



The Hammond Streeter

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

An Open and Affirming Community

March 1, 2023

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381

FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE



SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:34

So, Peter opened his mouth and said: "Truly I understand that God shows no partiality."

WORDS OF HOPE

I was inspired while learning how the first woman of African American and Native American decent, through countless adversities, followed her dream to be a pilot. Bessie Coleman, born in 1896 to a mixed, poor family of 14 living in the south, made the odds of fulfilling that dream appear bleak.

Motivated to succeed, she discovered a flight school in France where folks had a different view of women and race. So, against all odds, she learned French, applied, and was accepted to school. Bessie returned to the States, where racial and gender discrimination excluded her from becoming a commercial pilot. As a result, her only career option was to become a stunt flyer.

Bessie was determined to own a plane and open her own flight school. She would speak at churches, theaters, and schools to earn money. She would refuse venues that segregated against African Americans and became famous for publicly standing up for her beliefs.

Before her untimely flying death at 34, she had plans to start a school for disenfranchised folks wanting to fly. Bessie had become the sacrifice so others could follow their dreams. Gigi Coleman, Bessie's niece, is making her dream a legacy. She started a nonprofit aviation program for disadvantaged youth seeking career opportunities in aviation. Sharing the story of her inspiring aunt, she encourages others to follow their dreams.

Bessie, in her young courageous life, experienced prejudices and setbacks that would make most people run. The Bible describes all forms of racism, prejudice, and discrimination suggesting they are insults to Christ. Jesus came to share the good news that "ALL" are made in the image and likeness of God and ALL humankind are a part of Gods Kingdom. Consequently, while different ethnicities exist, there is by Gods design only one race, the "human" race.

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT
In Person Sunday Service
Pastor Gary Bagley
March 5, 2023
10 AM
All Are Welcome!!!!

PLEASE REMEMBER

Westgate: Manor: Roberta Seavey
Hammond Streeters at Home: Sandy Farver, Eda & Hugh Morrison, Valerie Montgomery
Silvia Ross Home: Ronnie & Helga Kittredge

“The air is the only place free from prejudice”. Bessie Coleman 1892 -1926

PRAYER

Creator God, let our eyes forsake the color of our skin and focus instead on our hearts, that we may embrace ALL humankind as one in Christ. In Jesus name, Amen

LENTEN SERMON SERIES

During the season of Lent/Easter Pastor Gary will deliver a sermon series entitled Toward Easter and Beyond.

Each week Pastor Gary will help us look at our relationship with God and each other. Make plans to join us for worship during Lent as we look at our relationships with God and each other.

LENTEN STUDY

There will be a Lenten Study each Thursday @ 1:00 p.m. in the Parlor @ HSCC.

We will begin NEXT Thursday, March 2, 2023.

(Please note this change due to the impending weather forecasted for Thursday 2/23/23.)

The name of the study is “Bless the Lent we Actually Have” by Kate Bowler.

Interested in participating? Please contact Kathy Frazier:

kathyjfrazier@gmail.com or 207-745-1429 call/text

She will email the materials or provide a printed copy, and answer any questions you may have.

FOOD CUPBOARD

They are in need of **Peanut Butter, Cereal, Pasta.** PLEASE DO NOT BRING IN ANYMORE EGG CARTONS. Thank you for your continuous help we really appreciate it. Rita

WEEKLY FLOWER DEDICATIONS

This is just a reminder that the flowers are a beautiful addition to our weekly Sunday services and now is the time of the year to start signing up ahead of time for any dedications that you would like to donate the flowers for to save your date before it's gone. **We can only take up to two arrangements per Sunday.** Please sign up in the book on the table in the back of the Sanctuary on Sundays or call the office no later than Tuesday of any week to sign up.

WINTER COATS

We are in need of warm, winter coats for men and women in sizes Medium to XL. If you have one that you would like to donate to HSCC to help us to keep people that are in need warm this winter, please feel free to stop by with your donations.

JOIN THE FUNDRAISING TEAM

We need volunteers to be on a fundraising team. This is not a committee with monthly meetings, agendas, etc. It is an action-oriented group, and your commitment can be as big or limited as you wish. There will likely be one meeting for this team to organize and start planning. After that we will be organized around the events with those working on any event involved at that time.

We have seven fundraising events tentatively on the calendar this year, and we are open to other ideas. Let's be creative. We need people to plan, coordinate, and carry out these events. You can be involved in any number of events and in different roles depending on your interests.

We have lead coordinators lined up for most of the fundraisers ready to work with volunteers. We also have a faithful and highly skilled group of cooks and crafters who regularly help with dinners, food sales, and the fair. So, join the team.

Please let Don Spencer (dspencer@rsu63.org) or Tracy Bigney (tbig@gwi.net) know if you are willing to join the fundraising team or for more information.

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, March 25th, 5 PM

Join us for a cabin fever reliever and discover how HSCC does a Fund Raiser with the first signs of Spring! We are planning an old fashioned potluck supper with a live and silent auction. Bring a dish or bread, we provide the drink and dessert. Contact Brad Ryder at kayaker97@aol.com if you have any auction items or questions. **Bring a friend!**

DID YOU KNOW

That in 1853 a building planning committee engages John D. Towle, a Boston Architect to transform our 1834 "caterpillar" into a "butterfly"? The entire front of the building is removed; almost 6' is added to heighten the side walls thus raising the roof, and the walls are also lengthened which takes away the "box" look; then a single tower with belfry, clock and spire that reaches up almost 180' is added--all supported by a new 16' wide entry way. While this seems like enough work just by itself, the interior receives a total makeover as well. The leaky vestry rooms are totally redone as is the worship space that receives new curved pews with cushions, a new organ with a rosewood case, a new rosewood pulpit, four gas chandeliers & a new "orchestra" for the musicians. The beautiful rosewood pieces are still in use & the amazing chandeliers are now electrified. Thank you to our HSCC ancestors for their faithfulness, work & these wonderful gifts that have stood the test of time & made our neighbors happy as well!

THERE IS HUMMING HAPPENING AT HAMMOND STREET!

Save these dates for our 2023 Spring Concert Series!

Thursday March 30, 4:30pm - Liz Downing (flutist) and friends

Sunday May 7, 7pm - The Maine Steiners

Sunday June 11, 3pm - Andre Chasse in Concert with Kathy Jellison

A free will offering will be taken at each concert to benefit HSCC's Instrument Maintenance Fund!

SAVE THE DATE!

The Installation of

The Reverend Gary W. Bagley

As the Designated Term Pastor and Teacher of Hammond Street Congregational Church United Church of Christ

On March 12, 2023

At 3:00 in the Afternoon

A Reception will follow in Fellowship Hall

MEETINGS:

Lenten Study-3/2/23 at 1:00 PM—Parlor

Diaconate Mtg.-3/7/23 at 6:30 PM-Parlor

HSCC SAFETY COMMITTEE

COVID GUIDELINES

Low Risk—Social distancing of six feet and masking is not required.

Medium Risk—Social distancing of six feet and masking is recommended.

High Risk—Social distancing of six feet and masking is mandatory.

Signs will be posted to let everyone know what the level of risk is at all times.

Green Sign—Low Risk

Yellow Sign—Medium Risk

Red Sign—High Risk

DEADLINES FOR PUBLICATIONS:

Sunday Bulletin—Thursdays at 12:00 PM

Hammond Streeter—Tuesdays at 12:00 PM

THE CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Monday—Friday 9:00 AM—3:00 PM. Please knock or call the office at 207-942-4381 for assistance. Thank you.

EMAIL ADDRESS:

admin@hammondstreetchurch.net

Please sign up to read scripture and dedicate flowers in the notebooks in the back of the sanctuary on the table or call the office.

SECURITY REMINDER: Please make sure the backdoor is locked when you leave. **Lock it and give it a tug to make sure it is secure and make sure your vehicle is locked.**

VIDEO TAPING SUNDAY SERVICES

We need volunteers to video tape the services on Sunday so that anyone can watch it on our Hammond Street Congregational Church Facebook page.

hammondstreetcongregationalchurch@hscucc
Please contact the church office if you can help.

THE YOUTH OF HSCC WANT TO KNOW YOU!
PLEASE JOIN US IN THE ADELLA PROJECT!

During Sunday School, the youth will be interviewing members and friends of HSCC. Please share your faith journey with us and tell us how God has influenced you.

We have a pre-interview questionnaire, so you will know what to expect! There will also be an opportunity for you to draw a question from our "Fun Question Jar". After your interview, the youth will submit an article for the Hammond Streeter. We hope you will share your stories, talents and fun facts with us!

Why did we name this project "The Adella Project"? Del Reidt embodied our objectives for this project:

A - accept all people

D - devour ice cream with them!

E - explore your world

L - love one another

L - learn everyday

A - advise thoughtfully

We have chosen to honor someone that we did not have the opportunity to interview but we know would have loved to participate!

Won't you join us in this fun, educational project? Let's shape young disciples together! To sign up for an interview slot, please contact Kathy Frazier.

Pictured from left to right are Ana, Amelia, Ryan, Sarah Kate, Ella and Addie.



Meet our 1st **ADELLA Project** participant:

RACHEL HUTCHINS

I have been a member of HSCC for over 15 years. I have served on the HSCC Stewardship Committee for over 10 years. Previously, I volunteered as one of the leaders for the HSCC youth group. I have enjoyed connecting with the members of this church and any opportunities to serve our community. As a parent, I appreciate the "forced" time of meditation and quiet I get during the church service. It is hard to slow down sometimes and I find an opportunity for this every week during the church service.

I enjoy running, reading, and horseback riding.

I have been married to Eric for almost 20 years. We have two children, Amelia (7) and Owen (1). We also have two horses, Billie (27) and Jessa (25) and two cats, Lucy (19) and Nutmeg (15).

We previously had two dogs, Jade and Cameo and two other kitties, BoSox and Hugo who we miss and speak of often! We've had a very full house (and backyard) for many years!

Here is Rachel's favorite inspirational quote:

"Write it on your heart

that every day is the best day in the year.

He is rich who owns the day, and no one owns the day who allows it to be invaded with fret and anxiety.

Finish every day and be done with it.

You have done what you could.

Some blunders and absurdities, no doubt crept in. Forget them as soon as you can, tomorrow is a new day; begin it well and serenely, with too high a spirit

to be cumbered with your old nonsense.

This new day is too dear,

with its hopes and invitations,

to waste a moment on the yesterdays."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Here is Rachel's favorite Bible verse: (when you see her, ask her the story behind it) Isaiah 43 1-5a**What is the best advice you have ever received?**

Stay curious about identifying the problem before creating solutions. It's better to get it right than to be right.

Do you have a real life hero? Who inspires or has inspired you & why?

I really have two. Fred Rogers is the first. As a child I heard him speak to kids in a way that validated feelings in a relatable way. I didn't always know what to do with it but sensed being able to understand emotions was important. His impact on children's education was profound and I understand his impact even more now that I'm older.

The second is Brené Brown. She is a social worker and researcher who studies emotions and has helped me understand and find new ways to help support my team at work.

Tell us about your occupation and why did you choose it?

My education is in social work. For the last 15 years, I have worked at a veterinary practice. I am a manager and focus a lot of time on building healthy leaders at our practice. The vet med field has a pretty high rate of mental health issues which have not historically been well supported. I wanted to be a vet, as a child, and found myself studying social work in college. A number of my dear friends are veterinarians and I have a long time fondness for the folks who choose this field. Involving my social work background has helped me find a unique opportunity to help build leaders in the vet med field with care for their social and emotional well-being. We also do a fair amount of work around the death and dying of pets. I am very proud of the ways our team treats this important part of life with pets.

Where do you volunteer and why?

I mostly volunteer my time with HSCC. I have previously volunteered with the Bangor Humane Society.

What is one thing you would like to add to HSCC?

A connection with young adults at the college level.

Fun Fact about you:

I am a preacher's kid and have fond memories of living in a neat old parsonage (built in 1901). Up until a few years ago, it was only inhabited by the minister's family for my childhood church.

Rachel answered several questions from the "fun question jar":

Favorite place(s) you have visited?

Prince Edward Island, Chicago, and road trip to Ruidoso, New Mexico

Favorite Food? Sushi

Favorite memory from childhood? Getting my first cat, when I was four. She followed my dad home from work and stayed for almost 17 years.

Many thanks to Rachel for spending time with us and answering all our questions!



**Hammond Street
Congregational Church
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***An Open & Affirming Congregation
God is still speaking.***