

The Hammond Streeter

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

An Open and Affirming Community

May 24, 2023

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381



FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

SCRIPTURE Genesis 9.12-13

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; I set My rainbow in the cloud, and it shall be for a sign of a covenant between Me and the earth.

WORDS OF HOPE

From Where Does the Rainbow Come?

If you spend your whole day speaking against discrimination, and if by the end of that day all your friends look like you, then you have accomplished nothing. You have not brought together the divided. Your words did not treat the affliction. We cannot, by shouting, make the tree grow any taller, but we must refresh the broken limbs with water and give it light. The problem will not change with our observation, but with how we act. It is not someone else's responsibility to do what you have had the power to do all along. It is not the police, the government, or your friends who must change but you.

Do not be a hypocrite who calls for change but refuses to do so themselves. If red stays with red, if blue stays with blue, and if green stays with green, from where then will the rainbow come? Only by mixing these colors together do we see a true diversity of colors. Likewise, if we only stay with our own kind, with those who are like-minded, and with people who are of the same class as us, then how will discrimination end and diversity begin? We are doing the very things our adversaries do and ask, "Where is peace?"

This is the path to peace, and it must start within oneself. It cannot come from the toil and sweat of someone else. Indeed, it will not come unless we first stop discriminating and change ourselves. A little prejudice makes all prejudice possible, so if we have something against our neighbors, then we must drain out the poison before it spreads to the whole body. Only then, will our words have any credibility to them. Words without actions are useless, and if we never do anything to turn an enemy into a friend, then we have no power and we understand nothing.

PRAYER

Spirit of divine love, Let our actions speak louder than our words, let love triumph over hate, and let us come together. Amen.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

On Saturday, June 3, Pastor Gary, and the Deacons will be hosting a New Member Class for those who are interested in learning more about Hammond Street Church and becoming a member of HSCC. The Class will begin at 10:00 a.m. and conclude at 11:00 a.m. Come Join us and become a member of an exciting and thriving congregation.

NAME TAGS

We would like to request that we all go back to wearing name tags? We noticed quite a few new faces at church and it seems appropriate to help them feel more comfortable and to aid us in learning who they are.

OUTREACH

CALLING ALL KNITTERS: Knitters keep knitting the Afghan squares! Reach out to our neighbors and those in need of comfort. If you need any yarn, we have it available here at HSCC. Thank you so much, Outreach Committee

RIDES TO CHURCH

There are members of the church as well as some visitors who want to attend worship on Sunday morning but are unable to because they do not have transportation. Most can not afford Uber or a Taxi either. We need volunteers who would be willing to pick up someone in their area and bring them to church and take them home after. If you feel that you could do this, please sign up on the list that you will find on the tables at the entrance of the church. Pastor Gary will then give you a call and is if you could pick up persons close to you. Currently we have one member and one elderly non-member who need transportation to church. Be a transportation angel and help other be a part of worship. If you need a ride contact Pastor Gary and he will get you on the list.

WILL I SEE YOU AT PILGRIM LODGE THIS SUMMER?

Many of us know Pilgrim Lodge as a beautiful 100-acre summer camp for youth on Lake Cobbosseecontee. It is all that and much more. For many years Hammond Street youth have enjoyed camp at PL and grown in their faith in a wonderful accepting community. But, did you know that PL has programs for everyone? Check out their schedule for this year at pilgrimlodge.org. There are events from one day to a week for all ages – grades 3 to high school grad, families, grandparents, women, Pride events, arts, women's groups, an island camping adventure, Hogwarts camp, and more. There is truly something for everyone. I will be at PL as a counselor for the Arts Alive camp at the end of June. I'll be returning in August as a camper with my daughter and grandson for Family and Friends camp. Hammond Streeters Edgar and Barbara Brown were counselors at Pilgrim Lodge for its first season in 1956. Let's keep the tradition alive. Tracy Bigney

CELEBRATIONS OF LIFE THIS WEEK

Roberta Seavey-5/25/23 at 11 AM Sanctuary/FH
Emily Bean-5/26/23 at 2 PM Sanctuary/FH

2023 SUMMER CONCERT

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY

For this Sunday, which is Pentecost Sunday please remember to wear red.



CHILDRENS SERVICE SUNDAY

On June 4th if you would like to support the children's theme, please wear either yellow or blue any shade will do!

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.

PRIDE 2023

It's time to start making preparations for PRIDE weekend! HSCC will be, once again, participating in the festivities by marching in the parade and hosting a booth at the festival. Our Pride Sunday service will also be a featured event in the festival marketing and calendar of events. **The parade and festival are on Saturday, June 24th.**

The parade is from 11:00-12:00, and the festival is from 12:00-4:00.

If you are interested in helping plan our participation in PRIDE activities or you have questions, please contact Andre Chasse at: aechasse@yahoo.com, or 207-239-9358.

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.** Thank you for your continuous help we really appreciate it. Rita

SUMMER WORSHIP

As we move toward summer, a more relaxed time in our lives as we enjoy the beauty of God's creation. June will be a time of exciting services of worship as we begin the month with Children's Sunday.

On June 4th the children of Hammond Street Church will lead us in Worship. They will be in charge of the entire service even presenting the message. Make plans to be a part of this special service.

Then on Sunday, June 25th we will celebrate Pride Sunday. Saturday, June 24th will be a day of celebration as we march in the Pride parade and have a booth at the Pride Festival downtown. Our service on Sunday will focus on diversity and the acceptance of all people. Beginning in July we will have a more relaxed time of worship. The choir will be on vacation, but worship will continue with more informal liturgy and the singing of your favorite hymns. To make all this happen we will need to hear from you. There will be forms on the tables at the entrance of the Sanctuary for you to pick up and in the Hammond Streeter as well. All you have to do is fill in the form with your favorite hymns and return them to the church and we will begin on July 2, singing those hymns. This will continue through August. We look forward to getting your list.

DID YOU KNOW

That a prayer meeting commences at 3 PM on Dec 5, 1833, coinciding to the founding of the church and a "female prayer meeting" continues to meet weekly at that hour, until mid-year 1868 according to our records. In a notebook kept on some of these meetings by the ladies, an entry from April 7, 1855, is particularly striking: "A good spirit pervaded the meeting. In the week preceding one day was observed by the three Congregational churches as a day of fasting & prayer for the outpouring of the Spirit. We feel that its gracious influences are round about us as many branches of Zion have been visited, souls we trust have been converted to God. We have reason to believe other hearts are impressed & awakened & the burden of prayer is for a deep & abiding influence of the Holy Spirit to subdue all hearts -- his own children and those who have never known the joys of salvation. The influence of this meeting was manifest in the meeting of today. Our room was comfortably full --25 present." At this same meeting a suggestion is made to change the starting time, but it is noted that "... as those absent and confined at home observed it..." the 3:00 pm time of meeting should continue. Thank you ladies, for your commitment & diligence in turning to the throne of Love & Grace for so many, for so long & witnessing to the work of the Holy Spirit!

HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Stewardship Committee-5/30/23at 6:30-Sinnott

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:

Hammond Streeter—Tuesdays at NOON

Sunday Bulletin—Thursdays at NOON

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.



PILGRIM LODGE Summer 2023



April 28-29
**JUMP START
WEEKEND**
Grades 6 and up

May 5-6
**CONFIRMATION
RETREAT**
Currently in grades 8-12
w/ Sponsors

June 2 - June 4
**WOMEN'S
SPRING WKND**
Ages 19 and older

June 3 - June 4
CIT TRAINING
Ages 16-18

June 5 - June 7
CLERGY PRAYCATION
Adults

June 21 - June 24
FAITH FOUNDATIONS - HALF WEEK
Grades 3 - 5

June 25 - July 1
ARTS ALIVE / ELEM. ADVENTURES!
Grades 7 - Post Grad Grades 4 - 6

July 2 - July 5
**GRANDPARENTS I /
EXPEDITION EVERYONE**
All Ages

July 9 - July 15
CAMP PRIDE / MIDDLE ISLAND CAMP
Grades 7 - Post Grad Grades 7 - 9

July 16 - July 22
MIDDLE SPIRIT / SENIOR HIGH
Grades 7 - 9 Grades 10 - Post Grad

July 23 - July 29
DESTINATION HOGWARTS
Grades 4 - 10

July 29 - July 31
GRANDPARENTS II
Ages 5 and older

Aug 4 - Aug 6
PRIDE ACROSS THE AGES
All Ages

Aug 7 - Aug 11
ADULT LIGHTEN UP, LOOSEN UP
Ages 19 and older

Sept 1 - Sept 4
FAMILY CAMP
All Ages

Sept 15 - Sept 17
WOMEN'S FALL WEEKEND
Ages 19 and older



**A limited number of scholarships are available here at HSCC for all sessions.
The family pays the deposit, and then HSCC will pay the balance.
Early registration is suggested to secure a spot.
Please contact Joni Decato at joni.decato@tylertech.com
for more scholarship information.**

JOIN THE CONCERT PARKING FUNDRAISING

HSCC has a great opportunity (thanks to Susan Gildart) to raise funds by assisting with parking in the Shaw's lot for Waterfront Concerts. Our first concert will be on Friday, July 7, when Chris Stapleton performs. This will be one of the biggest concerts of the year.

Shaw's makes space available in their parking lot and allows non-profit groups to monitor the lot and share the proceeds from concert parking. We will be working with another non-profit group who have done this before; they will show us the ropes. We need 16 volunteers to each work a 4 ½ hour shift. Eight from noon to 4:30 and 8 from 4:30 to 9. The volunteers monitor the lot to be sure that people parking there are concert attendees and pay the fee. Only one person collects money; that will be someone from the other group we are working with.

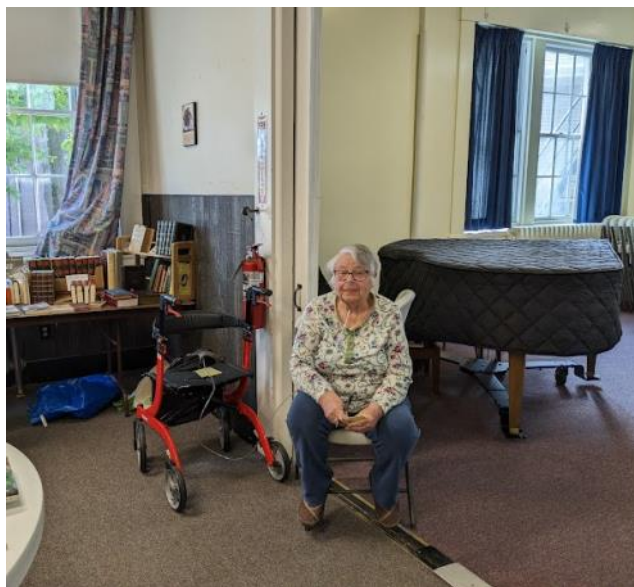
If you can be on your feet, outdoors, for most of 4 ½ hours and be nice but firm with people about parking in the designated area, you are qualified! Wear comfy shoes and dress for the weather.

If you can volunteer for one of the shifts for July 7, please let Tracy Bigney know: 207-356-7223 or tbig@gwi.net. Indicate your preferred shift (noon to 4:30 or 4:30 to 9) or that you are willing to be assigned to either shift.

A sunny Saturday brought out the shoppers for a successful yard sale bringing \$1,568 and growing to support the budget and mission of HSCC. Pastor Gary said it well on Sunday when he offered many thanks in his joyful style to everyone who donated, worked on the set up, and helped on Saturday.



LOTS OF STUFF FINDS NEW HOMES



A NEW FACE RUNNING THE BOOK ROOM



HAPPY SHOPPING



COUNTING SUCCESS



TEAMWORK MAKES LIGHT WORK

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

**PENTECOST SUNDAY
In Person Sunday Service
Pastor Gary Bagley
MAY 28, 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

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United Church of Christ
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***An Open & Affirming Congregation
God is still speaking.***