lower height suitable for our Christian Cooperative Preschool children. We would like to thank Tanner Plumbing for his services which he very often graciously donates. He is instrumental in all of our plumbing projects.

Our biggest and most visible project was the renovation of the balcony. This renovation was made possible through the donation of all of the services that were provided by the contractors. The ceiling needed to be partly demolished and then completely replaced and re-plastered with an antique finish, and then painted. We were able to have the balcony painted in its entirety, ceiling, walls, and trim. This project was a challenge because all of the material for the work and the staging had to be lifted over the balcony in order to avoid removing the pews (which would have had to be lifted over the balcony). Special thanks to Laprey Painting and Ken Russell Plastering. We would also like to recognize Style Craft Paint Store for their help in selecting new paint colors and providing the paint.

It would be impossible to take care of all of our church property with the approximately \$18,000 in interest per-year from our endowments. These donations of services and the many anonymous donations as well as the time of our volunteers ensure that Old South is the pride of Reading Common.

Thankfully and Respectfully,  
Elaine L. Webb for the Board of Trustees

## Notes from the Connection



Perhaps the biggest news story in 2005 for the United Methodist Church was our response to war and natural disasters. Here is a year in review of our outreach to those in great need.

The South Asian tsunami on Dec. 26, 2004, caused an outpouring of generosity in 2005 that continued as other disasters hit other communities throughout the world. While donations to relief efforts flew in from around the world to aid the people of Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, and other countries, the UMC participated in relief efforts through the UM Committee on Relief and its partner agencies. Contributions to UMCOR for tsunami relief have now risen to \$41.5 million, the largest amount ever raised in response to a single disaster. The work in South Asia has led to many connections between the UMC and Methodists in affected countries. Indeed, some Asian UMs in the United States have returned to their former homes to see the devastation and to find ways to help their friends and families.

Before the end of the year, the United States suffered from the most active hurricane season in history (Tropical Storm Zeta, the 27th Atlantic storm, formed Dec. 30 but poses no immediate threat). Hurricanes Katrina and Rita caused the most damage in Mississippi, Louisiana, and parts of Texas. The historic Gulfside Assembly in Mississippi was completely destroyed. UM-related Dillard University in New Orleans received significant damage from the storm, and several buildings burned down afterwards. While classes were cancelled in the fall, they will resume this month with two terms to be completed before a July 1 commencement.

Meanwhile, many clergy along the Gulf Coast, as well as their congregations, have dispersed across the United States. Clergy continue to be in ministry in their new or temporary residences while also attending to their own suffering from the tragedy. Giving to the UMCOR response to Hurricanes 2005 (Advance #982523) has surpassed \$24 million. As many churches around the world got into the fundraising efforts, one church decided to sell its old building on eBay and give the proceeds to UMCOR, covering the closing costs themselves. As a part of the U.S. government's response to the hurricanes, the Federal Emergency Management Agency enlisted UMCOR to manage a \$66 million Katrina Aid Today program. UMCOR has since selected ten other agencies to join with it in providing assistance to individuals as they get their lives back together. The Council of Bishops has also set up a fund (Katrina Church Recovery Appeal #818-001) separate from UMCOR's efforts in order to address the needs of churches and conference agencies, including rebuilding and providing salary support.

While the hurricanes were the biggest tragedy of the year, the church also responded to a highly destructive earthquake in Pakistan. Efforts there are now focused on helping homeless people get through a debilitating winter. In the United States, UMCOR responded to a Jan. 31 flooding in Indiana and tornadoes hitting many other places.

While the world was hit hard by natural disasters in the past year, it also continues to be in turmoil from war and violence. Fighting continues in Iraq even as church leaders enter the debate about whether the United States should pull out its forces and how it should do so. Meanwhile, UM chaplains continue to be in service to soldiers at home and abroad as they live through trying times. Hotel bombings in Jordan struck near to where several US-based church journalists were staying, and the bombings of the London transit system likewise reminded people in Europe and the United States that the violence is not so far from home.

People in the Philippines are also witnessing violence. Indeed, several pastors of a denomination historically linked with the UMC have been killed. Church leaders in the Philippines and the United States have spoken out against the violence.

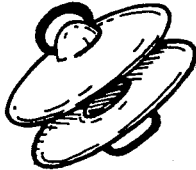
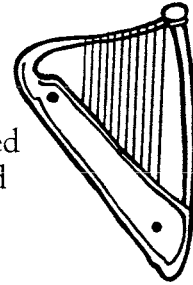
Government decisions in Zimbabwe have forced many people from their land and their homes. UMCOR is working to aid those who have been disrupted. In and around Sudan, the church continues to reach out to displaced persons and refugees from the Darfur region.

Nevertheless, there are signs of hope. Liberia held democratic elections, and the people chose Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, a UM, as president. While the challenger in the runoff—George Weah, also a UM—questioned the results, leaders of the UMC in Liberia were hopeful for their country's future. Also in Africa, church communicators gathered together and formed an association by which they will be able to network and work together on common issues.

# Just for Kids

## Praise the Lord

The Book of Psalms is a collection of 150 "songs" that include topics such as war, peace, worship, prophecy, praise and lament. They were accompanied by stringed instruments and were the Jewish devotional guide and the hymnbook of the temple. The language of the Psalms can be very descriptive and colorful!



Fill in the blanks to complete this song of celebration and praise. A definition for each missing word is given. Vowels (a, e, i, o or u) are indicated by circles. When you are finished you will be able to read Psalm 150.

Praise the \_\_\_○\_\_\_! (God)

Praise God in his \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_; (room used for worship)

Praise Him in his mighty \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_! (heavens)

Praise Him for his mighty \_\_\_○\_\_\_; (deeds)

Praise Him according to his excellent \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_! (larger than average)

Praise Him with the sound of the \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_; (horn)

Praise him with \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_ and \_\_\_○\_\_\_! (guitar-like instruments with strings to pluck)

Praise him with stringed instruments and \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_! (wind instruments with high-pitched sound)

Praise him with loud \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_; (round, brass instruments)

Praise him with \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_ cymbals! (banging, clanging)

Let everything that has \_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_ praise the Lord. (inhaled air)

\_\_\_○\_\_\_ \_\_\_○\_\_\_ the Lord! (worship, honor)



Answers: Lord, sanctuary, firmament, acts, greatness, trumpet, lute, harp, flutes, cymbals, clashing, breath, praise.

## Revised Common Lectionary

The following is a list of lessons from the lectionary for your use at home:

### Feb. 5 - Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 40:21-31; Psalm 147:1-11, 20c;  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39

### Feb. 12 - Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany

2 Kings 5:1-14; Psalm 30;  
1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45

### Feb. 19 - Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Isaiah 43:18-25; Psalm 41;  
2 Corinthians; 1:18-22 Mark 2:1-12

### Feb. 26 - Last Sunday after the Epiphany

Hosea 2:14-20; Psalm 103:1-13, 22;  
2 Corinthians 3:1-6; Mark 2:13-22

### Feb. 26 - Transfiguration Sunday

2 Kings 2:1-12; Psalm 50:1-6;  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9

### Mar. 1 - Ash Wednesday

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17; Psalm 51:1-17;  
2 Corinthians 5:20b -6:10;  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### Mar. 5 - First Sunday in Lent

Genesis 9:8-17; Psalm 25:1-10 (UMH 756);  
1 Peter 3:18-22; Mark 1:9-15

## Habitat for Humanity Update

The permits have all been gathered for the Reading houses. We're in the midst of fundraising in order to pay infrastructure costs and buy building materials. Contact John Montrone at 978-762-8323 if you're interested in making a donation. The goal was to be able to start construction by the end of October. We'll let you know as soon as the work and lunch teams start forming.

The families at Baker Avenue in Concord have moved into their homes. Thanks to everyone at Old South for the support and hard work to make these dreams come true.

## Sunday Morning Parking

On Sunday mornings, in addition to street parking and the Town Hall lot, three other parking areas are available to the Old South Family.

1. Shell station on Main St.
2. Business lot at 34 Salem St.
3. Municipal lot behind the new police station off Union St.

*If you park in the cemetery behind the church, please be sure that you stay on the pavement. Do not park on the edge of the grass. Thank you!*

### SOUL AT WORK

Wednesday, March 8, 9:30 – 3:00

Do you long to bring your soul to work? Does your organization (business, healthcare facility, nonprofit, even church) seem to have lost its soul? How can you exercise spiritual leadership in your workplace and other organizations in which you serve? Come apart for a quiet day in a beautiful setting to prayerfully listen for God's invitation to you in your work. This experiential workshop will begin with participants' own experiences as the foundation for reflection. It will use guided meditation, discernment exercises, and small groups to help participants bring their souls to work and face workplace challenges.

**Advance Registration (by February 28) \$40**

**Registration (after February 28) \$50**

**Your Registration Fee includes a Gourmet Buffet Lunch and a copy of *SOUL AT WORK***

**Leader: Margaret Benefiel, Ph.D.**, teaches at Andover Newton Theological School in Boston and at the Milltown Institute in Dublin, in the area of spirituality and organizational leadership. For the 2003-2004 academic year, she held the O'Donnell Chair of Spirituality at the Milltown Institute. Benefiel is also CEO of ExecutiveSoul.com. She serves as Program Chair of the Academy of Management's Management, Spirituality, and Religion Group and has served on the governing board of the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality. Over 300 executives, managers, and other leaders have participated in her seminars and courses, and she is a frequent public speaker and retreat leader. She offers spiritual direction to individual and organizations. Benefiel is the author of *Soul at Work: Spiritual Leadership in Organizations* (Seabury Books, 2005), co-editor of *Hidden in Plain Sight: Quaker Women's Writings 1650-1700* (Pendle Hill, 1996), and contributor to several other books. She has also written for *Presence*, *The Way*, *The New Dictionary of Christian Spirituality*, *Faith at Work*, *Quaker Life*, *Friends Journal*, *The Leadership Quarterly*, *Management Communication Quarterly*, *Managerial Finance*, *Journal of Organizational Change Management*, and *Organization*.

She is a member of Beacon Hill Friends Meeting in Boston, is a Quaker minister, and lives in Boston with her husband and dog. She enjoys hiking, reading novels, and scuba diving in her free time. Website: [www.ExecutiveSoul.com](http://www.ExecutiveSoul.com).

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## Our Church Family

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**Deaths** - We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Signe Bickell.

**Memorials** - A donation to the General Budget was received in memory of Kenneth Holbrook.

**Baptisms**

*If you are interested in having your child baptized, please speak to one of the pastors.*

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### ***Edie Sias to celebrate 90th birthday!***

Edie Sias (former parish visitor for Old South) will celebrate her 90th birthday on February 18. If you would like to remember her with a card, her address is as follows: 575 Osgood St., Apt. 6211, North Andover, MA 01845.

### ***Do you know?***

If you know of someone who is homebound, please let one of the pastors or the church office know. This will help in scheduling visits by the pastors and seeing that they are remembered in other ways.

### ***To Reach Us by E-Mail...***

Rev. Steve Notis - [revnotis@yahoo.com](mailto:revnotis@yahoo.com)  
 Pastor Pam Smith Paquette - [pastorpamsp@yahoo.com](mailto:pastorpamsp@yahoo.com)  
 Susan Holloway - [musicholloway@yahoo.com](mailto:musicholloway@yahoo.com)  
 Phyllis Maxwell - [phyllis\\_maxwell@yahoo.com](mailto:phyllis_maxwell@yahoo.com)  
 Carol Rogerson - [churchoffice6@yahoo.com](mailto:churchoffice6@yahoo.com)

Nancy Smith is available for individual spiritual direction or coaching. If you would like to explore this means of spiritual growth, send her email at [smithnrs@comcast.net](mailto:smithnrs@comcast.net) or call her at 978-977-7785.

### **To the staff and members of Old South,**

We want to thank all who kept Lloyd in your prayers and sent cards over the past 5 years, especially the prayer chain. Also Rev. Steve for his visits and phone calls. The constant love and prayers have helped to ease our pain and sorrow during this difficult time. It's been comforting to have the support of Christian friends.

Louise Perkins & family

### **Dear Old South Friends,**

Thank you for all your words of sympathy and cards following the passing of my dad.

Bruce Maxwell




### ***Because we care...***

*If you are hospitalized please let the church office or one of the pastors know so that we may visit. Also, please list Old South United Methodist Church as your church upon admission.*

*If you know of someone else in our church family who is in the hospital, please let us know. Call the church office at 781-944-2636.*

# February 2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 7:00 PM Chapel Service 8:00 PM Worship Committee	<b>2</b> 6:00 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Ed. 10:45 AM Worship	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:30 PM Missions	<b>8</b> 7:00 PM Chapel Service 8:00 PM Administrative Board	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> <i>Boy Scout Sunday</i> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Ed. 10:45 AM Worship 12:00 PM Wal-Mart Film & Brunch 6:00 PM Family Night	<b>13</b> 7:00 PM Bell Choir	<b>14</b> 7:30 PM Old South GPS	<b>15</b> 7:00 PM Chapel Service 8:00 PM Finance Committee	<b>16</b> 6:00 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir 7:30 PM Adult Ed.	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Ed. 10:45 AM Worship	<b>20</b> <i>President's Day -                      Church Office                      Closed</i>	<b>21</b> 7:30 PM Teacher's Meeting	<b>22</b> 7:00 PM Chapel Service 8:00 PM Commission on Ed.	<b>23</b> 6:00 PM Children's Choir 7:00 PM Chancel Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 7:15 AM Men's Breakfast 8:30 AM Worship 9:30 AM Sunday School 9:30 AM Adult Ed. 10:45 AM Worship 12:00 PM "Meet the Organ"	<b>27</b> 7:00 PM Bell Choir 7:30 PM Old South GPS	<b>28</b> 7:30 PM Staff-Parish Relations				

If you are receiving this newsletter and no longer wish to be on our mailing list, please return this form to:  
 Old South United Methodist Church, 6 Salem St. Reading, MA 01867-2697 or e-mail us at [churchoffice6@yahoo.com](mailto:churchoffice6@yahoo.com).  
*Please remove my name / membership from the Old South mailing list:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please transfer my membership to: \_\_\_\_\_ church.

Church address: \_\_\_\_\_

*The Old South United Methodist Church is a supportive, accepting,  
 and loving community of believers inspired by the message of Christ to  
 worship God, to grow spiritually, to nurture one another in faith and to serve  
 others at home and abroad.*

## THE FAMILY VISITOR

Published regularly for the members and friends of Old South United Methodist Church. The purpose is to inform the congregation of upcoming meetings, events, and activities, and to proclaim the works of God in our midst.

Old South United Methodist Church is in connection and in mission with other United Methodist Churches in the United States and around the world. We are part of the New England Annual Conference.

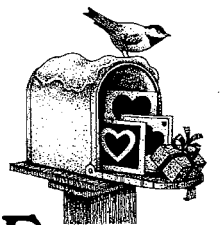
Bishop: Rev. Dr. Peter D. Weaver  
 District Superintendent: Rev. Ronald Wilson  
 Church Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.  
 Summer Office Hours: Mon.-Fri. 9-12 noon  
 Phone: 781-944-2636 FAX: 781-944-8858  
 E-Mail: [office@old-south.org](mailto:office@old-south.org) Website: [www.old-south.org](http://www.old-south.org)

Sr. Pastor: Rev. Steven M. Notis, D. Min.  
 Assoc. Pastor: Pastor Pam Smith Paquette  
 Deacon: Rev. Nancy Smith  
 Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Robert K. Sweet, Jr. D. Min.  
 Director of Music: Mrs. Susan Holloway  
 Director of Music Emeritus: Mr. Wendell W. Hodgkins  
 Administrative Secretary: Mrs. Phyllis J. Maxwell  
 Secretary and Editor: Mrs. Carol Rogerson  
 Custodian: Mr. Alexander Maio  
 Missionary to Zimbabwe: Rev. Theodore L. Brandt  
 Interfaith Counseling Service, Inc: 617-332-3856  
 Christian Cooperative Preschool: 781-944-0612  
 Reading Food Pantry: 781-944-8486  
 Clock Tower Kids: 781-944-3124

## THE FAMILY VISITOR

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**Reading, MA 01867-2697**  
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**FEBRUARY**

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