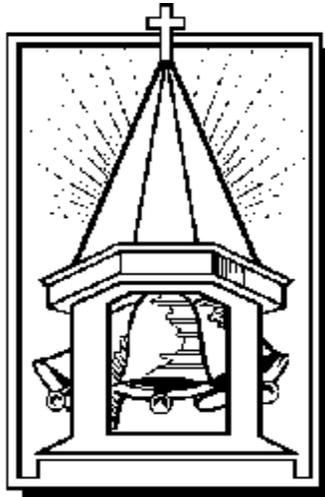


# THE GRAPPEVINE



## Green Street Garden Give-A-Way

Our Annual Garden Give-A-Way will begin soon! Thank you to Randy Grady for making the raised beds and to Lynn Kennard for planting and tending to the garden and Terri Williamson for helping to keep it watered! We are sharing our abundance with our neighbors. You can share your “over” abundance from your garden with all the people in our neighborhood. The Give-A-Way will happen on Monday mornings beginning at 9am. Stay tuned for more information as to when we will begin. Also please think about helping with the Give-A-Way, even if you do not have a garden, it is a great way to get to know the people in the neighborhood and to feel the power of God’s love working in his service, and a great time of fellowship. For more information see Lynn Kennard or contact the church office

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13 Green St.  
Augusta, ME 04330

**Sunday Worship**  
8 & 9:30am

**Office Hours**

*Monday – Tuesday - Thursday*  
8am-2pm

**Phone Number:**

Office: (207) 622-0843

**email:** [greenst@myfairpoint.net](mailto:greenst@myfairpoint.net)

**web:** [www.greenstreetumc.net](http://www.greenstreetumc.net)

**Minister:**

Rev. Kristin White

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## Jesse Lee Summer Evening Worship Services

Jesse Lee Meeting House, East Readfield.

Sundays at 7pm

Worship Services sponsored by the Jesse Lee  
Cluster and hosted by Readfield UMC

July 3: Ernie Farrar (Wayne Community Church)

July 10: Rev. Kristin White and Sally Joy (Green  
Street UMC)

July 17: Jen Curran (Randolph UMC)

July 24: Mechuwana Music with Laura Church

July 31: Music with Mitch Thomas and Jeff Mun-  
son

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## The Magic of Fireflies

As a child I loved to catch fireflies. In the evening, after dinner, we chased them around our darkening yard. When we managed to catch one, we held it in our hands and watched it blink. It still fascinates me that a living creature can glow like that! The firefly's light transforms what would be an otherwise ordinary-looking bug into something extravagant. After years of living in Boston, it was a joy to rediscover fireflies upon moving to Maine.

Light is frequently used as a spiritual metaphor: God lights our path; John describes Christ as the light of the world; and enlightenment refers to the gaining of spiritual insight. As the firefly's glow transforms it into a fascinating creature, so too God's light transforms us. When we commit ourselves to God's compassionate way, our lifestyles takes on new purpose. In partnership with an eternal God, our earthly actions and words take on new meaning and depth. In God's presence, the world can seem less threatening and more thrilling.

I find fireflies irresistible; their light catches my attention and draws my eye. Think of a person who draws you in a similar way, whose internal glow captures your attention. Remaining open to God's presence and practicing our spirituality offers us this same opportunity. We are invited to foster relationships with God so that our lives may bring beauty to others. We are invited to let the joy and grace of our relationships with God become visible sources of wonder and amazement. It's wonderful when God's light shines upon our paths. But it's even more extraordinary when we, in turn, make God's love visible in our words and actions.

In Christ,

Pastor Kristin

### **Helping Green Street Lead and Grow**

In his Possibilities Report, Rick McKinley noted that the success of a church's ministry rises and falls on strength of it's leaders. You can strengthen Green Street's ministry by learning, strengthening and nurturing your own leadership skills!

On July 9 at 9 am the Lay Leadership (Nominations) Committee offers a networking and brainstorming session for committee chairs, small group leaders and anyone passionate about church leadership and growth. The morning will include:

- setting a church schedule for the year, with input from each committee and group leader;
- creating a vision to guide your committee or team;
- networking and support for each committee's pertinent issues.

Contact Pastor Kristin with questions or to RSVP.

## A Reflection from Robin

Luke 10:38-42

*“Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me.”*

*But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”*

Maybe it’s just me but I’ve noticed lately that it seems like time is going by a lot faster than it did just a few years ago and often I feel as though I’m caught in a whirlwind of daily activity. And at times, I find that I have to actually stop and think what day it is as I’m so distracted by busyness of the daily routine of life.

Interestingly, this very subject was brought up recently at a family dinner – someone asked “where does the time go? ... “We all have the same 24 hours in the day but where, does it go?” (My sister’s mother-in-law wondered this in reference to my nephew having just completed his freshman year in college)

As I glanced around the table, I couldn’t help but notice several persons, also seated at the table, were not engaged in conversation but were glancing down at their cell phones, seemingly unaware that could be part of the answer to the question “Where does the time go”?

Later, I found myself thinking about that and wondered if Jesus would say to us, as a society, much the same thing that he said to Martha, regarding how much time is spent sending emails, using Facebook and Twitter and all the other forms of social media that are accessible to us, 24/7.

I’m not anti-social media in the least, they are great tools to stay in touch, especially with friends and family who we don’t have the opportunity to see often but sometimes it seems to me that social media has become the visual version of the old telephone party lines (Remember those? ...) where everyone heard everyone else’s business. (And it can be overwhelming trying to stay in the loop and keep up with what everyone is posting and time does indeed fly by while trying.)

Like Martha bustling around in the kitchen, it seems like our society is becoming so distracted by trying to keep up with all the latest communication technology and the need to stay connected and informed that the personal touch of real “face-time” – or practicing the Ministry of Presence - with our family and friends is becoming a lost part of real relationship.

Perhaps Jesus would say that “We are worried and distracted by many things” and would remind us to slow down and regularly unplug and make time to just be still and know God by plugging into the sights and sounds of creation and listening, really listening, to each other and what’s going on with the people around us.

And summer is the perfect opportunity to be intentional about spending quality time reading or talking (in real time) in the backyard, going on a picnic, a trip to a lake or the ocean, for an ice cream and watching birds and other wildlife going about their daily routine. (For me, personally, no matter the chaos happening in the world, the focused rhythm of nature is always calming and reassuring that God is always present.)

All of us are indeed given the same amount of time each day and we are given the choice of how to use it. Are we like Martha or Mary? ... Perhaps Jesus’ point is creating a balance of both.

Grace and Peace,

Robin

## July Birthdays

2 – Rob Caron	10 – Kathleen Dunford
3 – Randy Grady	23 – Jessa Mitchell
7 – Melissa Caron	25 – Alma Hinkley
9 – Sophie Douvielle	26 – Shirley Black
10 – Mary Crowell	29 – Margaret Goodale

## United Methodist Women News

We are starting a service project for the Fall District Ingathering. The project is knitting, sewing or crocheting preemie clothing, hats, mittens, and blankets to be donated to area hospitals. Patterns can be found on [www.careware.org](http://www.careware.org). or you may contact Nancy Miner for patterns for the preemie items.

The Mid Maine District UMW fall meeting is on Saturday, September 24 at Pleasant Street United Methodist Church in Waterville. The program is "Incarceration" presented by District Attorney Maeghan Maloney.

## Thank You for Serving in July!

### July 3

Greeters: Nancy and Kathy Merrick.  
Acolytes: Terri Williamson  
Nursery: Tricia Webb.  
Coffee Hour: Sandy Barringer.  
Liturgist: Sandy Grady.

### July 10

Greeters: John and Charlene Bridge.  
Acolyte: Mike Howe  
Nursery: Tina Noble.  
Coffee Hour: Mike Howe, Larry Labreck, Johnnie Beane, Jim Jacobsen.  
Liturgist: Connie Packard.

### July 17

Greeter: Carol Chavarie.  
Acolytes: Nancy and Kathy Merrick  
Nursery Volunteer: Sue Pattershall.  
Coffee Hour: John and Charlene Bridge.  
Liturgist: Mary Lewis.

### July 24

Greeter: Della and Anne Kimball.  
Acolyte: Della and Anne Kimball  
Nursery Volunteer: Terri Williamson.  
Coffee Hour: The Webber Family.  
Liturgist: Tricia Webb.

### July 31

Greeters: Joan and Henry Berry.  
Acolyte: Michaela Webber  
Nursery Volunteer: Tammy Roberts.  
Coffee Hour: Mary Lewis and Patty Rogers.  
Liturgist: Nancy Miner.

## Augusta Food Bank

The Augusta Food Bank is in need of bottles of juice. Please consider picking up a bottle or more when you are shopping to donate as their shelves are empty! Donations can be left in the shopping cart at the entrance to the sanctuary.

## Don't Forget Your Pledge!

Quarterly statements will go out this month so you can see where you stand with your pledge.



Our library has many awesome titles to read while sitting at the beach or in the shade on these warm summer days. Check it out!

## Where I'm Finding Inspiration...

- Book: *Weird Church: Welcome to the Twenty-first Century* by Beth Ann Estock and Paul Nixon. This book is changing my perspective on what it means to be the church in the 21st century, and inspiring new ideas for Green Street's ministry! From the book jacket:  
"The institutional church just isn't what it used to be. But don't give up hope for the future of faith. *Weird Church* offers a clear vision of what's coming next, so long as [churches are] willing to live into a few critical shifts. A must-read for anybody who is designing Christian ministry for the new world that is rapidly emerging around us."
- Prayer: pray-as-you-go.org, a British Jesuit website, offers daily meditations that include scripture, music and prayer. Check out the "go deeper" page on their website for longer (20 minute) retreats and special programs around scripture themes, theological topics and spiritual poetry.

## Upcoming Worship

Are you ready for a Bible adventure this summer? Get ready for Jonah! Experience the story of Jonah running away from God, forgiveness, anger, love, hope and especially second chances in a new way. You get to hear the story unfold through drama, art, music and personal encounters with Jonah's pressing questions. The six-week series begins July 17.

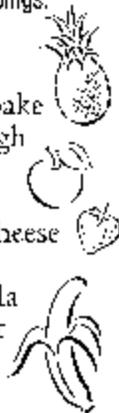
# SUMMER FRUIT PIZZA



Celebrate summer with this tasty dessert pizza, using your favorite summer fruits as the toppings.

### What you need:

- 1 tube slice-and-bake sugar cookie dough
- Knife
- Round pizza pan
- 8 ounces cream cheese
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon vanilla
- 2 cups sliced fruit
- Adult help



### What you do:

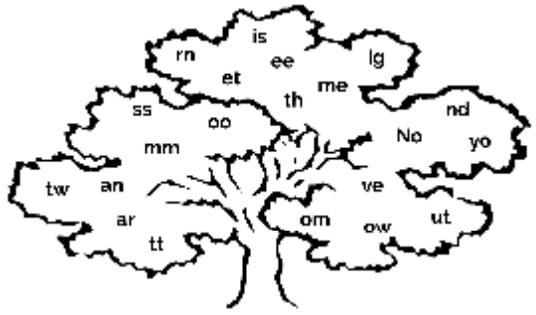
1. Cut the dough into slices 1/8-inch thick. Place slices on the pan, overlapping them slightly.
2. Bake at 375 degrees for 12 minutes. Let cool.
3. Combine softened cream cheese, sugar and vanilla, mixing well. Spread this "frosting" over the baked-cookie "crust."
4. Arrange fruit on top of the pizza.
5. Slice and enjoy!



## Signs of summer

Jesus told his disciples that fig trees indicate when summer is approaching.

*Directions: Complete the Bible verse below by placing the letter pairs from the tree into the correct blanks.*



"\_\_\_ w lea \_\_\_ th \_\_\_ le \_\_\_ on  
 fr \_\_\_ the f \_\_\_ tr \_\_\_: As s \_\_\_ n  
 as its \_\_\_ igs g \_\_\_ te \_\_\_ er \_\_\_ d  
 its lea \_\_\_ s co \_\_\_ o \_\_\_ , \_\_\_ u  
 kn \_\_\_ \_\_\_ at su \_\_\_ er is ne \_\_\_."  
 Ma \_\_\_ hew 24:32, NIV

Answer: "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near." Matthew 24:32, NIV

## Welcome to Irene Martin Our New Child Care Provider

With joy we welcome Irene Martin as the new Nursery Supervisor. Irene helped teach the pre-school Sunday School class this past year and began as the Nursery Supervisor in May.



## July 2016

### What's Happening at Green Street United Methodist Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<u>Worship Schedule</u> 8:00 and 9:30 AM Church Office Hours Monday-Tuesday –Thursday 8am – 2pm					1	2 Noon Prayer Shawl Meeting at Kennebec Plaza
3 6:30 PM Healing Service	4  Church Office Closed 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	5	6	7	8	9 9:00 AM Leadership Training
10	11 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	12 6:30 PM Church Council	13	14	15	16 Wedding
17	18 Darby on Vacation 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	19 Darby on Vacation 6:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting	20 Darby on Vacation	21	22	23
24	25 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	26 5:30 PM Lay Leadership Committee Meeting	27	28	29	30
31	27 6:30 PM Narcotics Anonymous	28	29	30		