

The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

An Open and Affirming Community March 5, 2025

Website: www.hammondstreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-942-4381



FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

SCRIPTURE

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

— Philippians 2:3-4

WORDS OF HOPE

When I was younger, I often felt the need to prove myself. Whether it was in school, or social situations, I was always striving to be the best, to outshine others, and to seek recognition. One day a mentor gently pointed out that my constant need for validation was rooted in pride and insecurity. He shared with me the importance of humility, noting that true greatness lies in serving others and putting their needs ahead of my own.

This was a hard lesson to learn, but it changed my perspective. Practicing humility doesn't come naturally; it requires intentional effort and a heart transformed by God's grace. It means recognizing that every good thing we have comes from God and that we are not superior to others. It involves acknowledging our limitations and being willing to learn from others, even those whom we might think are less experienced.

Jesus is the ultimate example of humility. Though he is God, he chose to humble himself, taking the form of a servant and sacrificing his life for us. In following his example, we learn to value others, to listen more, and to serve without expecting anything in return.

I've learned that humility allows us to see others through God's eyes and to respond with compassion and grace. Practicing humility means letting go of our ego and embracing the mindset of a servant, just as Jesus did.

PRAYER

Lord, teach us to practice humility. Transform us to reflect your love and grace. Amen.

See you Sunday, *Pastor Gary*



ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE

Tonight, March 5th is Ash Wednesday, the beginning of the Lenten Season. We will observe the beginning of Lent with a Service of Ashes at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. Join us and participate in the service as we begin our Lenten Journey.



CABIN FEVER RELIEVER Our 3rd Annual HSCC Live and Silent Auction is **March 15th** at 5pm. It will include a potluck supper, silent and live auction! We have an incredible assortment of unique items as well as yummy treats and baked goods. Proceeds to benefit HSCC and our Outreach programs. Just in case....snow date is the following weekend, March 22nd.

Contact Brad Ryder, 207-745-6850 or kayaker97@aol.com if you have an item(s), service, gift certificate to donate or have any other questions. See you there!



REUSEABLE BAGS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

The Bangor Food Pantry is in need of reusable bags to hand out to their clients on Tuesdays and Thursdays when the Food Pantry is open. If you can help them out it would be much appreciated. **NO PAPER BAGS PLEASE**



There is Humming Happening at Hammond Street!

Please save these dates for the 2025 Hammond Street Concert Series!

Sunday May 11th, 7pm

A Mother's Day Concert with The Maine Steiners

Friday June 20th, 7pm

A coffee house setting with local folk singers Larry and Leslie Latour

Saturday September 6th, 7pm

Duets and Desserts HSCC Choir presents homegrown talent and homemade desserts

Friday October 3rd, 7pm

An evening of Gospel and more with New York Artist Roosevelt Credit

All funds raised go to the maintenance of our beautiful pipe organ and pianos. Please plan on joining us and bringing friends!



ALWAYS NEEDED IN THE FOOD PANTRY

Pasta Sauce, Cereal, Baked Beans, Soup, Canned Vegetables. Thank you very much

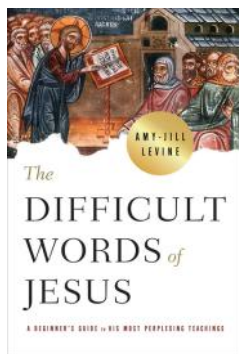


PILLOWS & THROWS IN THE SANCTUARY

They are there for anyone to use and to create a welcoming atmosphere. Please feel free to take one and put it behind your back or sit on it during the service or wrap yourself up in a comfy throw to keep warm.

COVID GUIDELINES

Covid levels are rapidly rising. We can help 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.



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

March 10 – April 14 at 1:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.
 “The Difficult Words of Jesus” By Amy-Jill Levine
 Examine the most difficult teachings of Jesus with Dr. Amy-Jill Levine.

Jesus provided his disciples teachings for how to follow Torah, God’s word; he told them parables to help them discern questions of ethics and of human nature; he offered them beatitudes for comfort and encouragement. But sometimes Jesus spoke words that followers then and now have found difficult. He instructs disciples to hate members of their own families (Luke 14:26), to act as if they were slaves (Matthew 20:27), and to sell their belongings and give to the poor (Luke 18:22). He restricts his mission (Matthew 10:6); he speaks of damnation (Matthew 8:12); he calls Jews the devil’s children (John 8:44).

In The Difficult Words of Jesus, Amy-Jill Levine shows how these difficult teachings would have sounded to the people who first heard them, how have they been understood over time, and how we might interpret them in the context of the Gospel of love and reconciliation. You can sign up today. Signup sheets are on the table on the High Street side of the Sanctuary.
Books are available in the office for \$14.00.



SHROVE TUESDAY FELLOWSHIP HOUR

Thank you Diaconate for organizing another Shrove Tuesday on Sunday Pancake and King Cake Fellowship Hour. This after party photo is evidence of lots of smiles and full bellies.

*****HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2025*****

Music on 3/9 at noon—Throckmorton Room

*****PLEASE REMEMBER*****

Hammond Streeters at Home

Eda & Hugh Morrison, Glen & Ann Rea, Sandy Farver

Sylvia Ross Home

758 Broadway, Apt. 37, Bangor, ME 04401
 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 10 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.

PRAYER CIRCLE

Do you believe in the power of prayer? Willing to lend you prayer power for others? If so, join the HSCC Circle. The only requirements are that you have an email address and will maintain confidentiality when requested. Interested? Have a prayer request? Contact Fran at frandg31@gmail.com

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 always make sure your vehicle is locked.

SERVICE STREAMING LIVE OR RECORDED

You can find our services live or at your convenience on our YouTube channel.

AVTECH Hammond Street Church

You can also find the link to YouTube on our Facebook Page.

hammondstreetcongregationalchurch@hscucc

Hammond St. Congregational Church, Bangor

CABIN FEVER RELIEVER

MARCH 15, 2025 - 5 o'clock

Potluck Supper (dessert provided)

and

Live and Silent Auctions



Photo from Auction 2024

Lots of great items and gift certificates

*Bring a friend and
come for an evening of fun*

Please join your friends & neighbors in support of the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter at the 30th annual

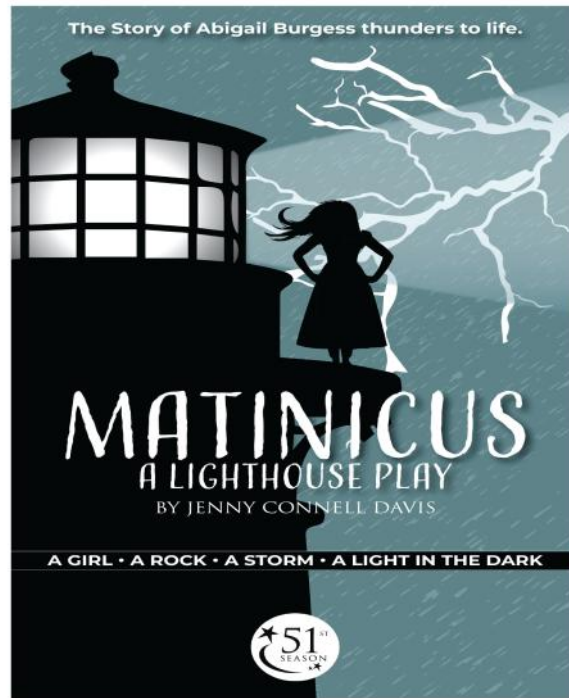
"Hike for the Homeless"



Mark your calendars for April 5th and join fellow Hammond Streeters on the Bangor Waterfront.

HSCC is offering two options for you to be involved with this very essential community service. You can register as a hiker or make a cash donation in support of our sponsorship. Contact Andy Wood (745-3428) to register or for more information about either option. Follow the link below for event details. Thanks for your support – your Outreach Committee

<https://www.bangorareashelter.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/02/30th-Hike-for-the-Homeless-Flyer.pdf>



THEATER NIGHT FUNDRAISER

Join us for another play at the Penobscot Theatre on Friday, March 28th. We will meet in Fellowship Hall at 5:30 for a pre-show mixer with snacks, beverages and friendly conversation. We will then walk (or drive) down to the theater for **Matinicus: A Lighthouse Play** at 7:00. *"Inspired by the true story of Maine folk heroine Abigail Burgess, this is a story of community, isolation, and resilience in the face of forces far greater than ourselves"*. The cost is \$60 per ticket and includes the pre-show mixer. There will be a signup sheet on the back table of the church, or you can call the church office with your reservation. We will collect your payment on the evening of the show, or you can leave a check/cash in the offering plate or the church office. Just put "theater tickets" on your envelope or note it on your check. If you are already a season subscriber and would like to join the group, you can call the theater to exchange your tickets for March 28th and join us for the mixer. Donation for the mixer only is \$15. If you have any questions, email André at aechasse@yahoo.com.

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

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

In Person Sunday Service

Pastor Gary Bagley

March 9, 2025 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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