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.
Trying Times
These are trying and troubling times. Our nation is going through a test and many of us are worried about the outcome. Not only is there concern about the policies and direction of the government but the impeachment trial is focusing on the question of how the great power of our nation might have been abused. This is not simply about the behavior of a single individual, but it is a test of how well, or poorly, our form of government will work. Principles are at stake. Quoting Colonel Vidman, Adam Schiff said “here right matters.” He went on to point out how lost we are if truth and right don’t matter, saying bluntly that nothing can save us.

One thing for certain about the trial, when it is over not everyone will agree with the result and anger and fear will continue. Regardless of the outcome, the fact that we are lost without truth remains. Right does matter, even if we disagree at times about what is right, surely, we must always seek to what is right. Jesus told us that if we are his faithful disciples we would know the truth and the truth would set us free. He also said that he is the truth. Following Jesus’ teaching is challenging and following his example is daunting, but that is what he calls us to.

So we are left with a choice between the anxiety of the present moment or the disciplined efforts of discovering liberating truth. There are no easy answers or shortcuts. We can find hope as we look to the future when we commit to the path of truth in the present. Some religions point to some sort of end times judgment that sets things right in a moment. But an exclusively future hope is no real comfort in the present. Granted, the present struggle can feel so overwhelming that hope seems non-existent. But we are not without hope as long as we hold on to the promises of God that we are never alone. Even when we walk through the valley of the shadow of death, our good shepherd forces us to take care of ourselves, forcing us to lie down by still waters and stop in the green pastures to feed. In fact, even in the presence of our enemies, we are presented with a feast. None of that makes the dark valley disappear, but since the light of the world is walking with us we find comfort.

-Pastor Ian
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Events</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>9:15 am Adult Bible Study, 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>6:30 pm Choir, 7:30 pm Food Pantry, 7:00 pm Boy Scouts</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>10:30 am Crafters, 7:00 pm Missions, 7:30 pm AA, 7:30 pm Al Anon</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>7:00 pm Boy Scouts</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>6:00 pm Food Pantry, 6pm AA Wed. Group, 6:00pm TaijiFit</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>6:30 pm Bells, 7:30 pm Choir</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>2-4 Food Pantry</td>
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<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>9:15 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>ANNUAL MEETING, 10:30 am Worship, 6-7:30 pm Choir</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>10:30 am Crafters, 6:30 pm Deacons, 7:30 pm AA</td>
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<td>12</td>
<td>6-7:30 pm Food Pantry</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>10:30 am Crafters, 1:00 pm Wom. Fellow, 6:00 pm Mardi Gras</td>
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<td>14</td>
<td>7:00pm Scouts</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>7:30 pm Food Pantry, 7:00 pm Boy Scouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>10:30 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<td>17</td>
<td>RESCHEDULED TBA 6:00pm TaijiFit, 7:30 pm Choir, 7:00pm Missions</td>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>10:30 am Crafters, 6:30 pm Deacons</td>
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<td>19</td>
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<td>23</td>
<td>10:30 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>24</td>
<td>9:15 am Adult Bible Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>9:00pm Quilts of Valor, 10:00 pm Women, 1:00 pm AL Anon, 7:30 pm Book Club</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>7am - ASHES TO GO, 6-7:30 pm Food Pantry, 7:00 pm Boy Scouts</td>
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<tr>
<td>27</td>
<td>6:30 pm Bells, 7:30 pm Choir</td>
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<td>28</td>
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Love, Life and Lent: Perspectives on Non-Violence

Violence is a daily occurrence in American public life. Sometimes it hits close to home. Most of the time it is distant, just something we read about in the news. But all of it affects us, whether we choose to accept it or not. In the midst of so much public discourse, the creeds and doctrines of faith can be used as justification for perpetrating violence against our neighbors, despite admonitions from all the greatest faith leaders to love one another. During this time of year, as Christians move through Lent toward the murder and resurrection of Jesus Christ, violence in all its forms sometimes seems unavoidable, even necessary for faith to exist.

On Five Consecutive Wednesday evenings, from 7:00 to 8:30, five very different congregations in Kirtland will together explore the idea of violence through five different ideas in succession: Words, Glory, Sin, Grace, and Foolishness. Each week, a different congregation will host an interactive conversation presented by one leader and facilitated by another.

All members, friends and visitors of all five congregations are welcome.

March 4: East Shore Unitarian Church
March 11: Divine Word Roman Catholic Church
March 18: Old South United Church of Christ
March 25: Kirtland Temple Visitor Center
April 1: St. Hubert’s Episcopal Church

Mardi Gras

Once again this year, the Missions Ministry is hosting a Mardi Gras party. On Tuesday, February 25 at 6:00 PM, come to the Anchor Lamp Room with some food to share (New Orleans style food encouraged). Also be prepared to eat the pancakes that will be provided and engage in some fun games for all ages. Let the good times roll!
Ashes to Go

Wearing ashes on your forehead is a traditional sign of penance worn by the faithful marking the beginning of Lent. When the only opportunity to receive ashes is in the evening, some of the impact of symbol is reduced since the time of wearing the ashes is shortened. So once again this year Pastor Ian will offer ashes in the morning, and to make things convenient, in the parking lot. Pastor Ian will be in the parking lot along Route 306 from 7:00 to 10:00 AM on February 26th. He will spend a few moments with each person inviting reflection before marking the person’s forehead with ashes.

Scrip

Scrip is the best way to give money to the church while you do the shopping you are already doing! Buy scrip gifts cards at church, then use them to buy your groceries, clothes, household supplies, eat out, or see a movie. And the church receives a percentage of what you buy.

With over 750 merchants offering cards, there are probably several you could choose from to try out this way of supporting the church. You can order cards online which allows you to do it when you think about it. You can pay by cash, check or charge (even online). If you don’t want a wallet full of plastic, there is a Scrip Wallet you can put on your smartphone. Merchants can scan the card right off your phone. You can even purchase scrip while out shopping, when you know how much you will need. You order ScripNow and in seconds it is available to use. If you have any questions, ask Mary Jones. Heinen’s and Giant Eagle cards are available on Sunday morning for purchase.
**Women’s Fellowship**

**Happy and Blessed New Year to you all from Women's Fellowship.**

Colonial Crafters is our weekly group.  
A new year begins and our ladies are already working on rug strips and planning new projects for Bazaar.  
Come join us! Any lady member is welcome. We meet every Tuesday at 10:30 in the Anchor/Lamp Room. Bring a sandwich, we lunch at noon and continue to work until around 2:00. The ladies and the fellowship are a real lift to your day. Don't worry about your craft skill level, we are a mixture of not much to excellent. Thankfully our ladies are willing and patient teachers. (Good thing for me.)

Women's Fellowship is our church's ladies auxiliary. All women members of our church are automatically members.  

Our meetings are on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00 in the Anchor/Lamp room. This is the time when we discuss any business that needs taken care of. We really could stand to have some newer members to bring in new ideas and energy. We would love to have more of you in active participation. We do many things in and around and for our church. Many of the dinners, memorial meals, and social events and, of course, Bazaar, are planned or coordinated through our group. We also contribute to Old South through our annual pledge and by assisting with projects in conjunction with the Trustees. We know that some of you work during the day, but, those of you that don't, please consider joining in, you will be glad you did. Not only will you enjoy; it is a great way to get to know folks better.

We had our January meeting on the 28th. New officers were voted in:  
- Co-presidents will be Peggy Kranz and Joyce Raymond  
- Vice-president is Wanda Steudel  
- Secretary is Celia Kepic  
- Treasurer is Jennifer Luscher

Our meeting next month will be on Feb. 25th. We will discuss the local charities and amounts that will be disbursed from Bazaar profits. We hope we will see some new faces.

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**INVITATION**

The Living Water Association, Ohio Northeast of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ and Pilgrim Congregational United Church of Christ cordially invite you, along with your prayers to the Ordination to Christian Ministry **of R. Brooke Baker**.

March 8th 2020 at 3pm  
2592 W. 14th St., Cleveland  
A light reception will follow.
Old South Church built its first church in 1822, as a log cabin, but in 1826, a fire destroyed the building. Later, land was purchased across the street, and the second church was built. But bad luck came again in the form of a tornado in 1842, which turned the church one quarter on its foundation. Attempts were made to fix it, but nothing could be done permanently. So, after a lot of debate what to do, the congregation voted to sell the church to the Universalists in Willoughby, Ohio. Thus, began an interesting life for this building.

The Universalist apparently waited a while to raise the funds to buy land and erected the church. So, during the Civil War in 1863, they bought land on Euclid Avenue owned by James and Eunice Allen on the east side of the street near Wilson Ave. It was on lot 25. The cost was $175 for the land. The pastor at the time of the purchase of the land was Dr. Andrew Wilson. So, the Universalists erected their church and used it until 1890. Frank Carroll bought the church and apparently used the church as a residence.

Apparently in 1910, Andrews Institute, who just organized their school, used the building for a dorm for either students or faculty. This continued until about 1929, when Frank McMahon, who operated a funeral parlor in Downtown Willoughby, first bought a house two doors down from the dorm at 51 Euclid Avenue. James McMahon was a musician, a theater owner, and son-in-law of an undertaker. The house was purchased in 1921 by Frank’s wife Gertrude. Frank and Gertrude moved from their house on Wilson Avenue into the house, which still stands in Willoughby today on Euclid Avenue near Sharpe Avenue.

They lived in the house and ran the funeral home there as well. But in 1929, James McMahon announced in the “News-Herald” that he was building a new building for his funeral home on the property. The article made it sound like he was building a new building, but he actually purchased the dorm house (the second church) and moved it two lots down to his property. Lot 25 eventually became part of Glasscock Chevrolet in 1963. Andrews School still owned the lot, even though they sold the second church in 1929. Five more owners owned that property after the church was moved.

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Office@oldsouthchurch.org

Serving you at Old South Church:

8902 Chillicothe Road, Kirtland, Ohio 44094

An Open and Affirming Congregation

Old South United Church of Christ

Serving you at Old South Church:

Ministers:

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Pastor:

.......................................................... ..........................

Rev. Ian Lynch

Secretary:

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Velta Winkler

Minister for Families and Youth

Lindsey Robison

Treasurer:

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Wayne Danko

Music Director:

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Judith Hildege

Financial Secretary:

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Darlene Williams

Minister for Families and Youth:

Lindsey Robison

Secretar:

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Veta Winder

Pastor:

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Rev. Jan Lynch

All of us

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