



# The Hammond Streeter

## Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

*An Open and Affirming Community March 20, 2024*

Website: [www.hammondstreetchurch.org](http://www.hammondstreetchurch.org)

Phone: 207-942-4381



### FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

#### SCRIPTURE

Ecclesiastes 3:1

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens...

#### WORDS OF HOPE

Today marks the vernal equinox. The equinox brings with it the start of spring—the season of renewal, fertility, and abundance. Scientifically, the vernal equinox is one of two days a year when night and day, darkness, and light, are of equal duration.

We often talk about seeking equality. Using the natural world as an example, we see how rarely true equality takes place; two out of 365 days this year. Yet, the natural world uses the varying rhythms of light and dark to create balance, something that we also desperately seek in our daily lives.

Just like the trees and the mountains and the flowers and the animals, sometimes we need more darkness than light, more cold than warmth, more drought than rain, more activity than sleep, more work than play. For the earth, and for us, balance and equality are not synonymous.

Think about an acrobat on a tightrope. Our perception is that that person is standing on a thin rope with his or her body equally distributed on either side. Just as with the equinox, that is not true for most of the time that the acrobat is on the rope. The tightrope walker is continually slightly adjusting their balance from side to side as they take each step and as the rope beneath them sways with these movements.

As Christians, we often find ourselves, like the tightrope walker, trying to find balance—balance between prayer and action, stillness and activity, solitude, and community. As the earth has different needs throughout its yearly cycle, we also have varying needs on our faith journey.

As we approach Holy Week, take some time to think about balance in your life. What changes can you make so that you will emerge at Easter as Holy Whole?

#### PRAYER

Loving God, with each breath and each step that I take today, remind me to be aware of what I truly need in this moment. Lead me toward those things that will help me to find balance in my life so that I can become whole and holy. Amen

**LAST CHANCE TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS**

It's time to put in your orders for Easter Flower dedications. **Prices are as follows: Lilies-\$20, Daffodils, Tulips, and Hyacinths-\$15.** Order forms will be on the table in the back of the Sanctuary and emailed. You can bring the completed form to the office or drop it in the offering plate. **All orders must be received no later than Friday, March 22nd before 2:30 P.M. because all orders will be called into Bangor Floral at 2:30 P.M.**



**Many Hands Make LIGHT Work**

**PREPARE YE THE WAY!**

Join the Willing Workers on Saturday, March 23, from 9-noon to dust off and shine up the church for Holy Week. Come for the morning or an hour, many hands make light work.



**FOOD NEEDED IN THE FOOD PANTRY**

We are in need of Pasta, Sauce, Cereal, Baked Beans, Canned Fruit, non-refrigerated Milk. Thank You



**COVID GUIDELINES**

Covid levels in wastewater in Penobscot County, thankfully, have now come down about 2/3's from the peak of this winter. However, levels are still higher than during most of the pandemic years. 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.



### **2024 THERE'S HUMMING HAPPENING AT HAMMOND STREET!**

Save these dates:

**Friday April 5th**, 7pm - Windham High Chamber Singers

**Sunday May 5th**, 7pm - The Maine Steiners

**Saturday June 8th**, 7pm - Jessi Mallory, An Elvis Tribute

**Sunday September 22nd**, 3pm - Kathy Jellison, An Organ Recital

**Sunday October 20th**, 3pm - The Winds of the Bejeweled Diadem

Something for everyone! All to benefit our Instrument Maintenance Fund!

Please email Judy Fricke at [judysfricke@yahoo.com](mailto:judysfricke@yahoo.com) for any questions.



**Pilgrim Lodge**

Maine Conference, United Church of Christ

### **PILGRIM LODGE 2024 PROGRAMS FOR ALL**

Pilgrim Lodge registration is open for the coming summer. There are programs and wonderful friends to meet for all ages at beautiful Cobbooseecontee Lake. You will be amazed at the variety of things to do at Pilgrim Lodge. See [pilgrimlodge.org](http://pilgrimlodge.org).

**Scholarships will be available. Please check with Tracy Bigney (207-356-7223 or [tbig@gwi.net](mailto:tbig@gwi.net) about scholarships).**

### **HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024**

Stewardship Mtg. on 3/21 at 6:30-Sinnott 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 to 3. Please knock or call the office at 207-942-4381 for assistance.

### **EMAIL ADDRESS:**

[admin@hammondstreetchurch.net](mailto: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](mailto:hammondstreetcongregationalchurch@hscucc)

Please contact the office if you can help.

**Hammond Street Concert Series Presents**

# **WINDHAM Chamber Singers.**

**Friday April 5th, 7pm**

**Hammond Street Congregational Church**

At the corner of Hammond and High Streets in Bangor



This concert series is a music outreach of Hammond Street Congregational Church and benefits the Instrument Maintenance Fund.

**Suggested donation \$10.00, Students \$5.00**

# 2024 HSCC LIVE/SILENT AUCTION AND POTLUCK DINNER

Many thanks to all of you who donated items, cooked and supported the HSCC Cabin Fever Reliever Auction. **We raised over \$3000 to support Hammond Street Programs.** Michael Gildart was our auctioneer along with Andy Wood and they did a fantastic job! Awesome job by Amelia who was the live auction team runner.

THANK-YOU for your support! We had a lot of fun! Brad and the Auction Team



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

---

**PALM SUNDAY**

**In Person Sunday Service**

**Pastor Gary Bagley**

**March 24, 2024 at 10 AM**

**ALL ARE WELCOME !!**

**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](http://www.hammondstreetchurch.org)

Email: [admin@hammondstreetchurch.net](mailto:admin@hammondstreetchurch.net)