



The Hammond Streeter

The Newsletter of the
Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

Senior Pastor: Rev. Mark Allen Doty, Ph.D.

Pastoral Assistant: Rev. J. Gregory Bridges-Music,

An Open and Affirming Community

January 28, 2019

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

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MADONNA ARSENAULT TO PREACH ON SUNDAY; **TO PRESENT SECOND HOUR** **ON SPIRITUAL DIRECTION ON FEB. 10**

Our friend Madonna Arsenault leads the Adult Class on Sunday mornings at HSCC and is the prime mover in getting musicians together to play during the Fellowship Hour. Madonna is also a Member-in-Discernment toward the process of becoming an ordained UCC pastor. She will be delivering the Communion meditation this coming Sunday, February 3. The message, "Inside God's Loving Embrace," is taken from the Gospel of Luke, the focus during the cycle of Epiphany. She will be assisted in the service by Pastor Greg.

Pastor Mark will be participating in the ordination on Sunday of a Ferry Beach friend, David Egan, at the famous Old Ship Church in Hingham, Massachusetts. Mr. Egan will be ordained as a Unitarian Universalist pastor at Old Ship, the oldest continuously operating congregation in America. The church, built in 1681, has a roof which resembles the hull of a ship.

We look forward to Madonna Arsenault's Second Hour at 11:30 AM on Sunday, February 10th. She will introduce us to the Wisdom Road Center for Spiritual Direction that will be centered at Hammond Street. Madonna's ministry among us will focus on compassionate soul care and spiritual companionship.

Plan to join us for worship on Sunday and a week later for our Second Hour on February 10!

**THIS SUNDAY AT HAMMOND STREET CHURCH
ANNUAL MEETING
February 03, 2019**

**PREACHING: Madonna Arsenault, M. Div.
SCRIPTURE: Luke 4:21-30
MEDITATION: "INSIDE GOD'S LOVING EMBRACE"**

*9:00 AM Adult Sunday School
10:00 AM : Sanctuary Worship
11:30 AM : Fellowship Hour*

PLEASE REMEMBER

**Ross Manor: Lloyd George
Bangor Rehab & Nursing:
Dot Simmons**

**Hammond Streeters at Home:
Barbara Brown, Sandy Farver,
Bob Young, Del Reidt, Thom Ronayne,
Rev. Dave Follansbee**

Loving One Another

Dear Friends,

Yesterday's amazing Annual Meeting was a celebration of many aspects of our life together: the strength of our financial footing, the depth of our leadership and the embracing of the future—our Safety Committee and the work on improving the website, as examples. But through the presentations and the reports, I found myself being so grateful for the people called Hammond Streeters! You may have heard me speaking of a visit I made to Together Place at the end of High Street many years ago. A volunteer served me a plate of food and asked me where I served as pastor. When I told her, the woman said immediately, “There's a lot of love in that church!”

On the one hand, I marvel that this is the beginning of my 18th year in your midst. The longest I served a previous congregation was ten total years—three years as an Associate Pastor and seven years as the Senior Pastor. The fact that my service at HSCC has flown by is indeed a testimony to you good people. That woman down the street was wiser than she knew. There is a lot of love in this place!

Recently I finished reading The Day the World Came to Town: 9/11 in Gander, New Newfoundland by Jim Defede. You may have heard that when American airspace was closed on September 11, 2001, 38 airliners were forced to land in Gander. The sudden arrival of over 6,000 people from all over the world to this tiny community is the subject of this book and a musical, Come From Away. What is so remarkable about the Gander story, of course, was the magnificent response of the townspeople: “Oz Fudge, the town constable searched all over Gander for a flight crew member so that he could give her a hug as a favor to her sister, who managed to reach her by phone. Eithne Smith, an elementary-school teacher, helped the passengers sheltered at her school fax letters to loved ones all over the world. And members of a local animal protection agency crawled into the cargo holds of the jets to feed and care for all of the animals on the flights.” Some of the travelers ended up spending a week in Gander, but the experience touched the lives of passengers and crew and hosts forever.

Hammond Streeters are just like that, I do believe. We are blessed to know and love one another and also are wonderful about reaching out to strangers who find their way to our door. May it be ever thus!

Blessings,

Mark Allen Doty, Senior Pastor

MISSING COAT: Sunday after the annual meeting, someone took my coat by mistake. It is a long, black, wool, button coat. The tag is **Jones of New York**. I found another black, wool coat hanging outside the sanctuary on the High St. side. I think someone just forgot where her coat was and took mine from the downstairs hall rack. So, if you hear of anyone who has my coat, please let me know. I will be going out of state on business Tuesday afternoon and would love to have it by then. I will come pick it up if it is located. Thanks, Tracy Bigney

HAMMOND STREETERS AT HOME: Tim Furrow, Ben Haskell and Roberta Burbank are all at their homes recuperating after surgeries. Cards are welcome.

MEAL TRAIN: Please consider providing a meal for the Haskell family while Ben Haskell recovers at home. You can register to bring a meal through the website <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/k7692d?intro=true> or you can contact Megan Bridges at (207) 570-6903. Let's bless these beloved members of our church with love, support, and FOOD! Thank you.

SYMPATHIES: Florence Conley called today to let us know that her son (Mike Sr.) passed away. Florence is on her way home from Florida today. Cards, thoughts and prayers are needed.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION: There will be a meeting of the Christian Education Board on Sunday, February 3rd. The meeting will be held right after church in the Sunday School Room that is used for the youngest children. Just pick up a snack and your drink and come along. See you there. Nancy Smith.

SUPPORT GROUP: Starting Monday, January 21 at 5:00 PM for families with transgender children. The group is for parents and children. If you have any questions please see Pastor Greg.

FLOWERS: Flower dedications are needed for February. Please see Donna Wheaton or sign up on the calendar in the Narthex.

ATTENTION KNITTERS: who are working on the Outreach Afghan Project. Keep knitting on these cold day and evenings, it keeps the hands warm. We are doing very well as several afghans are all done and several yet to be finished. Any squares all done can be left at the church in the Sunday School Room or the Church Office. There is extra yarn at church. Help yourself to any that you want. When a few more are done we can have an official dedication and begin the journey to pass peace and prayer on to those in need. Happy knitting. Many thanks. Nancy Smith

"THE GATHERING" AT HSCC Calling all of you who love to strum, pluck, pick, draw a bow, and tap a rhythm with whatever you've got! It's time to gather 'round! "The Gathering" is what we're called~ a fellowship of people who love to fiddle around with music for the purpose of making music and loving life together. Bring your instrument and your own stand for your instrument if you have one. We meet at HSCC during Coffee Hour, at 11:15 am, after morning Worship. We all come with many gifts and different abilities; all levels of musicianship are welcome. We will gather in a circle and take turns playing a song or tune in which you may join in if you know how to play, watch and listen to learn in the circle, and sing if you know the tune. This is not a class of instruction. Bring copies of the music to share with the group. Improvisation is welcome; we take turns in the circle, and each person has about three to four minutes for their turn. Spread the word, and if you know are a lonely musician out there invite them along! For more information contact: Madonna J. Arsenault on Facebook Messenger ~ friend me if were not already connected; text or call: 603-475-5994; or email me at:

Madona.arsenault1@gmail.com



The Hammond Streeter
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BOSTON REDSOX TRIP: We are planning a trip to Fenway Park to watch the Red Sox play the Mariners on Saturday, May 11, 2019. The bus will leave at 7:00 AM from HSCC. The cost is \$155.00 per person. For more

information please contact

Michael (478-8431) or Susan Gildart (478-3320).

DUES ARE DUE: Dues are \$18. If you are not sure if you have paid your dues, please contact Joni Decato.

ECUMENICAL FOOD CUPBOARD: Is in need of some items. If you can help donate any of these items, it would be greatly appreciated. Pasta, Macaroni and cheese, condiments (ketchup, mayonnaise, mustard, BBQ sauce) Thankyou.

2ND HOUR PRESENTATION:

On Sunday, January 27th at 11:30am, please join us for a wonderful presentation of our new ministry here at HSCC. Madonna J. Arsenault, M.Div., will be sharing, during our 2nd Hour, about Wisdom Road Center for Spiritual Direction and the ministry of compassionate soul care and spiritual companionship.

Spiritual Direction welcomes all people from all faith traditions and practices, or none, and shares the sacred journey in spiritual companionship. As a practitioner and receiver in the wisdom tradition of spiritual direction, having trained in Franciscan Spiritual Direction at St. Anthony Shrine in Boston, Madonna ministers within the universal principles of love, compassion, respect, inclusiveness, and diversity, honoring the full humanity and inherent worth and dignity of all persons as practiced in her Christian and Native American roots.

Spiritual Direction honors each person's right to choose their spiritual path to find a deeper connection with the presence of the Divine-the God of their understanding. Spiritual Direction companions persons as they live into their spiritual, emotional, psychological and physical well-being, and, with support and compassion in all life situations, explore the deep questions of their lives with their inner wisdom, resources, and strength.

Madonna is a Certified Spiritual Director, and Director of Spiritual Care at Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC in Bangor, Maine where she also teaches Adult Religious Education, is a member of the choir and provides supply preaching.

She is also a Chaplain at Northern Light, Eastern Maine Medical Center, and Residential Counselor with Volunteers of America, IRT-North.

Madonna is a Member-In-Discernment toward the process of becoming an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ. Her work focuses on the intersections of spiritual and pastoral care, healing, and ethics and social justice with vulnerable and marginalized populations, as well as compassionate end of life care through death for those who are dying and their families. Passions include her love of music and the arts, natural medicine, nature, teaching, and writing.

Madonna is the mother of four children and grandmother of five, and widow of Allen J. Sockabasin of whose music she still shares and performs with creative souls throughout Maine.

Please join us Sunday, February 10th at 11:30 during coffee hour for this wonderful 2nd Hour presentation.