



The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

An Open and Affirming Community October 16, 2024

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381



FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 119:41 (MSG)

Let your love, God, shape my life.

WORDS OF HOPE

I first saw this scripture on a poster. It caught my attention because it expresses my own deep yearning to live my life as an expression of God's love. I looked it up so I could read the whole Psalm. Much to my dismay, I found the psalm full of praise for God's law and a whole bunch of self-righteous statements that seemed aimed at convincing God of the writer's worthiness. Not so inspiring, I thought.

Then I asked, "How would God have responded to such a prayer?" As soon as I look at it from God's point of view, I am indeed inspired. God would love this earnest heart's cry, longing to please God and to live a life in service to God as well as possible. I am sure God loved it.

As for living out of love, sometimes it is easy and joyful. Sometimes it is not. Family relationships are often lamented for the "not so easy" category. It is particularly challenging to "love across the aisle" when children make different choices about lifestyles, sexuality, religion, etc. Yet, it is their job to do so, for children must always seek to improve the world as they find it. This is especially apparent in teens and young adults. Much to the parent's dismay, they may reject their parents' treasured beliefs and sometimes the ones the parents' thought were their improvements! It may seem impossible to bridge the gap, but love matters, even when we don't want it to.

So how do we, as adults, forgive our parents and siblings for not loving us the way we wanted to be loved? How do we forgive ourselves for not loving our parents or siblings, or even our own children? Even if we were abused or abusive, if they abandoned us or we abandoned them, no matter the nature of the pain, I believe it is possible for people and families to heal. God can make a way. Like the Psalmist, we can pray for God to shape our lives with Divine Love. We can be at peace because we trust God.

PRAYER

Dear God, You are patient, kind and loving to all your children, all of the time. We respond with a commitment to become channels of love to our parents, our children and our siblings. We will love as well as we can. We seek your forgiveness for our failures. Help us to forgive those who have hurt us. We trust you to heal our families. Grant us peace and fill us with joy. Amen

See you on Sunday, *Pastor Gary*



WARMING THE SANCTUARY

Many of us have experienced discomfort during a church service from back pain, a chill, or illness recovery. We have a few pillows scattered around the church which are mostly "taken." Let's soften our hard pews and create a more welcoming environment for all. Everyone is invited to bring in small, comfortable pillows, afghans, or shawls for your own use or others.



HSCC ANNUAL HOLIDAY FAIR

Attention: Crafters and Makers

We need your help in expanding our inventory of handmade items for the HSCC Church Fair on December 14. From ornaments to aprons, we need a variety of your creations to sell. Contact Lynda Ryder if you can help or have any questions at 207-745-6851 or pondpaddle@msn.com.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are having trouble with emails going through, updated directories are in the office for PU during office hours or on Sundays after the service. **They are by request only.**

LARGE LAUNDRY DETERGENT CONTAINERS

This is an immediate need for Hope House. The large trashcan will again be placed in the Narthex for these containers. Tim Rogers (HEAL Board Member, Volunteer)

CLYNK RECYCLING BAGS

We have green Clynk bags with tags that will direct the money from the returnables to the church. Each Hannaford super market has a place to return Clynk bags.

Bags are on the back table in the Sanctuary or see Mary Klemt in the office. The 5¢ and 15¢ redemption funds will add up when lots of people join together. Thanks, Tracy



FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS

We need volunteers on Tuesdays & Thursdays (8 am to noon) who can lift up to 45 lbs. Please contact Maina Fernald at bangorfoodpantry@gmail.com or Carolyn Dorfman at cdorfman@ymail.com if you can help us.



ALWAYS NEEDED IN THE FOOD PANTRY

Pasta, Sauce, Cereal, Baked Beans, Soup, Canned Fruit, Non-Refrigerated Milk. Thank You

COVID GUIDELINES

Covid levels are sharply increasing. We 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 would like a mask.



IMAGINE TOGETHER

Over the month of October, we will also hear from Kathy Frazier & Susan Gildart, Chuck Veeder, and Andre Chasse. Thank you all for taking your time to share your thoughts on stewardship. Imagine what we can do together in 2025!



2024 HAMMOND STREET CONCERT

Sunday November 10th, 3pm - The Winds of the Bejeweled Diadem, a Woodwind Quartet

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

Please email Judy Fricke at judyfricke@yahoo.com for any questions.

HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024

Stewardship Mtg. on 10/17/24 at 6:30—Sinnott Room

PLEASE REMEMBER

Hammond Streeters at Home:

Sandy Farver, Eda & Hugh Morrison

Sylvia Ross Home-Bangor

Ronnie 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 11 AM

SUNDAY BULLETIN-THURSDAYS at 11 AM

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 on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

SECURITY REMINDER

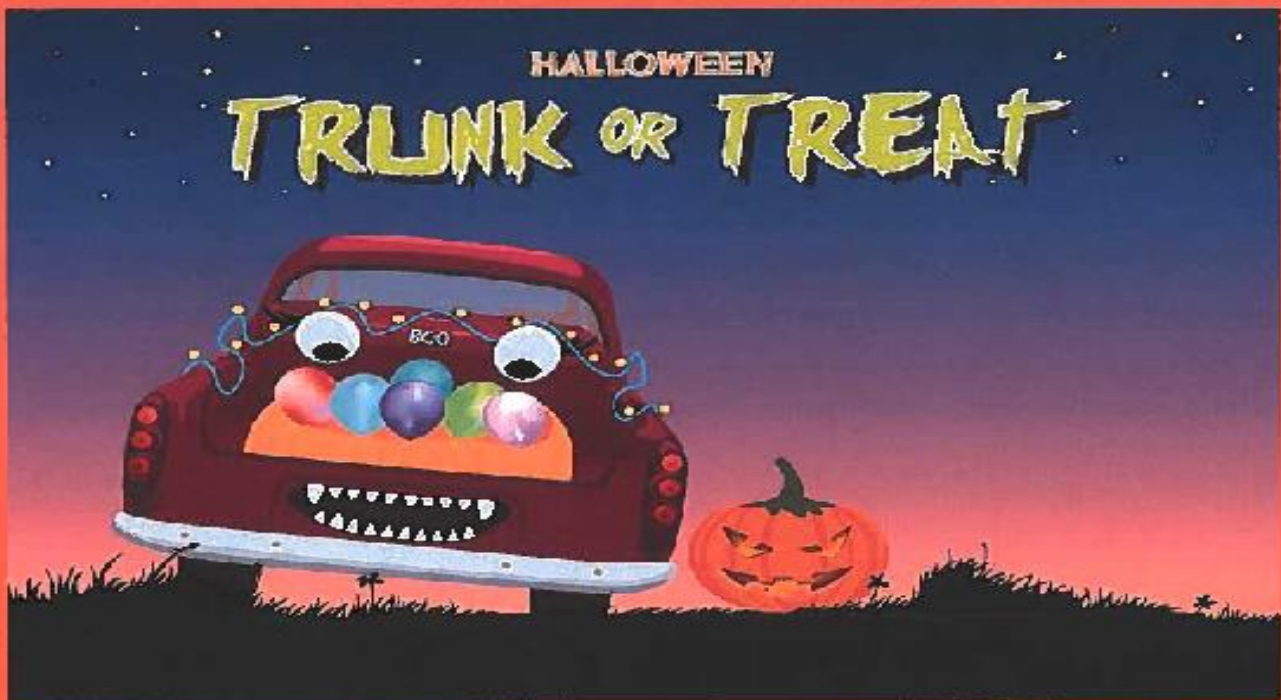
Please make sure the backdoor is locked when you leave. Lock it and give it a tug to make sure it is secure and make sure your vehicle is locked.

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.



**Saturday, October 26
4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Hammond Street Church
28 High Street
Bangor**

HSCC ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT

(WE NEED MORE PARTICIPANTS OR WE WILL HAVE CANCEL THIS EVENT)

On Saturday, October, 26 from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. we will be hosting Trunk or Treat for the Children of our Community. We need you to join us and be a part of the line-up for that afternoon. All you need to do is, sign-up on the sign-up sheet that will be located on the table at the back of the Sanctuary so that we know you will be in the line-up. **If you are signing up, please bring your own candy or treats to hand out.** We will not be asking for donations of candy or treats from the congregation anymore, only those who bring their vehicles or sign up, as we had an abundance of leftover candy last year after the event. Then just show up around 3 p.m. and find a parking place on High Street and decorate your trunk with fall or Halloween decorations. Then wait for the ghosts and goblins to show up. **Let's make this a fun and safe way for Trick or Treaters to enjoy Halloween.**

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

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

In Person Sunday Service

Pastor Gary Bagley

October 20, 2024 at 10 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME !!

**The Hammond Streeter
is a weekly publication of the
Hammond Street Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ (EXCEPT IN JULY AND AUGUST)**

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