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September
2019

The Grapevine

A PUBLICATION OF:
Green Street United Methodist Church

THE GRAPEVINE — SEPTEMBER 2019 EDITION

**Green Street United Methodist Church Presents
An Evening of Christian Music featuring Dwight Tibbetts**



**Wednesday, September 11th at 7pm
13 Green Street, Augusta
Free will donation**

Come and enjoy an evening of original Christian music written by Dwight Tibbetts. He will share songs that God has inspired him to write over the past 35 years. It will be an evening of joy, hope and spiritual blessings. Contact 207-622-0843 for more information.

Fall Worship

**Our Fall Schedule Begins
Sunday, September 8**

Sunday School at 8:30am and Worship at 9:30am

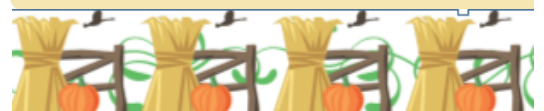
Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8am to 2pm
Pastor's Office hours by appointment

VISIT US ONLINE: greenstreetumc.net



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FROM THE PASTOR: What Is the Church? Part I...

A devotional I use on my day off invites: “Relax your eyes. What have they seen this week? Relax your mouth. What have you spoken this week? Relax your hands. What have they done this week? My answers to these devotional questions – what have you seen, what have you spoken, what have you held this week – often reveal the places that I have served and where God’s grace has been alive in the world. Sometimes these revelations show up in a sermon, but often I hold onto them as personal blessings.

What might church be like if, on Sunday morning, we shared our answers to these questions? Would these moments of shared witness – what we have seen, spoken and held – inspire and shape our lives?

For many of us, church sustains us for the week ahead. We come to church to be spiritually nurtured before returning to the secular world. While this is true of the early Christian church, the Bible offers a deeper perspective.

In Luke 10, Jesus sends his disciples to minister in pairs. They spend time in their communities, healing and preaching, as witnesses to God’s kingdom. They return to Jesus with joy, exclaiming, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” Jesus rejoices in their ministry and blesses them. The disciples are sent first to the world, and then they gather to share what they have seen, to witness to their service, and to celebrate God’s grace. Church is the end result of living as disciples in the world, rather than preparation for it. It is not only where they are nurtured and sustained, but also where they celebrate and worship how they have seen God at work.

The church plays an important role in nurturing and sustaining us for daily life. But that isn’t the church’s only – or even its primary – role. More than preparation for daily life, church is the culmination of daily life – the place where we gather and witness to God’s work through and around us in the world. Whether or not we feel prepared to return to the world after Sunday worship, we still must go out as Jesus’ disciples. And when we return, the church will be gathered to hear our stories, to share our witness, and to praise the miraculous work of God.

Pastor Kristin



2 - Nancy Miner
12 - Bea Bragg
15 - Talya Avery
17 - Kristin White
18 - Sandra Barringer
19 - Joan Berry

22 - Rob Shore
25 - Kathryn Raymond
26 - James Douvielle
28 - Alex Roberts
28 - Andy Roberts



September 1

Greeters: Anne and Della Kimball

Coffee Hour Host:

Liturgist:

September 8

Greeter: Tricia Webb

Coffee Hour Host:

Liturgist:

September 15

Greeter: Sally Joy

Coffee Hour Host:

Liturgist:

September 22

Greeter: Elsie and Bessie

Coffee Hour Host:

Liturgist:

September 29

Greeter: Tina Noble

Coffee Hour Host:

Liturgist:



Adult Sunday School or Adult Forum?

Our new fall worship schedule provides the perfect opportunity to re-imagine adult Sunday School. Should we continue to meet on Sundays or is another day better? At church or at a local restaurant or coffee shop? Mornings, afternoons, or evenings? Should we continue using books and videos as our topics of discussion or do we want to explore current events or culture within the context of our faith? There are all kinds of possibilities. What would interest you? What would help you grow in your faith? What kind of study have you been yearning for?

We'd love to hear from you! We'll be meeting on Sept. 8 following worship to explore the possibilities and gather enough information so that we can begin meeting in October. If you'd like to participate in an adult discussion group but can't attend this meeting, please contact Sally Joy or Ardyce Robbin and let us know your preferences.

Turnstar Healing Pathways

The massage room for the Spiritual Life Center is set up and Susan is ready to book appointments. Appointments can be scheduled through Susan by phone or text (207) 242-7286) or by email at mainecross2@gmail.com. You can also reach her through Facebook Messenger. Susan's business page on Facebook is Turnstar Healing Pathways. Appointment times will vary depending on the church's schedule. But generally speaking available times will be afternoons (except Wednesdays due to Susan's work for Maine General). The latest weekday appointment would be 5:30PM. There will also be some Saturday availability late mornings or early afternoons.

Fees are as follows:

30 minutes - \$45.
60 minutes - \$70.
75 minutes - \$85.
90 minutes - \$100.

Massages can include hot stones, Reiki, and essential oils depending on your preferences. Susan is also still available to see massage clients at the Litchfield location.

Thank You Notes from our Mechuwana Campership Recipients

Thank you for paying so I could go to basketball camp. I had a lot of fun and made some new friends and saw old ones. I like Camp Mechuwana so much that I have decided to go to their rally camp with my new friends from basketball camp. Thanks again.

Alexis Pattershall

Thank you for paying for my time at Camp Mechuwana. I had a lot of fun and made lots of new friends. My siblings had fun at day camp. We all had an amazing summer. Thank you on behalf of all of us.

Lilly, Jordan and Nick Gorneau

Lay Servant Ministries (LSM) Advanced Class

"Aging and Ministry in the 21st Century", taught by Rev. Dr. Rick Eifert, pastor of Randolph UMC. The class will meet at Randolph UMC for three Saturday mornings: September 14, 8:00 – noon (with optional lunch to follow); September 21, 8:00 – 11:00; and September 28, 8:00 – 11:00 (total of 10 hours). Cost is \$10 plus buying one book. For more information, see sheets available at the back of the church or go to:

<https://www.neumc.org/layservantsmme>



Simplified Board Highlights

The August Board meeting kicked off in the usual fashion: recalling why we are here (To make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.).

Spiritual Leadership Development

Pastor Kristin and Henry Berry led the group in discussion of three questions:

1. How have you seen discipleship develop at Green Street?
2. How has the Board worked on building intentional discipleship in 2019?
3. What more could the Board do going forward?

Green Street United Methodist Daycare?

Sandra Webber gave an impassioned presentation of her idea to open a daycare facility at Green Street

The Board naturally had many questions The Board authorized Sandra to keep the process moving, so she can collect more about whether and how to pursue this ministry.

Mark your Calendars: Church Conference

Saturday, November 16, 2019 at 10:00 A.M. (SPRC will meet with her at 9:00 A.M.)

Ron Harvey to train as treasurer

The Nominations and Leadership Development Committee brought the Board some wonderful news: Ron Harvey, an accountant, approached them about serving as treasurer. The committee will nominate him at our Church Conference in November to be Current Expense Treasurer for 2020.

Financial ups and downs

As the current beneficiary congregation of the Perry Rich Fund for Maine Methodism, Green Street has received a windfall. The Fund discovered some prior mistakes, and correcting them resulted in Green Street receiving an extra \$11,000 on top of the quarterly payments we are receiving already. It's a wonderful blessing, but it *doesn't eliminate* our current expense shortfall for 2019.

Gary Alexander sent a message that he was able to get an estimate to fix leaking sections of the building roof and an uneven door from Fowler's Roofing & Construction. The range is \$5,000–\$8,000, but the Building Fund has an available balance of only about \$5,500 to spend on capital improvements, leaving a question of where the money will come from to ensure our building stays safe.

Because of our ongoing cash crunch, Sue Pattershall shared that the New England Annual Conference's Equitable Compensation Committee has awarded Green Street an *emergency* grant of \$2,500 for each of July, August, and September to ensure we can continue to pay Pastor Kristin's salary during those months. Reassessment will occur in September to see if additional grants are needed.

The A/V Task Force shared an initial estimate to correct the deficiencies in the Sanctuary audio that prevent worshippers from hearing Sunday services. Bill Wayman, of AV Systems of Maine, represented that it would cost about \$17,500 to replace the current, ageing system. The Task Force will continue to discern what necessary steps must be taken to restore sound.

Respectfully Submitted,
Dave Robbin

Fall Stewardship Program

Where Your Treasure Is...

Jacob Armstrong writes:

"At the first mention of the word treasure, my mind fills with images of pirate ships, deserted islands, and an X that marks the spot.

Treasure is something you search for, fight for, and go great distances to find. Treasure can be hidden and hoarded, or shared and enjoyed. Whether we realize it or not, we all have treasure. We all have things we are searching for, fight for, and storing up. Though the items in our treasure chests are all different, we all have treasure that holds great value to us.

Often we think our treasure will follow our heart. But Jesus, in his Sermon on the Mount, suggested the opposite – that our heart will follow our treasure. He told his followers: "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." It is no wonder, then, that many of us feel a sense of disappointment about our lives and finances. We want to give our lives to our church, our family, our God. Instead, our heart follows our debt, our job, and our bills, and we don't always even realize it. As a result, we're left feeling conflicted and empty."

For a four-week period in October, we will explore the ways that our treasure – time, energy, money – affects our spiritual and emotional lives. The study will be based on Matthew 6, part of the Sermon on the Mount, which includes Jesus' teachings on treasure, worry, giving, and more. Copies of Jacob Armstrong's book, *Treasure*, will be available for each household, courtesy of the Bridge Fund. In addition to daily devotions, the book includes a variety of daily practices: think, reflect, go, do, create, write, read, nature. Weekly drop-in activities at the church will allow us to explore some of these practices together.

At the end of the four weeks, we will have an opportunity to make personal commitments of our offerings to God through our church in the coming year. Commitment cards will be available on Sunday mornings and/or sent in the mail. We will bring these commitment cards to worship on Sunday, October 27. I hope that you'll join us in the coming weeks as we look at Jesus' teaching on how we can avoid freedom from some of the common pitfalls related to money, and how we can give our lives and our treasure to God.



Hannaford Gift Card Fundraising Program

The Hannaford gift card program is a great way to contribute to the operations and programs of the church at no additional cost to your usual grocery budget.

How does it work? You simply purchase a gift card from GSUMC and Hannaford donates 5% to the church.

Use the card when you shop at Hannaford to:

- Help budget your groceries
- Buy other gift cards
- Purchase items for a food pantry
- Buy your prescriptions
-

All purchases at Hannaford apply! Ask about signing up for the ACH program and reload your gift card electronically once a month.

To find out more or purchase a gift card, visit the Hannaford table (located in the upstairs hallway) after the Sunday service.

Angel Food News

Our community suppers begins again on Saturday, September 21 at 4:30pm and continuing on the third Saturday of each month. We will be serving chicken pot pie, vegetables and cookies. We need 4 volunteer bakers to make 3 dozen cookies! Tina is substituting for Evelyn and I as we will be on the mission trip.

Thank you for donating your returnable bottles and cans in supporting our local community mission.

Save the Date!

Our Annual Supper and Pie Auction is Saturday, October 26, supper at 5pm, auction at 5:45pm. Your baking talents are welcome; breads, cookies, cakes and pies! Donate your talent and we will auction that too! All proceeds will benefit the general fund. Watch for inserts in the church bulletin. Volunteers welcome and needed. For more information contact Sandy Grady at 207-242-8344

Church Supply Donations Needed

THANK YOU to everyone who helps out in donating frequently used supplies! You have really helped our church save money! Due to a spending freeze we are in need of:

**Paper Towels
Toilet Paper
Postage Stamps
Copier Paper – 8 1/2x11,
20lb, white**

Donations can be dropped off at the fellowship hall or the church office.

September Worship Series: Hanging onto Faith in Times of Change

September 1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 - Ups and Downs and Round and Rounds of Life

September 8: Genesis 12:1-9 - Time to Move...Again

September 15: Acts 9:1-19 - When Everything You Know Changes

September 22: Deuteronomy 34:1-12 - Letting Go with Faith

Voices Singing and Bells are Ringing!!

I hope you have had a wonderful summer. I would like to invite anyone interested in singing in the choir to come to our first rehearsal on Wednesday September 4th at 6:45 PM. For those of you who have been attending the 8 am service in the past, here is your chance to get involved and share your expression with a group of fun loving people who love singing praises to God.

On September 11th, Dwight Tibbetts is presenting a Christian Concert at 7 PM so the choir will meet at 6 PM to run through Sunday's anthem.

On September 18th, bells will meet at their regular time of 5:30 - 6:30. If you are interested in ringing, please come and see what we are all about. Choir will move into its regular rehearsal time at 6:45 - 7:45 PM.

Excited to begin a new year of music with everyone.

Sue Pattershall - choir director

Fundraising Ministry Team

Do you have an idea for a fundraiser? Would you like to help with upcoming fundraising efforts to benefit the church's current expenses?

Please consider sharing your ideas and talents with the GSUMC Fundraising Ministry Team. Contact Tammy Roberts at (207)485-2588 if you are interested in joining this new ministry team or want to share your ideas.

United Methodist Women

I hope you all have had a great summer. Our last meeting before the summer really got started was in June at the Red Barn with a very short business meeting where we awarded a scholarship for the mission trip in September and then lots of fun and fellowship.

Now it is time to get back to work! Our next meeting is on Wednesday, September 11th at noon in LL rooms 1 and 2. Please bring a bag lunch. It is time for us to start planning for our UMW fair in December plus choosing for Special Mission Recognition awards and more. Hope you will join us.

Nancy Merrick



Green Street UMC

September 2019

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1 5 PM Covenant Group	2 9 AM Garden Give-A-Way 6:30 PM NA	3 4:30 PM Pastoral Support and Accountability Meeting	4 6:45 PM Choir Practice	5	6	7 8:30 AM Cluster Meeting and Worship Meeting 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
8 Fall Worship begins at 9:30am S'mores and Fire pit following worship	9 9 AM Garden Give-A-Way 9 AM Staff Mtg 10 AM Stewardship Mtg 4:30 PM Nominations Mtg 6:30 PM NA	10 9 AM DCOM 6:30 PM Simplified Board Meeting	11 Noon UMW Meeting 6 PM Choir Practice 7PM Christian Music Concert	12 6 PM General Conference Conversations	13	14 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
15 10:30 AM Welcoming/Recon. Meeting 10:30 AM Missions Ministry Meeting 5 PM Covenant Group	16 Mission 6:30 PM NA	17 Trip 6 PM SB Planning Meeting	18 this week 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	19 week	20	21 4:30 PM Angel Food Supper 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
22	23 4:30 PM Nominations Mtg 6:30 PM NA	24	25 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice 6:45 PM Choir Practice	26	27	28 Retreat? 5:30 PM Guided Meditation 7:00 PM AA
29	30 6:30 PM NA					

Notes

13 Green Street. Augusta, Maine 04330
 Phone: 207-622-0843 – email: greenst@myfairpoint.net – website: www.greenstreetumc.net
 Sunday Worship at 9:30 am – Sunday school at 8am (beginning September 8th)
 Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9am to 2pm (beginning September 9th)

Be Transformed

Green Street United Methodist Church
13 Green Street
Augusta, ME 04330

