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August 2019

The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF:
Green Street United Methodist Church

THE GRAPEVINE — August 2019 EDITION

August Fuel Day Challenge - Think Snow!

One of the many blessings of living in Maine is the change of seasons. As we enjoy the hot, humid summer weather, mowing the lawn, and relaxing by the water, what better time to think of our winter heating bill? Please join us in the August Fuel Day Challenge to raise 31 Fuel Days, one for each day of the month, to celebrate summer in Maine. Your donation of \$25 for each Fuel Day may be in honor or memory of someone or a summer blessing. Please mark "Fuel Day" on your check made out to Green Street, and use the form found on page 4 of this newsletter or in the bulletin on Sunday so it is counted properly. Thank you for your warm thoughts. Brrrr!

Community Campfire!

FRIDAY, AUGUST 2 - 5:30PM
(RAIN DATE AUGUST 9)
13 GREEN ST AUGUSTA

Music by the Route 17 Ramblers, Storytelling, and S'mores!



Sponsored by the Kennebec River United Methodist Churches
Funded by a grant from the United Methodist Foundation

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Summer Events

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FROM THE PASTOR: **Worship Feedback**

Thank you for participating in and offering feedback regarding our summer worship experiment. Comments gathered by the Summer Planning Team are shared below.

Based on the feedback we've received following worship services the last few weeks, as of July 20 the Worship Team has received feedback from 19 people. Comments we heard most often are listed below with the number of people expressing that sentiment in parentheses:

- like having one service and worshipping together (11)
- like the 9:00 a.m. time (3)
- like the physical setup (5)
- like the statement of inclusion (2)
- dislike the two-piece worship bulleting (4)

Other comments, questions, or suggestions:

- Is 9:00 a.m. too early for some?
- passing of collection plates during the offering is a bit confusing
- the physical setup makes it easier to see and hear one another
- different is good once in a while
- requested that we share feedback we receive with the congregation
- service flow is getting smoother
- likes sitting closer together, sense of "worshipping with family"
- need to improve traffic flow during Communion
- Is there too much music in the service for some people?
- wants to see the light carried out at the end of the service (note from Worship Team: this was always the intent and the service has been adjusted to make this work better)

On Sunday, August 4 we will vote as a congregation whether to continue as one service or return to two services. Please note that this vote is only to decide the number of services moving forward. After this decision is made, the Worship Team will then invite survey responses regarding worship time(s), set-up (including pews/chairs), and style(s).

On August 4, paper ballots will be available during worship and in Fellowship Hall following worship. If you are not able to be present on the 4th, please check your email as ballots were emailed on July 25 or contact the church office and Darby will email you a ballot. Please email your completed ballot response to Pastor Kristin at graycat95@gmail.com.

Rev. Kristin L. White

August Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|
| 2 – Joyce Thurlow | 17 – Nikko Noble |
| 3 – Deb Polzella | 19 – Patty Rogers |
| 9 – Gary Alexander | 23 – Aiden Gagne |
| 9 – Judy Adams | 25 – Beth Chavarie |
| 10 – Chuck Horstman | 26 – Sarah Barnum |
| 12 – Cody Pearson | 26 – Elliott Robbin |
| 15 – Harland Chavarie | 29 – Dan McGurie |
| 16 – Anson Miner | 31 – Avery Robbin |
| 16 – Lynn Kennard | |



August 4

Greeters: Don and Candy Shorr

Coffee Hour Host: Patty Rogers

Liturgist: Kathleen Dunford

August 11

Greeters: Steve and Tine Monroe

Coffee Hour Host:

Liturgist: Joan Berry

August 18

Greeters: Bessie Goudreau and Elsie Ware

Coffee Hour Host: Bessie Goudreau and Elsie Ware

Liturgist: Tammy Roberts

August 25

Greeter: Beth Chavarie

Coffee Hour Host: Tina Noble

Liturgist: John Webb



**Don't Take
a Vacation
from Church**



Simplified Board Highlights

The July meeting began with silent prayer. Connie and Valerie shared Affirmation from Annual Conference followed by prayer.

Intentional Discipleship activity centered on pages 38-43. Kristin asked us two questions.

What would be the biggest challenges for us to something like this at Green Street?

- Having enough people to do some of the ideas
- How to know when to let go of some of the things we are doing
- Organization
- Burn out

What would be the greatest blessings?

- Individuals are engaged in a personal way making commitments to things they find inspiring and enjoyable
- Group choices not obligations

VOTE: That the board appoint a Welcoming Task Force to shepherd Green Street through the study and discernment process outlined in the Building an Inclusive Church workbook(rmnetwork.org) to decide whether to become a Reconciling Congregation. 5 Approved – 0 Opposed – 4 Abstained.

VOTE: To establish a separate SPRC Committee with a minimum of five members and a nine member Church Board for 2020. The conference has since decided we developed the simplified board model that the SPRC must be a separate committee from the church board. We will need to have this voted on at Green Street's annual charge conference. All in favor.

VOTE: To approve Sally Joy as liaison to the Nursery Coordinator, to report to the Pastor or SPRC Chair. All in favor.

VOTE: To approve allowing the Pastor to renegotiate the coaching relationship and contract with Beth Estock due to denominational shifts and financial decisions and the ensuing viability study here at Green Street for receiving the best use of this relationship. All in favor.

VOTE: To approve Minutes from the June Board Meeting. All in favor with one spelling correction on page 15 "Connie made a motion to accept (not except) the Buildings and Grounds Use Policy" 7 approved, 2 Abstained.

Information regarding this year's finances

The finance task force has analyzed income and expenses for the remainder of the year based on actual numbers from the first half of this year and the last half of 2018. They made their best estimates for monthly cash flow from July to December including a loan of \$2,000 from the Building Fund that was taken out in May. The projected deficit of \$35,532 was calculated for the second half of the year from this analysis. The Church Board reached out to District Superintendent, Karen Munson. Karen recommended we act on two things. One was to do a viability study which Green Street will take on in August and September. The second was to get in touch with Dr. Pat MacHugh, chair of the Equitable Compensation Committee of the New England Conference to apply for an emergency grant. After sharing our situation, Dr. MacHugh felt Green Street could indeed benefit from an Emergency Grant as we were able to show we would not be able to pay the pastor's salary in the months ahead.

Respectfully submitted
Sue Pattershall

Adult Mission Team News

"We are the hands through which Christ works"

In September the team heads out to Maine Seacoast Mission in Cherryfield. We have almost the same crew as last year with two changes. We will miss Paul Doyon but we will welcome Lorraine White, Pastor Kristin's mother. Kristin will be our camp cook. Any dietary concerns or menu requests should be addressed to her. Chris Thornton will do the evening devotions.

A deposit to hold the week of September 15-20 was drawn from our mission account. For most of us the balance due is \$157.50 payable when we arrive. Fresh veggies and homemade treats are always welcome. There is still time to join our team! If you are interested contact Sandy Grady at 207-242-8344 and leave a message.



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In Honor or Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Fill out the form and drop it in the offering plate, or send to the office.
Checks should be made out to Green Street UMC

Our Green Street Garden Give-A-Way is finally underway!



Come and receive **FREE** garden vegetables, herbs and other garden goodies!

We also accept donations from your garden to share with the community!

Volunteers are always welcome!

Come for the vegetables, stay for the fellowship, make new friends!

Every Monday beginning at 9am

and continuing until the vegetables run out!

Green Street UMC parking lot – **13 Green Street, Augusta**





Green Street UMC

August 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2 5:30 PM Community Camp Fire	33 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
4 Voting following 9am worship	5 10 AM Stewardship Meeting	6 4:30 PM Pastoral Support and Accountability Meeting	7	8	9 <i>(Rain date for Campfire at 5:30pm)</i>	10 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
11	12 6:30 PM NA	13 6:30 PM Simplified Board Meeting	14	15 September Newsletter Deadline!	16	17 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
18 10 AM General Conference Conversations	19 6:30 PM NA	20 6 PM SB Planning Meeting	21	22	23	24 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
25	26 Pastor 6:30 PM NA	27 Kristin	28 on	29 vaca	30 tion	31 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA

Notes

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 Phone: 207-622-0843 – email: greenst@myfairpoint.net – website: www.greenstreetumc.net
 Sunday Worship at 9am
 Church Office Hours: Monday – Tuesday – Thursday, 9am to 2pm



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