

Old South Church *in* Boston ❖ July 29, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

Membership Sunday

Take heart: it is not too late to build a better world.

GATHER

PRELUDE

Flamenco Sketches

Miles Davis

*HYMN *see insert*

All Are Welcome

Marty Haugen

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel J. Barton

Listen, O people, incline toward God's word

For the Spirit of God is still speaking,

ancient wisdom passed down from our ancestors.

We will not hide this wisdom from our children.

We will tell the coming generations

the glorious deeds of the Lord and the wonders that God has done.

We will tell of God's liberating love, releasing the captives,

We will tell of Her wisdom, leading us as a pillar of fire by night,

We will tell of Their grace, water pouring forth from rocks in the desert.

Let the coming generation build upon the solid foundation of God's word

That justice would reign, that peace would prevail, that love would endure.

Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Turning the World Upside Down

Tim Harbold

United we stand, divided we fall.

We're working together as we answer the call.

We're turning the world upside down with love.

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

We are one body.
We are one spirit.
We are one people, a faithful people of God.
We are one body, the body of Christ.
We are one spirit, a spirit of kindness.
We are one people, a faithful people of God.

United we stand...

We work for mercy.
We work for justice.
We work for freedom, redeeming freedom for all.
We work for mercy, the mercy of Christ.
We work for justice, the justice of heaven.
We work for freedom, redeeming freedom for all.

United we stand...

We're turning the world upside down with love.

ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 4:7-12

*Following the reading, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
by the ushers and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

*HYMN *see insert*

Draw the Circle Wide

Gordon Light
and Mark Miller

SCRIPTURE

Acts 17:1-9

Ashley Popperson

SERMON

Turning the World Around

*HYMN 471

What a Covenant

LEANING

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

John M. Edgerton

God be with you.

And also with you.

May the Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on us.

The Holy Spirit guides our way and ignites our hope.

Let us pray. *Please be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Lift It on Up

Willie Sordillo

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Marie Gardiner

Erik Gardiner

Zach Zheng

PRESENTATION

Ashley J. Popperson

BAPTISM LITANY

Do you desire to be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ?

Zach: I do.

Do you renounce powers of evil and desire the freedom of new life in Christ?

Zach: I do.

Do you profess Jesus Christ as your brother, lord, and savior.

Zach: I do.

And do you promise by the grace of God to be Christ's disciple, to follow in the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able?

Zach: I promise, with the help of God.

Do you promise, according to the grace given you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world?

Zach: I promise, with the help of God.

People of God, will you promise to uphold and support Zach in his life in Christ through your prayers? If so, say we will, with the help of God.

All: We will, with the help of God.

BLESSING OF THE WATER AND THE ACT OF BAPTISM

NEW MEMBER LITANY OF INTENT

Friends in Christ, we are all received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. These before us have been led by the Spirit to affirm their baptism and enter into covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the Christian Church.

They are here, as we are here, to endeavor to love God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. God help us.

Friends, we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place. We give thanks for every community of faith which has been your spiritual home, and we celebrate your presence in this household of faith. Do you promise, by the grace of God, to continue in your pilgrimage of faith, to be Christ's disciple, to resist oppression and evil, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best you are able?

New Members: We promise, with the help of God.

Do you promise to walk with us in faithfulness and in Christian love? And do you promise that, so far as able, you will participate in the life of this church, by worshiping God with us, and offering your time, talent and means for the ministry of this church and for the larger church of which this is a part?

New Members: We promise, with the help of God.

Members and friends of Old South Church: Will you support these siblings in Christ, uphold them and encourage them in faith, and keep them in your prayers?

We will.

Marie, Erik, and Zach, we then welcome you as partners in the common life of this church. And we rise, in body or in spirit, to share our covenant of mission with you:

***All: We pledge to give ourselves to the one whom Jesus called “Abba, Father,” as the God in whose love we are grounded, and to Jesus Christ, God incarnate, who rules our lives. We give ourselves to God the Holy Spirit, the One who sustains, recreates and guides us. We promise to walk in covenant with one another, with the wider church, and with the Old South Church, secure in God’s grace, and prepared in gratitude to live by the promise and serve in the hope of the Gospel.**

THE RIGHT HAND OF CHRISTIAN FRIENDSHIP

Nancy Lane, *Deacon*

In the name of Jesus Christ and on behalf of the Old South Church, we extend to you the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church.

HONORING LONG TERM MEMBERS

The Ministers

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rachel J. Barton



To give via ApplePay, GooglePay,
or Credit Card, scan the QR code.
You can also Text 44-321
and enter OSC to make a gift.

If you’re new to Old South,
scan the QR code with your
smartphone camera
to tell us more about yourself.



OFFERTORY

Standing on the Side of Love

Jason Shelton

The promise of the Spirit: faith, hope and love abide.
And so every soul is blessed and made whole; the truth in our hearts is our guide.

We are standing on the side of love:
Hands joined together as hearts beat as one.
Emboldened by faith, we dare to proclaim
We are standing on the side of love.

We are standing on the side of love...

We are standing on the side of love...

MEMBERS JOINING THIS WEEK

JOINED AT THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH

Judah Coffman is about to start at BU for his Master of Divinity. He's considering becoming either a UCC Pastor or a Chaplain, or maybe both! He's not totally sure yet. Judah was born and educated in the Midwest— first Chicago, then Wisconsin, then Cleveland, and has spent most of his life working as a classical musician, specializing in Early Music. Nowadays, he's the Christian Education director at First Church Somerville. Judah lives in Brighton with his husband, Leo, and their cat, Bela Lugosi.

Ashton Gregor is a transgender man originally from McKeesport, PA. He's been living in the Boston area for about nine years and is employed by the Office of the Attorney General as a paralegal. Ashton has a creative soul, writing poetry and short stories, as well as painting with acrylics, and novice film photographing. He's always interested to hear book recommendations, and he has a love for music by string instruments as well as hand bells. He's an avid lover of all cats! Old South Church is the first church he's ever called home.

Kenna Bartholomew is originally from McKinney, TX, although she just finished her Master's degree from the School of Theology at BU. Starting next week, she will be working as the children's minister across the street at Trinity Church, and she is so incredibly thrilled to be able to worship and be in her own church community on Thursday nights at Old South! Kenna and her fiancée, Jess, will be living in Allston in the fall with their two pets, Oli and Kronk. In her free time, she enjoys reading, crocheting, and swing dancing!

JOINED AT FIRST WORSHIP THIS MORNING

Susan and Adam Faja met in college at the University of Michigan as part of the New England Literature Program and were married in 2002. They moved to Boston about 11 years ago from Seattle, WA and spent 10 years at First Parish (a Unitarian Universalist Church) in Brookline before falling in love with Old South. Susan is a clinical neuroscientist at Boston Children's Hospital where she works to improve outcomes for autistic people. She also loves running, reading, making new recipes, spending time in nature, and listening to music. Adam is a designer in the MBTA's technology department, where he brings real-time information to transit riders. He is a proud soccer and hockey dad, curious photographer, and fair-weather bike commuter who listens to different music than Susan. Julian is their 11-year-old and loves fishing, hockey, and soccer.

Carol Mull is from Ann Arbor, Michigan and attends Old South when visiting her daughter and family in Boston. She is mostly retired but continues researching and sharing the history of the antislavery movement and Underground Railroad in Michigan. She enjoys spending time with grandchildren, volunteering, and playing pickleball. Carol discovered the former minister, Rev. Ebenezer Pemberton, is an ancestor.

JOINING TODAY AT FESTIVAL WORSHIP

Erik and Marie Gardiner are two Gen Xers that prove the best duos only get better with time. They met 27 years ago, tied the knot 21 years ago, and have been enjoying the journey ever since. Erik, a proud New Yorker, finds his rhythm in music, cooking, and his ever-growing collection of Vans sneakers. He's never far from a guitar or a sizzling grill. Marie, a Texas native, loves gardening and can't resist a good puzzle - including who-done-it crime shows, mystery novels, and jigsaw puzzles. Marie loves going to the theater and is usually accompanied by Erik (who joins with a lot of reluctance and a lot of dramatic sighs). Together, they live in a lovely little home in Brookline, MA, where their feline partners-in-crime, Henry and Ruthie, help to keep things fun and lively. They are both very happy that they've also found a wonderful home at Old South.

Zach Zhang is a graduate student from China studying Computer Science at Northeastern University. After experiencing severe family persecution and trauma in his home country, he came to Boston seeking not only education but also safety and healing. Through his journey of trauma recovery and with the support of psychological counseling, Zach discovered hope and spiritual comfort in the Christian faith. As a gay man who faced rejection from his family, he found a true spiritual home at Old South Church where he can be authentic and loved for who he is. Zach seeks baptism as a formal commitment to his newfound faith and as a symbol of his rebirth into a life of freedom, love, and spiritual growth.

LONG TERM MEMBER LIST

Christie Allan-Piper	April 7, 1955	Lawrence R. Bowers	October 6, 1974
Saideh A. Dartley	March 3, 1961	Lois Corman	June 1, 1975
Barbara Wellnitz	March 23, 1967	Robert Wulff	December 1, 1975
Paul M. Dutton	June 6, 1971	Anne L. Brown	November 28, 1976
Anita Reiner	December 3, 1972	Janet L. Nolan	February 6, 1977
James W. Crawford	June 2, 1974	Karen Klockner	February 5, 1978
Linda Crawford	June 2, 1974	Etta Johnson	June 4, 1978

Catherine A. Stevens	June 4, 1978	Kay Stamp	October 4, 1987
Betsy Ragan	December 3, 1978	Kaia Miller Goldstein	January 8, 1988
Kenneth D. Campbell	February 4, 1979	Pamela Amidon	February 7, 1988
Susan T. Campbell	February 4, 1979	Jean Degnon	February 5, 1989
Vicki A. Newman	October 7, 1979	Mary Z. Kohák	February 5, 1989
Denise V. Oates	October 7, 1979	Margaret J. Mode	February 5, 1989
Doreen Siddall	October 7, 1979	Randolph W. Billings	March 19, 1989
David A. Vogan, Jr.	October 7, 1979	Kathy Watkins	October 1, 1989
Lorry L. Spitzer	February 3, 1980	Becky Hemperly	February 4, 1990
Diane Young-Spitzer	February 3, 1980	Mercedes L. Ridao	June 3, 1990
James E. Monsma	February 7, 1982	Amy L. Budka	October 31, 1990
Janice Monsma	February 7, 1982	Eleanor F. Hadley	December 2, 1990
Alice Andrus	April 4, 1982	Ashton Goodfield	February 3, 1991
Carol A. Blair	October 3, 1982	John Weingartner	February 3, 1991
Ronald E. Eisner	October 3, 1982	Laurie E. Stickels	February 3, 1991
John Stainton	December 5, 1982	Dawn M. Patterson	March 1, 1991
Sarah Monsma-Billings	June 5, 1983	Kenneth H. Orth	March 24, 1991
Pamela L. Roberts	February 5, 1984	Donald A. Wells	March 24, 1991
Wayne C. Davis	June 3, 1984	Pamela Guye Holland	March 24, 1991
Judith Pedersen	June 3, 1984	Janice Graves	June 2, 1991
Bruce Fitzsimmons	October 1, 1984	Virginia S. Crane	October 6, 1991
Katherine A. Davis	March 31, 1985	Janet B. Eldred	October 6, 1991
Mary G. Hunter	March 31, 1985	Roger A. Burke	December 8, 1991
Barbara G. Jordan	March 31, 1985	Arlen W. Brown	December 8, 1991
Margaret Wallace	June 2, 1985	Betty J. Smith	April 12, 1992
Aaron D'Elia	October 1, 1985	Sonya Ann Abbott	December 1, 1992
Scott D. McInturff	October 1, 1985	Calvin R. Genzel	December 1, 1992
Maryann MacDougall	March 23, 1986	Ruth Ricker	February 7, 1993
Ann Merrifield	December 7, 1986	Kay Herbst	April 4, 1993
George Delianides, Jr.	December 7, 1986	James O'Donnell	April 4, 1993
Peter Read	February 1, 1987	Francis Blair	May 23, 1993
Suzanne Read	February 1, 1987	Judith Fisher	February 6, 1994
Martha Coleman	April 12, 1987	Lisa G. Loveland	February 6, 1994
Robert MacDougall	March 23, 1987	John T. Hodgkins	June 5, 1994
Margaret Bush	October 4, 1987	David M. Clark	October 2, 1994
Jeanne Miller	October 4, 1987	Jennifer Gasser-Leid	October 2, 1994
Annamarie Ross Shu	October 4, 1987	Deborah Davis	February 5, 1995

Mary C. Grant	September 25, 1995	Nancy Mella Bulkeley	December 2, 2001
R. Wayne Grant	September 25, 1995	Thomas Boates, Jr.	February 3, 2002
Elizabeth Pitcher	December 3, 1995	Kate Leslie Silfen	February 3, 2002
Russ Gregg	February 4, 1996	Karen Hand	June 2, 2002
Marcia Gregg	February 4, 1996	Mike Hand	June 2, 2002
Frank J Wezniak	March 31, 1996	Elizabeth Rice-Smith	June 2, 2002
Alyson Fitzsimmons	October 6, 1996	Davis Yetman	October 6, 2002
William M Bulkeley	December 8, 1996	Kevin Pitcock	October 5, 2003
Debra L Bulkeley	December 8, 1996	William Adams	April 4, 2004
Charlotte Simpson	February 2, 1997	David Becker	April 4, 2004
Dwight B Crane	March 23, 1997	Marilyn Jackson Adams	April 4, 2004
Sarah Graber	June 1, 1997	Dan Oates	April 4, 2004
Steve H Antrasian	December 7, 1997	Rock Ripple	April 4, 2004
Alliea E Grouppp	February 1, 1998	Isabella Bulkeley	May 16, 2004
Margaret Sablove	April 5, 1998	Meghan O'Brien	May 16, 2004
Phillip B. Stern	April 5, 1998	William Sablove	May 16, 2004
Judith J Stackpole	June 7, 1998	Megan Staley	October 3, 2004
Norma Norton Holmes	December 6, 1998	* Sam Ou	February 6, 2005
Curt Siddall	September 28, 1999	* Tony Rich	February 6, 2005
Darrell Curby Byers	February 6, 2000	* Nancy Taylor	February 6, 2005
John Alexander Briggs	April 16, 2000	* Vard Johnson	March 20, 2005
Robin Briggs	April 16, 2000	* Ruth Purtilo	March 20, 2005
Richard W. Yeo	April 16, 2000	* Daniel Bergstresser	October 23, 2005
Kenneth Herr Girvin	June 4, 2000	* Elizabeth Blake	October 23, 2005
Jennifer Stevens Girvin	June 4, 2000	* Lucy Costa	October 23, 2005
Peter Coulombe	December 3, 2000	* Jennifer Glaser	October 23, 2005
Steve Matthew Lodi	December 3, 2000	* Joanne Herman	October 23, 2005
Diane Nagel Palmer	April 8, 2001	* Kimberly Nicoll	October 23, 2005
Beatrice L. Pitcher	April 8, 2001	* Earl Anspach	December 11, 2005
Diane Gaucher	October 7, 2001	* Kurt Gaertner	December 11, 2005
Elizabeth Olson	October 7, 2001	* George Paolucci	December 11, 2005
Thomas H. Bulkeley	December 2, 2001		

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Welcome to Old South Church in Boston. We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. Today, Old South Church continues to serve as a sanctuary in the city of Boston.

NEW AT OLD SOUTH?

Welcome! We are so glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out a friendship pad so that we can be in touch with you. If you have any questions or would like to talk to a minister to learn more about the church, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at ashley@oldsouth.org.

Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. We also offer childcare from 8:20am-12:30pm every Sunday and Church School at 10am. For questions about our children's and family ministries, email children@oldsouth.org.

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

An accessible, single-stall restroom is available near Reception.

More restrooms are available, ask at the reception desk.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

Our hearing loop works directly with devices equipped with a "T-Coil." The sound is best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does not work in the upper galleries. If you would like to borrow a device paired with our system, please ask an usher.

GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church worship or church business (excluding weddings & concerts). For more information check out www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website www.oldsouth.org for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of current events.

CCLI #2802138 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON — MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

John M. Edgerton, *Senior Minister*
Ashley J. Popperson, *Associate Minister* ❖ Rachel J. Barton, *Associate Minister for Transformation*
Kat Woodard, *Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellow*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
David F. Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Kenneth H. Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Thursday Night Church*
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*
Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*
Aislin Kate Anderson, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Yuexuan Joyce Wang, *Children's Choir Accompanist*

Amelia Gerrard, *Director of Administration* ❖ Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Director of Operations*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*
Emily Ross, *Archivist* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director* ❖ Ava Welling, *Director of Audio*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Quinn Grant, *Communications Intern*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & William Wei, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Donna Matson, *Treasurer*
Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*
Rebecca Bowen & Laurie Stickels, *Senior Deacons*

A NOTE ON THE INCLUSIVE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S GRACE

Old South Church in Boston, in the name of its host, Jesus Christ, and in the spirit of Christ's invitation carved into the stone of this church's portico, "Behold I Set Before You an Open Door," welcomes all who seek to know God. Following the One who we believe is Sovereign and Savior, we affirm that each individual is a child of God, and recognize that we are called to be like one body with many members, seeking with others of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, age, gender, marital status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression to journey together toward the promised realm of God. We invite everyone to join in the common life and mission of our reconciling community through participation and leadership in this congregation, and by fully sharing in the worship, rites and sacraments of this church. As we all move forward with the work of this church, we commit ourselves to making justice and inclusivity a reality in this congregation and in the world. On the threshold of Christ's open door, we rely upon the healing, unconditional nature of God's love and grace to be our help and guide.



June 29, 2025 HYMN INSERT

All Are Welcome

Two Oaks



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly live. A
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and words are strong and true. Where
3. Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and wheat; a
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and stone, to
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions heard and



place where saints and chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for - give. Built of
all God's chil - dren dare to seek to dream God's reign a - new. Here the
ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice meet. Here the
heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known. Here the
loved and treas - ured, taught and claimed as words with - in the Word. Built of



hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace, here the
cross shall stand as wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as
love of God, through Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space, as we
out - cast and the stran - ger bears the im - age of God's face, let us
tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace. Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
one we claim the faith of Je - sus; all are wel - come,
share in Christ the feast that frees us;
bring an end to fear and dan - ger;
house pro - claim from floor to raf - ter;



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE

REFRAIN Eb Ab Bbsus Bb

Draw the cir - cle wide,

draw it wid - er still, ——— Let this be our

Bb G7 Cm Ab Bbsus

song: No one stands a - lone stand-ing side by side.

Bb7 Eb *Fine*

Draw the cir - cle wide. ———

Eb Ab Eb/Bb Bb Eb Ab

God the still - point of the cir - cle 'round whom all cre -
 Let our hearts touch far hor - i - zons, so en - com - pass
 Let the dream we dreamed be lar - ger than we ev - er

Eb/Bb Bb Cm Ab Bb Eb/G

a - tion turns; Noth - ing lost, but held to - geth - er
 great and small; Let our lov - ing know no bor - ders,
 dreamed be - fore; Let the dream of Christ be in us,

Ab Bbsus Bb7 *Refrain*

in God's gra - cious arms. ———
 faith - ful to God's call. ———
 o - pen ev - 'ry door. ———

Lean On Me

Sometimes in our lives
We all have pain
We all have sorrow
But if we are wise
We know that there's always tomorrow

Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on

Please swallow your pride
If I have things
You need to borrow
For no one can fill
Those of your needs
That you don't let show

You just call on me sister,
when you need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem
that you'd understand
We all need somebody to lean on

Lean on me, when you're not strong
And I'll be your friend
I'll help you carry on
For it won't be long
'Til I'm gonna need
Somebody to lean on

You just call on me brother,
when you need a hand
We all need somebody to lean on
I just might have a problem
that you'd understand
We all need somebody to lean on

If there is a load
You have to bear
That you can't carry
I'm right up the road
I'll share your load
If you just call me

Call me, call me, call me...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MISSIONARY VISIT TO OLD SOUTH

Sunday, June 29, 10am, in the Guild Room

Dr. Nathanael Wiles is a physician in Kenya, Africa. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he is preparing for his second mission to Tenwek Hospital in Bomet, Africa. He was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor during medical school but by God's grace, he was able to overcome this seemingly insurmountable challenge. Come, hear him talk about the African people he serves and how he continues to respond to God's calling. He will share slides and details of his ministry. Those interested in getting to know Nathanael in a more intimate setting are cordially invited to a dinner at the home of Esther and Fredrick Seguin here in the Back Bay on Saturday, June 28, at 6pm. Please sign up for the dinner by emailing Esther Seguin at ejohannaseguin@gmail.com, seating is limited to 10 people



RETIRED AND READY AT THE AFRICAN MEETING HOUSE

Purchase your ticket at www.maah.org/boston-location for Tuesday, July 8 at 10am and join our group at 46 Joy Street.

Email Charlotte at char.r.simpson@gmail.com if you want to participate

Want to learn the history that was missing from your history books? Join a guided tour of the Abiel Smith School, the oldest public school in the United States that was built for the sole purpose of educating African American children. We will also tour the African Meeting House, the oldest existing black church building in our country. A special exhibit "Black Voices of the Revolution" is also on display. Following our tour we plan to dine at Flour Bakery and Cafe, 209 Cambridge Street.

GOD'S BIG BOOK OF FAITH ZOOM BIBLE STUDY DELVES INTO THE LIVES OF THE PROPHETS

Study begins Wednesday, July 2, 7pm, on Zoom

Interested? Contact Rich Nelson at richnelson28@gmail.com for link

Each week we take a look at one of the prophets (there are 16 of them) and focus on a substantial part of his (yeah, they were all guys) writings. Each study is complete so you can miss a week and not be lost when you return – plus there is a print version of all the studies to help you keep track. The sessions usually run an hour, give or take, depending on the conversation.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH

THE WEEKLY PUSHBACK—Supporting Missionary Doctor Wiles

Have other Weekly Pushback ideas? Email outreach@oldsouth.org.

Bad news comes fast and furious these days—for trans folks, for immigrants, for the disabled. But all across the country, people of goodwill are pushing back. Every week, Old South's Christian Service and Outreach Committee will be giving to an organization or individual who is serving the gospel in a world of bad news. Old South Church is honored to donate \$2,000 to support the ministry of Dr. Nathanael Wiles, a dedicated family medicine physician serving at Tenwek Hospital in Bomet County, Kenya (and the nephew of OSC member Esther Seguin)! Despite battling brain cancer during medical school, Dr. Wiles pursued his dream of becoming a missionary doctor, now providing medical care and outreach to remote communities across Kenya. To hear more about Dr. Wiles's remarkable work and story, join us in the Chapel at 10 a.m. on June 29.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE SEEKS GRANTEES

Email outreach@oldsouth.org to provide your suggestions by June 30

The Christian Service & Outreach Committee (CSOC) continues Old South's history of service by supporting the work of local non-profits through grant giving and connecting our grantees with the human capital our congregation has to offer. Each year, CSOC reviews local non-profit organizations and invites several to apply for consideration for a grant or awards. We are soliciting recommendations from the congregation for organizations to consider for 2025. We are particularly interested in learning about Boston-based non-profits that serve the local Boston community and offer hands-on volunteer opportunities.

GREEN TIPS: AVOIDING MICROPLASTICS - Don't Microwave Plastic

Scientists have found that heating food in plastic packaging and/or containers releases plastic particles and harmful plastic chemicals into food. Instead, transfer food out of plastic packaging and containers into glass or ceramic serving ware prior to microwaving. Learn more at tinyurl.com/nrdcmicroplasticthreat.

WELCOMING OUR DIRECTOR OF AUDIO, AVA WELLING

We are excited to share that our Thursday evening audio engineer of the past three years, Ava Welling, is joining the Old South team full time in a newly created position, Director of



Audio! Ava is a producer, mixer, live sound, and post-production engineer originally from Hamburg, Michigan. She grew up studying classical cello, but began exploring the more technical side of sound and discovered her passion for engineering and production. In pursuit of this passion, Ava moved to Boston in order to attend Berklee College of Music, where she gained a B.M. in Music Production and Engineering. Be sure to say hi if you see her!

THEOLOGICAL BOOK GROUP SUMMER READ

There is no sign up! Just get a copy of Liz Walker's

"No One Left Alone: A Story of How Community Helps Us Heal" and read.

In September, there will be a one time hybrid session (date TBD) for a discussion of the book.

Questions? Contact Don Wells granwell@comcast.net.

Old South's Theological Book Group is having a 'Summer Read', and it is open to all! The book: Liz Walker's No One Left Alone: A Story of How Community Helps Us Heal. Many will remember her as Boston's first woman and first Black news anchor. After 19 years in broadcasting she went to seminary and became a Presbyterian Minister. Her book is a story of helping her congregation develop 'soft spaces' for people to gather for prayer and a renewed sense of community. This was especially important for those who had experienced grief and loss within the Black community. As those spaces were created, she helps distinguish between just 'hearing' and really 'listening'. She invites her readers to consider where those 'soft spaces' are in the context of their own lives. It is a book worth reading!

IN MEMORIAM

This has been a time of deep loss within our community. Together, we grieve the losses of Barbara Ansley, Charles Gerlinger, and Ralph Watson. Information regarding memorial services for Barbara and Charles is forthcoming. A memorial service for Ralph Watson will be held on July 26 at 11am in the Gordon Chapel. Beloved ones, amidst so much loss, please know the ministers are available for conversation and prayer jme@oldsouth.org, ashley@oldsouth.org, rachel@oldsouth.org.

JUNE HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Read the whole blog at oldsouth.org/news/heard-it-council-june-2025

Church Historian, Kate Silfen, shares highlights of this month's Council meeting including good news about finances, discussion of the May leadership retreat, the Associate Minister Search Committee and ways to work towards being an antiracist church and a more multicultural faith community.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:

Next service Sunday, July 13, 5 p.m. on Zoom, tinyurl.com/OSCHealing to join

Please join us to take a moment for rest and renewal in the presence of God and other spiritual companions gathering by Zoom. All are welcome to share this quiet space and lift up our concerns, our losses, our hurts, and our celebrations in the Healing Presence of God and one another.

THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH AND SUPPER CLUB

Thursdays, 6pm Worship, 7pm Supper

Thursday Night Church is a worship service where the music is contemporary, the space is open-hearted and in-the-round, and the preaching is focused on how we can be the church together in the world. After worship, join us for Thursday Night Supper Club. Each week, folks can gather after worship for dinner and an informal small group hosted by some of our friendly and hospitable lay leaders.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Facebook, and YouTube

Thursday night church, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

VESPERS HEALING Worship, Second Sundays at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom



To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or Credit Card, scan the QR code. You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

If you're new to Old South, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to tell us more about yourself.



NOTICES 1) Worship services and events at Old South Church are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify an usher. 2) Please do not leave bags unattended in the building, including the Sanctuary, for any length of time.

Old South Church in Boston ❖ 645 Boylston Street, Boston 02116 ❖ www.oldsouth.org