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October 2018

The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF:
Green Street United Methodist Church

THE GRAPEVINE — OCTOBER 2018 EDITION

Turkey Pot Pie Supper & Pie/Talent Auction



Saturday, October 13 at 5pm

Supper at 5:00 PM Auction begins at 5:30 PM

In order to make this a huge success we need volunteers to make pies and/or offer special talents! Volunteers are also needed to help with set up and clean up as well as kitchen helpers. Highest bidders get the pies/talents, come join the fun! For more information contact Sandy Grady at 242-8344.

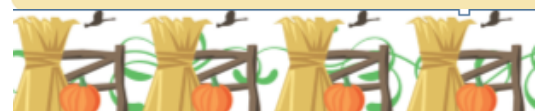
Supper (Suggested Donation \$5.00)

VISIT US ONLINE: greenstreetumc.net



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FROM THE PASTOR:

A Season of Listening!

Have you ever been in a conversation, sharing information or telling a story, only to realize that your conversation partner wasn't listening? How did you feel when you realized you were being ignored? In our overly busy and technologically driven society, could listening become a lost art? What consequences could we and our society face if we stop listening to each other? And on the other hand, what could we gain - what blessings might we encounter - if we nurtured the art of deep, true listening?

The Spiritual Life Center planning team believes that it's essential - for our church and our community - to invest in the art of listening. We believe our church will grow when we listen to one another without distraction or judgment, when we listen to our community with open hearts and open minds, and especially when we listen to God.

You can make this happen by partnering for a listening conversation. Listening sessions last between 20-30 minutes and reflect upon the following questions:

1. What practices - spiritual or otherwise - are meaningful for you? What are your spiritual needs?
2. What do you yearn for (that is missing in your life)?
3. What are you passionate about and what gifts do you have to offer?
4. What keeps you up at night?
5. Where do you find peace in a busy world?

You can commit to listening to another person's sharing and insights, or commit to letting someone strengthen their listening skills with you, or try both! To participate or learn more, contact Pastor Kristin or a member of the Spiritual Life Center planning team.

Pastor Kristin



October 7

Greeters: Lilla Atwater

Acolyte: Anne Kimball

October 14

Greeters: Sandy Barringer

Acolyte: Eileen Hibbert

October 21

Greeters: Nancy Merrick

Acolyte: Donna & Gary Alexander

October 28

Greeters: Tammy & Emma Roberts

Acolytes: Nancy & Kathy Merrick



1- Pam Drummond

9 – Judith Gilbert

11– Tammy Roberts

18 – Anna Elmshausen

21 – David Robbin

24 – Greg Pearson

25 – Henry Berry

31 – Megan Lachapelle





Hungry for God?

Romans 7:18-19I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.

What draws you closer to God? Prayer? Worship? Music? Nature? Silence? Mission? We all have ways of reminding ourselves of God's immediate presence and God's activity in our lives. When we employ them regularly in a methodical way they become practices. Spiritual practices transform us because the act of remembering God's presence regularly and often changes how we see God and how we think about God. It also changes how we think and feel and how we treat each other. Our Methodist predecessors were known for using methodical practices to form the habit of turning back to God day-by-day and hour-by-hour.

One ancient method of remembering and turning back is fasting. Fasting is giving up something for a period of time as an act of devotion. That thing could be food, TV, social media, you name it. The discipline is to depend on God's grace and strength to remain faithful to the chosen fast, rather than to depend on individual willpower. In the Covenant Group we discussed fasting for several weeks before we chose how to proceed with it. We agreed to all try fasting from something as regular practice so that we might learn from our experiences.

Of all the experiences reported back to the group, I think Lynn Kennard's was the most compelling. Lynn had been in the habit of keeping the TV on in the background at home as she went about her daily activities. Her fast was to turn off the TV unless she intentionally planned to sit down and watch it. She experienced the newfound peace in her environment as a great gift. It opened up room in her thoughts for more frequent prayer and meditation, and it gave her a deeper sense of connection to the Holy Spirit throughout her day. Lynn has continued to fast from background TV and she will gladly share with you about the difference it has made in her life.

My own experience with fasting began several years ago when I read about John Wesley's fasting practice. John Wesley fasted from food on Wednesdays and Fridays. At that time I was feeling frustrated by my ability to know the right thing to do, but my frequent inability to make myself do it (See Romans 7:18-19). I thought that fasting would give me an opportunity to practice being faithful in small things so that I might be prepared to be faithful in the greater things that come up from time to time.

I fast from food from about 6:00 a.m. until after 8:00 p.m. on Wednesdays and Fridays, and I try to eat lightly before and after so that I don't defeat my own purpose. I have found that I will keep up this practice for a period of months or years, than I take some months off. I can't remember how long I have been keeping the practice in the current stretch but it's well over a year.

I use the hunger as a reminder to pray. Usually by mid-morning my belly begins to signal its discontent, and when it does I thank the Lord for my health, for my home, for my church family, and especially for all the good food in my cupboards and fridge. I lift up prayers for those who have less. All day long my belly reminds me of the abundance I have to be grateful for. Fasting also reminds me that food is primarily for nourishment rather than entertainment. I have found that even the simplest wholesome food is absolutely delicious when you're truly hungry. Most importantly, I am learning to rely on the strength of God rather than my own will to do the thing I know is right.

I understand that fasting from food isn't for everyone. It sounds archaic and extreme to many. But, I am sure that everyone can benefit from fasting from something that we take for granted as a reminder to stay connected to the One from whom all blessings flow.

Johnnie Beane



We want to thank everyone for their financial support of the Angel Food Suppers. We have raised over \$650 from the August Angel Food Day Challenge, \$112 from the Hannaford Helps Shopping Bag fundraiser in May and returnable bottle contributions are adding up. God is good!

We have applied to Good Shepard Food Bank for food assistance and that application will be considered in Jan. Our next supper is **Saturday, October 20th at 4:30pm**. We will be serving Egg Roll Casserole, rice and bread pudding. Volunteers are always welcome. See Sandy Grady for more details.

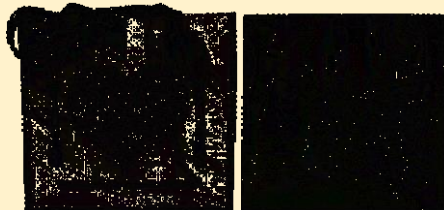


Simplified Board Highlights

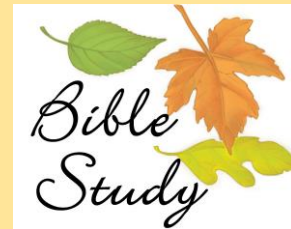
Since the Simplified Board meeting was held later in the month than usual, this issue of *The Grapevine* will not include highlights from the Board meeting. You can find complete minutes of Simplified Board meetings on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Simplified Board Highlights will return in the November issue of *The Grapevine*.

Great News!

Green Street Angel Food Suppers has been chosen **AGAIN!!** for the **Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag Program!**



Visit the Hannaford on **Whitten Road** in Augusta during **October**, purchase either Fight Hunger bag and Green Street Angel Food Suppers will receive \$1.00! What a GREAT way to show your support! Buy a few Fight Hunger bags in **October** we get a great donation!



River Churches Bible Study

Join the Kennebec River Churches on a "Journey Toward Intentional Discipleship" this fall. In this six week study, we will discover together what it means to live our lives more intentionally as disciples of Jesus Christ both personally and corporately as Christ's Body the Church. Saturdays 9am- 10:30am October 13, 20, 27 and November 3, 10 and 17. Sign up with Pastor Kristin.

Turkey Pot Pie Supper & Pie/Talent Auction

Saturday, October 13 in fellowship hall. Pies are due at 4:00, Supper is at 5 p.m. and the Auction is at 5:30. The highest bidder for each pie may choose to eat or share it then and there, or save for friends and family at home. Or maybe freeze it for a Thanksgiving feast. PLEASE, consider contributing a pie to this auction, whether or not you consider your creations to be masterpieces. With your help, perhaps we can set a new pie auction record.

Name _____ Phone# _____

- I will make a pie to be auctioned off. Type of pie(s) _____
(Please bake in aluminum pie pans so that we don't misplace yours. Please also list all ingredients.)
- I will contribute a talent other than a pie. Type of talent _____.
- I will help set up for the supper and auction.
- I will help during the supper and auction.
- I will help clean up after the supper and auction.



UMW Christmas Fair

The United Methodist Women will hold their Annual Fair on December 1st. As you do Fall cleaning consider old jewelry or Grandmother's Attic items for the fair. We will be asking for donations for the candy table, baked goods table, craft table and lunch items at a later date. The dollars that we make from this event go for local missions as well as world missions for women and children. Thank you for helping.



October 7

Your generous gifts to World Communion Sunday fund graduate racial-ethnic World Communion Scholarships, with at least on half of the annual amount reserved for ministries beyond the United States. Donations also provide for undergraduate U.S. Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training Programs. Look for the insert in the Sunday bulletin on this day and please give generously.

DISMAS Ministry

DISMAS Ministry is seeking two new volunteers to add to the team of eight. This national Catholic outreach ministry is named after one of the people executed with Jesus on Calvary. In that final hour Saint Dismas, also called the good thief, took stock of his life and turned to Jesus for mercy. Their focus is to renew and strengthen the faith of the imprisoned. For more information contact Paul Doyon at 622-9340 or 557-2147

Enough Stewardship Series



What makes life abundant? Is it a life full of fabulous wealth and possessions? Or a life with plentiful opportunities for service and generosity? Is abundance measured by status, or accomplishments, or adventures? Does abundant life bring deep spiritual peace and hope? Is an abundant life full of relationships - friends, family, God? How do you define abundance, and what would make life feel full and abundant for you?

Jesus stated his purpose, "I came that they might have life, and have it abundantly." In October, we begin our stewardship program by focusing on abundant life. Together we will explore the abundant life that Jesus intends for us, through worship, study and spiritual practice. The book *Enough* by Adam Hamilton provides the foundation for the series. The Bridge Fund is generously providing copies of the book to those who would like one. Contact the church office to get one.



Consecration Sunday is October 28

We will have one worship service at 9:30am where we will receive your 2019 pledges. (No 8am worship this day) followed by a pot luck luncheon in fellowship hall.





Green Street UMC

October 2018

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
	1 2 PM Bible Study 3PM Women's Bible Study 5:30 PM Mandalas 6:30 PM NA	2 5 PM District Lay Servant Ministry	3 5:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Choir	4 5PM Grief Support Group	5	6 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
7 World Communion Sunday	8 Columbus Day – Closed 12:30 PM Banner Ministry 2 PM Bible Study 3PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	9	10 Noon UMW Monthly Meeting 5:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Choir	11 5PM Grief Support Group	12	13 5 PM Pie Auction 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
14	15 2 PM Bible Study 3pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	16 6:30 PM Simplified Board Meeting	17 Noon New Horizon Luncheon 5:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Choir	18 1 PM Visitation Ministry Team Meeting 5PM Grief Support Group	19	20 8:30 AM River Church Study 4:30 PM Angel Food Supper 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
21 11:30 AM Missions Ministry Team Meeting	22 12:30 PM Banner Ministry 2 PM Bible Study 3pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	23 9 AM DCCOM	24 5:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Choir	25 5PM Grief Support Group	26	27 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
28 Consecration Sunday One Worship Service at 9:30am 5 PM Covenant Group	29 2 PM Bible Study 3pm Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	30	31 Halloween 5:30 PM Bell Choir 6:45 PM Choir			

Notes

13 Green Street. Augusta, Maine 04330

Phone: 207-622-0843 – email: greenst@myfairpoint.net – website: www.greenstreetumc.net

Sunday Worship at 8am and 10:30am

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

Be Transformed

Green Street United Methodist Church
13 Green Street
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