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January 2020

The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF GREEN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

THE GRAPEVINE — JANUARY 2020 EDITION

2020 Is a great year to become a member of Green Street!

If you are a member: What were your reasons for becoming a church member? What value do you see in being a member of Green Street? What Scriptures informed your decision?

If you are not a member: Have you considered joining Green Street? What's holding you back from committing to and joining? What Scriptures are informing your decision?

For everyone: What should you do in response to the call to church membership? What can you do yourself? What can you do to encourage others?

Pastor Kristin will soon be offering membership classes, if you are interested in learning more about what membership means or want to re-commit to Green Street please contact the church office at 207-622-0843 or greenst@myfairpoint.net



Yoga Classes: Susan Cross is offering Yoga Classes on Fridays at 5:15pm in LL rooms 1 & 2. The next class is on Friday, January 10th. Everyone is welcome!

VISIT US ONLINE: www.greenstreetumc.net



INSIDE this issue

Pastor's Page	Pg. 2
Birthdays	Pg. 2
Volunteer List	Pg. 2
SPRC Notes	Pg. 3
UMW News	Pg. 3
Missions Update	Pg. 3
SB Highlights	Pg. 4
Angel Food News	Pg. 5
January Calendar	Pg. 6



FROM THE PASTOR: What Is the Church?

At the end of his letter to the Romans, Paul asks the church to welcome a deacon named Phoebe, coming from another church, and to greet Prisca, Aquila, and other members familiar to him. Paul closes with the words, “all the churches of Christ greet you.” Paul ends most of his letters by sharing greetings from church to church. Paul portrays the early church not as isolated congregations, but rather as connected communities on the move. Church members are welcomed into each other’s communities and hold each other’s ministries in prayer. Missionaries from one congregation bring their gifts to other Christian gatherings.

What if today’s churches modeled this type of connected, cooperative ministry? What new insights would arise if laity of various churches visited each other for worship? How might we transform our communities by sending and receiving each other’s gifts and knowledge? What if our churches weren’t isolated buildings, but rather communities on the move, weaving our ministries together as the Spirit led us?

Although the River Churches are anchored by six buildings along the Kennebec River, ministry itself flows between and outside those walls. Shared Bible studies, retreats and worship move from church to church. Shared outreach has happened in local parks, parking lots and libraries. As the River Churches live in the image of the fluid, connected early Church, they also model what ministry could look like in mid-Maine in the 21st century.

This winter provides multiple opportunities to connect with River Church gatherings. Check the Grapevine, email and Facebook for information about the following:

- Storytelling Cafes
- Pulpit Swaps
- Lenten Study

In Christ,
Pastor Kristin



2 – Rebecca Polzella	12 – Tina Noble
3 – Charles Atwater	13 – Robin Forbes
5 – Lee Ware	14 – Robert Harris
6 – Jessica McGuire	21 – Della Kimball
12 – Tina Monroe	24 – Nancy Merrick



January Volunteers

January 5

Greeters: Leroy Richards
Coffee Hour Host: Sally
Liturgist: Ardyce Robbin

January 12

Greeters: Allen Twombly
Coffee Hour Host: Candy
Liturgist: Sandy Grady

January 19

Greeters: Joan Berry
Coffee Hour Host: Joyce
Maske

Liturgist: Dave Robbin

January 28

Greeters: Jerry Robbin
Coffee Hour Host: Tina Noble
Liturgist: Tricia Webb



The Pastor and Staff of Green Street thank all of you for your kindness and generosity with this year’s Christmas gift. We feel blessed.

Pastor Kristin, Darby,
George, Lynne, Nharra,
and Sue

United Methodist Women News

Our annual church fair, on Saturday, December 7, was a success. We'd like to thank those who brought things to be sold, as well as all who came to browse and buy (and those who came mostly for lunch, fun, and fellowship).

It's not only the women who gather once a month for a program and the experience of supportive community who provide what we have to sell at the fair. Much of the conversation on Saturday included information about who had made and/or brought what.

We always say that if we clear "at least \$1,000" the fair has been a success. The tally this year was \$1,332.50, according to Sue Pattershall, who had the tedious job of counting all the money.

We were given permission to leave everything set up, including Grandmother's Attic, for Sunday. Everything unmarked in Grandmother's Attic was twenty-five cents. There were some good bargains there and some happy customers (including several children). After the church service, many folks came down to look and buy and enjoy the time of fellowship. Our thanks to Sarah Barnum for serving as the hostess for that time.

We would encourage any women not already part of UMW to consider joining us on the second Wednesday of the month (except for summertime) from noon until 1:30 or later. We know this doesn't work for most of those gainfully employed; but as many of us age, daytime travel is best. If you're interested, but not in a position to join us for meetings, do talk with us about other ways you may be able to be part of that supportive fellowship.

It Only Takes a Spark - Notes from the SPRC

Fellow Green Streeters:

It is with great pleasure that I write you the inaugural edition of "It Only Takes a Spark!"—a new monthly feature of the *Grapevine*, offering a recap of the work that the Staff-Parish Relations Committee is doing. In today's issue, we want you to know two important things.

First, we're back! After a couple years as part of the Simplified Board, SPRC will be coming back into its own starting January 2020.

Second, we're here—for *you*. Below, is a list of all Committee members, along with some of our email addresses. We are your communications conduits, so please use us! If you have ideas or issues or joys or just a joke, you can tell all of us, or whomever of us you're most comfortable coming to.

On behalf of the Committee, we look forward to hearing from you, and helping Green Street through our exploration of cooperative parish ministry—and beyond!

Yours in Ministry,

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee

Dave Robbin, *Chair*
he/him/his/Mr.
dvrobbin@gmail.com

Evelyn Horstman
she/her/hers/Mrs.
horstman3c@aol.com

Judy Adams

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Valerie Gallagher, *Lay Leader*
she/her/hers/Ms.
JVgallagher2@gmail.com

Sarah Barnum

Susan Cross
she/her/hers/Ms.



Simplified Board Highlights

Welcome to 2020 new board members: Kathleen Dunford, Tina Noble, Ardyce Robbin, Lori Webber. Thanks to the Nomination Committee for getting members named so we can transition easily with new members.

2019 Completions: Connie Packard served 7 years as trustee treasurer. Mary Saunders served as a charter member of the Simplified Board and worked to put together the guiding document and will be on nominations and leadership development committee in 2020. Susan Pattershall served as the first chair of the simplified board, was a charter member and helped with the guiding documents. Lori Webber has served as the only secretary the board has ever had! Her term as secretary is over and she comes on as a full time board member.

Board Members SAVE THE DATE - Board Retreat – Saturday, January 25

Cooperative Parish Update: At the December 1st congregational meeting – two questions were asked 1. How do we feel about this pathway? 2. What does Green Street have for assets? Leaders from the River Churches met on Sunday, December the 15th at Cox to explore a cooperative parish relationship – no details yet.

Generative Work as a Finance Committee

- Missions Treasurer pay Funds 1 and 2 of Mission Shares (2019)– Approved
- Spend \$1,000 on Fund 3 Mission Shares (2019) - Approved
- All non-pledge giving goes to current expense unless otherwise designated.
- All loose offering will go to current expense except for the first Sunday of each month which will go to missions. (2020 budget)
- Spend up to \$8,000 from the Marjorie Tribou bequest – Funding source # 1
- Spend up to \$5550 from Memorial Gifts – Funding source # 2
- Spend the remaining Fifield Tribou money – Funding # 3
- Spend the remaining Memorial Gifts money (\$2,000) – Funding # 4
- 2020 Budget was passed for the first half year. Please check to see what you have in your budget lines.

Generative work as the Board of Trustees

- Motion to authorize spending up to \$1700 from the building fund to repair the parsonage roof and church furnace. Approved
- Property Insurance Task Force to look into the best insurance for our money. (Gary and Tammy)

Generative work as the Church Board

- Motion from last month SPRC withdrawn
- Motion to Approve: Counters – Tom Webber, Lori Webber; Trustees Treasurer: Tammy Roberts; Interim Current Expense Treasurer for 6 months – Sue Pattershall; Sandy Labreck: substitute financial secretary - approved
- Motion to approve November Minutes – approved

January 14 board meeting

- 2019 year end final budget report
- Communication
- Trustees 2019 Year End Report

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Pattershall

Angel Food Supper News

Many thanks for your support funding the coin jar for our Angel Food Suppers. Ardyce and Jerry donated a similar jar full of coins. Combined the total was \$240. The members of the Missions committee decided to divide the cash between Angel Food Suppers and the Thanksgiving Dinner. The outlook for Angel Food looks good for this year.

Your donations of returnable bottles also helps fund of our suppers. Did you know a barrel full of bottles nets about \$15? We appreciate your donations.

Sandy, Randy and the Angel food team.

One Step Lasagna

1 1/2 cups water

32 oz. sauce

1 box lasagna noodles (dry)

15 oz. ricotta cheese

8 oz. mozzarella cheese-shredded

1/2 cup parmesan cheese (divided)

Combine the water with the sauce. Cover the bottom of 13x9 pan with 1-1/2 cup water/sauce mixture. Arrange dry noodles on top the sauce mixture. Spread 1/2 of the ricotta and 1/2 mozzarella cheese and 2Tbl. parmesan cheese. Add sauce. Repeat the layers. Top with noodles, sauce and 1/4 c parmesan cheese. Cover with foil and place on jellyroll pan. Bake at 350 for 1 hour or until a knife goes easily through pasta. Let stand 1/2 hour covered.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all the volunteers, pie bakers, and turkey roasters for another successful Thanksgiving dinner. Our guests enjoyed the home cooked foods. A special thanks to our Sunday School children for their lovely and cute turkey decorations. All this effort makes this community ministry possible, and a blessing.

Sandy



Missions Giving Update: During the past few months your generous giving has been a huge help to ministries in the Augusta area and beyond. The coin collection jars provided \$282.73 to be divided between Angel Food Suppers and the Thanksgiving Dinner. The combined choir concert for hurricane relief raised \$820.00 and was donated through UMCOR. Monetary giving for the Augusta Food Bank through the November ton of food and the December Christmas card totaled \$498.75. Thank you so much for supporting these ministries and the people that they serve. Your gifts make all the difference!



Choose Love

Martin Luther King Jr., whose life and legacy we honor this month, spoke often about the power of love. In fact, he equated the practice of nonviolence with “absolute commitment to the way of love.”

Love, declared the minister and activist, “is the only force capable of transforming an enemy into a friend.” And, he said, anyone who’s “devoid of the power to love” is “devoid of the power to forgive.”

King distinguished between true love and “empty sentimentalism,” however. He taught — and showed — that love is “the active outpouring of one’s whole being into the being of another.”

Jesus’ sacrifice on the cross is the ultimate “active outpouring” of love, and we can choose to follow his example daily.

“Because of Calvary I’m free to choose,” writes Max Lucado in *When God Whispers Your Name*. “No occasion justifies hatred; no injustice warrants bitterness. I choose love. Today I will love God and what God loves.”



What is the spiritual meaning of a cardinal? A **cardinal** symbolizes the fire of life that burns within our souls, even in the darkest and coldest times. It reminds us we need to stay strong and positive throughout difficult periods in our life, just as this red bird endures the cold winter days.



Green Street UMC

January 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Happy New Year!	2 5:30 PM SB Board Notebook Task Force Meeting	3	4 5 PM Meditation 7 PM AA
5 Covenant Renewal 10:30 AM Welcoming/Reconciling Meeting	6 Epiphany 9 AM Staff Meeting 3 PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	7	8 Noon UMW Meeting 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	9 7 PM SPPRC Meeting	10 5:15 PM Yoga with Susan Cross 6 PM SB New Member Meeting	11 8:30 AM Worship Team Meeting 5 PM Meditation 7 PM AA
12	13 3 PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	14 6:30 PM Simplified Board Meeting	15 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	16	17 5:15 PM Yoga with Susan Cross	18 4:30 PM Angel Food Supper 5 PM Meditation 7 PM AA
19 Human Relations Day – Special Offering	20 Martin Luther King Day 3 PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	21 6 PM SB Planning Meeting	22 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	23	24 5:15 PM Yoga with Susan Cross	25 8:30 AM Cluster Meeting 10 AM SB Retreat 5 PM Meditation 7 PM AA
26	27 3PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	28	29 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	30	31 5:15 PM Yoga with Susan Cross	

Notes

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 Phone: 207-622-0843 – email: greenst@myfairpoint.net – website: www.greenstreetumc.net
 Sunday Worship at 9:30 am – Sunday school Adults, 8:15am – Children, 8:30am
 Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am to 2pm