



The Hammond Streeter

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

An Open and Affirming Community
March 29, 2023

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381

FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE



SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4: 25-32

Stop being bitter and angry at others. Don't yell at one another or curse each other or be rude. Instead, be kind and merciful, and forgive others, just as God forgave you because of Christ.

PREPARATION

Prepare by placing yourself in the Presence of God taking a deep breath, breathing in goodness and light and then exhale slowly ridding yourself of personal concerns and troubles. And then do it all again calming your thoughts, clearing your mind to be able to listen better to God.

WORDS OF HOPE

Paul, who is presumed to be the author of this letter to the people of Ephesus, is very straightforward in this passage. He apparently is addressing some real concerns and bad behavior by the new followers of this city. "If you are stealing, stop it." He also sounds like a contemporary psychologist when he proclaims, "Stop being bitter and angry at others. Don't yell at one another or curse each other or be rude."

Who is served by doing such things? The energy you are using to yell and curse and be rude only depletes who you are. These are negative activities that serve no one. It might make you feel better to yell at another but in the long run it serves no one. Forgive others and be merciful, following how you have been forgiven because of Christ. You will feel a great deal better through forgiveness and mercy. Be the larger person and simply don't be rude. The expression, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you. Simple in theory and more difficult in real time, but worth the try.

PRAYER

O Holy One! Sometimes our lessons are difficult to understand. Today's lesson does not fall in this category. Your words are clear and understandable immediately. The help and support we need from you is in the implementation of these behaviors. Help us to remember the love with which You deal with us at all times so that we can be merciful and forgiving without hesitation. We make this prayer in your many names, O Holy One! 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.

HIKE FOR THE HOMELESS THIS SATURDAY!

Sat., April 1, 10am

At the Compass at the end of Railroad St on the waterfront in Bangor.

Hopefully HSCCers can meet up there and walk together. It's 2.4 miles. Andy has organized folks, collected registration fees and t-shirt sizes. I think we'll be able to get the t-shirts there at the registration table but not sure.

Even if you haven't registered yet, you can register at the start of the event. This is all the info I have, but there is more info at <https://www.bangorareashelter.org/hike-for-the-homeless/>. HSCC is a sponsor!: <https://www.bangorareashelter.org/hike-for.../sponsorship/>

RESERVE NOW FOR THE SEA DOGS BUS TRIP

All aboard to Portland to enjoy an afternoon of Baseball with the Sea Dogs at Hadlock Field, an all-you-can-eat ballpark style picnic buffet and box seats (section 202). Tickets are \$100 each and there are limited tickets available, so if you are interested in going contact Susan Gildart at: susan.gildart1215@gmail.com as soon as possible to reserve your seat. Bus leaves on Saturday, May 13th at 9:30 am from the Hammond Street Church parking lot. The game starts at 1:00 PM.

YES, THE RUMOR IS TRUE!

An indoor yard sale is on the HSCC calendar for May 20, 2023. Details coming soon.

THERE IS HUMMING HAPPENING AT HAMMOND STREET!

Save these dates for our 2023 Spring Concert Series!

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!

If you have any questions, contact Judy Fricke at: judyfricke@yahoo.com

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.



COFFEE HOURS

Would you like to help with Coffee Hours? There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall. Pick a date to bring snacks or host. Contact Susan Guare or talk with someone in the kitchen on Sundays. Thank you in advance for your help.

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 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.

LOOKING FOR A FEW NEW MEN

The tradition at HSCC continues as the "men of the church" will once again, be preparing an Easter breakfast on April 9th. We are indeed looking for a few "new" men to help out in the kitchen with preparing, setting & cleaning up before Easter worship at 10:00am. The fabulous meal will be served from 8:00 to 9:30 am and we are hoping our helpers can be here by 6:30am. **If you can help please contact Andy Wood, Don Spencer or Brad Ryder by April 1st.** ***We will be looking for donations of eggs, sausage, bacon, and hash browns or if easier just a monetary donation so we can purchase these items. Please see Andy with your donations.

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

HOLY WEEK PRAYERS

As we enter Holy Week, Pastor Gary and the Diaconate are sharing a prayer for each day on the attachment. There are also directions for a fun way to save your palm by turning it into a cross.

DID YOU KNOW

Hammond Streeters are "on the move?" Since the early 1990's (and surely before) we have been lacing up our sneakers & hiking boots to walk, hike, run or pedal for many reasons -- personal, fellowship & fun or to raise money for causes that tug at our heart strings. For instance, this Saturday, April 1st, is the annual Walk for the Homeless so there is still time to get in on the action. We also walk for hunger (Crop Walk), AIDS, Habitat for Humanity, Civil Rights, With the Ones We Love (ME Speakout), Bangor Pride, & with friends in places where we commune with nature while getting good exercise. Other folks go a few "extra" steps. Tim Farrow's "Run for Research" in 1994 from Dana-Farber in Boston to EMMC, Bangor after his recovery from cancer & Hammond Streeters were there to welcome him home; Tracy Bigney participates in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk (6 & counting) supporting Dana-Farber Cancer Institute; Andy Wood runs with a chain saw & in full safety gear for Make-A-Wish; & Heather Houston bikes The Trek Across Maine (180 mi.) in support of the Maine Lung Assoc. Phew, time to kick off the sneakers & get a big cold glass of water!

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 every day
- A - advise thoughtfully

To sign up for an interview slot, please contact Kathy Frazier.

MEETINGS:

Lenten Study-3/30/23 at 1PM—Parlor
Katahdin Assoc. Mtg.-3/30/23 at 3 PM-Sinnott
Free Bean Lunch-4/123 at 12 PM-FH
Diaconate Meeting-4/4/23 at 6:30 PM-Parlor

HSCC SAFETY COMMITTEE COVID GUIDELINES

Low Risk—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.

CABIN FEVER RELIEVER POTLUCK & AUCTION

Cabin Fever Reliever Raised \$2,000

Approximately fifty Hammond Streeters, friends, and family gathered for a delicious potluck dinner on Saturday evening. Bidding on silent auction items ended after a surprise celebration for George Fricke's 80th birthday with song and cake. Then auctioneer Michael Gildart and assistant Andy Wood took over for an old-fashioned, fun-filled live auction. Thank you to everyone who made this such a wonderful fun-raiser.



Bangor Area Homeless Shelter
28TH ANNUAL
HIKE FOR THE HOMELESS

SATURDAY
APRIL 01, 2023



SAFETY

CHANGE
HUMILITY

GRATITUDE
HOPE

WARMTH
COMPASSION

GIVE

PERSERVERENCE DETERMINATION SUPPORT SERVE

**Hammond Street
Congregational Church
P.O. Box 1106
Bangor, ME 04402-1106**

**PALM SUNDAY
In Person Sunday Service
Pastor Gary Bagley
April 2, 2023 at 10 AM**

PLEASE REMEMBER

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

**The Hammond Streeter
is a weekly publication of the
Hammond Street Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
P.O. Box 1106, Bangor, ME 04402-1106
Phone: 207-942-4381**

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org
Email: admin@hammondstreetchurch.net

***An Open & Affirming Congregation
God is still speaking.***