

# caring sharing daring

## Greetings!

Hello members and friends of Green Street United Methodist Church!

I pray that you and yours are well and enjoying this summer!

Eugene Peterson, the author of *The Message Bible*, quotes Hilary of Tours who describes a sin so often committed by pastors: *irreligiosa sollicitudo pro Deo*, a blasphemous anxiety to do God's work for him. We all can get caught up in that thinking, believing that if we take time off, God's kingdom will suffer. In reality, the opposite is true.

I will be taking some vacation this month, and I hope you are getting your necessary *R&R*, too!

Please allow me to highlight some big events that will occur this month, which are leading to an even bigger fall kick off, including a new on-line campus!

## August 24 Community Meal Kick-off!

The Community Meal and worship will begin again on Tuesday, August 24, at 5:00 p.m. with a special cookout event.



Our Food Pantry friends will also participate in these Community Meals this year, so I expect they will be even bigger and better than they were before the pandemic. If you would like to help with this special event, or on an on-going basis, please contact me. Those who regularly work in this Community Meal program will attest that breaking bread and worshipping with this community is truly a blessing!

## August 29 Worship on Thornapple Plaza!

A special Summerfest outdoor worship service for the community is planned at the Thornapple Plaza on Sunday, August 29 from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Hope UMC and Welcome Corners UMC will join us for this worship. Please bring your own lawn chairs. All attendees will be given tickets to receive a free beverage and snack during the service and to receive free hamburgs, hot dogs, etc. beginning when worship concludes at 11:00 a.m.



The community focus for our Summerfest worship will be the *Hand2Hand* program, which provides weekend backpacks to food insecure children. Representatives from Hastings Schools will be present to explain the needs and how the program works. A special offering will be collected to support the program.

Invite your friends!

### Thank You for Your Support!

Mailed in a separate letter along with this Newsletter are your individual giving statements for the period January 1, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Many thanks to our Financial Secretary, Terri Barry, for preparing these statements.

Your gifts to Green Street United Methodist Church are making a big difference in the lives of folks in this very community. Because of your generosity, we have been able to provide food, shelter, and clothing for so many folks who have needed a helping hand. Thanks to you our gospel net was cast wider, offering the "Bread of Life" in addition to bread itself.

Giving for God's work is such a privilege and a blessing! 1 Chronicles 29:14 states, "But who am I, and who are my people, that we should be able to give as generously as this? Everything comes from you, and we have given you only what comes from your hand."

Your regular giving is a witness to your faith in Jesus Christ and your love of God and neighbor! You are a *Caring, Sharing and Daring* congregation!

Thank you!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terri Barry", with a long horizontal line extending to the left.

## August 2021 Sermon Series: Soul Food



Bread is a basic staple food, filling and made of simple ingredients, yet delicious and satisfying. Generally, it is plentiful and readily available. In calling himself the Bread of Life, Jesus speaks to his identification with the needs and interests of the everyday person. It is also a profoundly incarnational and sacrificial theme: Jesus invites us to *consume* him, to eat and drink of his life. But Jesus does not originate that imagery. In the Hebrew scriptures, we find an invitation to eat and drink from the table of Holy wisdom. This consumption is more than metaphorical. It means internalizing the ways, the thoughts, the imaginations, and the disciplines of the righteous life. This series explores the idea of how our own lives are transformed from the invitation to partake of life-giving realities.

The key scripture passages as shown below lift up important teachings that can deepen our understanding of how life in God feeds our souls.

- August 1 – Eat to Live (Communion will be served)  
John 6:35; 41-51
- August 8 – An Appetite for Righteousness  
Matthew 5:1-10; Psalms 34:9-14
- August 15 – Hard to Swallow  
John 6:56-69
- August 22 – Dirty Hands and Clean Hearts  
Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23
- August 29 – Summerfest Worship on Thornapple Plaza  
Worship 9:30 am to 11:00 am followed by Cookout

### CONTACTS:

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**Address Service Requested**



**Sunday Worship  
In-Person  
and  
Facebook LIVE  
9:30AM**

**Sermon Series: Soul Food  
August 2021 Newsletter**



Family Promise brings shelter, meals, and support services to families without homes. There are several ways we can support Family Promise. One of the most important ways to help is to provide meals (and friendship!) to those in the program.

Your next opportunity to serve in this way is October 10<sup>th</sup>- 17<sup>th</sup>. Jenny NeSmith-Lauer is our Family Promise Coordinator. If you would like to help, please contact her at:

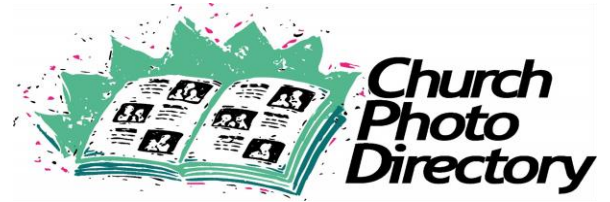
(269)744-2534 or  
[Jenoo9999@yahoo.com](mailto:Jenoo9999@yahoo.com)



If you have prayer requests, please write it on the offering envelope and place it in the one of the blue buckets in the back of the Worship Center or E-mail them to:

[office.greenstreetumc@gmail.com](mailto:office.greenstreetumc@gmail.com).

We will send those prayer requests out via the Monday E-mail, or sooner if your request it. Please make a note if you only want that request seen by Pastor Bryce and we will respect your wishes.



Thanks to Ed Solomon and Linda Robinson for leading this project! We want to include you and your family! Electronic photos can be E-mailed to: [office.greenstreetumc@gmail.com](mailto:office.greenstreetumc@gmail.com)

However, if you are not able to do that, here are the dates when Linda and Ed can take your pictures right after church: August 22, and September 19.

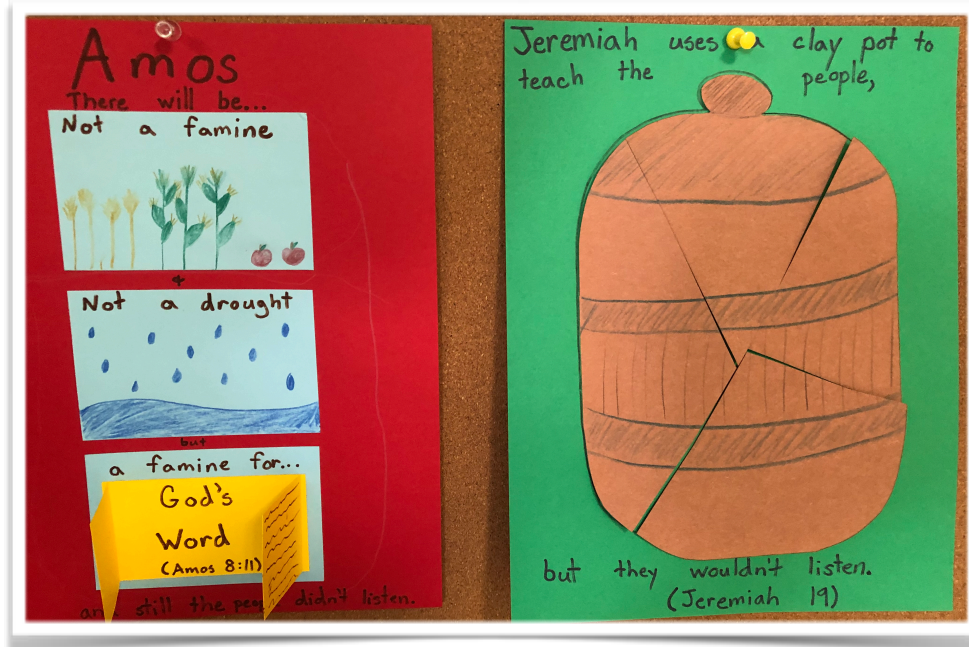


**Air Conditioning** - We are making progress on our plan for air conditioning in the church. **Air conditioning units for the Nursery and KidZone are installed and working great!** We are proceeding on faith and plan to install AC in the Worship Center soon. If you would like to contribute towards this project, please indicate "Building Fund" on your donation



**Seeking Tech Team Leader**—10 to 15 hours per week. If interested please see Ed Solomon, SPRC Chair or Pastor Bryce.

# KidZone



## The Prophets- Continued

We will continue studying some of the prophets during KidZone in August. We have been making posters each week to help us remember a message that the prophet told the people of Israel and will continue to work on these posters.

On August 29, Sunday morning worship will be held at Thornapple Plaza for Summerfest. Instead of KidZone, we will have an activity for the kids to do there.



### Memory Verse

He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?  
Micah 6:8



### Missions

Save your mission money for the Summerfest Worship at the Plaza on August 29. A special offering will be taken for Hand 2 Hand, a ministry to help provide meals to local families.

8/1

**EZEKIEL**

Ezekiel 37:1-14

8/8

**MICAH**

Micah 6:8

8/15

**HABAKKUK**

Habakkuk 1

8/22

**JONAH**

Jonah 1

8/29

**SUMMERFEST**

Worship at the Thornapple Plaza