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May 2019

The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF:
Green Street United Methodist Church

THE GRAPEVINE — MAY 2019 EDITION

Mother's Day Open Mic

Saturday, May 4

4:00-5:30 p.m.

At the Spiritual Life Center – 13 Green St.

Whether our parents are living or not, they have impacted our lives in many ways, some positive, some not.

You are invited to share your feelings in a poem (or 2 or 3).
Don't write poetry?

- Write a few paragraphs and bring them to read.
- Bring a published poem by someone else that resonates with your feelings.
- Or simply come and listen to what others have to say.

If you choose to share, your sharing can be positive, negative, or a combination of the two. You should feel free to acknowledge the complexity of feelings that are valid for many of us as we think about our relationship with our parents.

Spiritual Life Center Open Mic Nights

Father's Day Open Mic - Saturday, June 8

4:00-5:30 p.m.

At the Spiritual Life Center – 13 Green St.

Presented under the auspices of the Green Street United Methodist Church, and cosponsored by a local poetry group (Pondtown Poets), these are not church services. They are simply an invitation and an opportunity to share honestly and openly thoughts about our relationships

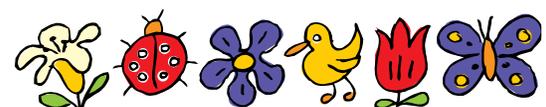


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FROM THE PASTOR: Something New

What first drew you to Green Street Church? How has Green Street changed since you first started attending here? What draws new people to Green Street today? Or, what about Green Street might need to change to draw new people today? I invite you to ponder these questions during the month of May, as we move from the extraordinary and unexpected story of Jesus' resurrection to the new, Spirit-led church of Pentecost.

Twenty-first century worship brings its share of both adventure and challenge! Church families are asked to incorporate diverse experiences, expectations and ways of connecting with God into their worship. In reaching out to the community, we seek meaningful new ways to engage people in worship and discipleship. The Holy Spirit encourages us share the ancient good news of God's love in ways that are relevant to today's disciples.

As more people express an interest in the 8 am style of worship, and a desire to deepen our connections within the congregation, we will be trying something new this summer. We will temporarily replace the front rows of pews with the comfortable chapel chairs and combine into one worship service (9 am) for the months of June, July and August. In early August, we will seek feedback about this new experience and discernment about worship moving forward.

The first day of this new worship experiment will be Pentecost Sunday, June 9. The 9 am service will be followed by a potluck brunch and our traditional birthday cake celebration. If you have any questions, or would like to talk more about our summer plans, I would love to talk with you!

In Christ,
Pastor Kristin



Volunteer Schedule

May 5

Greeters: Chuck and Evelyn Horstman
Coffee Hour Host: Evelyn Horstman
Liturgist: Billy Noble

May 12

Greeters: Nancy and Kathy Merrick
Coffee Hour: Joan Berry
Liturgist: Sandy Grady

May 19

Greeters: Randy and Sandy Grady
Coffee Hour Host: Donna Alexander
Liturgist: Tammy Roberts

May 26

Greeters: Joan and Nathaniel Berry
Coffee Hour Host:
Liturgist: John Webb

Native American Ministry Sunday May 5th

Your generous donations given on Native American Ministry Sunday encourages aspiring leaders within the Native American community, educates seminarians and empowers outreach within the Native American culture, supports aspiring Native American pastors and enriches outreach in their communities.



May Birthdays

2 - Hunter Ripley	17 - Charlene Bridge
5 - Carol Chavarie	21 - Ed Heath
7 - Eileen Hibbert	23 - Heidi Bowden
8 - Karen McGuire	23 - Evelyn Horstman
10 - James Grady	27 - Jim Brown
12 - Tom Webber	29 - Sue Pattershall



Simplified Board Highlights

April Meeting

Board members began this month's board meeting with concern for those in our congregation who are struggling with the Conference's decisions regarding LGBTQ. Green Street is a family of people who care and love one another in the name of Christ and we are encouraged to reach out to one another during this time. We were also reminded to return the surveys that were recently mailed out and to attend any of the conversation times.

Board Members continued our discussion of "Developing an Intentional Discipleship System" reviewing the following questions:

- Why do we make disciples?
- What are the roles in the church currently and how do they connect with discipleship?
- In what ways can we help others rediscover their "why".
- How will a focus on intentional discipleship change how your leaders lead?

Board Members reviewed goals that had been identified earlier in the year to determine priorities and urgencies in the areas of congregation, facilities, staff and volunteers, finance and vision. The following were identified as priorities and most urgent.

- Communication and Sharing
- Revisit the Facilities Priority List
- Review/replace AV system
- Building use/rental of building
- Fire Safety
- Develop a comprehensive stewardship program
- Develop a fundraising (promotion) team

The Missions Budget was approved with the provision that any fundraising be coordinated with the current expense fundraising plan through Pastor Kristin.

Board Members received an interim report from the A/V Task Force who began an inventory of equipment in the sanctuary and labeling components. The task force hopes to recruit more members, expand the inventory and consolidate manuals and instructions for use.

Pastor Kristin shared a closing prayer.

Next Board Meeting has changed to the 2nd Tuesday of the month.

May 14 at 6:30 PM. All are welcome.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Pattershall

Important Scholarship Deadlines

IMPORTANT CHANGE TO THE CAMP MECHUWANA SCHOLARSHIP DEADLINE

Due to the change in the meeting time of the Simplified Board we have had to adjust the deadline for applying for a Camp Mechuwana Scholarship.

If you have not already turned in a copy of your camp registration page to the church office please do so by **May 7th.**

This will ensure that you will receive your scholarship letter notifying you of the amount of the scholarship and that payment can be made to Camp Mechuwana before the start of camps in June. There are camp brochures available on the usher's table or go to <http://www.mechuwana.org>

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.

The deadline to apply is May 20.

Spiritual Life Center News

Body, Mind, and Spirit

Spiritual Life Center update

In addition to the open mic poetry events inspired by Mother's Day and Father's Day, the Spiritual Life Center team is planning to offer massage therapy, centering prayer, and a life transitions workshop this spring or early summer. We'd also like to explore ways to connect the things we love to do in the great outdoors with our spiritual selves. For instance, taking the time to be fully aware of our surroundings using all our senses and notice what we're feeling in those moments in time. Possibly while gazing into a campfire as the flames leap in hues of orange, yellow and blue, and the wood crackles as it burns, and the warmth of the fire wanes into glowing embers. Or in the midst of a garden full of flowers, or walking with intention being mindful of our surroundings. There are many possibilities; what about nature and being outdoors feeds *your* spirit?

What is your spiritual life center?

One of the things I like about the name "Spiritual Life Center" is that it has a dual meaning. It can be a physical place, a building or a room, where we can go to learn and to grow, but it can also be found within each of us - the part of us that we center our spiritual life around, the higher power that sustains us, nourishes us, challenges us. It is the hope of the Spiritual Life Center team that we can provide a *place* to offer a variety of ways for members of our congregation and community to learn and grow spiritually so that the spiritual center *within* can continue to learn and grow and change throughout life's many transitions.

I recently came across a book titled *Spiritual Wanderlust* and while I haven't read the book and know little about it, I was intrigued by the title itself. I have sometimes felt a yen for something more in my spiritual life - would that qualify as spiritual wanderlust? If so, where would - or did - that journey take me? Where would I be willing to go? Would I follow a map or take the road less traveled? In what ways would my inner spiritual center be transformed by the journey? Where would spiritual wanderlust take you?

- submitted by Ardyce Robbin

Mother's Day of Fuel

Honor your mother and help the church meet its fuel budget at the same time. We will be publishing a special Mother's Day of Fuel insert on May 12th. A Day of Fuel sponsorship is only \$25.00. Fill out the form and drop it in the offering plate, or send to the office with your check. **DEADLINE is May 6th.** This is a great way to honor your mother (or someone who is like a mother to you) as you help the church.

In Honor or Memory of: _____

Given by: _____



Angel Food Supper News

Our Angel Food Suppers are coming to an end for the summer. The next meal is on Saturday, May 18 at 4:30pm. We will be serving baked beans, franks and coleslaw. We are asking for donations of cabbage and franks which can be left in the Angel Food refrigerator in fellowship hall and hot dog rolls which can be left in the Angel Food plastic bin. You can continue to help throughout the summer by bringing in your returnable bottle and cans and placing them in the recycling barrel in fellowship hall. Thank you for your support in this ministry.

Sandy's Easy and Creamy Mac and Cheese

- 1 lb. box of dry elbow macaroni
- 12 oz. evaporated milk
- 1/2 cup milk
- 2 cups water
- 2 cups Velveeta cheese (8oz. package)
- 2 cups cheddar cheese
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- Salt and pepper
-

Heat water and milk in pot until hot, add salt and macaroni-stir stirring often to prevent sticking to the pot. Cook al dente. Add Velveeta and stir until blended. Remove from heat and add cheddar cheese, Dijon, salt and pepper and cover. Stir when cheese is melted. Serve and enjoy.

New Sermon Series: Body & Soul

Good Friday and Easter remind us that our Christian faith is profoundly connected to a human body experience. Our spiritual transformation comes through Jesus' physical death on the cross and his physical body's resurrection (complete with wounds in hands and sides). How do our bodies and souls work together to deepen our spiritual growth? We will explore this topic together in our upcoming series: Body & Soul.

This series, in conjunction with Green Street's Spiritual Life Center, will also introduce us to new ministries of centering prayer, massage and yoga. The Spiritual Life Center's mission is to nurture contemplative practices of body, mind and spirit for the congregation and the community.

Free Hannaford Cookbooks



We have an abundance of Hannaford Cookbooks that have been given to us. Pick up your free copy at the Hannaford Table on Sunday morning. Extra copies can be given to family members and friends. Stop by the church office and pick up a box for the breakroom at work or for your civic organization.



Mother's Day Open Mic – Saturday, May 4th
Father's Day Open Mic – Saturday, June 8th

4 – 5:30pm

At the Spiritual Life Center – 13 Green Street



You may recall that in mid-December we offered a Blue Christmas Open Mic. through The Spiritual Life Center. There were 14 people in attendance and we feel it went well.

Just as Christmases vary from family to family and person to person, so do relationships within families. As we look ahead to Mother's Day and Father's Day, we'd like to explore those relationships through poetry (or brief prose, if one prefers). We're planning two open mics. The first will be on May 4 and will focus on our relationships with our mothers. The second is scheduled for June 8, when the focus will be on our relationships with our fathers. Both of these will take place here at Green Street.

A local poetry group, Pondtown Poets, of which I am a member, has asked for the opportunity to cosponsor and participate in these events and we are pleased to have them do so.

Whether our parents are living or not, they have impacted our lives in many ways, some positive, some not. You are invited to come and to share your feelings in a poem (or 2 or 3, or maybe more). If you don't write poetry, feel free to write a few paragraphs to read. Or simply come and listen to what others have to say.

If you choose to share, your sharing can be positive, negative, or a combination of the two. You should feel free to acknowledge the complexity of feelings that are valid for many of us as we think about our relationships with our parents.

These are not church services. They are simply an invitation and an opportunity to come and share honestly and openly thoughts about our relationships with our parents.

It is my hope that we'll have a good number of Green Streeters in attendance, and that you'll all feel free to invite friends and family to join you – or encourage them to come even if you choose not to. Although it's often said that every life has a story, we know that every life is made up of a great many stories. There can be health and healing in sharing some of them.

Sally Joy



Wednesday, April 24 was Administrative Professionals Day
Green Street went all out in celebrating!

On Administrative Professionals Day, I arrived to a fully decorated office with flowers, streamers, cards and gifts, which I never expected and totally took me by surprise! There was even more in store for me as the day went on, we had a beautiful brunch in the conference room in my honor and I have never felt so loved and appreciated as I did that day!

Thank you Sue Pattershall, Tricia Webb, Donna Alexander, Terri Williamson, Sarah Barnum, Connie Packard and Pastor Kristin for going all out and making me feel so special. To Henry, who I heard made an announcement in church as a reminder of the occasion and to everyone who left positive comments of appreciation on the church Facebook group.

I am so blessed to be able to work in ministry with all of you. Thank you all so much!

Darby



Green Street UMC

May 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
			1 Pastor	2 Kristin on	3 Retreat Noon Horizon Group Luncheon	4 8:30 AM Worship Meeting 4 PM Open MIC 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
5 Native American Ministries Sunday	6 2 PM Bible Study 3PM Women's Bible Study 4:30 PM Pastor Accountability 6:30 PM NA	7 Mechuwana Scholarship deadline 9 AM DCOM	8 Noon UMW 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	9 5:30 PM General Conference Conversations	10	11 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
12 Mother's Day 5 PM Covenant Group	13 9am Banner Ministry 2 PM Bible Study 3PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	14 6:30 PM Simplified Board Meeting	15 June Newsletter deadline 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	16	17	18 4:30 PM Angel Food Supper 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
19 11:30 AM Missions Ministry Meeting 4 PM Eastern Star	20 Pastor Bridge Fund Student Loan Deadline 2 PM Bible Study 3PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	21 Kristin 6 PM SB Planning for June Meeting	22 away 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	23 this	24 week	25 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
26 5 PM Covenant Group	27 Pastor Memorial Day – Office closed 2 PM Bible Study 3PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM NA	28 Kristin	29 on	30 vaca	31 tion	

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 - Sunday School for all ages at 9am – Covenant Group at 5pm
 Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8am to 2pm

This church is being helped by the Perry P. and Dorothy M. Rich Fund for Maine Methodism

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