Highland Avenue United Methodist Church
River Churches Cooperative Parish

Many Waters District
of the New England Annual Conference
of the United Methodist Church



2025 Church Conference
November 2, 2025

Highland Avenue UMC
35 Highland Avenue
Gardiner, Maine
207-582-2303

HAUMChurch@gmail.com **http://highlandaveumc.net**

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2025 Holy Conferencing Business & Discussion Questions:

WHO ARE WE?

Business of Church Conference

1. Vote (take one vote for items a, b, c, d, e and f) *(CT churches use written ballots for election of trustees.)*
   a. Election of recording secretary *(The elected recording secretary is responsible for taking attendance and minutes for his/her congregation only. This must be submitted on the Church Dashboard. The required digital Church Conference Minutes report [worksheet available] follows the Church Conference agenda and replaces the narrative minutes. Church Conference Minutes are due one week after the conference.)*
   b. Approval of 2024 Church Conference Minutes and any Special Church/Charge Conference Minutes since last year's Church Conference.
   c. 2026 Pastor Compensation Report: (*Base compensation, housing exclusion [if designated by the pastor], housing allowance [if offered], and reimbursables are reported in whole dollar amounts by the Staff Parish Relations Committee. Record all compensation details in minutes.)*
   d. 2025 Nominations Report: *(Vote on church leaders and trustees to serve in 2026)*
   e. Affirm the Names of Lay servants, Certified Lay Servants, Certified Lay Speakers, and Certified Lay Ministers
   f. 2026 Budget
2. Trustees
   a. Did the church receive a bequest from a will? If so, how much, from whom and any restrictions?
   b. Has the church used principal from an endowment/investment for general operating expenses this year? If so, how much and for what purpose? If the church continues to use this amount annually, how long will this endowment/investment last?
   c. Has the church sold a parsonage or other property? Has the church used any principal from the sale? Did the church do this with the permission of the DS?
3. Receive reports *(receive all at once, no vote required)*
   2025 Accessibility Audit, 2025 Trustees Report, 2025 Safer Sanctuaries Policy, 2025 Fund Balance Audit Report *(2024 data)*, 2025 Finance Committee Report, 2025 Certified Lay Servant Report, 2025 Certified Lay Speaker Report, 2025 Certified Lay Minister Report, 2025 Pastor or Assigned Lay Person Report and other narrative reports.
4. 2025 Church Membership Report and audit.
5. Remembering the saints who have passed.

WHO IS OUR NEIGHBOR?

Summary by church leader and/or DS *(Use MissionInsite to get demographic report.)*

- What have you heard that affirmed what you already knew?
- What was surprising?
- What information was new?

- What do you wonder about?

TO WHAT IS GOD CALLING US?
(Love boldly, serve joyfully, lead courageously)

6. (East Pittston ONLY) Presentation of 2025 Candidacy Form 104, examination,
   a. Examination and ballot vote for any new candidate for ministry

Based on what you heard about the community, and what you know about your congregation, answer the following questions:

- What are you doing to make new disciples of Jesus Christ? How have these practices been fruitful?
- Do you have a clear Christ-centered mission, vision, and core values for your church? If so, what are they? How do your ministry practices reflect these?
- What do you need to enable members of your congregation to make and grow disciples?
- What training or resources would be helpful in your local context?
- As we move toward the cooperative parish model, how can you collaborate with other churches to seek vitality and growth together?

Vicki Record

2025 CC: 2024 Church Conference Minutes

First Name	Last Name	Email
Vicki	Record	vickirecord@gmail.com

Church	Gardiner: Highland Avenue UMC
District	Many Waters
Presiding Elder Name	Rev. Arlene Tully, D.S.
Church Conference Date	2024-12-19
1. Authorization of virtual meeting	No
2. Election of Secretary	Vicki Record
3. Recording of attendance	Joan Anastasio Mary (Kitty) Cogley Connie Greenleaf Kay Gregory Patti Martin Pat McKee Judy Meserve Vicki Record Patsy Tessier Jaye Trimm
Attach attendance	
4. Approval of Minutes of 2023 Church Conference(s)	Yes
4.a. 2023 Church Conference Minutes: If amended, list corrections here.	
4.b. List all dates of special church conferences. Comments.	January 11, 2024 - approved unanimously December 1, 2024 - approved unanimously
5. Presentation of 2023 Trustees Report, 2024 Accessibility Audit, 2024 Energy Action Checklist, 2024 Safer Sanctuaries Policy Updates	Trustee Report and Accessibility Audit uploaded to portal; Pastor Angela Rotherham clarified that no monies had been used from the principle from investments/endowments for operating expenses per conversation with Dwight Littlefield, Trustee Treasurer; Safer Sanctuary Policy in process of being updated; former Safe Sanctuary Policy uploaded to portal temporarily
5.a. Has the congregation received any bequests from a will since the last Church Conference?	Yes
Bequests from wills received since the last Church Conference have been accepted by vote.	Yes
Comments	Lois Church ($5,000) Marilyn Brown ($1000)
5.b. Has the congregation used any capital/principle from investments/endowments for operating expenses this year?	No
5.c. Has the congregation spent any funds realized from the sale of a parsonage?	No

6. Pastor(s) Compensation

	Pastor Name If none, enter "None"	Salary If none, enter "0."	Housing Exclusion Designated by the pastor. If none, enter "0."	Housing Allowance If none, enter "0."	Reimbursable If none, enter "0."
First Compensation	none	0	0	0	0

6.a. Approval of Pastor(s) Compensation	Yes
Comments	Vote to affirm compensation for both Rev. Angela Rotherham and Pastor Mauren Juliao taken - see MOU and Green Street UMC report

7. Presentation of 2023 Fund Balance Audit Report and 2024 Finance Committee Report	Both presented - audit approved
7.a. Approval of 2024 CC: Budget (2025 data)	Yes
Comments	approved unanimously
8. Approval of 2024 CC: Nominations Report (2025 data)	Yes
8.a. Approval of Church Trustees	Yes
Comments	Need to add Caring Team Representative to the Administrative Council
9. Approval of Certified Lay Servant/Speaker/Minister Reports	No
10. Approval of new Candidate(s) for Ministry	No
10.a. Approval of reaffirmed Candidate(s) for Ministry	No
11. Presentation of Clergy Narrative Reports	d. Pastor Mauren talked about the celebration of what has happened within the parish in the past year. Report uploaded to portal
12. Presentation of Membership Report and Remembering our Saints	Report uploaded to portal; Pastor Angela Rotherham prayed for the Saints lost in the past year.
12.a Approval of removal of members by action of church conference.	No
Comments	
13. Presentation of ministry celebrations, narrative reports, and motions.	Included in the Church Conference booklet attached
14. Resources we can share	
15. Resources we need	
16. Ways that we are already sharing resources with other churches	
Additional Comments/Information	
Attach additional files here.	

District office use only.	

Special Church Conference

February 26, 2025

Members of Highland Avenue United Methodist Church present: **Kitty Cogley, Phil Garwood, Lynn Gerard, Connie Greenleaf, Rusty Greenleaf, Kay Gregory, Dwight Littlefield, Patti Martin, Pat McKee, Judy Meserve, Pam Mitchel, Cheryl Ramsay, Vicki Record, Patsy Tessier, Jaye Trimm, Wendy Vigue** and **Sharon Wogaman. Ruth Pallotta and Michel Tessier attended as non-voting participants.**

Rev. Arlene Tully, District Superintendent, opened the meeting of the River Churches on Zoom. Rev. Angela Rotherham led us in prayer.

Secretaries were chosen to take the minutes for each church. Vicki Record was elected by Highland Avenue UMC.

The motion was made for a vote to authorize the virtual meeting:

> *We move that those who are authorized to participate in the church conferences of Green Street UMC, Highland Avenue UMC, Randolph UMC, and East Pittston UMC on February 26, 2025 hereby agree that we consent to proceed with a virtual meeting using remote technology, and consent that all of our decisions are in accordance with the Constitution of the United Methodist Church (Division Two, Section VI, Article II (¶33) and with the laws of the church and are therefore legal and binding actions of the conference.*

The motion was moved by Dave Robbins of Green Street UMC and seconded by Ashley Wing of East Pittston UMC. The vote was unanimously approved.

The Church Conferences was called to order. Rev. Tully addressed the motions of each church in turn.

Highland Avenue UMC had two items to approve.

- The approval of Patsy Tessier as Lay Member to Annual Conference. No motion was necessary as it comes from the Nominations Committee. It was unanimously approved.
- The approval of the merger between Highland Avenue United Methodist Church and Randolph United Methodist Church.

Rev. Tully asked if anyone felt that a confidential ballot was necessary using the chat function. Rev. Angela Rotherham noted that both councils had discussed the agreement, and congregational meetings had been held. Everyone seemed to be in favor of the merger. Rev. Tully then asked if there were any objections to having a voice ballot. There were no objections.

Phil Garwood then made a motion that Highland Avenue approve the merger between Highland Avenue UMC and Randolph UMC. Pam Mitchel seconded the motion. Rev. Tully asked if there was any discussion. It was noted that Highland Avenue was excited to have Randolph merge with us.

A vote was then taken, and it was approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Pat McKee to adjourn the meeting for Highland Avenue and was seconded by Phil Garwood. The motion carried, and the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicki L Record
Church Administrator
Highland Avenue United Methodist Church

Special Church Conference

June 29, 2025

Members Present: **Phyllis Buck, Kitty Cogley, Cathy Cumler-Dennis, Connie Greenleaf, Rusty Greenleaf, Kay Gregory, Becky Hicks, Dwight Littlefield, Betty MacDonald, Cindy Malcolm, Gail Manelick, Patti Martin, Pat McKee, Paula Moore, Patricia O'Connor, Kathy Patrick, Vicki Record, Rhonda Rush, Patsy Tessier, Jaye Trimm, Wendy Vigue, Dennis Wogaman,** and **Sharon Wogaman**

The special church conference of Highland Avenue United Methodist Church was convened on June 29, 2025 to:

authorize the Highland Avenue United Methodist Church Board of Trustees to receive and administer a bequest from the Hynson Estate"

District Superintendent Arlene Tully had authorized Rev. Angela Rotherham to preside over the church conference. There were twenty-three members present with none attending on Zoom.

Vicki Record was elected to take the minutes.

Rev. Angela asked Rusty Greenleaf, the chairperson of the Board of Trustees, to explain the terms of the bequest. Rusty noted that Jim Hynson had left $606,371.79 to the church with the restriction that "up to $300,000.00 may be spent to refurbish one or more stained glass windows on East side of sanctuary in memory of Susan Jane (Gerrish) Hynson." He noted that the Trustees would open a separate account for the $300,000 to be used in the future as needed for the stained-glass windows and that the interest could be used for other needs of the church. Trustees moved that HAUMC accept the gift with restrictions as explained. No second was needed as the recommendation came from a committee.

Rev. Angela asked if there were any questions.

- Pat McKee noted the language of the restriction - "may be used" - seems to indicate that the moneys could be used for other purposes if deemed necessary.
- Dwight Littlefield, Trustee Treasurer, reiterated that the intention of the Trustees was to keep the $300,000 in a separate account to be used at a future time when necessary. The interest could be used for other purposes at any time.

Since there were no other questions, Pastor Angela called for the vote. The vote was unanimous: 23 yes votes 0 no votes

The members expressed appreciation for Jim Hynson's gift to the church.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Vicki L. Record
Church Administrator

None None

2025 CC: Pastor Compensation Report

Church	Gardiner: Highland Avenue UMC
District	Many Waters
Does your church complete an annual compensation report for Pastor(s), Coordinating Pastor(s), CLM or Lay Supply?	No

Report covers January 1 2026 to December 31 2026

First Name	Last Name	Email
None	None	

Acknowledgment	Yes
Full Name and Role	Rev. Angela Rotherham, Lead Pastor
Date	2025-10-09

District office use only.

HAUMC Lay Leadership 2026

Pastors and Lay Leaders are included as voting members of all committees except Trustees, unless they are elected members of that Committee.
Pastors should be given prior notice about all meetings.

Administrative Council

Members shall include (but are not limited to): Chairperson, Recording Secretaries, Lay Leader, Financial Secretary, Treasurer, Parish SPRC Rep, Chair or Rep of Trustees, Chair or Rep of Finance, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Pastor. Additional members: Benevolence Treasurer, Membership Secretary, Chair or Rep of United Methodist Men, Community Supper Coordinator, and Rep. of former Randolph UMC. *Unless a meeting is called as a Charge Conference*, all Council meetings are open to the public and all *HAUMC members* have voice and vote.

Ad Council Chair:
Co-Lay Leaders: Pat McKee (Parish Council) & Patsy Tessier (Parish SPRC)
Lay Member to AC: Ruth Pallotta
Recording Secretaries *(Ad Council & Church Conference)*: Kitty Cogley & Vicki Record
Parish SPRC Rep *(Maximum of two consecutive 3-Year Terms before 1 year break is required by Discipline. Must be a member of HAUMC. Need 1 plus one Lay Leader)*: Pam Mitchell (2024)
Parish Council Reps *(need 1 plus one Lay Leader)*: Kitty Cogley
Parish Coordinating Team *(need 2)*: Vicki Record & Sharon Wogaman
HA Emergency Coordinator: Phil Garwood
Membership Secretary: Cheryl Ramsay
Benevolence Treasurer: Judy Meserve
United Methodist Men: (Elect their own)
Community Supper Coordinator: Pam Mitchell
Rep from Caring Team:
Rep from former Randolph UMC: Diann Bailey

Board of Trustees

(Two-thirds of this committee must be made up of HAUMC members and are elected to 3-Year terms. They elect their own chairperson and Treasurer.)

2026	2027	2028
	Rusty Greenleaf (2022)	Rhonda Rush (2023)
	Dwight Littlefield (2022)	Tyler Trott (2026)
	Dennis Wogaman (2025)	
	Sandy Batten (2025)	

Stewardship & Finance

Chair: Jaye Trimm
Financial Sec'y: Kitty Cogley
Treasurer: Pat McKee
Committee Members: Diann Bailey, Cheryl Ramsay, Paula Greenleaf
Finance Members MUST ALSO include: Pastor(s), Ad Council Chair, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Rep of SPRC, Rep of Trustees, and Lay Leader.

Nominations and Leadership Development

(These members are elected to 3-Year terms.)
Chair: Pastor(s)
Vice Chair: Lay Leader(s)

2026	2027	2028
	Patti Martin	
	Cindy Malcolm	

Caring Team

Members: Sandy Batten, Ruth Pallotta, Patsy Tessier, Kay Gregory, Judy Meserve, Pat O'Connor, Sharon Wogaman, Cathy Cumler-Dennis, Emily Long, Patti Martin, Cindy Malcolm, Darlene Young, Sandy Nisbet

Worship & Music Committee (TBD)

Chair:
Usher Ministry Coordinator:
Music Minister: Ralph Cheeney
Members:

Acct #	Description		2026 Estimated Budget
4000	Pledges		$72,500
4001	Invest Transfer to General Fund		$8,000
4003	Loose Offering		$2,500
4004	Seasonal Envelope		$1,000
4005	Hannaford		$8,000
4006	Fund Raisers		$4,500
4007	Building Use		$5,000
4010	Misc./Donations		$500
4012	Local Missions		$5,000
4013	Capital Project		$1
4014	Bank Interest		$10
4015	Verizon Rent		$18,700
Budget surplus - rollover previous year			$16,100
	Total income:		**$141,811**
Difference between income and expenses:			**$5**
Acct #	**Description**		**2026 Estimated Budget**
5000	Co-op Pastors Compensation		$35,155
5001	Custodian's Salary		$9,100
5002	Music Minister Salary		$6,720
5003	Financial Secretary Salary		$1,800
5004	Treasurer Salary		$1,800
5005	Secretary Salary		$6,825
5006	Social Security		$1,500
5007	Pulpit/Lay Supplies		$2,000
5008	Workers' Comp.		$200
5010	Fund Raising Expenses		$200
5011	Capital Improvement		$1
5100	Telephone/Internet		$1,500
5101	Electricity		$2,000
5102	Propane		$100
5103	Water		$350
5104	Sewer		$600
5105	Heating Oil/Furnace Maint		$14,500
5106	Rubbish Removal		$400
5107	State of ME - Paid medical leave		$100
5108	Building Repairs		$5,000

Acct #	Description		2026 Estimated Budget
5109	Snow Removal		$4,500
5110	Lawn/Landscaping		$1,800
5111	Elevator Contract		$1,250
5112	Elevator License		$300
5113	Clock Contract		$850
5114	Piano Tuning		$175
5115	Church Audit		$1
5201	Office Supplies		$1,400
5202	Christian Ed		$1
5203	Copier Rental		$1,900
5204	Cust. Supplies		$500
5205	Music		$200
5206	Web Site		$600
5207	Mechuwana		$300
5208	Realm		$1,800
5209	Floor Maintenance		$1,000
5301	Advertising		$400
5302	Building Insurance		$14,000
5302	Memorial Receptions		$1,000
5304	Conference Expenses		$900
5306	Bank Fees		$120
5307	Investment Transfer (Trombly)		$1
5309	Caring Team		$200
5401	Mission Shares		$13,507
5404	Local Missions		$5,000
5406	Zoom		$250
			$141,806

Rusty Greenleaf

...

2025 CC: Trustees Report (2024 data)

First Name	Last Name	Email
Rusty	Greenleaf	rusty.greenleaf@connorwheels.com

Church	Gardiner: Highland Avenue UMC
District	Many Waters

Trustees Officers

1. Organization for the present conference year was effective the date of church conference, by electing the following officers (no less than three, and up to nine persons):

For these positions, enter information in the following format:

First name, Last name, term expiration. Example: Jon Doe, xx/xx/xxxx.

Chair/President	Rusty Greenleaf,12/31/2024
Vice Chair/Vice President	
Secretary	Rhonda Rush, 12/31/2025
Trustee Treasurer	Dwight Littlefield, 12/31/2024
Member(s):	Rusty Greenleaf Rhonda Rush Dwight Littlefield Sandy Batten Dennis Wogaman

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2. Is the local church incorporated? ¶2529.1a (p. 752)	Yes

3.a. Name(s) in which title to each piece of property is recorded, as shown by civil land records ¶2536 (p.759), ¶2538 (p. 760):

	Recorded Name	Registry/Office (town/state)	Book	Page
Church/Parsonage/Other Buildings	Highland Avenue United Methodist Church	Office-Education Wing	61	430

3.b. Churches are responsible for their deeds and other legal papers. Who is custodian of these documents?	Treasurer, Board of Trustees
3.c. Where are the deeds and other legal papers kept?	Safe deposit box and office

---

4. Do you have a long-term plan for the replacement of facilities and equipment as they deteriorate?	No
If no, explain.	We have had some discussion but no plans made

---

Insurance ¶2533.2 (p. 756), 2550.7 (p.773)

5. The New England Conference oversees a comprehensive property/casualty insurance and risk management program for all churches and some other affiliated organizations within the Conference family.	Yes
5.b. Have the buildings been inspected for fire and other safety hazards within the past year?	No

If no, explain.	We have not been contacted by the new insurance company, Sovereign Insurance
5.c. Have you assessed the replacement value within the last 5 years?	Yes
5.d. Who performed the assessment?	Fred C. Church representative
5.e. Has the church completed an Energy Action Checklist?	No

6. Provide a detailed list of income-producing funds and permanent funds:

	Name	Date Received	Amount	Where Invested	Income	How used for Ministry
Fund	Treasury	8/29/2025	135,296.98	Raymond James		Parsonage Fund Not Usable
Fund	Freedom	8/29/2025	746,842.45	Raymond James		Church Support
Fund	Parnassus	8/29/2025	316,428.42	Raymond James		Church Support
Fund	Restricted Stained glass	8/29/2025	300,132.33	Raymond James		Stained glass repair (suggested)

Paragraph 2533.5 of the Book of Discipline states:

"The board of trustees is encouraged to invest in institutions, companies, corporations, or funds that make a positive contribution toward the realization of the goals outlined in the Social Principles of our Church." Are your assets invested in socially responsible funds and/or with an institution that aligns its investment strategies with the United Methodist Social Principles (https://www.umcjustice.org/documents/124).

If yes, attach below a list of funds/institutions and a statement clarifying the manner in which these investments made a positive contribution.

If no, study the Social Principles and consider making changes to your investment strategy.

Attach Additional Information	
Additional Comments/Information	

7. Does your church have any of the following?	Cell Tower CM Sensor 24/7 Temperature and Water Alert System (Church) or equivalent**

*UMCOR Cleaning Kit (https://umcmission.org/umcor-cleaning-kit/)

**CM Sensor 24/7 temperature and water alert system (https://www.churchmutual.com/sensors/)

Acknowledgement 2025	Yes
Full name and role	Rusty Greenleaf Trustee Chair
Date	2025-09-29

District office use only	

THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH CHURCH CONFERENCE

Fund Balance Report

The Committee on Finance is required to make provision for an annual audit of the records of all the financial officers (including the financial secretary or church business manager and treasurers) of the church and all its organizations and shall report to the Church Conference. Guidelines for handling of an accountability of funds can be found in the 2013-2016 United Methodist Church Financial Records Handbook and in Guidelines for Leading Your Congregation: FINANCE available at http://www.cokesbury.com, and The Local Church Audit Guide*, available at http://www.gcfa.org.

THIS REPORT IS TO BE COMPLETED AFTER THE END OF THE YEAR

THIS REPORT DOES NOT NEED TO BE INCLUDED WITH YOUR OTHER CHURCH CONFERENCE FORMS

Copies of this report should be filed with the recording secretary, pastor, district superintendent and chairperson of the committee on finance.

Highland Avenue United Methodist Church | New England District | Charge | Annual Conference 2024

For the period beginning Monday, January 1, 2024 and ending December 31,

1. Receipts, Disbursements, and Balances (Round to the nearest dollar)

Local Church Funds (Use those applicable to your church.)	(a) Balance at Beginning of Period	(b) Cash Received and Recorded	*(c) Total disburse-ments for Period (-)	*(d) Transfers + (-)	(e) Balance End Of Period
General Fund	$11,538	$120,357	-$118,323	$16,338	$29,910
Benevolence Fund	$1,138	$447	-$1,274	$1,000	$1,311
Board of Trustees' Fund	$0				$0
United Methodist Women	$2,368	$2,039	-$3,030		$1,378
	$0				$0
	$0				$0
	$0				$0
Other Organizations or Funds (enter name):					
Name: Trustee's Money Market Parsonage	$0	$0	$0	$0	$0
Name: Memorial Fund	$12,791	$2,134	$0	-$1,600	$13,325
Name: Hannaford Cards	$100	$141,579	-$132,933	-$8,646	$100
Name: Trustee's Investment	$759,770	$76,746	-$8,748	-$7,091	$820,677
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Name:					$0
Total amount of cash in *all* treasuries of the church	$787,705	$343,303	-$264,306	$0	$866,701

2. The Auditors ___ Auditing Committee _X_ (*check one*) has examined the accounts listed on the front side; reviewed procedures of counting and accounting under the current Book of Discipline; has reconciled receipts and disbursements with bank deposits and bank balances; and has found the balances displayed to be correct, procedures proper, and records properly kept, except as noted below (*attach additional pages as needed*):

3. Recommendations for changes in financial policies and practices (*attach additional pages as needed*):

Signatures of the Church Audit Committee, (if applicable)

_____, Chairperson

Date: 4/14/25

_____, Member

Date: 4/14/25

Fund Balance Report, 2009-2012

Prepared and edited by the General Council on Finance and Administration and authorized as the official form for this purpose.

April 14, 2025

Finance Committee

Highland Avenue United Methodist Church

35 Highland Ave

Gardiner, ME 04345

Dear Finance Committee Members,

An annual audit of the financial records of Highland Avenue United Methodist Church (HAUMC) was completed as of December 31, 2024. Enclosed is a completed Report of the Annual Audit for your records. The audit was conducted using guidance provided by the Local Church Audit Guide provided by the General Council on Finance & Administration.

The overall results of the audit were satisfactory as no material errors were identified. However, in conducting the review auditors identified areas in which policies and/or procedures could be strengthened. The recommendations are as follows:

1. The Treasurer's Expense report and Check Register report should include all payments not matter what the type(ACH including Bill Pay, debit card purchases, automatic withdrawals and checks).
2. Treasurer's check register included duplicate check numbers in some case with different amounts. Was able to reconcile to the Bank statement.
3. Please update Reimbursement Request form to the current Treasurer's name.

As mentioned previously, overall audit results are satisfactory. Recommendations made would enhance currently established practices. We would like to thank everyone for their help and consideration throughout the audit.

Sincerely,

Lisa J Wilson

Kim Backus

Mary (Kitty) Cogley

2025 CC: Finance Committee Report

Report covers date of prior church conference to date of current church conference.

Paragraphs and page numbers refer to the 2020/2024 United Methodist Book of Discipline (https://neumc-email.brtapp.com/files/districts/church+conferences/2025+church+conference+information/2020_2024_bookofdiscipline.pdf)

Please note that all questions marked with an asterisk (*) are required fields. If a required question does not pertain to you, please input "N/A" in the blank field.

THIS REPORT HAS BEEN PRE-FILLED WITH 2024 DATA. IF BLANK, NO DATA WAS SUBMITTED IN 2024 OR IT IS A NEW REQUIRED FIELD. ATTACHMENTS FROM THE PRIOR YEAR DO NOT PRE-FILL. TO ACCESS THE ATTACHMENTS, LOOK AT THE 2024 CHURCH CONFERENCE FORMS ON THE CHURCH DASHBOARD. REVIEW EACH QUESTION AND EDIT TO REFLECT THIS YEAR'S CHANGES.

First Name	Last Name	Email
Mary (Kitty)	Cogley	kitcog@aol.com

Church	Gardiner: Highland Avenue UMC
District	Many Waters
For the period beginning (date of prior church conference).	2024-12-20
For the period ending (date of current church conference).	2025-11-02
I. ORGANIZATION	
1. Has this committee been organized according to the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline (¶258.4)?	Yes
II. BUDGET AND COMMITMENT PLAN	
2.a. Has the committee submitted to the Church Council, or its equivalent, a complete budget for the ensuing year?	Yes
2.b. Did the committee give the Church Council an opportunity to request financial support for recommended ministries (¶ 258.4)?	Yes

3. How frequently does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer send members and contributors reports of their giving?	Annually
4. Is giving by individual participants in the local church reviewed by the finance committee for purposes of identifying trends and significant changes, and reminding people about their progress on their pledges?	Yes
5. What are the plans for raising sufficient income to meet the budget adopted by the Church Council (¶258.4)?	Through various methods: fundraising, pledges, investments, Fellowship Hall and Steeple rental, and Hannaford grocery cards.
6. Does the Financial Secretary/Treasurer report regularly to the Church Council on the giving trends in the church/charge?	Yes

III. THE HANDLING OF CHURCH FUNDS

7. Does the Treasurer regularly make reports to the Committee on Finance and the Church Council on the financial position of the church (¶258.4b)?	Yes
8. Are all benevolences and other connectional funds (mission shares, Special Sundays, pastor pension and pastor health billing) remitted monthly to the conference treasurer (¶258.4b)?	Yes
9.a. What bank(s) have been designated by the Church Council as a depository (¶258.4d)?	Camden National Bank

9.b. Are all accounts FDIC insured and in amounts at or below the current FDIC insurable limit?	Yes
9.c. Are all accounts in the name of the church?	Yes
10.a. Has the committee established written financial policies to document the internal controls of the local church (¶258.4d)?	Yes
10.b. Have these policies been reviewed by the committee and found to be adequate and effective (¶258.4d)?	Yes
11. Are the church offerings counted by a counting committee in accordance with the mandates of the Discipline (¶258.4a)?	Yes
12. Are all funds deposited promptly in accordance with procedures developed by the Committee on Finance (¶258.4a, d)?	Yes
13. Are financial officers of the church bonded (¶258.4b)? (New England conference property insurance includes bonding for local church elected officers.)	Yes
14.a. Have the financial records of the church and all its organizations been audited for the prior fiscal year (¶258.4c)?	Yes
14.b. Were there any recommendations or exceptions?	No

14.c. If there were recommendations or exceptions, how has the church addressed them?	
Financial Statement (year to date)	haumcstatementofactivities.pdf (https://neumc.brtapp.com/files/tables/registrations/2280169/questions/613785/6c88f9ab617e4ac28dc8edd19efe4eaf/haumcstatementofactivities.pdf)
Upload Additional Information	haumcfundsummaryjan-sept23.pdf (https://neumc.brtapp.com/files/tables/registrations/2280169/questions/613777/aec351ec775841068e4f97054e1427e4/haumcfundsummaryjan-sept23.pdf)

2025 Acknowledgement	**No**
Full Name and Role	Mary (Kitty) Cogley, Financial Secretary HAUMC
Date	2025-10-10

District Office use only	

Highland Avenue United Methodist Church

Statement of Activities

Date Range: Jan 1st 2025 - Sep 30th 2025

Accounts	Actual Aug 01, 2025 - Aug 31, 2025	Actual Jan 01, 2025 - Aug 31, 2025	Budget Remaining Jan 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025
Revenues			
4000 Pledges	4,075.00	47,699.00	11,916.00
4001 Transfer from Investments	0.00	13,588.56	(13,587.56)
4002 Certificate of deposit	0.00	(15,000.00)	30,000.00
4003 Loose Offering	220.42	1,804.42	(286.42)
4004 Seasonal Envelopes	0.00	440.00	560.00
4005 Hannaford Income	1,423.75	4,972.05	4,027.95
4006 Fund Raisers	0.00	2,093.00	3,367.00
4007 Building Use	250.00	3,610.00	(749.00)
4010 Miscellaneous and Donations	15,296.29	15,646.29	(16,146.29)
4012 Local Missions	760.00	5,451.99	(1,441.99)
4013 Capital Projects Unbudgeted	0.00	0.00	1.00
4014 Bank Interest	0.59	4.81	5.19
4015 Verizon Tower Rent	1,530.00	16,154.06	645.94
Total Revenues	**$ 23,556.05**	**$ 96,464.18**	**$ 18,311.82**
Expenses			
5000 Pastor's Salary	2,812.50	20,625.00	11,265.00
5001 Custodian's Salary	875.00	6,075.00	3,025.00
5002 Music Minister	533.33	4,266.64	1,600.03
5003 Financial Secretary	150.00	1,200.00	450.00
5004 Treasurer	150.00	1,200.00	450.00
5005 Secretary	541.67	4,333.36	1,624.97
5006 SS & Med. Taxes	105.19	2,773.38	(1,378.57)
5007 Guest Speaker/Pulpit supplies	400.00	947.96	552.04
5008 Workers' Comp. Insurance	0.00	208.30	(8.30)
5010 Fund Raising Expenditures	0.00	0.00	200.00
5011 Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	1.00
5100 Telephone and Internet	120.00	940.98	419.02
5101 Electricity	146.45	1,290.30	409.70
5102 LP Gas	0.00	0.00	100.00
5103 Water	89.86	411.35	(61.35)
5104 Sewer	143.10	286.20	213.80
5105 Heating Oil/maintenance cont	0.00	12,239.60	(239.60)
5106 Rubbish Removal	0.00	300.00	100.00
5107 State of Maine PFML	0.00	41.63	58.37
5108 Equipment & Building Repairs	0.00	2,135.71	2,864.29
5109 Snow Removal and Shoveling	0.00	4,700.00	(1,115.00)
5110 Lawn/Landscaping	0.00	1,800.00	0.00
5111 Elevator Contract	0.00	1,306.91	(56.91)
5112 Elevator License	306.00	306.00	(106.00)
5113 Clock Contract	0.00	0.00	850.00
5114 Piano Tuning	0.00	175.00	175.00
5115 Church Audit	0.00	0.00	1.00
5116 Organ Tuning	0.00	250.00	(250.00)
5201 Office Supplies	0.00	535.36	864.64
5202 Christian Education	0.00	0.00	1.00
5203 Copier Rental	158.73	1,269.84	630.16

Accounts	Actual Aug 01, 2025 - Aug 31, 2025	Actual Jan 01, 2025 - Aug 31, 2025	Budget Remaining Jan 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025
5204 Custodial Supplies	141.31	448.45	51.55
5205 Music	0.00	0.00	200.00
5206 Web Site	0.00	661.62	(211.62)
5207 Sustaining Member/Mechuwana	0.00	675.00	(375.00)
5208 Realm	144.60	1,210.72	489.28
5209 Floor Maintenance	0.00	0.00	1,000.00
5301 Advertising	0.00	0.00	400.00
5302 Building Insurance	0.00	6,687.05	7,312.95
5303 Memorial Receptions	399.92	(551.32)	2,001.32
5304 Conference Expenses	0.00	830.85	69.15
5306 Camden National Bank	10.00	115.00	5.00
5307 Trustee's investment transfer	11,000.00	13,213.56	(13,212.56)
5308 Misc/Certificate of Deposit	170.00	17,578.62	(12,578.62)
5309 Caring Team	0.00	60.00	140.00
5401 Ministry Support	687.31	5,361.80	2,339.20
5402 New England Missions	314.11	2,450.54	1,069.46
5403 World Missions	257.95	2,012.24	877.76
5404 Local Missions	510.00	7,029.29	(2,529.29)
5406 Zoom	0.00	159.90	(9.90)
Total Expenses	**$ 20,167.03**	**$ 127,561.84**	**$ 9,677.97**
Net Total	**$ 3,389.02**	**($ 31,097.66)**	**$ 8,633.85**

Highland Avenue United Methodist Church

Fund Summary

Jan 1-Sep 23, 2025 | Multiple Funds | All Payment Types

Fund	Total
Randolph UMC Donation	3,914.06
Building Use Donation	3,785.00
Christmas Envelope	50.00
Easter Envelope	360.00
Fund Raiser Income	2,133.00
General Fund	52,089.00
Hannaford Income	4,972.05
Initial Offering	30.00
Investment Transfer	11,000.00
Key Bank Transfer	2,213.56
Local Missions	4,080.00
Loose Cash Offering	2,139.42
Memorial Fund	3,821.08
Memorial Receptions	1,401.24
Misc	15,471.29
UMCOR	475.00
Verizon payment	13,800.00
	121,734.70

Report Summary

Report Run By
Kitty Cogley

Funds Included
Randolph UMC Donation, Advent Offering, Building Use Donation, Capital Projects, Christmas Envelope, Chrysalis Place, Clock Fund, Donation, Easter Envelope, Food For Thought, Foodless Supper, Fund Raiser Income, General Fund, Hannaford Income, Hurricane Relief Fund - U, Initial Offering, Investment Transfer, Key Bank Transfer, Local Missions, Loose Cash Offering, Memorial Fund, Memorial Receptions, Misc, Pastors Compensation, Raise the Roof, Roof Capital Campaign, Thanksgiving Envelope, UMCOR, UMW Pledge, Verizon payment

Date Range
YearToDate: Jan 1-Sep 23, 2025

Include Future Gifts
No

Payment Types
Check/Cash, Credit, Non-cash Gift, Other Online, Realm Online

Age Range
No Age Range Provided

River Churches Cooperative Parish – 2025 Pastors' Report

This year as we reflected on the growth of the local churches and the Parish, the image of wheat came to us from Mark 4: 26-29: "He also said, 'The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle because the harvest has come.'"

We are beyond planting the seeds. We have seen the seeds sprout and sometimes we truly don't know how. All we know is to give God all the glory! So now, like good farmers, we need to nurture the plant so that someday it will bear fruit. While we are not yet at the point of harvest, that is part of the dream and the realization of God's kingdom.

Our goals last year included equipping the laity to develop their ministries, create spaces to share faith as small groups, and help each church develop its vision and an action plan. When we began addressing these goals, it became apparent, however, that our goals were a bit premature. So we took a step back and focused on the basics, especially Biblical literacy and Methodist history. We were able to attend to some of these goals at the Parish and local church level.

In the parish, we have worked to help the Parish Committees (Council, SPRC, Coordinating) define their work, set goals, and give them clarity of vision. We calendared the work that needed to be done which helped with everyone's scheduling and set reasonable expectations for those who offer their time and talents on these teams. Together, we developed a Parish Benevolence/Discretionary Fund protocol to make the best use of our limited resources and to help as many people as possible. We created an application and protocol for applying for funds through our new Parish Capital Improvement Fund, a gift from the Randolph United Methodist Church. We continue to work on improving communications, but it seems this will be an area where there is always room for improvement. Part of that task was to move the Parish Google files to a Parish account. We have encouraged diversity in the Parish Committees so that more folks from the local churches have the opportunity to serve at the Parish level and there is less opportunity for burn-out among folks who are serving on too many committees at once.

One item that the congregational leadership identified was still needed was a definition of the roles of the parish and the individual congregations. The question was raised about how we prioritize the needs of the congregation and the needs of the parish. The pastors reflected on that and came to the understanding that both the parish and our individual congregations have the same goals: reach people, witness to God's love and make disciples of Jesus. We also concluded that if we can improve communications back and forth (parish-congregation-parish), we won't need to choose where to put our efforts because our parish programs will already include the needs and resources of each of the congregations. Ideally, we will combine our resources and time to reach our vision: Creating Currents of Connection to Build a More Loving Community. Our challenge is to continue improving the methods we use to get insight from the congregations

and bring them to our parish planning and vice versa, to share with the local church the goals and ideas from the parish level.

Our Parish shared events and ministries since our last church conference included: Vacation Bible School, Caring Bags for our Unhoused Neighbors, collection for United Methodist Economic Ministry's Thanksgiving baskets, annual Joint Service at Mill Park, Lunch and Sharing, New Member class, Disciple I Bible Study, Lent and Advent devotions created by members and friends, Christmas Caroling at Nursing Facilities, Blessing of the Animals, Holy Week services, Parish evangelism tables at Old Hallowell and Richmond days, Pastor Angela's slideshow of John Wesley's life and ministry, and the Parish Picnic at Camp Mechuwana where we also took the time to thank our guest preachers.

On the local church level this year, we have assisted individual churches with: filling some of the preaching calendar with members of the local church sharing their personal testimonies; evaluated the effectiveness of the frequency of council meetings to help reduce burn-out; transitioned mid-year leadership positions to ensure stability and continuity; assisted with staff evaluations and new hires; conducted visioning and planning retreats and special services; applied for cost reduction programs like mission share relief and modified replacement cost insurance; helped with the successful merger of two of our sister churches; encouraged the hosting of the conference training on the New Social Principles; and supported a new candidate for ministry. Of course, we also offered regular pastoral care through visits, calls, and cards, led worship including 9 funerals, 2 weddings, and the reception of new members at four of our churches. We were also able to bring a representative from each of the local churches to Annual Conference and offered a special worship service at each church designed around what the representatives found meaningful and salient. We tried a new nominations process which included complete descriptions citing spiritual gifts for the committees and positions within the church and inviting the congregation to be part of the nominations process in an effort to include more people and encourage wider participation, as well as teaching about how the committees work according to the Book of Discipline. With the support of the Parish SPRC, we continue to learn and grow as pastors, caring for ourselves and each other in ministry.

We serve at the Conference level, as is expected of clergy in the United Methodist connection. Rev. Angela serves as Co-Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry and so is also on several other Conference level committees by virtue of that position. Pastor Mauren is the Co-Chair of Hispanic/Latino Ministries for the Conference, Ethnic Local Church Concerns Committee and also serves on the Connectional Table with Rev. Angela.

Of the many advances the Parish has made this year, especially in terms of connection and cooperation between the churches, we'd like to highlight 3:

- Widening acceptance of the cooperative parish as shown from lay members bringing ideas for deepening connection with each other
- An increase in lay member participation in worship through sharing testimonies, reading Scripture, and offering music throughout the parish as well as in their local church

- A deepening sense of discipleship and desire to serve God and one another. Heightened energy and excitement when it comes to ministry.

Our goals for the coming year include:

- · Develop leadership for geographically based small groups and to support the pastors in the ministry of the local church
- · Develop job descriptions for staff

We started with the Word of God which included an image of the plant coming to maturity and bearing fruit. So, we also wanted to share with you our dream for the future of the parish. It is apparent that the financial feasibility of a full time elder and a part time pastor may not be long-term. As we imagine the ideal model for our Cooperative Parish, it would be of great benefit to have at least one point person at each local church to work with one full time elder. This would also be of great assistance to a new pastor who may not have ever worked in the type of Cooperative Parish we have built together. The elder would serve not only to preach and offer pastoral care in crisis, but to be more of an administrator and coordinator with those local leaders. We would continue to share in events and ministries, but the day to day operations of the local church would be entrusted to the laity. The pastor would equip and guide the laity to ensure adherence to Conference and Book of Discipline rules. The geographically based small groups would also provide care and support for members and neighbors. Should this be the path of the future, a part-time Parish administrative assistant would probably also be necessary.

Our vision includes equipping the laity with the tools they need to accomplish day-to-day decisions AND so that the local congregation has local leadership prepared to meet their needs. This is also a return to our early Methodist roots going all the way back to Jesse Lee – from whom all of our churches grew out of the Wesley class meetings he started. We truly believe that, by the grace of God, we can accomplish this vision for our Cooperative Parish and make it work well together.

Rev. Angela L. Rotherham

Pastor Mauren G. Julião

Report of the Co-Lay Leadership 2025
Highland Avenue United Methodist Church
Gardiner, Maine

Since submitting last year's report, we have seen our congregation come to accept – and even embrace – The River Churches Cooperative Parish model. We now realize that there is strength in numbers and the sharing of new ideas. We are helping to share and solve each other's challenges. New friendships and alliances are being forged, all to the benefit of living into the lessons that Jesus taught us.

Our lead Pastor, Angela Rotherham, and our Associate Pastor, Mauren Juliao, have been fearless leaders who spend a great deal of time together as they develop and forge a way forward as we settle into this new model of a Cooperative Parish.

Patsy Tessier

Highland Avenue United Methodist Church
Trustee Narrative
October 12, 2025

In January, welcomed two "new" members to the Board of Trustees:

Sandy Batten
Dennis Wogaman

HAUMC received one bequest:

From the estate of James R. Hynson, $606,371.79. Accepted by the Congregation June 29, 2025. $300,000. of that amount restricted to repair of stained-glass windows, in memory of Susan Hynson.

No principal has been used for general operating expenses.

No parsonage has been sold this year.

Withdrawals:

June, 2025 - $11,000	Fuel Oil	(Repaid August, 2025)
June, 2025 - $ 375	Mechuwana - Camp Scholarships	

Rusty Greenleaf, Trustee Chair

Dwight Littlefield, Trustee Treasurer

New England Conference
The United Methodist Church

2025 CC: United Methodist Men Report

Name and email of person submitting this form.

***First Name** Philip
***Last Name** Garwood
***Email** crabhatbrew@gmail.com
***Church Information**
06335 Gardiner: Highland Avenue UMC-35 Highland Av-Gardiner-ME-
***District** Many Waters

Number of UMMen members at the present time: 9-11
Number of members a year ago: 5-7
Number of new members during the past year: 4
Number of general meetings: 8t
Average attendance: 7

The HAUMC UMMen group meets roughly once per month except for the summer months. However, because of conflicts during some of the months, we have met 5 times during 2025 through October.
The gatherings are breakfast fellowship meetings. Since the formation of the River Churches Cooperative Parish, there have been mentions of expanding the men's group to a parish-wide group, but nothing has developed in that direction yet.
At present, the only mission project of the UMMen group is to provide the Gardiner Community Supper for the first Sunday of October. The Gardiner Community Supper is organized by the Gardiner Area Ministers Association. Every Sunday of every month, a free supper is provided at Christ Episcopal Church. Each participating church is responsible for a given Sunday each month, with the Girl Scout Troop doing the 5th Sundays. Within HAUMC, a different committee or group is responsible for the supper in a given month.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Cash on hand at beginning of period $148.75
Cash on hand as of October 6, 2025: $78.24
List here amount of any savings accounts, etc. N/A

Additional Comments/Information: Our treasury, such as it is, depends completely upon a free will offering at each breakfast meeting. This money is initially used to defray the expenses of the cook for purchasing the provisions for making breakfast. We do not have a summary of the reimbursements to the cook. The decrease in the Treasury is due to the lower average attendance.

President Name and Email Address **Philip Garwood; crabhatbrew@gmail.com**
Treasurer Name and Email Address **Dwight Littlefield; dr.little65@icloud.com**

Report of the Worship Committee 2025
Highland Avenue United Methodist Church
Gardiner, Maine

The Worship Committee meets as needed throughout the year to discuss and plan special worship services. We are in a time of transition after joining the River Churches Cooperative Parish and are trying to determine what the role of the committee will be going forward.

Connie Greenleaf, Chairperson
Worship Committee
Highland Avenue UMC

Report of the Caring Team 2025
Highland Avenue United Methodist Church
Gardiner, Maine

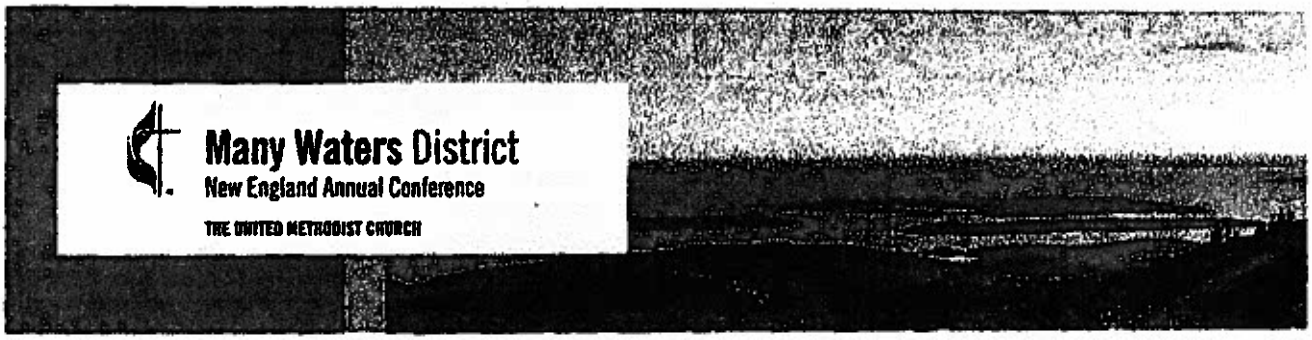
As the Caring Team of the Highland Ave. United Methodist Church, our purpose is to be aware of the needs of the congregation and the wider community. We serve the homebound, the hospitalized and those in assisted living residences.

The Caring Team has been working to provide outreach to both local and global organizations. Each month we collect needed items or money donations for ministries like Chrysalis Place (Gardiner area food pantry), Gardiner Area H.S. and Guidance Office food pantries, Food for Thought, UMCOR, Mechuwana, Bridging the Gap, etc. In December we have a Giving Tree to support a local family or two. This year we also supported two projects that the River Churches held. So far this year over $4000 has been raised for all these different projects.

Each month we visit three different senior living facilities where we join Sandy Nisbet while he sings and plays his guitar and then visit with the residents. We also go every other month to a home in Farmington.

The team also is continuing to provide delicious homemade pies and sides to church members and friends who are homebound or are going through a hard time. We also send cards and make phone calls.

Sandy Batten



New England Conference Center
411 Merrimack Street, Suite 200
Methuen, MA 01844

Attn: Many Waters District

Rev. Arlene M. Tully, District Superintendent
Lori Umberhind, Regional Administrator
Office: 978-682-7676 x280
Office email: KA-MWoffice@neumc.org
Superintendent email: mwds@neumc.org

May 29, 2025

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between The River Churches Cooperative Parish (Green Street UMC in Augusta, Cox Memorial UMC in Hallowell, Highland Avenue UMC in Gardiner, East Pittston UMC in East Pittston, and Dresden Richmond UMC in Richmond), Rev. Angela Rotherham, and Pastor Mauren Juliao for the period of July 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

The River Churches commit to sharing clergy and other resources as they do vital mission and ministry in the context of their own communities. This Memorandum of Understanding seeks to outline how the parish will operate. It may be updated as needed.

Clergy

1. Appointment
   The parish will be served by one full-time ordained Lead Pastor and one half-time licensed or ordained Associate Pastor. For the 2025-2026 appointment year, Bishop Thomas Bickerton intends to appoint Rev. Angela Rotherham as the Lead Pastor and Pastor Mauren Julião as the Associate Pastor.

2. Annual Pastoral Compensation

   Lead Pastor

   - Salary $55,000
   - Reimbursables $4,000
   - Pension (est.) $10,513
   - Parsonage (est.) $13,750
   - Health Insurance $22,596 ($21,468 with ACH)

   Associate Pastor

   - Salary $24,000
   - Reimbursables $2,000
   - Pension (est.) $3,570

Cost Sharing

- All pastor-related and parish office expenses will be shared by the five churches according to the following percentages:

Green Street UMC	25%	($2,813/mo.)
Cox Memorial UMC	25%	($2,813/mo.)
Highland Avenue UMC	25%	($2,813/mo.)
East Pittston UMC	12.5%	($1,406/mo.)
Dresden Richmond UMC	12.5%	($1,406/mo.)

- Note that, as the income budget was set before the final pastoral expenses were known, the Parish Council has approved use of the surplus from previous years in the Parish account to cover any difference.
- This budget includes a $2,500 line item for Parish Expenses, to be used for pastors' Annual Conference expenses, the annual audit of the parish checking account, and miscellaneous office supplies.
- A parish Treasurer will manage all pastor-related expenses, issueW-2s, track the parish budget, and provide regular updates to each of the churches. Barbara Learned has been assigned as the parish Treasurer. All parish-wide expenses will be paid through the River Churches Cooperative Parish checking account.
- To simplify the process of cost-sharing, each church will receive a budget indicating their share of the estimated annual pastor-related expenses. The church's contribution to the parish account will be shown as monthly payments on the budget (see above). However, churches are free to submit payments bimonthly, weekly, etc., as long as they are received before they are due.
- The Parish Treasurer's regular reports to the churches will indicate income budget and expense budget vs. actuals, and the fund balance for each church. Parish leadership will determine whether any year-end balance will be returned to the churches or remain in the account as a positive balance at the end of each year. The parish account will undergo an outside audit annually.
- Shared expenses for the parsonage will include:
    - All utilities per the Conference parsonage guidelines
    - Lawn mowing and snow plowing
    - Routine maintenance, such as annual furnace cleaning, chimney sweeping, and minor repairs such as plumber's calls, window glass replacement, etc.
    - Property taxes
    - Note: Capital expenses or upgrades (flooring replacement, new kitchen appliances,
    - renovations, etc.) are the responsibility of Green Street UMC, unless otherwise agreed upon by the parish churches.

Parish Committees

- Staff Parish Relations Committee
  A joint Staff Parish Relations Committee for the parish churches will consist of the Lay Leader of each church and one elected member from each church.
- Cooperative Parish Coordinating Committee
  The Coordinating Committee will consist of two members from each church. The purpose of this committee is to develop calendars and schedules, mutual resourcing, and shared ministry projects.
- Cooperative Parish Council
  The Parish Council will consist of the Lay Leader of each church and one elected member from each church. This council determines the use of parish funds and makes recommendations to the individual Church Councils for the future structure of the parish.

District Superintendent's Commitment

As a coordinating parish prototype, the District Superintendent commits to continuing support of the River Churches Cooperative Parish through consultation, assistance with obtaining grants, meeting with the pastors monthly, and meeting with parish committees as requested.

_____ SPRC Representative, Green Street UMC

_____ SPRC Representative, Cox Memorial UMC

_____ SPRC Representative, Highland Avenue UMC

_____ SPRC Representative, East Pittston UMC

_____ SPRC Representative, Dresden Richmond UMC

_____ Rev. Angela Rotherham, Lead Pastor

_____ Pastor Mauren Juliao, Associate Pastor

_____ Rev. Arlene M. Tully, District Superintendent

Cheryl Ramsay

2025 CC: Church Membership Report

This report includes the names of all persons involved in the changes in membership and other items as outlined in the 2020/2024 Book of Discipline (¶¶ 234, 340). Paragraphs and page numbers refer to the 2020-2024 United Methodist Book of Discipline (https://neumc-email.brtapp.com/files/districts/church+conferences/2025+church+conference+information/2020_2024_bookofdiscipline.pdf)

First Name	Last Name	Email
Cheryl	Ramsay	yamrams1050@gmail.com

Church	Gardiner: Highland Avenue UMC
District	Many Waters
For the period beginning (date of prior church conference).	2024-12-19
For the period ending (date of current church conference).	2025-11-02
1. List by name those who have been baptized since the last report.	N/A
or attach additional file for question 1.	
2. List those who have been received into professing membership since the last report.	a. Ruth Pallotta 5/18/2025
or attach additional file for question 2.	
3. List those who have been received into membership through transfer since the last report.	see attached
or attach additional file for question 3.	transferredmemberships2025.docx (https://neumc.brtapp.com/files/tables/registrations/2359917/questions/613981/115df1eab33e42e68f375f15c0d177eb/transferredmemberships2025.docx)
4. List those who have been removed from the professing membership since the last report. (¶228)	d. Sandra Arlene Hickey 1/22/25 d. Constance Barnard 2/4/25 d. Katherine Doe Ericson 1/26/25
or attach additional file(s) for question 4.	
5. Have the membership records and rolls been audited (reviewed) (¶231)?	No
If no, why not?	Because we have stayed current with changes
Acknowledgment	Yes
Full Name	Cheryl Ramsay
Date	2025-10-12

District office use only.	

***Those who have been received into membership through transfer since the last report:**

Transferred from Randolph UMC 2/26/2025

Marion Alexander
Netti Mae Alexander
Diann Bailey
Priscille Bailey
Calvin Ballard III
Lynn Cheney
Ralph Cheney
Barbara Crosby
Beverly Davis
Craig Davis
Judith Ellsmore
Chares Izzi
Lynn Izzi
Linda Jamison
Murial Oakes
Kathy Patrick
Judy Quintal
Alton Ranks
Rosemary Ranks
Alfred Seymour
Bette Seymour
Carol Trott
Tyler Trott
Bette Turcotte
Lorna Ulmer
Cathy Cumler-Dennis

Transferred from Cox Memorial UMC, Hallowell

Patricia O'Connor 5/18/2025

Highland Ave

MISSIONINSITE
Community Engagement Specialists
For Faith & Nonprofit Groups

THE AMERICANBELIEFS STUDY
RELIGIOUS PREFERENCES & PRACTICES

The MinistryInsite Report 2021

Prepared for: New England Conference UMC
Study area: 5 mi Around 35 Highland Avenue, Gardiner, Maine 04345, United States

Date of Report: 10/26/23
American Beliefs Study Version: 2021

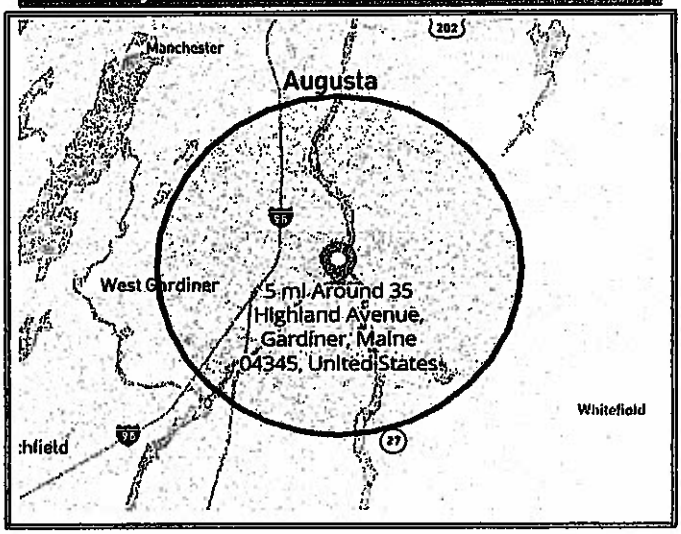
About the American Beliefs Study Reports

The American Beliefs Study provides a projection of likely religious beliefs, preferences, and practices for a defined study area. This report is based on the American Beliefs Study national survey, which MissionInsite conducts every five (5) years. While general religious data is available through various organizations, only MissionInsite can provide current local geography projections. This report is based upon the 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey.

The 2021 American Beliefs Study Survey series contains two reports. ***ReligiousInsite*** provides insights into community beliefs and religious preferences. ***MinistryInsite*** focuses on practical applications of the 2021 survey. It includes life concerns, reasons for non-participation (or considered nonparticipation) in a religious congregation or community, and a list of preferred ministries or programs. These are based on the specific study area. Customized priority lists address the study area's concerns, program and ministry preferences and more.

The ***ReligiousInsite Priorities*** Report and ***MinistryInsite Priorities*** Report capture the priorities of some survey questions based upon strengths of beliefs plus the direction of the beliefs, whether towards agreement or disagreement. These two reports correspond to the full reports.

The Study Area



Contents of the MinistryInsite Report

The ***MinistryInsite*** Report has five sections that provide multiple views about a single topic.

Report Section	Page
Life Concerns	2
Reasons for Non-Participation—Those Outside of a Religious Congregation or Community	12
Reasons to Consider Non-Participation—Those Inside a Religious Congregation or Community	17
Program or Ministry Preferences	22
Information Sources and Social Media Preferences	26

How to Read the Different Report Types

Four windows provide insight into the respondent's answers.

Window #1:	Reveals the detailed responses across all options.
Window #2:	Compares the study area responses to national average responses. For more details, see the last page.
Window #3:	Compares data between this survey and previous surveys to reveal trends.
Window #4:	Provides prioritized lists of the topic. This window is only available on certain topics and after applying analytics.

Sources: The American Beliefs Study

If congregational ministries and programs intend to provide support and service to their communities, knowing the community's concerns is important.

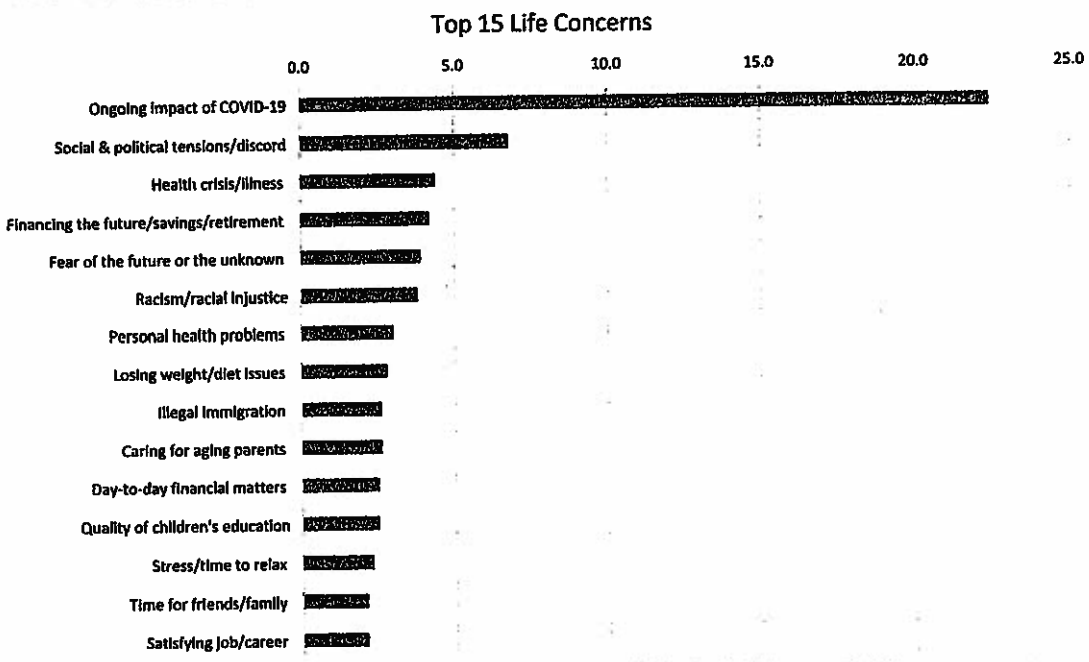
This report analyzes Life Concerns data and displays the 15 highest concerns for your study area. You can use this to discuss ways to engage and serve your community.

Priority List

Top 15 of 44 Life Concerns

Ranked by greatest concerns

Ranking	Concern	Ratio	Strength of Concern
1	Ongoing impact of COVID-19	22.4	Extremely Strong Concern
2	Social & political tensions/discord	6.8	Very Strong Concern
3	Health crisis/illness	4.4	Very Strong Concern
4	Financing the future/savings/retirement	4.2	Very Strong Concern
5	Fear of the future or the unknown	3.9	Strong Concern
6	Racism/racial injustice	3.8	Strong Concern
7	Personal health problems	3.0	Strong Concern
8	Losing weight/diet issues	2.8	Strong Concern
9	Illegal immigration	2.6	Strong Concern
10	Caring for aging parents	2.6	Strong Concern
11	Day-to-day financial matters	2.5	Strong Concern
12	Quality of children's education	2.5	Strong Concern
13	Stress/time to relax	2.3	Strong Concern
14	Time for friends/family	2.1	Strong Concern
15	Satisfying job/career	2.1	Strong Concern



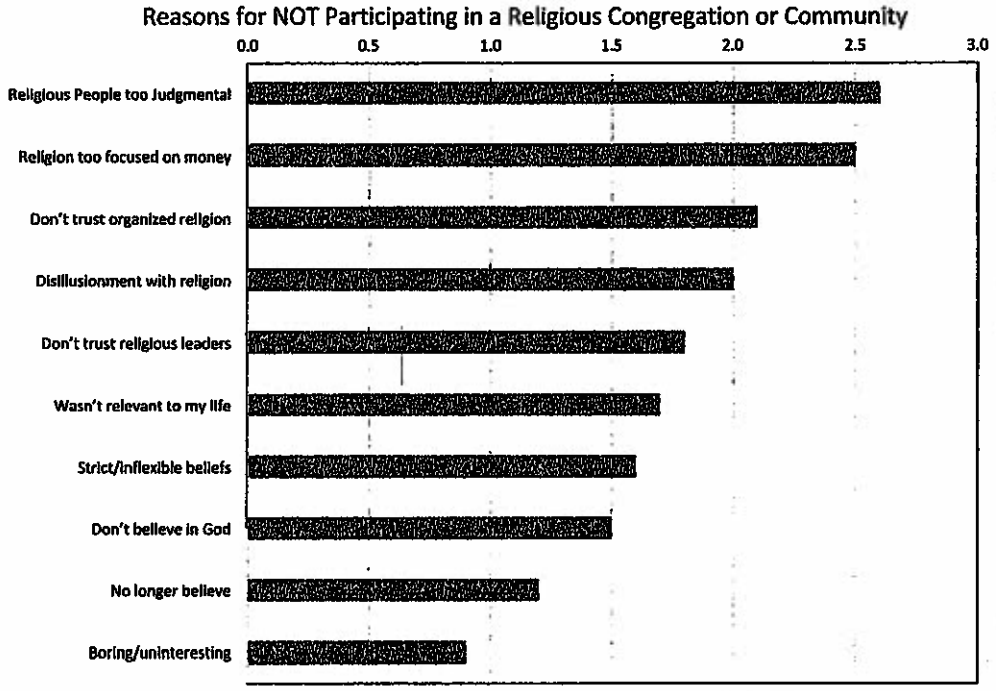
Hint: This report compares the percentage of people who had significant concern on the issue to those who had little to no concern on the issue.

Sources: The American Beliefs Study

Priority List

Top 10 of 25 Reasons for people outside a religious congregation or community for not participating

Ranking	Concern	Ratio	Strength of Reason
1	Religious People too Judgmental	2.6	Strong Reason
2	Religion too focused on money	2.5	Strong Reason
3	Don't trust organized religion	2.1	Strong Reason
4	Disillusionment with religion	2.0	Strong Reason
5	Don't trust religious leaders	1.8	Somewhat Strong Reason
6	Wasn't relevant to my life	1.7	Somewhat Strong Reason
7	Strict/inflexible beliefs	1.6	Somewhat Strong Reason
8	Don't believe in God	1.5	Somewhat Strong Reason
9	No longer believe	1.2	Moderate Reason
10	Boring/uninteresting	0.9	Moderate Reason



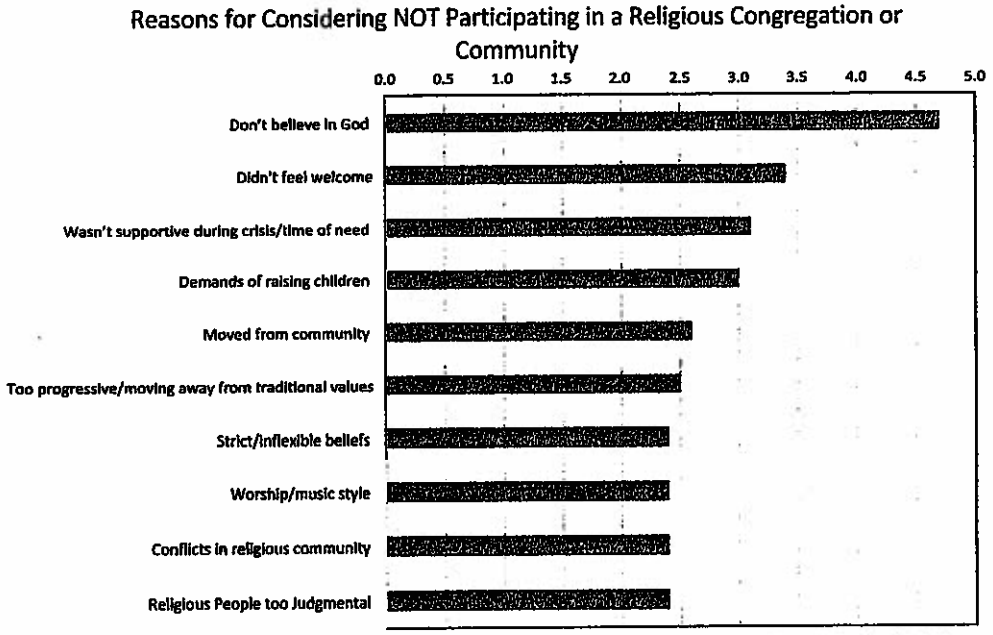
Hint: This report compares the percentage of people to whom the reasons were at least somewhat important with those to whom they were not important. Those who were "Not Sure" are not included.

Sources: The American Beliefs Study

Priority List

Top 10 of 25 reasons for considering NOT participating in a religious congregation or community

Ranking	Concern	Ratio	Strength
1	Don't believe in God	4.7	Very Strong Reason
2	Didn't feel welcome	3.4	Strong Reason
3	Wasn't supportive during crisis/time of need	3.1	Strong Reason
4	Demands of raising children	3.0	Strong Reason
5	Moved from community	2.6	Strong Reason
6	Too progressive/moving away from traditional values	2.5	Strong Reason
7	Strict/inflexible beliefs	2.4	Strong Reason
8	Worship/music style	2.4	Strong Reason
9	Conflicts in religious community	2.4	Strong Reason
10	Religious People too Judgmental	2.4	Strong Reason



Hint: This report compares the percentage of people to whom the reasons were at least somewhat important with those to whom they were not important. Those who were "Not Sure" are not included.

Sources: The American Beliefs Study

You can interpret program and ministry data in three ways.

First, look at how the study area compares to the national average. This indicates if your area needs this program.

Second, consider the Important percentage. If the percentage is above 20%, your study's population would likely benefit from that particular program.

Third, look at the ratio. The ratio is calculated by dividing the Important by the Not Important responses. The higher the number, the stronger the desire for that program, especially if a program has a ratio of "1" or higher.

This table displays how program preferences for this study area rank according to their ratio.

Priority List

Ministry or Program Recommendations Based Upon This Study Area

Preferences are ranked by ratio of Important to not Important

Ranking	*Program*	*Ratio*	*Strength of Preference*
1	Warm and friendly encounters	4.4	Very Strong Preference
2	Quality sermons	2.0	Strong Preference
3	Traditional worship experiences	1.5	Somewhat Strong Preference
4	Holiday programs/activities	1.5	Somewhat Strong Preference
5	Opportunities to develop personal relationships	1.4	Somewhat Strong Preference
6	Opportunities for volunteering in the community	1.3	Somewhat Strong Preference
7	Seniors/retiree activities	1.2	Moderate Preference
8	Adult social activities	1.1	Moderate Preference
9	Celebration of sacraments	1.0	Moderate Preference
10	Involvement in social causes	1.0	Moderate Preference
11	Family oriented activities	0.9	Moderate Preference
12	Small groups (i.e., life groups, personal interest groups)	0.7	Somewhat Minimal Preference
13	Cultural programs (music, drama, art)	0.7	Somewhat Minimal Preference
14	Contemporary worship experiences	0.7	Somewhat Minimal Preference
15	Crisis support groups	0.6	Somewhat Minimal Preference
16	Social justice advocacy work	0.6	Somewhat Minimal Preference
17	Religious education for children	0.6	Somewhat Minimal Preference
18	Spiritual discussion groups	0.5	Minimal Preference
19	Online or virtual worship experiences	0.5	Minimal Preference
20	Personal/family counseling	0.4	Minimal Preference
21	Bible or Scripture study/prayer groups	0.4	Minimal Preference
22	Size of church congregation	0.4	Minimal Preference
23	Youth social activities	0.4	Minimal Preference
24	Practical training seminars (money management, computer skills, etc.)	0.3	Very Minimal Preference

Sources: The American Beliefs Study

Remembrance of Our Saints

They will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from the God
of their salvation. Psalm 24.5

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