



The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

An Open and Affirming Community March 6, 2024

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381



FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

SCRIPTURE

Titus 3:4-6

But when the kindness of God our Savior and Jesus' love for mankind appeared, God saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to God's mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit, whom God poured out upon us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,

WORDS OF HOPE

God's Kindness

What knowledge are you hoping to acquire during the Lenten Season? It is in the human experience that we often live without knowing all of the facts. The future, God's purpose for our lives, and the choices that we should make are all at times things shrouded in mystery. Yet, without knowing, somehow, we live without this knowledge every day.

There are times, however, when our questions and desires for the answers burn within our hearts so much that it consumes our every waking thought. In these moments, it is easy for us to be dissatisfied with God. At times, we would rather relieve the stress of our minds by following the instructions of people who claim to have the answers. With no clear direction or clarity, how could we possibly have peace of mind?

Instead of looking for the sun to shine every day, what if we became comfortable when it rains? In a perfect world the weather would never pose any threat. The temperature would always be comfortable and white puffy clouds would offer us plenty of shade. It is a fact that most people thrive on days like this, but when the weather changes unexpectedly and we become inconvenienced by it, we become uncomfortable.

We look to God to give us a good weather report but would be uncomfortable if God gave us a bad one. We have not learned how to be comfortable when the forecasts for our lives show us failing, making mistakes, and struggling.

God does not give us all of the answers, and by not doing so, does us a great kindness. How many of us would enter a competition that we knew was going to be a great struggle with many mistakes made, and that would eventually end in our failure? Most of us would not see the point in entering a race that we had no chance of winning.

However, even we fail, we gain experience, and with experience, knowledge, and with knowledge, understanding, and with understanding we gain the ability to be wise. If God told us everything, then we would avoid hard times, the very times in our lives which builds our character.

I would rather not know and struggle, than to know how to avoid the very things which are meant to grow me.

PRAYER

Loving God,

Help us to trust You. Remind us of Your love and of Your desire to prosper us. We do not know the way in which we should go, but we know that You are guiding us to where we should be. Lord, grow our faith. In the fiery trials, we know that You will fashion us into pure gold. Help us to believe when we do not see and to have peace in You, our mighty Creator. Amen.



HSCC LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION SATURDAY, MARCH 16TH AT 5PM. Join us for a delicious potluck supper and a FUN raiser for the benefit of HSCC. Bring a casserole, salad or bread and we provide the drink and dessert. All the fun begins at 5 PM.

Contact Brad Ryder at kayaker97@aol.com if you have **silent or live auction items** and/or questions.

PS. Bring a friend! Show them what HSCC is all about and the fun we have!

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.**



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 and Re-useable Shopping Bags (**NO PAPER**). Thank You

FRESH START FOOD BOXES

As part of our involvement with the interdenominational church group "Moving in Faith & Hope", your Outreach Committee is committed to supporting the Fresh Start Sober Living program in the greater Bangor area. Our part is to supply a box of food for one person for about 5 days. Just enough for a person to get acquainted with their new neighborhood and find the local food pantry & bus routes. In 2023 we provided one box per month. In 2024 we would like to increase that to two per month as the Fresh Start Program now has thirteen homes and may use 15 boxes a month. We need your help to reach this goal. Standardized boxes are available at church. The list of items needed to fill each box is below. **Contact Andy Wood (745-3428) for a box or any questions.**

Thanks for your support – Outreach Committee

**Canned Fruit-2 cans
Crackers-1 box
Canned Veggies-2 cans
Mac & Cheese-3 boxes
Canned Stew, Chili-1 can
Canned Tuna, Chicken-2
Canned Soup-2 cans
Cereal or Instant Oats-1
Pop Tarts-1 8-pk box**

**Jelly-1 jar
Shelf Stable Milk-1
Cookies-1 package
Spaghetti-1 box
Spaghetti Sauce-1 jar
Rice-A-Roni-2 boxes
Pasta Other-1 box
Peanut Butter-1 jar**

COVID GUIDELINES

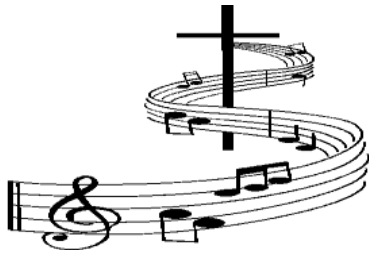
Covid levels in wastewater in Penobscot County, thankfully, have now come down about 2/3's from the peak of this winter. However, levels are still higher than during most of the pandemic years. Fortunately, people can reduce the risk of getting or spreading Covid by wearing a mask. Getting the latest 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.



CHILDREN'S EASTER PARTY

This year, on Saturday, March 30 the Faith Formation team is hosting an Easter Party for the children and youth of our church and community. We need your help to get ready for the fun. We need Easter candy to fill the eggs and cookies for the children and adults to decorate. Candy donations can be left at the table in the Sanctuary and cookies can be brought to the Fellowship Hall the day of the celebration. Thank you for your help. "It takes a village to raise a child" and what a wonderful village of faith we have at HSCC.



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 for any questions.

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 Cobboseecontee Lake. You will be amazed at the variety of things to do at Pilgrim Lodge. See pilgrimlodge.org.

Scholarships will be available. Please check with Tracy Bigney (207-356-7223 or tbig@zwi.net about scholarships).

HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024

Outreach on 3/10/24 at 9 AM—Throckmorton Room

Music on 3/10/24 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 to 3. 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.



..ll aboard Cyr Bus Motor Coach to Portland to enjoy an
afternoon of Baseball with the Sea Dogs at
Hadlock Field Home of The Boston Red Sox's
Double A Baseball Team!



Your Ticket Includes:

All-You-Can-Eat ballpark style picnic
buffet at the The Park Avenue Plaza
Picnic Area!

Conveniently located on the first
base side of the ballpark, this area is
exclusive to our group where you'll
enjoy your ballpark picnic and move
to your seats in the stadium for the
game.



Saturday, May 4, 2024

1PM Game Time

LEAVE: Bangor 9:30AM

**Hammond Street Congregational
Church is Located on Hammond & High
Streets Bangor.**

Cost

\$100 per ticket

Contact Church Office

942-4381

or

Susan Gildart

susan.gildart1215@gmail.com

Limited Tickets Available



**TAKE ME OUT TO THE
BALL GAME**

Hike for the Homeless

Please join us on April 6th



With the 29th Annual Hike for the Homeless only months away, Bangor Area Homeless Shelter needs YOUR help making our largest fundraiser of the year a success. With many vulnerable community members still needing our services, BAHS needs to raise \$30,500 for our programs.

HSCC will be supporting this event in two ways:

1. **Hike with us!!** Raise community awareness and funds. Register as a hiker with the HSCC Team. Team registration is \$20, good dogs are welcome at \$10. Registration includes a very stylish event T-Shirt. **See Andy Wood (745-3428) to register.** Make checks payable to Hammond Street Church. Last year, HSCC had the largest team with 30 people registered. Grab your friends, family & neighbors and let's improve on that this year.
2. **Event Sponsorship** – Your outreach committee is sponsoring this year's event at the \$250 level – or more if funds allow. We'll need to raise these funds from generous folks like you. If you won't be able to join us on the hike, please consider supporting the Homeless Shelter with a cash donation (make checks out to Hammond Street Church).

Hikers assemble at 9:30 at the Waterfront Compass

The hike begins at 10:00 am.

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

In Person Sunday Service

Pastor Gary Bagley

March 10, 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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