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July 2020

# The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF GREEN STREET UMC

THE GRAPEVINE — JULY 2020 EDITION

**UNITED  
METHODISTS  
STAND AGAINST  
RACISM**

## Vital Conversations

Thursday, July 2 at 6pm  
and continuing every other  
week through Sept. 24.  
on zoom

Meeting ID 792 518 1731  
Password: 091547  
Zoom call in by phone 301-  
715-8592 (toll charges may  
apply)

## *Realities of Race and Racism*

This video series features contemporary theologians, sociologists, laity, clergy, and other thought-leaders dealing with challenges of race, culture, and oppression in the Church and world today. Each video is about 15 minutes and will be followed by an opportunity for small group discussions, using the study guides created by the General Commission on Religion and Race of the United Methodist Church (GCORR).

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

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## FROM THE PASTOR: Soul Reset

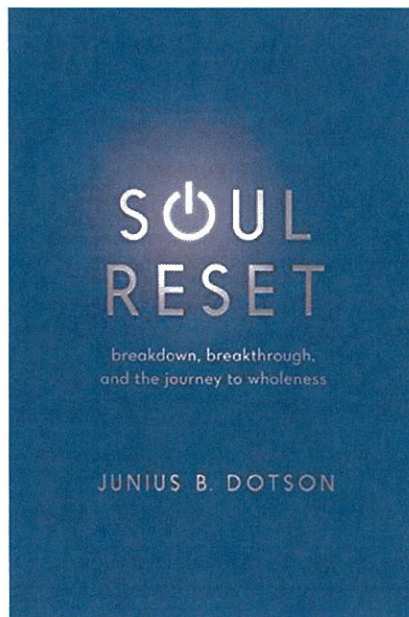
When my dad was diagnosed with diabetes, he tried to look at the positive side: "At least now I'll have something to talk about with my peers. Everyone has sore shoulders, a bad back, or other ailments. Now I can contribute to the conversation." As my dad noticed, we spend a lot of time talking about how it is with our bodies. We probably spend less time, however, talking about how it is with our souls.

Since March, the morning prayer group on Zoom has started with John Wesley's question, "How is it with your soul today?" Answering that question, morning after morning, for several months has deepened my faith and given me new perspectives on my spiritual journey. I have discovered that weather plays an unexpectedly large factor in the state of my soul. Prayer, relationships, rest and learning are the other factors that shape my spiritual well-being. I know my soul better for having taken time to ask it how it is.

What would church be like if we focused on this question? What would happen to worship, outreach, missions, education, and even meetings by asking: How is it with your soul? How might our communities of faith be transformed by safe, honest, vulnerable conversations about our souls' well-being?

Our summer worship series follows the book *Soul Reset* by Junius Dotson. Through telling his personal story of exhaustion, depression, rest and renewal, Rev. Dotson offers insight into how we can reset and care for our spiritual well-being. Each week includes reflection questions, a soul reset exercise, and daily prayer practices. The 6-week series begins July 19.

Spoiler alert: The sermon starter chat question for July 19 will be: How is it with your soul? Spend some time reflecting on what that question means to you between now and July 19!



## Building Entry Rules

The Church is not a building; it is a community of faith.

Our building is closed, but our Church is always open! Having a building key *doesn't* mean you're allowed inside.

Only the following people may enter our building: the Pastor, Admin. Assistant, and other paid staff; Church Treasurers, Financial Secretaries, and Counters; contractors and other maintenance staff; and participants in approved\* service & worship activities.

Everyone who enters **MUST**, without exception: wear a face covering that covers both the nose and the mouth the whole time they are in the building; clean their hands with soap (scrubbing for 20 seconds before rinsing) or with the sanitizer provided; stay 6 feet away from the person nearest them; and clean and sanitize the areas and surfaces used according to the criteria set by the Gathering Task Force.

Anyone who suspects, or confirms, they have symptoms of Coronavirus (fever greater than 100.4°, dry cough, new loss of taste or smell), must stop entering the building and immediately notify the Office to slow further spread.

These sacrifices are how we, as the Body of Christ, take care of one another.

For more information, call the Office @ 622-0843.

\*The Gathering Task Force will review, set criteria for, and approve individual building-use requests on a case-by-case basis.



**1— Gladys Schacht Celebrating 99!**  
3—Randy Grady      10— Mary Crowell  
7—Ean Maske      10—Kathleen Dunford  
9—Sophie Douvielle    23—Jessa Mitchell



# Simplified Board Highlights

Minutes from the regular meeting of the Simplified Board on June 9, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

**Members present via zoom:** Kathleen Dunford, Valerie Gallagher, Kristin White, Tammy Roberts, Henry Berry, Dave Robbin, Tina Noble, Lori Webber, Ardyce Robbin; Visitors: Sue Pattershall

**Calling Together** at 6:05 p.m. Kathleen opened with prayer.

**Approval of meeting minutes** from two special meetings held on April 20 & 26, 2020; Valerie moved to approve, Tina seconded; minutes approved; and from the May 12, 2020 meeting: correction to section D, item 2, a typo in the first sentence to change the word will to with (...while complying *with* all recommended...); motion to approve as amended by Tammy; seconded by Dave; minutes approved.

**Charge Conference:** Kristin will notify Karen Munson of a charge conference to be held after worship on June 28 to officially approve the Payroll Protection Plan loan. The congregation may participate but voting in a charge conference is limited to Board members.

**Church Financial Status:** report from the Finance Task Force (Henry Berry, Sue Pattershall, Debbie Polzella, Dave Robbin, Tammy Roberts) as presented in the June Board packet. Sue asked if there were any questions regarding the information provided; none were forthcoming as the report was very thorough.

1. **Cellphone for Pastor's Use: Motion:** "To purchase a new iPhone at a cost not to exceed \$450, using money from the John Bridge Bequest, with the monthly service contract paid from the operating account at the \$60 a month plan from US Cellular. The parsonage landline phone number will be ported over to the cell phone and then the land line will be dropped. (Changing phone service would change the half year budget for Parsonage Phone & Internet from \$540 to \$870.)" **Discussion:** It was noted that Kristin is OK with this arrangement, but a future pastor may feel differently. Because this motion comes from a Board approved task force, a second is not needed; a vote was taken; the **motion passed**.
2. **Use of Bridge Fund money for New Ministries: Motion:** "To spend money from the Bridge Family Memorial Fund to pay for the following 2020 expenses: \$134.91 for zoom; \$249.30 for One License; for a total of \$384.21." Because this motion comes from a Board approved task force, a second is not needed, a vote was taken; the **motion passed**. Tammy will reimburse the current expense account in the amount of \$384.21.
3. **Sequester of Property Insurance Refund: Motion:** "To set aside the \$9,545 Property Insurance Rebate, currently held by the Conference, in an insurance-premium escrow fund separate from the operating budget, and to be held by the Trustees, until such time as Green Street is responsible for paying for property insurance again." Because this motion comes from a Board approved task force, a second is not needed; a vote was taken; the **motion passed**.
4. **Adopting the Budget Proposals:** Discussion centered on the order of funds to be used to close the budget deficit. **Motion** to approve the following made by Tammy and seconded by Valerie: "To adopt the task force proposals for second-half and revised full-year budgets for 2020, and to use the funds identified below to close the gap, in the order and amounts specified:
  - A. Use Bridge Fund to pay for zoom and One License: \$384.21;
  - B. Second half Strategic Salary Grant if approved: \$0 to \$6,660 (actual amount unknown);
  - C. Prior year carry forward: \$3,000;
  - D. Memorial Gifts: up to \$5,500;
  - E. Forego Payment of Fund 3 Mission Shares: up to \$4,034." A vote was taken; the **motion passed**.
5. **Establishment of a Sustainable Budget Task Force:** Henry commented on the need for new thinking around church finances to correlate with the ongoing changes we're experiencing in other aspects of church life. In March we voted to participate in a "Church Economics Accelerator" program; Kristin will check with Rick McKinley to see if there are plans to move forward with this program. Our process for creating a task force doesn't state specifically whether or not task force members must also be members of Green Street. There was consensus that seeking participation from outside the church will help promote new ideas, but there was also some concern with implementation of recommendations when non-members are involved.

Board members are asked to give prayerful consideration as to whom we could ask to participate so that we get expertise from people with experience in church finances as well as financial planning in general. A list of names will be generated at our July Board meeting.

**A. Motion:** “That the Board establish a new finance task force for the second half of the year, dedicated to producing a three-year budget plan, showing how Green Street can move away from its reliance on outside support and toward a sustainable budget. The plan, including proposed budgets for 2021, 2022, and 2023, should be finalized for discussion at the October Board meeting, allowing time to incorporate feedback from the Board before final discussion and vote at the November Board meeting.” Because this motion comes from a Board approved task force, a second is not needed; a vote was taken; the **motion passed**.

6. Tammy has received a check for \$824.80 from the Hal Roberts estate with a letter stating that the estate is being closed, and “found” money is being disbursed. Kristin will check to see if any extra actions need to be taken to accept this money, and if so, they can hopefully be included in the charge conference scheduled for June 28. The money will be held in the Building Fund until approved for deposit in the Hal Roberts fund, and will be applied to the principal of the Hal Roberts fund.

E. **Creation of Ministry Teams and Re-Entry Task Force:** Our Memorandum of Understanding with Randolph UMC states that each congregation will create an Administration Team and a Visitation Team.

**1. Administration Ministry Team:** The purpose of this team is “to learn how to prepare and file all conference-required reports for the congregation at Green Street, and to prepare for our congregation’s yearly church conference session. The goal is to shift paperwork from a clergy-centric ministry to a lay-led ministry, freeing the Pastor’s time for building relationships and leading the transformation of our church.” The formation of this ministry team was **approved** with Dave as team leader. Ardyce volunteered for this team; Sue Pattershall and Deb Polzella will also be asked to serve.

**2. Congregational Care Ministry Team:** Purpose: “The Congregational Care team provides ongoing connection and outreach to homebound members of the Green Street congregation, through phone calls, visitation, and/or written communication. The care team informs the pastor of members who could use a pastoral visit and/or would like to receive communion.” Kristin will invite the members of the current visitation/care team to continue on in this new ministry team, and will ask Sally Joy to be the team leader. The formation of this ministry team was **approved**.

**3. Re-Entry Task Force:** Henry suggested calling it the **Church Gathering** task force to better reflect the wide range of ways we gather. The task force must study practical considerations as well as theological ones – how have our experiences over the last few months changed us? Because this is such a complex topic, we recommend having a task force made up of people willing to do the necessary research regarding safe practices along with considering the overall question of our identity as a church. Henry, Kathleen, Ardyce, and Kristin volunteered to be on this task force with Kristin as the team leader. Kristin will work on a statement of purpose to present at the July board meeting; suggestions regarding this task force can be sent to Kristin.

F. **Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m. following a benediction by Kathleen.

Ardyce Robbin, recording secretary

**Church Board members:** Kathleen Dunford (Chair), Pastor Kristin White, Dave Robbin (SPRC Chair), Valerie Gallagher (Lay Leader), Gary Alexander (Trustees Chair), Tammy Roberts (Trustees Treasurer), Henry Berry (Communications), Lori Webber, Chuck Horstman, Tina Noble, Ardyce Robbin (Secretary). Visitors are welcome at all meetings, 2d Tuesday each month 6 pm on Zoom!

## Greetings from the Welcome Table Ministry Team!

The Welcome Table seeks to support the various food needs/preferences of our church community by providing food dishes at our gatherings that are free of the top eight allergens and are gluten free as well. The top eight allergens are wheat, dairy, eggs, peanuts, tree nuts, fish, crustacean shellfish, and soy. Wheat, barley, and rye contain gluten as do the many relatives of wheat. Those with wheat sensitivities often avoid oats as well. If you are preparing a food item for someone with food allergies/sensitivities, please be mindful that all utensils, prep items, and work spaces are super clean. Parchment paper works great on baking pans (in place of flour and cooking spray) and on wooden cutting boards (or use a paper plate to cut on to avoid cross contact). The Welcome Table also enjoys new recipes, so if you have a recipe that is free of the above, please feel free to email it to Valerie Gallagher at: [Jvgallagher2@gmail.com](mailto:Jvgallagher2@gmail.com).

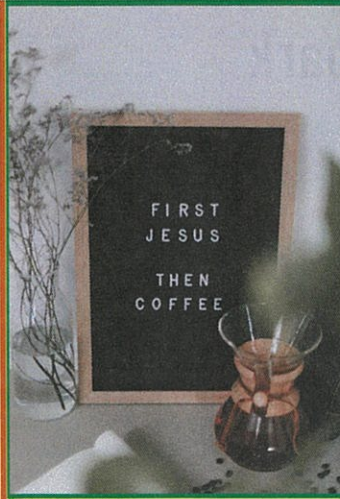
Summer gardens are in full swing and so is the summer heat. Cool off with a fresh fruit salad featuring a few of the top players – fresh fruit and garden basil!

### Welcome Table Summer Fruit Salad

- Cantaloupe and/or watermelon, cut into bite sized pieces, chilled
- Blueberries and/or blackberries
- Fresh garden basil leaves, torn or chopped into small pieces (not too small), as much as desired.

Mix all together and drizzle some light-tasting olive oil on top. This is also good over fresh mixed lettuce when available.

Recipe submitted by Valerie Gallagher



**Morning Prayer  
Monday—Saturday at 7am**

Begin your day with Pastor  
Kristin centered in prayer!

**Zoom:**

[https://us04web.zoom.us/  
j/7925181731](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7925181731)

**Meeting ID: 792 518 1731**

**Password: 091547**

## Bridge Fund Student Loan Applications Available

Each year Green Street students have the opportunity to apply for a Bridge Fund Student Loan for Higher Education. Applications are available through the church office. Call 207-622-0843 or [greenst@myfairpoint.net](mailto:greenst@myfairpoint.net).

## Stockpiling Cleaning Wipes!

I am working on building up a three month supply of disinfecting wipes as suggested by our Bishop. Not an easy task! You can help by picking up a container of wipes for the church if you happen to come across any when you are doing your personal shopping. Contact the office and we can make drop off arrangements if you are able to help.



**Join us for Game Nights  
Thursday, July 9th— Scattergories  
Thursdsay, July23—Trivia  
At 6pm on Zoom**

**Zoom:** <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7925181731>

**Meeting ID:** 792 518 1731

**Password:** 091547

**Zoom call in by phone 301-715-8592  
(toll charges may apply)**



# It Only Takes a Spark

NOTES FROM THE SPRC

Fellow Green Streeters:

At our June meeting, the SPRC could plainly see the fruits of how the Holy Spirit was at work in our preparations for the meeting.

We began, as we usually do, with spiritual development. Pastor Kristin lead us in some reflections on *The Art of Gathering: How We Meet and Why It Matters* by Priya Parker. Ms. Parker consults for all kinds of meeting leaders, and she counsels them to think about the “why” of any particular meeting, rather than rigidly adhering to a meeting template that doesn’t fit with the “why” of those gathered.

Without advance coordination, this lead nicely into the next topic: the “Ways We Gather” Task Force the Board set up at its June meeting. This task force will guide Green Street back into its building, accounting for the health and safety of all. Its work will involve the deep reflection Ms. Parker advises: how can we use our building, not merely as attendees at a meetinghouse, but as providers of deeper meaning as the church?

These considerations of our ministry will also be at the heart of the second task force the Board set up in June: the Sustainable Budget Task Force. The graph on page [cross-reference] shows in red how Green Street has grown increasingly reliant on outside support. This year, we expect to rely on outside support to pay for nearly half of our budgeted expenses. We can’t keep this up. The Sustainability Task Force will look for ways, over the next three years, for Green Street to wean itself off outside support and find spending levels to carry us long into the future.

Both task forces are central to how we, as a congregation, relate to our pastor, to our staff, and to one another, so SPRC will send at least one member to each of them. But we are *eager* for broader participation in these crucial efforts to redevelop our ministry—both physical and financial—in the unprecedented times we find ourselves in. If you can help on either task force, please call or email Dave Robbin, SPRC Chair.

Yours in Ministry,

The Staff–Parish Relations Committee			
2021	Sarah Barnum she/her/hers/[none] barnumsarah54@gmail.com	Evelyn Horstman she/her/hers/Mrs. horstman3c@aol.com	Dave Robbin, <i>Chair</i> he/him/his/Mr. dwrobbin@gmail.com
2022	Judy Adams she/her/hers/[none] judy.adams@maine.gov	Susan Cross she/her/hers/Ms. mainecross@gmail.com	Sally Joy she/her/hers/[none] srjoy43@gmail.com
<i>ex off.</i>	Valerie Gallagher, <i>Lay Leader</i> she/her/hers/Ms. JV Gallagher2@gmail.com		



# Green Street UMC

## July 2020

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			<b>1</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>9am</b> Kristin's Covenant Group <b>7pm</b> Leadership Meeting	<b>2</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer Kristin off ½ day <b>6pm</b> Vital Conversations Racism <b>7pm</b> SPPRC Meeting	<b>3</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer Kristin off  <b>5:15pm</b> Yoga	<b>4 Happy 4<sup>th</sup>!</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  <b>10am</b> Gathering Task Force  <b>4pm</b> Meditation
<b>5</b>  <b>10:30am</b> Coffee and Conversation	<b>6</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>8am</b> Yoga <b>9am</b> Staff Meeting	<b>7</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer	<b>8</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>9am</b> Kristin's Covenant Group <b>7pm</b> Leadership Meeting	<b>9</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off ½ day  <b>6pm</b> Game Night – Scattergories	<b>10</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off  <b>5:15pm</b> Yoga	<b>11</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>10am</b> Gathering Task Force  <b>4pm</b> Meditation
<b>12</b>  10:30am Coffee and Conversation  <b>Noon</b> CCC Meeting	<b>13</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>8am</b> Yoga	<b>14</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer   <b>6pm</b> SB Meeting	<b>15</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>9am</b> Kristin's Covenant Group  <b>5pm</b> PS&A Meeting <b>7pm</b> Leadership Meeting	<b>16</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off ½ day  <b>6pm</b> Vital Conversations Racism	<b>17</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off  <b>5:15pm</b> Yoga	<b>18</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer   <b>4pm</b> Meditation
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>8am</b> Yoga	<b>21</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer   <b>6pm</b> SB Planning Meeting	<b>22</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>9am</b> Kristin's Covenant Group  <b>7pm</b> Leadership Meeting	<b>23</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off ½ day  <b>6pm</b> Game Night - Trivia	<b>24</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off  <b>5:15pm</b> Yoga	<b>25</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer   <b>4pm</b> Meditation
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer <b>8am</b> Yoga	<b>28</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer	<b>29</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  <b>9am</b> Kristin's Covenant Group  <b>7pm</b> Leadership Meeting	<b>30</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off ½ day  <b>6pm</b> Vital Conversations Racism	<b>31</b> <b>7am</b> Prayer  Kristin off  <b>5:15pm</b> Yoga	

### Notes

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am – Adult Sunday School at 8:15am  
 All meetings, classes and services are on Zoom through the month of June.  
 Zoom: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/7925181731>  
 Meeting ID 792 518 1731 Password: 091547  
 Zoom call in by phone 301-715-8592 (toll charges may apply)  
 Church and Office Closed



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