



# The Hammond Streeter

Hammond Street Congregational Church, UCC, Bangor, ME

*An Open and Affirming Community March 11, 2026*

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

Phone: 207-942-4381



## FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE

More Than We Can Imagine

### SCRIPTURE READING

“Lift the boy up and take him by the hand, for I will make him into a great nation.”

Genesis 21:18

### WORDS OF HOPE

God is faithful beyond our ability to think or imagine.

Sarah had come up with a plan to produce an heir for Abraham. Her scheme was outside of God's plan (Genesis 16-17), but she decided to try it anyway. She gave her servant, Hagar, to Abraham to see if she could have a child for her. Hagar conceived, and her child was named Ishmael. At first, Sarah saw the birth of Ishmael as a good thing, but that became a threat when her own son, Isaac, was born. So, Sarah decided to remove that threat. Despite the protests of Abraham, Hagar and Ishmael were sent away. They wandered aimlessly in the desert, but God provided for them and promised to raise up Ishmael into a nation also.

Have you ever tried to limit God's faithfulness to include only certain people or those who act in a certain way? In the Bible, God shows that his plans and purposes go beyond our expectations.

At funerals I have conducted in the past, I have often stated: “God is more faithful and just than we can ever imagine.” This can be a comfort to people who wonder about God. In such moments I often think of the teenage Ishmael and his distraught mother, who found that God was with them—in ways beyond imagining.

### PRAYER

Lord, thank you for your surprising faithfulness and care. Open our eyes to the ways you are continually at work in our lives—and far beyond. In Christ name, Amen.

See you Sunday,  
*Pastor Gary*



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

Trustees on 3/12 at 6:30 PM—Sinnott Room  
Council/Exec. On 3/17 at 6:30 PM—Parlor

**\*\*AUCTION! IT'S HERE—THIS SATURDAY\*\***  
**MARCH 14TH**

Sample of the many, many items that will be up for auction.

Housecleaning by Heather Houston, Homemade pies by Tricia VanKirk, Vintage City of Bangor Landscape Framed Print, Andy Wood's Trail Mix, Penobscot Theatre Tickets, Tiller and Rye Grocery Bag, 1 Night Stay at Country Inn, Las Palapas Restaurant, Angelos Pizza, Deanes Detailing, and much more!

4:30 - 5:00pm Preview of Live/Silent Auction items  
5:00 - 6:15pm Potluck Supper, Bev. Dessert/provided  
6:15 - 6:30pm Silent Auction ends  
6:30 - 8:00pm Live Auction (approximate)

See you there!

**HSCC ORGAN**

Dear Congregation,

As you may have noticed, the last couple of weeks, the Sanctuary Choir has been singing at the piano instead of being in the loft accompanied by our beautiful organ. We thought the you might like an explanation. Our organ, along with many other historic organs in the area is suffering the affects of the extremely cold weather we have endured over the last few months. Although most organs of this vintage enjoy some lower temperatures, this winter has taken its toll. We have an organ tuner/repair person coming as soon as possible to bring her back to life and expect to have Kathy on that bench for Palm Sunday and Easter, if not sooner! This instrument is not only a blessing to our church, but also a huge asset with an estimated value of over one million dollars. We will continue to do everything within our power to keep her in top shape for all to enjoy weekly, but there are times like these that it is beyond anyone's control. Meanwhile, how lucky are we that we have Kathy Jellison who is as proficient on the Baby Grand as she is on the Grande Dame in the loft. Thank you for your understanding and support, The Music Committee

**LENTEN SERMON SERIES**

Sermon Series entitled "At the Cross Roads" will continue through Lent and conclude on Easter Sunday. Join us as we Journey through Lent and find ourselves "At the Cross Roads."



**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

**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:





### **PHOTO AND VIDEO NOTICE**

Photo and video may be taken during worship services, church events, and fellowship gatherings. This media may be used in church communications, including but not limited to the newsletter, website, social media, and printed marketing materials. We capture photo and video broadly during services and events and may not be able to avoid recording or photographing specific individuals. If you do not wish to have your image or your child's image used, please email Adrienne Knight at [Adriennejknight13@gmail.com](mailto:Adriennejknight13@gmail.com) and include a simple photo of yourself (and/or your child) for reference. We will use the reference photo only to identify you when reviewing images, and we will remove or blur your image, so you and/or your child cannot be identified. No individuals in photo or video will ever be named or "tagged" without consent.

### **HOMELESS SHELTER MEAL VOLUNTEERS**

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.

– **Your Outreach Committee**

### **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).

### **\*\*\*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.**

### **COVID/FLU GUIDELINES**

**Covid/Flu levels have increased.** We can help reduce the risk of getting or spreading them by wearing a mask. Getting the latest vaccinations will also reduce the risk of serious illness. **HSCC has free N-95 masks at the greeter's table in the narthex.**

# Lenten & Holy Week Services

Come experience the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus through the Liturgy.

Hammond Street  
Congregational Church  
28 High Street, Bangor

**Shrove Tuesday, celebrated Sunday, February 15**  
Following worship at 10 a.m, join us in Fellowship Hall for pancakes, breakfast foods, and King Cake during fellowship hour.

**Ash Wednesday, February 18, 6:00 p.m.**  
Join us in the Sanctuary for a traditional Ash Wednesday service with distribution of the ashes as we begin the Lenten season.

## Holy Week

**Palm Sunday, March 29**

Our worship will focus on Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and the beginning of the last week of his life.

**Holy Thursday, April 2, 6:30 p.m.**

Join us to remember the last supper that Jesus celebrated with the disciples.

**Good Friday, April 3, 6:30 p.m.**

We will hold the Service of Shadows, focusing on the passion and death of Christ.

## Lenten Bible Study

Come Mondays at 1:00 p.m. or 6:30 p.m., from February 23 to March 30. The study focus will be on Professor Amy-Jill Levine's *Entering the Passion of Jesus*. Contact the church office for a book.



**Hammond Street**  
Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

ANNUAL  
*Cabin Fever Reliever*  
AUCTION + POTLUCK

Saturday • March 14 • 5 p.m.  
28 High Street, Bangor



Silent + Live Auction, Friendly Bidding Wars  
& a Delicious Potluck Supper

**Bring a dish to share! Drinks and dessert will be provided.**

*Items for auction include gift cards, food items, original artwork and prints, local services, and more.*

**Please join your friends & neighbors in support of the Bangor Area Homeless Shelter at the 31<sup>st</sup> annual**

**“Hike for the Homeless”**



**Mark your calendars for April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2026 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/post-2352/>

Saturday, May 9, 2026

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



**All Aboard The Cyr North Star Tour Motor Coach to  
Hadlock Field Portland to see the Sea Dogs, The Red  
Sox Minor League Baseball Team In Action.**

**Your Ticket Includes:**

A \$20.00 Gift Card For Food at the  
Concession Stands!

Seats Are Conveniently Located on the  
3rd base side of the Ballpark Where you  
can see all the Action!

**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 15, 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)**

28 High Street, Bangor, ME 04401

Phone: 207-942-4381

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

Email: [admin@hammondstreetchurch.net](mailto:admin@hammondstreetchurch.net)