



The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

An Open and Affirming Community January 10, 2024

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381



FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 5. 14-16

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Creator who is in heaven.

WORDS OF HOPE

During the first weeks of the New Year, we still have the opportunity to remember that lowly Bethlehem stable where a single stable light was lit. It was not a search light to set a signal in the sky; nor did its brightness fully illuminate all that was there. Deep shadows still appeared among the corners as animals gathered nearby. In fact, its brightness was out shown by the Babe asleep on the hay.

However, according to these verses from Richard Wilbur: "A stable lamp is lighted whose glow shall wake the sky/ the stars will bend their voices and every stone shall cry. / The child through David's city shall ride in triumph, later be forsaken and yielded up to die. / Now as at the ending, everyone low is lifted up. The stars shall bend their voices and every stone shall cry, / to praise the baby by whose descent from God the world is reconciled."

This New Year, each of us may exit the night's darkness and enter that lantern's glow. Kneeling before the baby, we offer words of love and praise. We gaze in wonderment at this gift of God's redeeming love, and in that glow, our hearts are warmed and spirits reborn. Can you carry some of that blessed light with you back into your daily world? Remember, Jesus taught: "You, who are my followers, are the light of the world. "

PRAYER

May each of in this New Year us continue to be richly blessed by the kiss of that Christmas message, and may it invigorate our Christian witness to the world. As we meet others, may we be that shining light first shown to us by the Christ Child. Amen

ANNUAL LEADERSHIP RETREAT

As we did last year, we are having our annual Leadership Retreat in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, January 13th from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. **We need all of our church leaders there as well as our committees.** We will review 2023 and then go into Calendaring sessions for 2024. Following the Calendaring sessions, we will have a potluck so bring a dish to share. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Blessings, Pastor Gary



MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. CELEBRATION

This year's Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration will be hosted by HSCC on January 14, 2024 at 3 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Keynote Speaker is Dr. Harold Dorrell Briscoe author of "There's a Storm Comin': How the American Church Can Lead Through Times of Racial Crisis". Dr. Briscoe topic for the program will be, "Prophetic Religion in an Age of Injustice".

For more info contact: info@faithlinkinginaction.org

ANNUAL MEETING

HSCC's Annual Meeting will take place on January 21, 2024 in the Fellowship Hall following the Worship Service. As required by HSCC's Bylaws, the Warrant will be published in the Hammond Streeter on 1/10/24 & 1/17/24.



HELP WANTED FOR A SPECIAL WILLING WORKERS PROJECT

A project is planned for January 23rd starting at 1 PM and January 24th starting at 9 AM. The Pfaff Room (multi-use meeting, Sunday School and Food Pantry room) is getting a facelift (cleaning and painting). Speak to Larry or call him at 207-907-9462 for details and your availability.

We always welcome willing workers on Tuesdays from 8-12 or any part thereof for our regular work bee. It is true, many hands make light work.

FREE BEAN LUNCH FOOD NEEDED

The Free Bean Lunch team needs Peanut Butter and Strawberry or Raspberry Jam for the bag lunches they hand out every month. Please leave in the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall. Thank You

FOOD NEEDED IN THE FOOD PANTRY

We are in need of Pasta, Sauce, Cereal, Canned Beans, Canned Fruit, non-refrigerated Milk and Re-useable Shopping Bags (**NO PAPER**). Thank You

WINTER WARMTH TREE

The **Winter Warmth Tree** is a program that will run from now into January. The tree is in the Narthex. Your Outreach Committee is looking for **Hats, Gloves/Mittens and Winter Socks ONLY**. These items will be distributed to folks in our community needing a winter upgrade. They will be offered to guests at our Free Bean Lunch, Food Pantry or anyone who comes to the office. These accessories will also be provided to area shelters for distribution to their clients. **Thanks – Your Outreach Committee**



WINTER OUTERWEAR

Your Outreach Committee is looking for gently worn winter outerwear. During the winter months, HSCC offers gently used winter outerwear to guests at our Free Bean Lunch. We offer the clothing from the first week in November through March. Any winter outerwear in good condition is appreciated. Donations can be placed in the box in the Narthex or given to any outreach committee member.

Contact Andy Wood (207-745-3428) with questions. Thanks for helping our neighbors in need
– Your Outreach Committee

COVID GUIDELINES

Covid is still very much with us and has been on the increase in the Bangor area. **Covid levels in wastewater in Penobscot County are as high now as they were in the Omicron era (Jan-Feb 2022).**

Fortunately, people can reduce the risk of getting or spreading Covid by wearing a mask. Getting the latest Covid vaccination will also reduce the risk of serious illness.

HSCC has free N-95 masks at the greeter's table in the narthex. Please help yourself if you need a mask. Safety Committee

WARRANT

To Janis A. Hill, Clerk of Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation:

You are hereby requested to notify and warn the Members of said Corporation to meet in the large vestry of their meeting house on Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 11:30 a.m.

To hear and act upon the reports of various Officers, Committees, and Organizations;

to consider and act on the budget for the year 2024;

and to transact such other and further business as may legally come before said meeting.

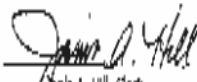
And you are hereby requested to make a return of the above Warrant this 31st day of December, 2023.


Donald Spender, Moderator
Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation

NOTICE

To the Members of Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation:

Pursuant to the foregoing application to me directed, I hereby notify and warn the Members of said Corporation to meet at the time and place and for the purposes named in the above application.


Janis A. Hill, Clerk
Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation

RETURN

Pursuant to the foregoing WARRANT to me directed, I have notified and warned the persons therein named to meet at the time and place and for the purposes named, by posting a true copy of the application and WARRANT on the outside door of Hammond Street Congregational Church's meeting house on the 8th day of January, 2024; and by publication in the January 10, 2024 issue of the Hammond Streeter, the Church's newsletter sent to the general membership; all being at least seven days prior to said day of meeting.


Janis A. Hill, Clerk
Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation

State of Maine

Penobscot, ss.

January __, 2024

Personally appeared before me Janis A. Hill, Clerk of Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation, and made oath to the above.

Notary Public
Printed name: _____
Commission expires: _____

HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024

Trustees on 1/11 at 6:30-Sinnott Room

Music on 1/14 at noon-Throckmorton Room

PLEASE REMEMBER

Hammond Streeters at Home:

Sandy Farver, Eda & Hugh Morrison

Sylvia Ross Home-Bangor

Ronnie & Helga Kittredge

Brewer Rehab

74 Parkway S.—Room 109, Brewer, ME 04412

Ansley Throckmorton

Westgate Manor

750 Union St.—Room 111, Bangor, ME 04401

Susan Davies

DEADLINES FOR PUBLICATIONS

HAMMOND STREETER-TUESDAYS at NOON

SUNDAY BULLETIN-THURSDAYS at NOON

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

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

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.

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 office if you can help.

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

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

In Person Sunday Service

Pastor Gary Bagley

January 14, 2024 at 10 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME !!!!

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

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