

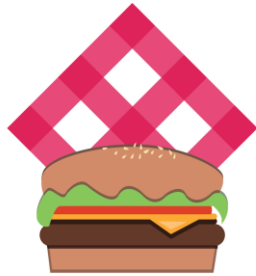
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July 2018

# The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF:  
Green Street United Methodist Church

THE GRAPEVINE — JULY 2018 EDITION



**Worship &  
Pot Luck at the Park**

*Summer is Here!*

**Sunday, July 22  
11am at Mill Park!**

*(no worship services at church this day)*

Come join us for an outdoor worship  
service followed by a  
Pot Luck Lunch!  
**Everyone is Welcome!**

VISIT US ONLINE: [www.greenstreetumc.net](http://www.greenstreetumc.net)



## Summer Events

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FROM THE PASTOR:

## Summertime Notes!

"The Word became flesh and blood, and moved into the neighborhood." This paraphrase of John's gospel (John 1:14) from The Message emphasizes the stunning surprise of Jesus' birth. God is done waiting for human beings to find their way to the Divine. God will no longer send help and guidance from the safe, but distant perch of heaven. God takes a risk! The Divine takes on a human body, adopts a human life, and moves right into the neighborhood with the people God wants to reach.

Jinwoo Chun, pastor of Belfast UMC, uses this scripture to describe three ways of making new Christian disciples:

One, Christians can stay in the church and wait, hope or pray for new people to come to us.

Two, Christians can go out, engage people, and invite them to church.

Three, Christians can move into the neighborhood and be the church there. We can follow Jesus by living our faith, worshipping God, and creating God's kingdom in our community.

This summer we have several opportunities to move into the neighborhood. The Garden Giveaway sets up a table of free produce along Green Street every Monday. Fresh produce from your garden is always welcome. Anyone available from 9-12 on Monday mornings is welcome to sit with the produce. The team leading this effort has done so for many years and would gladly lead new volunteers in this ministry.

On June 24, July 22 and August 19, we move into the neighborhood at Mill Park, worshipping in the community and offering a potluck meal to any who join us. This year, prayer teams will be available for anyone who has a prayer request or would like prayer companionship.

How do you live your faith beyond the church each week? Do you have ideas for how the church could move into our neighborhood? I would love to hear about your experiences and ideas!



- 3 – Randy Grady
- 9 – Sophie Douvielle
- 10 – Kathleen Dunford
- 10 - Mary Crowell
- 23 - Jessa Mitchell
- 26 – Shirley Black
- 29 – Margaret Goodale



Thank You for Serving in July

### July 1

Greeters: Patty Rogers and Sonny Richards  
Acolytes: Michaela and Bob Webber  
Coffee Hour Host:  
Liturgist:

### June 8

Greeters: Nancy and Kathy Merrick  
Acolytes: Patty Rogers and Sonny Richards  
Coffee Hour Hosts:  
Liturgist:

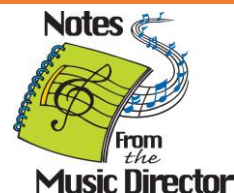
### June 15

Greeters: Sally Joy  
Acolytes: Randy and Sandy Grady  
Coffee Hour Hosts:  
Liturgist:

### June 22 – Mill Park @ 11am

### July 29

Greeters: Bessie Goudreau and Elsie Ware  
Acolytes: Nancy and Kathy Merrick  
Coffee Hour Hosts:  
Liturgist:



Dear bell & choir members,  
Thank you for your dedication to creating music this past church year. Your talents are very much appreciated by not only me but the congregation. I hope you have a relaxing summer. May God bless you and keep you safe.  
Sue



About a year ago the Covenant Group started meeting on Sunday evenings, setting a goal to be more intentional in our spiritual lives. We discussed ways to accomplish this and eventually agreed on a “Rule of Life”, or set of daily practices, that we would do our best to follow. These included reading scripture, prayer and silent meditation. Eventually we added weekly acts of generosity, some form of fasting, and connected with a prayer partner. For each of us there were weeks when we were unable to be as faithful to the Rule of Life as we would have liked, yet there was a strong sense of accountability to the group and the covenant we’d made that kept us returning to its structure and our original intent.

Our weekly meetings have typically opened with a scripture reading, a time of meditation, music, and prayer. Then each of us would take a turn sharing our experiences with the practice from the past week - what went well or where we struggled, a meaningful scripture or other reading, a moment of blessing. A common area of struggle, at least initially, was with quieting our minds enough to embrace silence, being open to and listening for God. With practice that became easier, although there are days it still eludes us. Another challenge was keeping the daily practice from becoming rote or dry; our weekly sharing has often been a source of inspiration in this.

Now, at the one year mark, we’re taking time to reflect on our shared experience and how to continue in the future. We have all learned something about ourselves during this time and have hopefully grown in our faith. But the covenant we made with each other is really just an extension of the covenant each of us made when we joined the church: to serve God, to be disciples of Jesus, and to nurture one another in faith and life. This has been our “fresh expression” of that commitment. Perhaps there have been fresh expressions in your spiritual life, too. In the months to come we hope to share our spiritual practices and learn of yours as we continue to grow in faith together.

Submitted by Ardyce Robbin on behalf of the rest of the Covenant Group: Tricia Webb, Henry Berry, Johnnie Beane, Shasta Beane, Sally Joy, Robin Forbes, Lynn Kennard, Connie Packard, Nancy Miner, Kathleen Dunford, Chris Thornton, and Pastor Kristin White

## Missions Ministry Team

*“We are God’s partners in loving and letting all Creation know of God’s love.”*

Many Green Street members have fed those in need by volunteering with the Augusta Food Bank. The Augusta Food Bank provides food to an average 400 households each month. Volunteers also deliver boxes of food to home-bound individuals monthly. Kids Packs and Weekend Packs provide summer and weekend meals for kids whose primary source of daily nutrition comes from free/reduced school lunch programs.

Four times a year – on the fifth Sundays of a month – the Missions Ministry Team sponsors a celebration of mission. On the fifth Sunday of July – July 29 – Green Street will host the director of the Augusta Food Bank. He will share about the food bank’s work and mission during Sunday worship, followed by a potluck meal. There will be one worship service that morning at 9:30 am.

**Sunday  
July 29  
One Service  
9:30am**



# Simplified Board Highlights

The Simplified Board met Tuesday, June 19th from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Jim Jacobsen shared from Psalm 119:39 and Acts 17:16 and we talked about the crisis on the Mexican border. And that it is okay to be angry but let's focus that anger in the proper way. Connie Packard and Pastor Kristin have just returned from annual conference where they learned the conference has unanimously passed a resolution taking a stance against separating immigrant children from their parents. Please watch for a separate e-mail telling how you might become involved.

Connie shared the New England Conference Minimum Cash Salary Resolution prior to up-coming budget discussions. Health insurance premiums will be going up due to the 146% increase in paid out claims.

Kristin said some of the memorable moments from conference were the worship/ministry pieces of the Memorial Service, which is a powerful service of remembrance and hope. More people were ordained than retired. The Bishop gave a sermon based on the book "Anatomy of Peace" and encouraged everyone to read it.

Kristin shared info about the Spiritual Planning retreat. Hopes, questions and next steps were named. The planning team will meet again on Saturday, June 30, 9-noon for follow-up work. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate.

Sue shared that the Father's Day Fuel challenge was met with 34 fuel days donated!!

Vanco – we have had two people sign up for automatic withdrawals and several other take forms for the process. Stay tuned for more ways to give in the near future.

Finance committee has met twice. Chris Thornton has volunteered to be the chair of the fundraising committee. They have met and started a list of activities. Some of them are selling t-shirts, sweatshirts, Po' Boy/Sub sandwiches, Angel Food Challenge, Hot chocolate and baked goods at the tree lighting downtown and more. If you would like to help, see Chris.

Mechuwana camperships – Seven children took a number of different themed weeks.

The church's insurance company is offering 3 years of free frozen pipe monitoring plus will give us \$100 for signing on. There is no obligation to continue, but should we choose to the cost will be \$10 per month.

Tammy Roberts has joined the Hannaford Ministry team.

A wonderful opportunity – Darby has created a Random Acts of Kindness Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall and invites everyone to take a slip of paper, perform the random act, write on the form to share the experience and return it to church in the envelope provided.

The last order of business was the announcement of Steve Monroe resigning his post on the board. We thank him for his time with us and appreciate his service. Kristin closed the meeting with prayer.





# Faithful † Witnesses

"To whom much is given, from him much is expected". Luke 12:48

One of the great sources of joy in my life this past year is cycling. It does not matter if I'm riding along Route 27, a back road, or a trail. When I'm in the saddle, I'm happy. So, when I heard that there were a couple kids at the Betsy Ann Ross House of Hope shelter, I knew with no doubt that I had to share my joy.

As it happened, last March I had bought a lavender girl's mountain bike, with no specific plans for it. And then I saw a red and blue small boy's bike on Facebook Marketplace for the princely sum of \$20. I bought the boys' bike, cleaned and tuned it, and put a new seat on it.

At that time, Green Streeters were collecting household goods for the shelter for Pentecost. When we were ready, I loaded up my pickup with the collection and the two bikes and delivered them to the shelter. There was a little guy there named Aiden. When he saw the stuff in my truck he asked if I had anything for him. When I gave him the red and blue bike and a new helmet, he just lit up like a super-nova! The joy in his face at that moment would have melted the coldest heart. I now have collected some more bikes to refurbish for the time when another kid may be in need of some joy.

I am blessed both to give and receive joy from something as simple as a bicycle.

Jim Jacobsen



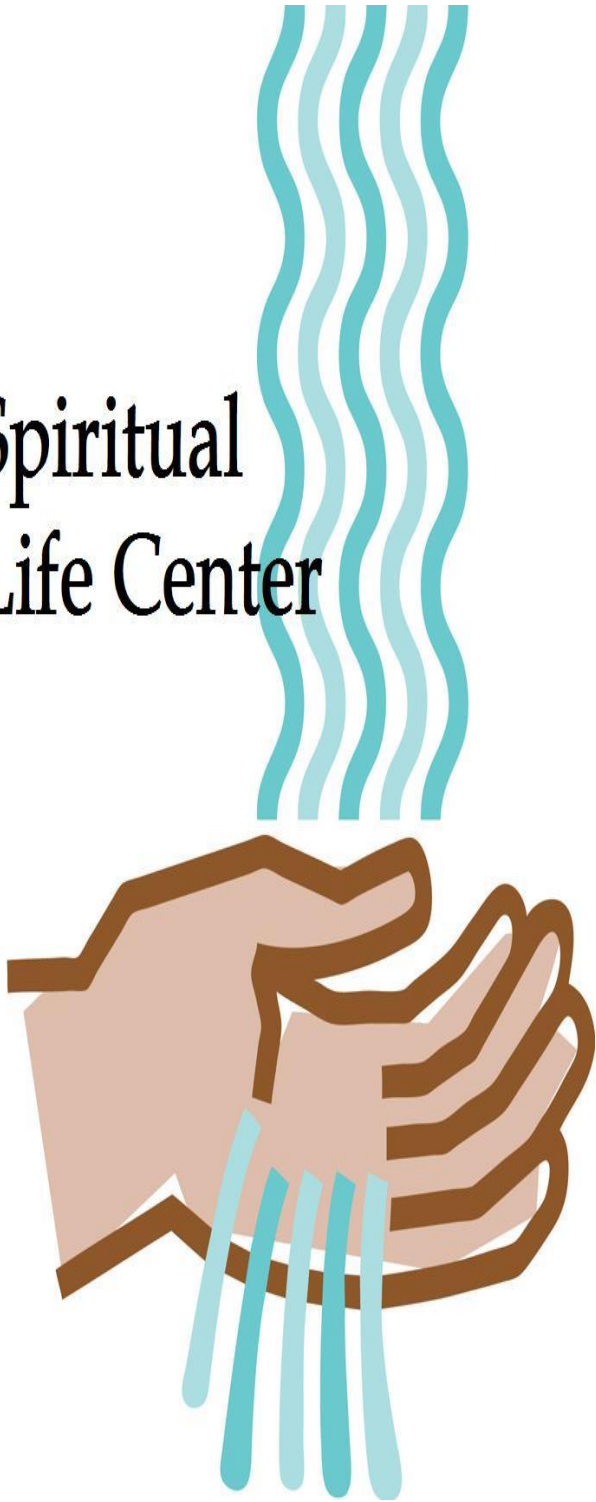
## Never Forget Your Pledge



Have  
a Safe  
and  
Happy  
4<sup>th</sup>

Sign up for on-line giving! Contact Sue Pattershall

# Spiritual Life Center



## Questions and Next Steps

Relationship to Green Street – Funding – Resources  
Non-Profit Status - Space – Accessibility – Parking  
Promotion - Networking – Time Line – Partnering  
Target Demographic

## Spiritual Life Center Planning Retreat Report June 2018

Each week leading up to the planning retreat, team members received a question/exercise to prepare: Journal, draw, or create something about your dreams, vision or hopes for an urban spiritual life center.

Look at similar Retreat centers in Maine and New England. What do you notice?

People watch! Sit or walk in the community - at a coffee shop, on a bench, around the block, through Hannaford. What do you notice? What insights arise?

People connect! Talk to a stranger this week - in line at the store, passing along the street, at the library or coffee shop. If possible, find out what they would like to learn and what they would like to change.

What is the soul? How is it with my soul?

The retreat began with Jesus' statement of purpose: "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly."

We shared places of abundance that we see in the church and community, as well as where we perceive a lack of abundance.

Through journals, collages, and art, each participant shared their vision for the Center. Among the themes that surfaced were the following words and images:

Spiritual belonging - Is there a place for me here?

Exploring spiritual identity in an atmosphere of love.

Experience abundant life and the tranquility of peace that passes understanding .We are all

exploring, sharing our journeys. Joining together in the search for inner peace. At our core we are loved. What comes between us and this understanding? Spirit of exploration. Whoever walks in brings with them the journey to be explored.

How to be safe/comfortable in silence. Silence - not just the absence of noise, but the path that carries us through.

Possible guiding principles that arose are:

Provide a spiritually-oriented location for peace, tranquility and learning.

Provide a spiritually-oriented location for those who are struggling with difficult times.

Allow people to explore their spiritual life / spiritual self in a loving environment.

Striving for hope, joy, connectedness and peace through spiritual exploration.

Explore in love.

Abundant life spiritual center.

Through mindfulness, meditation and mission.



## Augusta Food Bank

Donations

### Augusta Food Bank Summer Kid's Pack Program

Many schools provide kids with a free or reduced breakfast and lunch program. But during summer vacation, those kids do not receive those 2 meals per day. We understand that these extra meals (10 per child per week!) can often push a families' meal budget over the top. That's why the Augusta Food bank has Kids Packs! Kids Packs include cereal, milk, yogurt, 100% juice boxes, granola bars, raisins, mac & cheese, crackers, canned fruit, fresh fruit, cheese sticks, chicken tenders, and other easy to prepare kid-friendly items.

If you would like to help with this vital program the Food Bank is in need of:

- Boxed of macaroni and cheese
- Granola bars
- Peanut Butter

Donations can be left in the shopping cart at the entrance of the sanctuary. Thank you.

## Jesse Lee Meeting House

### 2018 Summer Evening Worship Services at the



### Corner Rt 17 and Plains Rd in E. Readfield July and August Sundays at 7pm

**July 1:** Poetry and Praise. Led by Rev. Kristin White & Sally Joy

**July 8:** Down to the River. Led by Karen Munson, Mitch Thomas and Jeff Munson.

**July 15:** Praise and Singing: Led by Jen Curran, Paul Bright, and Christina Misner Rao

**July 22:** Taize Service. Led by Claire Piddock, David Bagley, and Phoebe Payne.

**August 5:** Celebrating Summer. Led by Gayle Holden

**August 12:** Praise Songs and Worship. Led by John Twitchell, Susan Tedrick, and Michele Johnson.

**August 19:** Mechuwana Elementary Music Theatre Camp Stories and Songs. Led by Laura Church.

**August 26:** Old Fashioned Camp Fire Service. Led by Nancy Bischoff.

### Summer Church Office Deadlines

As the church office moves to reduced hours for the summer, some deadline revisions need to be updated. The deadline for items for the Sunday Bulletin is by 8am Tuesday morning. Items for the newsletter need to be in by the 15<sup>th</sup>. Please be patient with office requests, the further advance notice I have the better I am able to accommodate everyone in a timely manner. Thank you.





## Adult Church School Class

One of the things I like best about Green Street UMC is its opportunity for adult study. It sends a clear message that we're never too old to learn. I am not one of the leaders of the Sunday morning adult class, but I've been an active member for several decades.

There is generally, but not always, shared reading material. This past year, we studied *The Great Spiritual Migration* by Brian McLaren. Two other studies each reflected and enlarged on a sermon series. One was the issue of race and white privilege. We watched and discussed the videos on "Vital Conversations" distributed at last year's Annual Conference. The second dealt with food and faith. I think the session led by Valerie Gallagher sharing information about allergens and cross contamination had the largest attendance we've seen in recent years.

There is a core group of about 10 that participates in study after study. Others join from time to time, depending on what is offered. Our current study, based on the book *An Anatomy of Peace*, which both the Bishop and our District Superintendent have suggested we read and learn from, has a smaller attendance than most, but is proving meaningful. We hope it may impact our interpersonal communications.

The strengths of the group include shared material, open discussion, respect for differences of opinion, and no pressure to achieve consensus.

Sally Joy

*Summer Adult Sunday  
School  
Begins July 1  
Following 9:30 worship*

## Women's Bible Study

Our Bible study has been active for about 10 years. We started with 2-3 people and now regularly meet with up to a dozen women. We share our prayer concerns and use a variety of study guides to look at and learn from the Bible.

This year we started First Corinthians: Living Love When we Disagree by Melissa Spoelstra. Previously we had done Joseph the Journey to Forgiveness – by the same author – greatly enjoyed by the entire group.

The First Corinthian study this year did not have the appeal of Joseph for many of the group. As a group we did not finish – but switched to a Max Lucado study Life Lessons from the Gospel of Mark.

Kristen and Tricia continued together with the First Corinthian study – both finding it very timely. Women's Bible Study takes a break in the summer – meeting once a month for a fellowship meal and sharing. In September we will start another Max Lucado study Life Lessons: Philippians.

As a group, we have supported the Angel Tree at Christmas, made a donation to Heifer Project International and gifted the House of Hope at Pentecost.

Our group is always open to new people. Tricia Webb facilitates the study, with Sally Joy as a very appreciated and capable substitute.

Tricia Webb



## Celebrate 70 Years of Mechuwana

**Saturday, July 14**

**1pm-6pm**

Lower Narrows Pond, Winthrop

For more information, visit

[www.mechuana.org](http://www.mechuana.org)

RSVP: 207-377-2924 or

[mechuwana@fairpoint.net](mailto:mechuwana@fairpoint.net)

## Winthrop Center Friends Church Celebrates its 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

**OPEN HOUSE: Saturday, July 21 2pm – 4pm**

2pm Historical Program: 225 Years of Quakers in Winthrop

Followed by refreshments and fellowship time

Friends Meetinghouse 219 Winthrop Center Rd, Winthrop – For more information call 685-4797





# Green Street UMC

## July 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
<b>1</b>  <b>10:30AM</b> Adult Sunday School begins	<b>2</b> <b>5:30pm</b> Mandala Monday  <b>6:30 PM</b> NA	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>  Independence Day	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Guided Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> AA
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>  <b>12:30 PM</b> Banner Ministry Team  <b>6:30 PM</b> NA	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Walk with Me Group Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Guided Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> AA
<b>15</b>  <b>10:30 AM</b> Missions Ministry Team Meeting	<b>16</b>  <b>6:30 PM</b> NA	<b>17</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Fundraising Ministry Team	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  <b>1 PM</b> Visitation Ministry Team	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Guided Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> AA
<b>22</b> <b>11AM</b> Worship and Pot Luck at Mill Park (no services at church)	<b>23</b>  <b>12:30 PM</b> Banner Ministry Team  <b>6:30 PM</b> NA	<b>24</b>  <b>6</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>  <b>5:30 PM</b> Guided Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> AA
<b>29</b> <b>Missions Sunday</b>  One Worship Service at 9:30am today followed by luncheon	<b>30</b>  <b>6:30 PM</b> NA	<b>31</b>				<b>5:30 PM</b> Guided Meditation <b>7:00 PM</b> AA

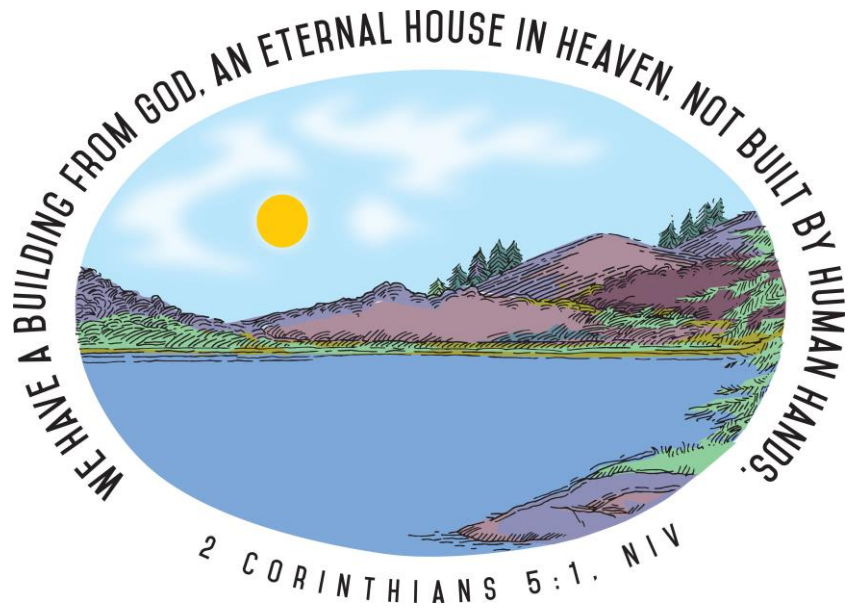
**Notes**

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Sunday Worship at 8am and 9:30am – Adult Sunday School at 10:30am – Fresh Expressions at 5pm

Church Office Hours: Monday – Tuesday - Friday 8am to 2pm – Pastor’s Hours by appointment



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