



# The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

*An Open and Affirming Community January 14, 2026*

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

Phone: 207-942-4381



## FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

### Leaving The Past Behind

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.—

Philippians 3:13-14

### WORDS OF HOPE

Some memories cling to us like shadows—our failures, our regrets, our missed opportunities. We replay them over and over, wondering what we could have done differently.

But the truth is that we can't change the past. Even so, we don't have to let it shape our present and our future.

Paul had a past too. Before becoming an apostle, he persecuted the church. If anyone had reasons to carry guilt, it was him. But instead of being paralyzed by his past, Paul focused forward—not because he was perfect but because he was forgiven. The Lord's amazing grace gives us permission to let go.

Leaving the past behind isn't about denial. It's about refusing to let it define you. God is doing something new, and looking backward too long can make you miss what's right in front of you.

So, if you're carrying baggage from last year—or from the past decade or more—lay it down. God is not finished with you yet. In fact, God's just getting started.

### PRAYER

Gracious God, help me to let go of what I cannot change. Free me from shame and regret and fix my eyes on what lies ahead in life with you. Amen.

See you Sunday,

*Pastor Gary*

### **\*CHRISTMAS CARDS\***

Although we carry Christmas in our hearts all year long, it's time to put away some of the seasonal trappings. The Christmas card box in the Narthex has been taken down and all remaining cards are laid out in the Fellowship Hall. Please stop by during coffee hour and pick up any cards addressed to you.



### **WINTER WARMTH TREE**

Winter Warmth Tree is available till the end of January with warm socks and gloves (**new only please**). These items will provide a warmer winter for our neighbors in need.

### **HOMELESS SHELTER MEALVOLUNTEERS**

On the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month, Hammond Streeters prepare and serve a hearty meal for guests at the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter. While this program is coordinated by Your Outreach Committee, it takes the support of our entire congregation to sustain this effort throughout the year. We could use some additional involvement from the good folks at Hammond St. contact Andy Wood ([664awood@gmail.com](mailto:664awood@gmail.com) or 745-3428). To get more details about supporting this project with or without digital access, contact Andy.

**Thanks for considering involvement in this HSCC Outreach program – Your Outreach Committee**



### **\*\*COVID AND FLU UPDATE\*\***

Here in the Bangor region, covid and influenza have greatly increased recently. We can reduce illness by wearing a mask and staying up-to-date with the latest vaccines (free for most folks). Free masks are always available at the greeter's table in the church lobby—please help yourself if you'd like a mask. Hand sanitizer is also available.



### **WINTER CLOTHING**

During the winter months, HSCC offers gently used winter clothing to guests at our Free Bean Lunch. We offer the clothing from the first week in November through March. Any **men's** winter clothing in good condition including sweaters, sweatshirts, pants and fleece would be appreciated, especially large, XL and XXL sizes. Donations can be placed in the basket in the Narthex. Contact Andy Wood (745-3428) with questions. Thanks for helping our neighbors in need in the greater Bangor area – Your Outreach Committee



### **MONTHLY FREE BEAN LUNCHES**

On the first Saturday of every month HSCC's Free Bean Lunch provides a free meal and a bag lunch to all who attend. Over the past few months we have been averaging around 65 guests at each meal. We have an email list of those who wish to help by providing needed supplies, casseroles, salads, and help with set-up, serving, and cleanup. If you are interested in being added to that email list please contact me. The sign-up sheet is emailed the weekend before the FB Lunch. My email address is: [ryehle2@gmail.com](mailto:ryehle2@gmail.com) and my phone number is: 207-478-9122. Thank you, Ruey



**\*\*\*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., Brewer, ME 04412  
Ansley Throckmorton-Rm. 109

**Westgate Manor**

750 Union St.—Room 111, Bangor, ME 04401  
Susan Davies

**\*\*DEADLINES FOR PUBLICATIONS\*\***

**HAMMOND STR. \*TUESDAYS\* at 11 AM**  
**SUNDAY BULLETIN \*WEDS.\* 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](mailto: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 your 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](mailto:frandg31@gmail.com)

**\*\*\*SECURITY REMINDER\*\*\***

**Please make sure the backdoor is locked. 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.

[AVTECHHammondStreetChurch@Youtube.com](mailto:AVTECHHammondStreetChurch@Youtube.com) or use this QR Code:



**ALWAYS NEEDED IN THE FOOD PANTRY**

Spaghetti O's, Canned Ravioli, Pasta Sauce, Shelf-Stable Milk, Cereal, Baked Beans, Soup, Mustard, Ketchup, Mayo and Salt-n-Pepper. Thank you, BFP

**REMEMBER TO CLYNK**

Hammond Street has a CLYNK account for recycling cans and bottles at Hannaford stores. Pick up a bag with our tag on the ushers' tables in the back of the sanctuary or in the office. When the bag is full, put it in the receptacle at a Hannaford location. The proceeds go to the church. It's a very easy way to help. If you have questions, contact Tracy Bigney at 207-356-7223 or [bigney@maine.edu](mailto:bigney@maine.edu).

**COVID GUIDELINES**

**Covid levels have increased.** 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.**

**\*\*HSCC COMMITTEE MEETINGS 2026\*\***

Trustees on 1/15 at 6:30 PM—Sinnott Room

The reception of new members includes all of the participants including Beth & Mike Maberry, Reed & Ranae Underwood, Jon & Sara Henry, Aubrie Autumn, Donna Heath, Faith Duffy, Skyler Burgess, Pastor Gary, Rev. Jim, Susan Gildart and Cynthia Reid.



**HSCC WELCOMES ALL THE NEW MEMBERS 2026**



**Aubrie Autumn**



**Donna Heath**



**Faith Duffy**



**Skyler Burgess**



**Beth & Mike Maberry**



**Ranae & Reed Underwood**

**Sara & Jon Henry**



# **WARRANT**

To Monika Pearsall, Clerk of Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation:

You are hereby requested to notify and warn the Members of said Corporation to meet in the large vestry of their meeting house on  
**Sunday, January 25, 2026 at 11:30 a.m.**

To hear and act upon the reports of various Officers, Committees, and Organizations;  
to consider and act upon the budget for the year 2026;

and to transact such other and further business as may legally come before said meeting.

And you are hereby requested to make a return of the above Warrant the 11th day of January, 2026.

*Ruey B. Yehle*

Ruey B. Yehle, Moderator

Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation

## **NOTICE**

To the Members of Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation:

Pursuant to the foregoing application to me directed, I hereby notify and warn the Members of said Corporation to meet at the time  
and place and for the purposes named in the above application.

*Monika Pearsall*

Monika Pearsall, Clerk

Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation

## **RETURN**

Pursuant to the foregoing WARRANT to me directed, I have notified and warned the persons therein named to meet at the time and  
place for the purposes named, by causing to be posted a true copy of the application and WARRANT on the outside doors of  
Hammond Street Congregational Church's meeting house on or before the 11th day of January, 2026; and by publication in the  
January 14, 2026 issue of the *Hammond Streeter*, the Church newsletter sent to the general membership; all being at least seven days  
prior to said day of the meeting.

*Monika Pearsall*

Monika Pearsall, Clerk

Hammond Street Congregational Church Corporation

State of Maine

## Overview of HSCC's Governance Structure

HSCC has committees that make up the governance structure. During the annual meeting on January 25 2026 you will be provided with the proposed slate of individuals who will make up the representation of those committees. Those committees are briefly described below, more details regarding some of them can be found in our by-laws. Future articles will explain how HSCC's governance works and some information on the roles of the treasurer, collectors, historian, and auditor.

**Diaconate** – shall work in partnership with the Minister to further the spiritual life and mission of the church, assist in administering the sacraments in worship and through home-visits, assist in receiving new members.

**Trustees** – shall manage the Operating Budget and the Building Fund and have general charge of the property and the financial affairs of the church. The Trustees will appoint an **Investment Committee** to manage the investments of the church.

**Christian Outreach** – In addition to its outreach ministry, the committee will be responsible for developing and administering the annual Outreach budget.

**Music Committee** – will be responsible for music during worship and special events, shall maintain and repair instruments within the church, and shall be responsible for the purchase of music and maintenance of robes.

**Hospitality** – the coordinator shall be responsible for scheduled coffees and work with other committees for hospitality services that may be needed.

**Faith Formation** – plans and supports educational & spiritual growth programs for all ages (children, youth, adults).

**Stewardship** - promotes generosity (time, talent, treasure) and manages the annual pledge drive.

**Council** – is made up of chairs/representatives of each committee and **two members-at-large\*** and by its representation shall keep in view the total life of the church and will discern the need for and may recommend action or a congregational meeting to consider matters brought before it by any board or committee.

\*If you wish to be a member-at-large please contact Ruey Yehle at [ryehle2@gmail.com](mailto:ryehle2@gmail.com).



**Announcing!!**  
**Faith Linking in Action's**  
**2026 Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration**  
**Reggie Harris**



Reggie is a songwriter who shares insightful perspectives of life, history, education and human rights issues. His presentation is appropriate for all ages! Light refreshments & conversation with Reggie after the program.

\$10 Suggested Donation

**January 18, 2026**

**3:00 pm**

**First United Methodist Church - Bangor**

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

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**SECOND SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY**

**In Person Sunday Service**

**Pastor Gary Bagley**

**January 18, 2026 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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