



The Hammond Streeter

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

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

Pastoral Assistant: Madonna Arsenault, M.Div., CSD

An Open and Affirming Community

December 09, 2019

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

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BLACK BEAR MEN'S CHORUS

A very special Thank you to the wonderfully talented Black Bear Men's Chorus for joining us for Sunday worship. Everyone enjoyed the performance which was as usual, stellar. Thank you for all you do.

THIS SUNDAY AT HAMMOND STREET CHURCH
Third Sunday of Advent
December 15, 2019

PREACHING: Rev. Dr. Mark Allen Doty

SCRIPTURE: To Be Announced

SERMON: To Be Announced

9:00 AM: Adult Study

10:00 AM: Sanctuary Worship

11:30 AM: Fellowship Hour

PLEASE REMEMBER

Winterberry Heights: Rev. Dave Follansbee

Bangor Rehab & Nursing: Dot Simmons

Hammond Streeters at Home:

Barbara Brown, Sandy Farver,

Nina Hansen, Terry Churchill, and Eda Morrison



Fun Ride To Fenway Saturday, May 2nd



All aboard The Bus to Boston to see the Boston Red Sox Vs The Texas Rangers at "The Famous Fenway Park" in Boston, Massachusetts.



Saturday, May 2nd

Cyr Deluxe Motor Coach

LEAVE: Bangor 6:30 AM Hammond Street Church

REST STOP: Kennebunk Burger King Rest Stop

ARRIVAL: Yawkey Way at 11AM (approximate time)

**TAKE ME OUT TO THE
BALL GAME**

Right Field Roof Box Seats!

Seat/Ticket: \$160 per person.

Game Time: 1:05 PM

Depart: After Game

Kennebunk Rest Stop 30 Minutes

Arrival: 10PM (approximate time)

Call: Susan & Michael Gildart

947-8899



**FENWAY PARK
BOSTON RED SOX**

COOKIE BAKE AND DECORATE: December 14th from 9am-12pm. Come enjoy coffee, tea, juice, and fellowship and get some baking done! Bring dough to bake, bring kids to decorate cookies. We will have some baked cookies ready, cookie sheets, and a mixer if you want to start from scratch. Frosting and decorations provided. You'll be taking your cookies home, but we hope you will leave some to share. The plan is to end up with an assortment of cookies for Sunday coffee hour so we can show off our efforts!

Sunday, December 15, Children's Christmas Pageant, 10:00 AM: Ringing and Singing for Christmas The Sunday School Children's Christmas Program this year features the Elementary and Pre-school Classes singing four traditional Christmas Carols accompanied by the Middle and High School Class (along with some adults) playing our choir chimes. This short, but sweet, mix of scripture, children's voices, and bells celebrate the Glory, Heavenly Peace, and Joy of this Christmas Season!

Notes to parents:

1. Please have the children meet at **9:00 next Sunday** morning downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for our final rehearsal before the service.

2. Please have the children **wear a white top**. I have colored scarves that they will wear with the white top. Questions? Contact Judy Fricke at 207 907-4069 or judysfricke@yahoo.com

Sunday, December 15, New Member Tea, 3:00 PM: Plans are well underway for taking in our "Christmas Class"! A wonderful group of candidates will meet with the Diaconate next Sunday afternoon in the Parlor. Stories of spiritual journeys will be shared, New Member Packets will be distributed and details about joining the congregation on Christmas Sunday, Dec. 22nd, will be revealed.

HOMELESS VIGIL, SATURDAY, DEC. 21, 3:00 PM

Once again, HSCC will host the annual Homeless Vigil on traditionally the longest day of the year, Saturday, December 21st. For the first time, the Vigil is being moved to the afternoon in hopes that it would allow more people to attend. The 2019 Homeless Vigil will be held at 3:00 PM in the sanctuary and will memorialize those who died in homelessness during the past year in Bangor. Pastor Mark will preside at the Vigil, and Madonna Arsenault is arranging for musicians to participate. If you would like to share, please contact Madonna: 603-475-5994. Refreshments will be available in Fellowship.

THE CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE BOX is in the Narthex for those who wish to give cards to HSCC members and friends.

NOTE FROM THE MODERATOR

Hard to believe Dec. is here.... A reminder that you will need to submit your annual reports to Rita by end of month if possible.

BEAN LUNCHEON: Lois Baxter reports they served around 70 people at Free Bean Luncheon on Saturday. Thank you to everyone who brought food or volunteered to help. A special Thank you to Kathy Jellison for supplying the wonderful Christmas music. The attendees appreciated it and sang along as she played all those familiar Christmas tunes. Thank you Kathy—you and your music ministry are very much appreciated.

FOOD CUPBOARD: It is a tough time right now for the Food Cupboard. The Good Shepherd Food Cupboard is going through a lot of changes with a new ordering computer system, etc. So right now our Food Cupboard is not able to get the items that we need. We order them but don't always get what we ordered. In the interim we have a lot of empty spots on the shelves. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

THE WINTER WARMTH TREE Your donations of new hats, gloves, socks, and underwear to the Winter Warmth Tree are gratefully accepted and will be shared after New Years.

CHURCH SCHOOL/YOUTH GROUP MEETING:

16 people attended last Monday's meeting to discuss ways to enhance our Christian Education program, especially for 6th-12th graders. Notes from the meeting are attached. It was troubling to hear that some don't think our youth feel connected to 'the church'.

There will be an introductory Youth Group Meeting at the church on Sunday, **Jan. 5th from 5 – 6:30pm** with a meal for 6th thru 12th graders. Tricia Vankirk and Madonna Arsenault will meet with our youth to learn what they would want from a youth group.

How can we each help? Do you know a 6th -12th grader who should be contacted? Please share the name and contact information with the church office. It might be a child, grandchild, other relative or friend. Could you help with an activity? Do you have a talent that you can share? Would you be interested in being a mentor for a young person?

We say "All are welcome here." What can we each do to involve our youth and help them feel more connected?

The Hammond Streeter
is a weekly publication of the
Hammond Street Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ

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Meeting Notes – Church School/Youth Group Meeting

Monday, Nov. 25th

Next Meeting: Thursday, Dec. 19th 6:30pm – 8:00pm

16 people (Wow!!) attended this session to discuss ways to strengthen our Sunday School program as well as establish a Youth Group. After introductions, we had a free-flowing discussion of possibilities.

Christian Education

Interaction between worship and Sunday School (liturgy, sermon, art, etc.)

Sunday School before church (we pack a lot into the time when the children leave church)

Singing/bells – separate activity?

Have their own service – opening together before age-appropriate classes

Some churches have done Sunday School on a week-night. Start with a meal. Time for music/art, divide into age-appropriate groups

Create Power Block of families (young) as a way for families to get to know each other.

Youth Group Youth Group every ?? weeks with an activity.

Start small and build

Youth Group – combined Middle & High School to start

One attendee's Youth Club experience included a puppet ministry and adventure club

Adult commitment – how much? Who? Need folks that relate well to teens. Teens may open up more to people who aren't their parents

Purpose driven exposure for kids – they want to contribute, outreach, have fun as a group

Combine with another youth group for projects

?? Is Youth Group same as Christian Ed or in addition to?

Do youth currently feel connected to church? Parents in the group said no.

Involve them as acolytes, ushers, Bean Lunches, other existing Outreach activities, readers, coffee hour, planning worship services

Possible Youth Group activities

Outreach Activities (Bean lunch, shelter meal, Good Shepherd food sorting)

Mission Trips – in US/International

International travel may not be safe right now

In US – winterize homes, natural disaster areas, hosted by another church's youth group, combo of youth & adults, Habitat for Humanity

Meeting Notes—Continued

Mission trips arranged by UCC Conference or other churches

Music: Mercy Me concert (Thurs., Feb. 27th at Cross Insurance Center)

Movies

Games

Action Steps

Youth Group Meeting – Sunday, Jan. 5th 5:00pm - 6:30pm with meal for 6th – 12th graders

This meeting led by Tricia Vankirk and Madonna Arsenault

Youth need to be involved in planning

Match youth with mentors (Friends in Faith) – Kathy Frazier considering; might match based on youth's interest

Look for younger church members to be part of youth group program

Pray!

Communicating to congregation – testimonials

Who can be liaison between youth and the church e.g. organizing jobs

?? Include other churches that are looking for a youth group – Becky will contact area UCC churches.

Becky and Communications Committee will draft some My HSCC Family Facebook posts, Hammond Streeter notices, and put these notes in next Hammond Streeter.

CARING FOR THOSE WITH ALZHEIMER'S

The Northern Light Health Spiritual Care Advisory Committee invites you to join us for an evening of education and conversation about caring for those we love who are stricken with Alzheimer's disease. This event is open to all faith communities and the public. Light refreshments will be served. Thursday, January 23, 2020, 6:30—8:00 PM Northern Light Acadia Hospital Penobscot Room 268 Stillwater Avenue, Bangor. Please RSVP by January 10 to jmbochard@northernlight.org. (The poster is on the bulletin board by the church office).