



The Hammond Streeter

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

An Open and Affirming Community

April 19, 2023

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381

FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE



READING

Grant that we may not seek to be loved as to love.

-From the Prayer of St. Francis

WORDS OF HOPE

There is great wisdom as well as sound advice for living in the famous prayer attributed to St. Francis. We live in a world that is so centered on self-gratification that being loved is of much greater importance than showing love to others. Let's expand the thought of the Francis meditation and pray: "Lord, to those who need loving compassion, may I express your selfless love and service to them."

Loving compassion is more than simple love. It's a special form of love which implies that you commune with the other person in midst of their personal distress. You are "walking with them" in their suffering, loss or distress. It's an expression of love which becomes deeply personal for them. It's not the greeting card or casserole type of love; rather, it's the sit down and really share their grief type of love. It takes time and requires that you be willing to understand their deep feelings and pain.

It's a love that is based in patience; much like the healing love which Jesus offers when you're distressed. It requires that your love be divinely transformed so that it reaches with healing presence into their soul. And how do you change your love into that type of compassionate love? You offer the opportunity to help someone with your words and your presence up to God, and you ask God to transform that opportunity into an act of divine healing for the distressed person. If you suddenly encounter someone with this type of suffering, you may not have time to think or plan your words or actions.

PRAYER

Lord, take me and my heart; transform me into your divine love to help this person. Go to work through me! May I put your transformative power at work.



ALL CHURCH CLEANUP DAY

Join us for a morning of fun, fellowship and work on Saturday, April 29th from 8 AM to noon. Some of the fun events we have planned are the carpet cleaning contest, the window washing competition and the always popular raking, sweeping and trash picking up party. Lunch will be provided from noon to 1 PM and will include pizza, salad and cold cuts.

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.



HSCC ANNUAL INDOOR YARD SALE

It's Happening - The HSCC Indoor Yard Sale May 20th from 8 am to 1 pm

Beginning May 1st donations of clothes, kitchen stuff, household items, toys, books, cds, jewelry, . . . are welcome. Items should be clean and in working order. And, plants, summer bulbs, and seedlings are always appreciated. Please, no old electronics like computers and printers. Donations can be dropped off at the church during office hours 9-3 Monday through Friday or before or after worship on Sundays. If you are unable to bring your donations, contact Larry Blethen (207-907-9462) to arrange a pick-up.

Please contact Lynda Ryder at pondpaddle@msn.com or 207-745-6851 with any questions.

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: judysfricke@yahoo.com

COMMUNITY FIRST FILM PRESENTATION OF A HOME FOR THE HOMELESS AT HSCC ON APRIL 23RD FROM 11:15 AM TO 1 PM

(SEE INSERT) Please note that in place of our usual coffee hour we will have a Potluck Luncheon, so please bring a covered dish or dessert.



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.

HOME COMMUNION

If you are interested in receiving Communion at home, please call the office and leave your name and phone number with Mary.

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.

DID YOU KNOW

that some of our members have made history, while others are "witnesses to history" and some have done both? The Kenduskeag Canoe Race "called" Bill & Fern Stearns to the couples class from the 2nd annual race in 1968 for 36 straight years &, in recent years, Brad Ryder & son Dan to the men's pairs class. Bill (1931-2010) was an avid canoeist who also designed and built them, was influential in starting other white-water races in Maine and with his wife, became legends of paddling --winning numerous national championships. Bill & Fern also volunteered at Leonard's Mills in Bradley, ME on "Living History Days", he as the sternman in the bateau taking visitors for a smooth, quiet ride on Blackman Stream. It is the source for a waterwheel-powered sawmill -- the center of an authentically reconstructed 1790's community at the Maine Forest & Logging Museum. Volunteers dress in costumes of the period to show visitors the support system that built up around the mill such as working blacksmith & carpenter shops, candle making & much more. Other "witnesses to history" include Henry Van de Bogart (1911-2000) the up & down cut sawmill expert & in other roles Fern Stearns, Kathy Frazier & Lovern Stockwell who has a vial of sawdust from the 1st log cut at the current mill in the 1960's given to her by Henry. What a wonderfully talented & diverse "family history" we have at HSCC!

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. 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.

HSCC MEETINGS:

No Committee Meetings this week.

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.

AN EASTER GIFT

On Easter Sunday A beautiful cross, created with different nails and materials was left chained to the tree on the front lawn of the church. There was with the cross a beautiful card that simply read, "Happy Easter, a gift for you." At first, like one does in this day and time we questioned such a gift. Was it a gift of love or a gift of malice. After inspection of the cross it was determined that this beautiful cross was a gift of love.

When you look at the cross and see the many different types of nails that were used in decorating the cross, you realize that a lot of painstaking work went into its creation. Looking at it you see the love that went into such a gift. It is a symbol of Christ resurrection and reminder of God's great love for all people. The Cross will remain on display in the church to remind us of the how the love of God touches our lives and the lives of many through us.

Thank you to our anonymous donor for sharing this gift and in so doing sharing their love and the love of God with us on Easter Morning.



Sunday's Coffee Hour hosts knew how to have fun. Was that Amelia helping with clean-up?



MEET OUR SECOND ADELLA PROJECT PARTICIPANT: NANCY SMITH

Mrs. Smith has been a Sunday School teacher for over 50 years, though she has been attending HSCC for 10 years.

Mrs. Smith's hobbies include hand quilting, basket making, embroidery, knitting, and weaving, basically any hand-working activities. She also loves to cook from scratch. Mrs. Smith feels HSCC is a place to renew faith, make friends, and have a church family.

Mrs. Smith has been married to her husband David for over 60 years. She is a mother to two children- both boys, and a grandmother to seven. Most recently, they had a small dog who lived to be almost 19 years old. They also have a cat.

Her favorite inspirational quote is "On happy days, praise God, in difficult moments, seek God, in quiet moments worship God, in painful moments, trust God, and in every moment, thank God." - Unknown. The best advice she has ever received (very good advice that you should follow) is that you are never alone, God is always with you.

Some fun facts about her is that her favorite kind of food is any type of fish, and Italian. Her favorite bible verse is Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.". Another fun fact is that she has gone through 5 different bibles and has a very loved one right now. The last fun fact that we will share with you is that she has volunteered at the hospital and that she has volunteered for the Boy Scouts.

Thank you Mrs. Smith for sharing so much about yourself with us!!



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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
In Person Sunday Service
Pastor Gary Bagley
April 23, 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
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United Church of Christ
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An Open & Affirming Congregation
God is still speaking.