

caring sharing daring

Greetings!

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to the members and friends of Green Street United Methodist Church!

Summerfest Worship on Thornapple Plaza last Sunday was Fabulous!

Thanks to the many who helped make it possible. The music was fantastic, the food was delicious, and we received \$1120 in special offerings to support the *Hand2Hand* program here in Hastings. *Hand2Hand* works through local churches to provide food for school children who face hunger on weekends. If you want to help with the *Hand2Hand* program, please contact me.

Worship Time Change on September 12

Thanks for your input regarding your worship time and format preferences! Following are the results.

For Sunday morning, every top and bottom of the hour time between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. was suggested by someone; however, about three-quarters of the respondents requested starting worship later than 9:30 a.m. As such, **worship will start at 10:00 am beginning September 12.** This worship time will still allow the Adult Sunday school to meet after worship. And by the way, 10:00 a.m. Sunday morning is the most popular worship time in America. Several people suggested an evening worship time, which I support in concept, though we would need more musicians and technical support people to pull it off. As we launch our new on-line church this fall, the "live" aspect of those recorded segments may in fact allow us to offer an evening worship time in the future.

The vast majority of respondents preferred the current worship format, which I call the "segmented continuous" format. It is essentially the modular format without the breaks and without an offering time. There were a couple of recommendations to return to modular worship, and one for a separate traditional service and one for a separate contemporary service. In consideration of your comments, we will continue with the current worship format.

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Thank You for Your Prayers and Encouragement

Jesus says in John 16:33, "In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

This past 18 months has been a difficult time for us to be in ministry together. Tribulation has been apparent in the church as well as in the world. COVID has accelerated cultural trends that were already working against church attendance. It has been an easy time to step back from church and to blame others. At the same time, I praise God for you all who have overcome the world by stepping up to greater service and by encouraging me and others during this time. Thank you!

Blessings,



***Just Jesus* Sermon Series – September 2021 and Beyond**

When folks suggest sermon topics to me, I typically respond by asking, "What did Jesus say about that?" and "What did Jesus do about that?" More often than not, Jesus did say or do something that helps to address the topic, usually in a profound way that causes us to examine ourselves.

Gen Z's, Millennials, and Baby Boomers have much different understandings of faith and spirituality. So do the major world religions. But if you strip away all of the doctrines, religious tradition, and interpretations about Jesus, we are left with *Just Jesus*. The timeless words and actions of Jesus have universal appeal and the ability to address the critical issues of our time for all generations.

Just Jesus divides all of human history, is the central character of the world's best-selling book, healed the sick and raised the dead, turned the world upside down with a dozen common folks, and taught a Gospel of salvation that was so radical he was murdered for it.

We'll study Jesus' life chronologically and verse by verse through the Gospel of Mark, while occasionally adding content from the other Gospels, to give us the most complete understanding possible of his incredible life on earth.

It's time to meet *Just Jesus* and to know him more deeply than you ever have before!. You may wish to study the key scripture passages for September as shown below before coming to worship.

September 5 – Preparing the Way (Communion will be served)
Mark 1:1-8

September 12 – Pleasing the Father
Mark 1:9-13

September 19 – Jesus Calls Ordinary Folks
Mark 1:14-20

September 26 – Ministry Happens Everywhere
Mark 1:21-34



Church Photo Directory

We are in the process of gathering photos to complete the Church Directory! Linda Robinson has graciously made herself available to take on this project. Electronic photos are still being accepted. They can be E-mailed to: office.greenstreetumc@gmail.com. However, if you are not able to do that, Linda can take your pictures right after church on September 19.



September Church Meeting Schedule:

Finance Committee – Monday, September 13 at 6:30 pm in Pastor's Office

Staff Parish Relations Committee – Tuesday, September 21 at 6:30 pm in the Lounge

Trustees – Tuesday, September 28 at 6:00 pm in Room 108

Church Council – Tuesday, September 28 at 7:00 pm in Room 108

KidZone

Green Street Stars

Earn a star each time you...

Come to KidZone

Bring a friend

Memorize the month's verse

If you earn 7 stars in a quarter, you get a reward. If you earn a reward for all 3 quarters during the school year, we'll have a surprise to celebrate



Memory Verse
"Come follow me,"
Jesus said, "and I
will send you out to
fish for people."
Mark 1:17



Missions
Start collecting
money for the
CROP Hunger Walk
coming up in early
October.

The Beginning of Jesus' Ministry

For the next several months, we will be studying the life of Jesus through the gospel of Mark. Mark tells about Jesus mostly by focusing on his actions. In KidZone, we will begin the first month of this series by looking at the beginning of his ministry- his baptism and calling the disciples.

9/5

JOHN THE BAPTIST
PREPARES THE WAY

Mark 1:1-8

9/12

THE BAPTISM OF
JESUS

Mark 1:9-13

9/19

JESUS CHOOSES 12
DISCIPLES

Mark 1:14-20; 3:13-19

9/26

JESUS CALLS LEVI TO
FOLLOW HIM

Mark 2:13-17

Youth & Families!

See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland.-Isaiah 43:19

We are entering into a new season. To say that last year had its twists and turns would be an understatement, and putting too much certainty in the year ahead could also prove difficult. To some degree, we have learned to be more flexible, and to "expect the unexpected". As I have pondered the next season of youth ministry at Green Street UMC, I have found my thoughts being directed back to this verse. It has been a reminder to me that the God who never changes is always bringing us through change. His work is never done, and He will always be guiding His Church in new directions. In the middle of this, we learn to lean on Him and to listen to His leading. This year, we will be ready to expect the unexpected; to try new things without fear of failure; to follow His direction despite our best laid plans.

A first step to signify this new chapter of youth ministry is to identify who we are to the church and the community. So families, I am excited to introduce you to **Green Street Youth**, the new youth ministry of Green Street UMC! If you are a returning youth, or new to our ministry, we warmly invite you to come check out our ministry and to have a hand in growing a "new thing" in our ministry. Perhaps you'll even find something *new* growing in you!

Our fall kick-off event will be a cook-out at Matt's home on Sunday Sept. 12 @ 5:30-7:30 PM and is open to all youth and families. We hope you can join us! Please contact Matt to RSVP or to get more info. Keep your eye out for more news and activity in the coming weeks & months, and please continue to be in prayer for us as we navigate this new season together!

Blessings,
Matt St. Jacques
Green Street Youth
youth.greenstreetumc@gmail.com

Introducing James Borton!

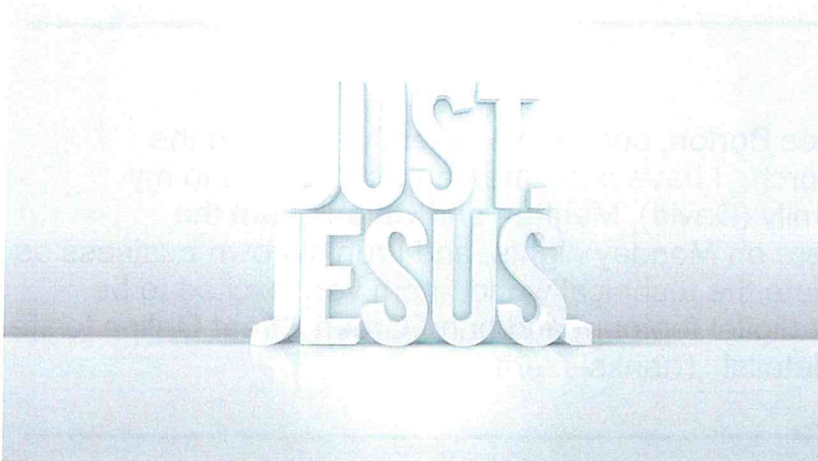
Hello Green Street Church! My name is James Borton, and I have recently accepted the position of technical team lead here at the church. I have been married for 25 years to my beautiful wife Teresa and I have 3 children Emily (David), Meghan and Caleb. I am the Scoutmaster for BSA troop 175 that meets here on Monday nights, and I run my own business as a technology consultant helping people navigate the technical world. I am very excited to be working with our church family to improve our digital footprint and bring **Green Street Online** to life in the coming months. Stay tuned for more details! Thanks! James Borton.

CONTACTS:

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Pastor Bryce - 517.588.1619 brycefeighner@yahoo.com
Dir. of Youth Ministries - **Matt St. Jacques** - youth.greenstreetumc@gmail.com
Dir. of Children Ministries - **Salina Eggers** - kidzone.greenstreetumc@gmail.com
Dir. of Music - **Shelia Huis** - huishausproductions@gmail.com
Tech Team Leader - **James Borton** - james@mrfutureconsulting.com
Nursery Attendant – **Hannah Alberts**

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Address Service Requested



**Sunday Worship
In-Person
and
Facebook LIVE
10:00 AM Beginning
September 12**

September 2021 Newsletter