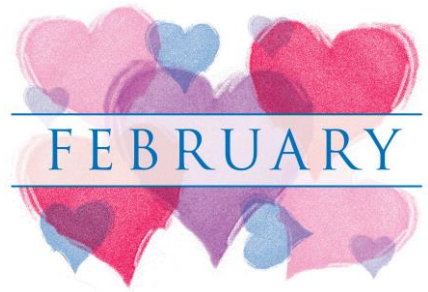
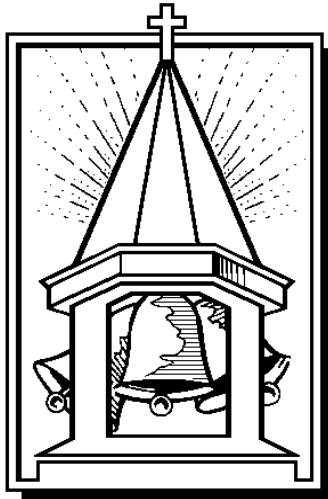


THE GRAPPEVINE



\$\$\$\$ Message from the Church **Financial Secretary \$\$\$\$**

How blessed we have been in 2016!! We have made it through another year. Our bills have all been paid and we may begin anew in 2017. I am happy to report the finance committee and church council have approved a budget for 2017 which includes a full time pastor!! We have applied for Mission share relief again this year and have applied for more funding in the Strategic Salary Grant. We are looking into e-giving as it will give our members and others outside the church an opportunity to give easily in today's technological world. As you know, the Fifield Tribou fund is nearing its end. We have only \$6,000 remaining and are not looking at this point to use any of it. We are looking at more ways of increasing our income to meet the \$23,500 deficit we have in this 2017 year's budget.

We are stepping out in Faith as we look to create a Fresh Start Ministry right here at Green Street. We have several new fundraisers planned and are looking for people to help with them or to create your own. We would really like to have some group benefit from the space on the upper floor. If you have any ideas, please share! At this point in time, nothing has been cut from this year's budget as we feel everything in it is important for the continuing ministry of our church. Our income and expenses will be closely monitored as we move forward.

What a wonderful family we have here at Green Street. We are movers and shakers and together we will continue to work for the glory of God to make disciples of Christ in today's world. Please continue to hold Green Street United Methodist Church and its members in your prayers. Thank you for your generosity and support of the work that is done here at Green Street.

13 Green St.
Augusta, ME 04330

Sunday Worship
8 & 10:30am

Office Hours

Monday – Friday
8am-2pm

Phone Number:

Office: (207) 622-0843

email: greenst@myfairpoint.net

web: www.greenstreetumc.net

Minister:

Rev. Kristin White

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Pastor's Page

Growing Disciples

During childhood, my mom measured my height against the kitchen wall. I loved to see the pencil marks that showed how tall I was growing. With just a pencil and a yardstick, it's easy to trace our physical growth. Alas, spiritual growth can be much more ambiguous to measure.

Most of us hope to find God-given meaning and purpose in our lives. As we grow in height, we also want to grow in spiritual wisdom. We long to see hope for the future, to feel the comfort of God's presence, the reassurance of God's love, and to deepen our trust in God. Sometimes we feel like we're making progress, and other times we wonder what has happened to our faith. If only it were as easy to track our spiritual growth as it is to track our height.

Christians refer to the quest for spiritual growth as *discipleship*. The word *disciple* refers to a student or an apprentice; one who follows the teachings or work of another. As Christian disciples, our spiritual growth comes by learning from and apprenticing ourselves to Christ. We study Jesus' teachings, ministry, death and resurrection to help deepen our faith. We also become apprentices to Jesus; we practice what he modeled: prayer, forgiveness, generosity, service, compassion and a witness to God's love.

How are you growing as a disciple of Jesus? As we prepare for Lent, which begins on March 1, consider this year: what will you do to continue learning about your faith? What characteristic of Jesus will you practice? What new growth do you hope to see in your spiritual life this year?

In Christ,

Pastor Kristin

February Birthdays

2 – Rebecca Pullen
6 – Sue Landreth
8 – Donna Alexander
16 – Linda Forbes
17 – Robert Thurlow
26 -Maria Elmshausen
15 – Darby Rock
24 – Kristen Tripp
25- Charlotte McGuire

Refugees

Worldwide there are more than 60 million refugees today. Many of them have fled wars, violence or oppression. Large groups of people are leaving their homes and countries in search of a safer or better place to live. How does this affect us? How can we respond? Please join us in February for a practical Bible study that will help you to talk about this issue, to hear what God teaches about it in His Word, and to bring into practice what you learn. Sundays at 9 a.m. beginning February 5, in Lower Level Room LL1. Invite someone to come with you! For more information see Henry Berry, Rob Shore, Johnnie Bean, or Pastor Kristin



Souper Bowl of Caring

It started with a simple prayer: "Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat." That was seminary intern Brad Smith's prayer as he challenged his church and others in town to collect a dollar per parishioner on Super Bowl Sunday to fight hunger. The idea spread, and over the years, the Souper Bowl of Caring has generated over \$100 million to fight hunger across the US. On Sunday, February 5th, our church will answer that challenge and take part in the Souper Bowl of Caring which will benefit the Augusta Food Bank. There will be a soup pot at the back of the Sanctuary where folks can contribute a dollar, \$5 or even \$10 to the pot, or bring some groceries for the food bank. May our offerings of love and gratitude touch a neighbor in need with the love of God.

Thank You for Serving in February

February 5

Greeters: Joan and Nathaniel Berry
Acolyte: Sanette Shenk
Nursery: Tammy Roberts
Coffee Hour: Lilla Atwater and Elizabeth Newman
Liturgist: Sandra Webber

February 12

Greeter: Nancy and Kathy Merrick
Acolytes: Bob and Pam Drummond
Nursery: Tricia Webb
Coffee Hour: Chuck and Evelyn Horstman
Liturgist: Lynn Kennard

February 19

Greeter: Tammy Roberts
Acolytes: Eileen and Heather Hibbert
Nursery: Caitlyn McGouldrick
Coffee Hour: Bessie Gouldreau and Elsie Ware
Liturgist: Kathleen Dunford

February 26

Greeters: Donna and Gary Alexander
Acolytes: Patty Rogers and Sonny Richards
Nursery: Megan Hopkin
Coffee Hour: Donna Alexander & Tammy Roberts
Liturgist: Eileen Hibbert

Annual Church Audit

Connie and Tina will need the following audit documents by February 10.

1. Check registers showing all transactions from Jan 1, 2016 to Jan 1, 2017.
2. Check reconciliations for each month
3. 2016 Bank statements including Jan, 2017
4. All invoices or other documents
5. Cash ups from counters and financial secretary entry reports, donation envelopes
6. Listing of all approved salary amounts (from SPPRC and church council)
7. Payroll forms 941, W-2's, year end tax filings and time sheets.
8. Pastor compensation basis
9. Year end statement from Conference showing paid amounts
10. All 2016 financial reports prepared for committee or church council
11. Budget approved by Church council for Current Expense, Missions, and Choir. Trustees, Hannaford and ACH accounts are excluded.
12. Any record or spreadsheet used for tracking financial activity.
13. Minutes from committee meetings including church council.

Winthrop UMC Bus Trip

What: Jonah multimedia production

Where: Sight and Sound Theatre, Lancaster, Pennsylvania.

When: Monday, May 8 - Thursday, May 11.

Cost: \$400 total with a deposit of \$100 due on February 15th (balance due by April 1st). This covers the bus, show tickets, hotel, trip to Gettysburg and many of the meals.

The Winthrop United Methodist Church is making the arrangements for this fun trip. This year, an extra day has been added, part of which will be spent touring Gettysburg.

For more information, please call the church office at 377-8620 or email: office@winthropumc.org.

Green Street Storm Cancellations

When worship is canceled or postponed due to weather we will notify church members four ways:

A One Call Now phone message: If you are not receiving phone messages please let the church office know that you need your phone number added to the One Call Now database.

Email: if you are not receiving emails from Green Street please let the church office know that you want your email address added to the contact list.

Answering Machine: Call the church at 622-0843 and the outgoing message will let you know if one or both worship services are cancelled or postponed.

Facebook: There is a Green Street Facebook Public Page and a Green Street Facebook Group. The Facebook Group has cancellations and postponements along with other information, prayer requests and posts from group members that are private and can only be viewed by the group members. In order to be a part of the group page you can send a request to join through Facebook or contact the church office to be added to the group.

Contact Darby at the church office 622-0843 or greenst@myfairpoint.net.

Fuel Days

January 21 In honor of Della Kimball. Given by Anne Kimball

January 24 In honor of Marjorie Tribou. Given by Mabel Crowell

Camp Mechuwana Rally

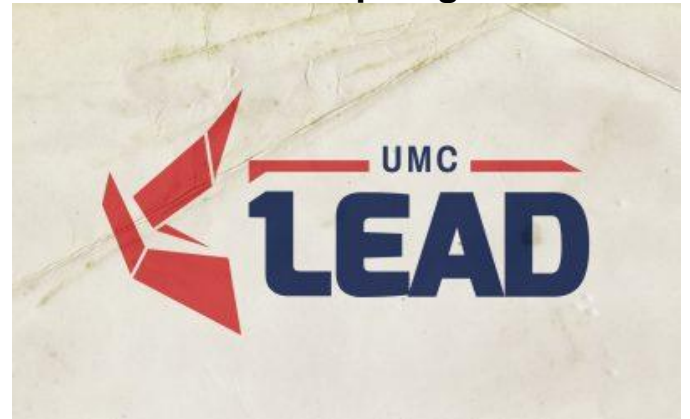
Youth in grades 6-12

Join us February 11-12 for our one night winter celebration! The theme is "The Greatest of these is Love". Our program leader is Rev. Allen Ewing-Merrill for Hope Gate Way UMC in Portland. Come explore ways we can show God's love to people in our communities, our world, our families, and ourselves. To register go to www.mechuwana.org

Mechuwana Camperships

It's not too early to start thinking about summer camp! Soon Camp Mechuwana will be sending out their summer brochure. If you want your child to be signed up to receive a campership from Green Street please remember to make a copy of the registration page and send it the church office so that your child can be added to the campership list!

What's Inspiring Me



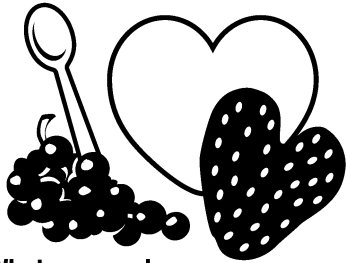
UMC Lead -- exploring leadership, theology, worship, mission and innovation within the United Methodist Church. Check out umclead.net. Presentations from the UMC Lead Conference, which I attended last week, can be found at the UMC Lead Facebook page. Topics include: blueprints for reenvisioning a church building's purpose, immigration on the southern borders, privilege & advocacy, how churches can support adoption as ministry, the experience of Tongan immigrants in ministry, and many more!

Hannaford and Shaw's Cards

Don't forget to pick up your Hannaford or Shaw's Cards on Sunday morning or Monday- Friday during office hours!

Heart FRUIT SALAD

Make this cute, healthy snack for your loved ones on Valentine's Day.




What you need:

- Adult help
- Washed fruit (watermelon, cantaloupe, strawberries, grapes)
- Knife and cutting board
- Small heart-shaped cookie cutter
- Bowl and spoon
- Mint leaves (optional)

What you do:

1. Slice the watermelon and use the cookie cutter to make heart shapes.
2. Slice the cantaloupe and cut chunks into heart shapes.
3. Remove strawberry stems and cut berries in half. Cut a small V atop each half to form a heart.
4. Cut grapes in half.
5. Place fruit in bowl and stir.
6. Wash and cut the mint. Sprinkle strips on the salad. Enjoy!

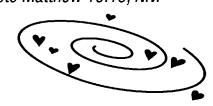




Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love. How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12th letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.

(1) You really like ice cream! _____ 

(16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. _____

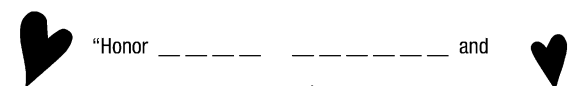
(21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. _____

(4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. _____

(11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. _____

(17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. _____

(6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. _____


 "Honor _____ and _____, and _____ your _____."

Matthew 19:19, NIV

Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV



February 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship Schedule 8:00 and 10:30 AM – Sunday School at 9am Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 8am – 2pm						
			1	2	3	4
			5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	10:00 AM Directory Meeting Noon Worship Planning Team meeting 5:30 PM Hospice Support Group 6:00 PM Choir practice		Noon Prayer Shawl Meeting at noon at Kennebec Plaza
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	6:30 PM Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5:30 PM EcoCovenant Meeting 6:30 PM SPPRC Meeting	Noon – 2:00 PM UMW Meeting 4:00 PM District Committee on Lay Servant Ministries Meeting 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	5:30 PM Hospice Support Group 6:00 PM Choir practice		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	6:30 PM Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	6:30 PM Church Council	5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	5:30 PM Hospice Support Group 6:00 PM Choir practice		5:00 PM Angel Food Supper
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
11:30 AM Missions Committee Meeting	President’s Day Church Office Closed 6:30 PM Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	Darby on vacation 9:00 AM DCOM 6:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting	this week..... Church 5:30 PM Bell Choir Practice	Office Closed until 6:00 PM Choir practice	Monday, February 27	10:00 AM Worship Committee Meeting
26	27	28				
	6:30 PM Women’s Bible Study 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5:30 PM Nominations Meeting 7:00 PM Trustee’s Meeting				

Fuel the Fire - February Fuel Day Challenge

Donate a \$25.00 day of fuel to recognize someone special.

In honor of _____

In Memory of _____

Given by _____

Place in the collection plate on Sunday or send to the church office.

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

Help Us Report Church News

Do you know about an upcoming event, program or other item of interest that should be included in the newsletter? If so, please fill out the form below and drop it by the church office or email the information to greenst@myfairpoint.net. The **deadline** for news articles is the **15th of each month**. News received after that date will be published in the following issue, if it is still of interest.

Name _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name of event or activity _____ Date and Time _____

Group or Committee involved _____

Other Information _____
