



The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

An Open and Affirming Community October 2, 2024

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381



FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 16:29-30

This will be a permanent rule for you: On the tenth day of the appointed month in early autumn, you must deny yourselves. You must not do any work—neither the citizen nor the immigrant who lives among you. On that day reconciliation will be made for you to cleanse you. You will be clean before the Lord from all your sins.

A WORD OF HOPE

On October 11, Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, the holiest of all Jewish holidays, will be celebrated in the Jewish community. I want to examine the aspects of this important day, and how they might apply to us as followers of Christ.

The Christian tenet of atonement for sin can easily absolve us of a meaningful, intentional examination of our lives and commitment to live at a higher level.

Just as the word “sin” carries a connotation that differs from its meaning, Yom Kippur’s primary elements are often mistranslated and only hint at their original meaning. T’filah and T’shuvah (prayer and repentance) are more accurately translated as self-evaluation and return.

The most common word for “sin” is chait and means to “miss the mark.” More practically, it means an error or mistake. Inordinate guilt or fear of eternal damnation make no sense in this context.

So, a “Day of Atonement for our sins through repentance and prayer” is more accurately translated as a “Day of Atonement for our errors through self-evaluation and a return to the men and women we were created to be.”

T’filah, or self-evaluation is about honest introspection, we consider the times and situations where we’ve acted in ways contrary to God and the better angels of our nature. This self-examination is the essence of what takes place on Yom Kippur.

It involves assessing when, how, and why we veered away from the people we were created to be, the image and likeness of God. We consider the patterns of triggers and stumbling blocks that often trip us up and consider how often we’ve ‘missed the mark’ by compromising our best selves amid the stresses and distractions of daily life.

I grew up with “forgive us for our sins” or “forgive us when we fail You” included in every prayer, though we spent little time considering exactly what sins or failures we were referencing. At Yom Kippur, emphasis is placed on looking at the very places where we harbor prejudices, display unkindness, fail to act on behalf of the oppressed, abide gossip, dismiss the needs or dignity of others, or seek retribution rather than peace.

T’shuvah, or return is about more than repentance. It includes an assessment of where and who we are versus how we could be. We ‘return’ to God by envisioning our lives lived with the degree of love, compassion, mercy, integrity, nobility, and authenticity of which we are capable. It’s a bit like saying to ourselves, “You’re better than that.” For followers of Christ, we look at those areas where we’re doing well and the areas where we could be more Christ-like. And we agree to lay down our resistance to living differently to become more like Jesus.

Taking fearless inventories of ourselves, examining our intentions, and committing to become the people we have the potential to be is uncomfortable and difficult work. But it is work we are asked to undertake. And no one else can make this journey for us.

By examining the elements of Yom Kippur and the true meaning of the actions associated with the day, I believe the conscious appraisal of our lives and our dedication to become better people contributes to our growth as followers of Jesus.

PRAYER

Most Loving God, we are grateful for the ways in which we live noble and authentic lives. May we appreciate those areas while remaining mindful of the areas where we miss the mark. We ask You to extend Your grace to us for those times we’ve erred. Remind us of the resources available to make us better, more Christ-like individuals so that we may do Your work in this world. Amen.

See you on Sunday, *Pastor Gary*



STEWARDSHIP IS COMING!

During the month of October we focus on stewardship and consider our commitments for the coming year. We look forward to a great lineup of oral testimonies each Sunday and a delicious thank you meal following the service on October 27th. You won't want to miss it!



SAVE THE DATE

What happens on December 14 2024?

The Annual Hammond Street Holiday Fair! Mark your calendar for fun. Favorites like homemade sweets & snacks for sale, cooked food, Christmas items, Grammie's Attic and the luncheon will be there. We're also looking for some new offerings. Got ideas? Contact Lynda Ryder at 207-745-6851 or by email at pondpaddle@msn.com if you can help make this year's fair better than ever.

CHURCH DIRECTORY

We are having trouble with emails going through, so whoever requested an updated directory they 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. Hammond Streeters always step up to a challenge and thank you for doing it again!
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.



FREE BEAN LUNCH

Please join us on **Saturday, October 5, 2024** for our next Free Bean Lunch from 12-1, we provide a **FREE** meal for the community. We serve homemade beans, hot dogs, casseroles, cole slaw and a dessert. We also provide a bag lunch to take out consisting of a Peanut Butter & Jelly sandwich, an apple, and a cookie. There are lots of volunteer opportunities to include set-up, serving and cleanup as well as making casseroles, cookies or dessert.

You can sign up at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11NhgcVoxcrzYWd2i-Ottx5QEUBAeNucGb9FnG-J0Djg/edit?pli=1&qid=1057782017#qid=1057782017>

Contact Ruey Yehle with any questions.



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 judysfricke@yahoo.com for any questions.

HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2024

NO COMMITTEE MEETINGS THIS WEEK

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.

KATHY JELLISON'S CONCERT

There was a wonderful turnout for Kathy's offering of pieces by some of her favorite French, women and black composers.

Kathy acknowledges the outpouring of applause from a very appreciative audience.



THE MUSIC COMMITTEE is looking for new members. Our main task is coordinating the Hammond Street Concert Series as fundraisers for the Organ and Piano Maintenance Fund. If interested, you could help out some this fall and then jump on the committee in January!

If you have questions about any group, please contact Judy Fricke, judysfricke@yahoo.com.

JIMMY FUND WALK TO DEFY CANCER ALMOST HERE—TRACY BIGNEY

Thank you to the many people who have contributed so far. **Contributions are accepted until October 31.**

It's easy to support this important and universal cause.

- Donate online: give directly through my fundraising page:

<http://danafarber.jimmyfund.org/goto/Tracy-Bigney>

- Send in a check: Write a check payable to "Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk" with my name and participant ID 1012011 in the memo line and send it directly to the address below:

Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk
P.O. Box 3595
Boston, MA 02241-3595

-Or send a check made out to Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk to me, and I will send it in.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Tracy Bigney



FALL FOLIAGE TRAIN RIDE OCTOBER 19

Woo-woo chugga chugga choo choo! Hear that train? Join your church friends for a fall foliage train ride and day of seeing the sights in Unity, ME.

We will take a ride on the Belfast and Moosehead Railroad on the afternoon of Saturday, October 19th at 1 PM. Destination Pumpkin Patch. Tickets are \$30 per adult and \$15 per child under 12 years of age. The ride is approximately 1 to 1 1/2 hours long.

There is also much more to see in Unity. Other optional activities include visiting the Amish Community Market and Charcuterie (the source of many wonderful smoked meats and cheeses that we enjoy when Lovern hosts Fellowship Hour). All this, and there is an Alpaca Farm, too! If there is interest, we'll try to arrange a farm tour and since we'll get hungry, there is Mammie's Country Kitchen for lunch.

What better way to see the beautiful foliage than from the train with church friends?

ITINERARY:

10-11 AM: Visit the Amish Community Market and Charcuterie

11 AM: Early lunch at Mammie's Country Kitchen (we will make a reservation based on the interest of the group).

1 PM: The train ride departs from 212 Depot St. (Rt. 139), Unity. Use this address in the GPS, **NOT** Belfast and Moosehead Lake Railroad. Boarding starts at 12:40 PM.

2:30 PM: (or when the train ride ends): Tour the Alpaca Farm at no charge. We will let them know roughly how many of us to expect.

Reservations are required for the train ride, and we'd like a rough headcount for other activities. Call Mary at the church office (207) 942-4381 and let her know how many train tickets for adults and children you would like to reserve and whether you are interested in the market, charcuterie, lunch, or Alpaca Farm. Transportation is up to you, so let Mary know if you would need to carpool or could offer rides to others. **Please pay for train tickets by October 15th.** You can drop a check or cash in an envelope with your name and train ride on it either at the office or in the Sunday Offering plate. If you have any questions? Tracy Bigney (207) 356-7223 or email her at tbig@gwi.net.

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

TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

In Person Sunday Service

Pastor Gary Bagley

October 6, 2024 at 10 AM

ALL ARE WELCOME !!

**The Hammond Streeter
is a weekly publication of the
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