



# HopeGateWay

509 Forest Avenue  
Portland, ME 04101  
207.899.2435

Allen Ewing-Merrill, pastor  
allen@hopegateway.com  
cell 207-400-6262

Sara Ewing-Merrill, pastor  
sara@hopegateway.com  
cell 207-400-6261

www.hopegateway.com

## Sunday, January 6, 2019 | Epiphany Upcoming Events & Opportunities to Serve

### Welcome to worship at HopeGateWay!

We're so glad you're here today! We'd like to get to know you, so please take a minute to fill out a Welcome card, and join us for conversation, a cup of coffee or tea, and a bite to eat!

#### Sundays at HopeGateWay

- 9:00 am** Worship Celebration
- 10:15 am** Coffee and conversation
- 10:15 am** HopeGateWay Kids
- 11:00 am** Worship Celebration

*Share the joy! Invite a friend to join you next Sunday!*

#### Today is Epiphany Sunday

##### Let your light shine!

Today, January 6, we join with Christians around the world in celebrating Epiphany, which concludes the 12 Days of Christmas. We remember the visit of the wise men, who followed the star and brought gifts to the Christ child.

#### HopeGateWay Kids

##### Sundays at 10:15 am // Room 3-4

All kids, grades K-5, are invited for engaging, multi-sensory explorations of the Bible and concepts of faith through storytelling, art, and creative activities. HGW Kids meets in room 3-4 between our two worship gatherings. Invite a friend!

#### Advent Conspiracy.

##### Because Christmas can still change the world.

Christmas Day may have come and gone, but our celebration continues! Between now and the end of January, we challenge you make a meaningful gift to help people in need. This year's Advent Conspiracy gifts will go to Greater Portland Family Promise, helping families experiencing homelessness, and to Maison Shalom, a ministry that helps orphans and street children in Burundi and Rwanda. Your gift makes a difference!

#### Collecting food for Sacred Heart Food Pantry

During the month of January, we're collecting food to be distributed through the Sacred Heart Food Pantry. Items most requested include rice, dry beans, cereal, canned soup, pasta, pasta sauce, tuna, and canned vegetables. Throw some of these in your cart when you're shopping this week! Our collection will culminate with Souper Bowl of Caring, a nationwide hunger awareness event, on Sunday, February 3.

#### Centering Prayer Group

##### Tuesdays // 12:00 – 12:50 pm // HGW

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead. Jonathan Wright-Gray and others are leading a Tuesday mid-day Centering Prayer group — an opportunity to connect with God who is present within us every moment of every day. In the new year, take on this peace-filled spiritual practice — an oasis in the middle of your day. Beginners are welcome!

#### Youth Gathering: Souper Bowl of Caring prep

##### TODAY // 2-4 pm // St. Luke's Cathedral

Youth grades 7-12 are invited to help prep for the Souper Bowl of Caring service project — plus games and more! This gathering will be held at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral — enter via the back entrance at 134 Park Street. Youth interested in planning future meetings, please arrive at 1:30. Next gathering: The Escape Room on Sunday, January 20. FML: contact Katie Holicky: katie@hopegateway.com

#### Confirmation Gathering: Epiphany Worship at St. Luke's TODAY // 3:50 pm // Worship starts at 4 pm

Youth participating in Confirmation will attend a special Epiphany worship celebration at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral, followed by dinner. Meet up in the foyer at the front entrance at St. Luke's (143 State Street, Portland) at 3:50 pm. After worship we'll have dinner together and share in some Confirmation activities until 6:30 pm. Questions? Contact Allen: allen@hopegateway.com / 207-400-6262.

#### Thursday morning Bible Study

##### Thursdays // 10:15-11:30 am // 75 State Street

Don Rudalevige leads this weekly study at 75 State Street, a retirement community. Starting this week, the group will be studying the Pastoral Epistles. All are welcome.

#### GPS: Grow through Prayer & Scripture

How about starting the New Year with a new spiritual practice? We send out a daily email with a prayer, reflection, or Scripture reading — an excellent resource for your daily quiet time. If you don't already receive it, subscribe now at [www.hopegateway.com](http://www.hopegateway.com) or through our Facebook page.

#### HopeGateWay Newcomers Gathering

##### Wednesday, January 16 // 7 pm // 31 Sheffield Street

Have you connected with the HopeGateWay community over the past six months? Do you consider yourself a newcomer? Want to learn more about this community and meet others? Join Allen & Sara at the parsonage – 31 Sheffield Street – for snacks and conversation. Please sign up on the clipboard.

#### Share the Warmth

Over the coming weeks, please continue to bring winter hats, gloves, and mittens — handmade or purchased, all sizes. Place them in the basket, and we'll distribute them to help keep our neighbors warm during the cold winter months.

#### Grateful // Practicing Faithful Stewardship in 2019

If you haven't had a chance to turn in your 2019 stewardship commitment card, please do so this week, either by returning your card or by making your pledge online. Take some time to give thanks, and then express your commitment for 2019 through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. We're counting on 100% participation!

**Women in Harmony present a Concert of Hope**  
**Friday, January 18 // 7:30 pm // Woodfords Church**  
**Saturday January 19 // 4 pm // Woodfords Church**

Women in Harmony is a vibrant feminist chorus dedicated both to musical excellence and social justice. The chosen theme for their winter concert series is "Hope," and a portion of the proceeds from the concert will benefit Hope Acts. The musical pieces they share will explore the closely connected concepts of hope and resilience, with an overarching message that by withstanding tribulation and resisting hatred together, we can turn the tide towards hope. Both concerts are at Woodfords Congregational Church (202 Woodford Street, Portland). Tickets are available at Longfellow Books and Starbird Music in Portland, at Nonesuch Books in South Portland, and online at [www.wihmaine.org](http://www.wihmaine.org); or at the door: \$12 in advance, \$15 at the door, \$10 student / senior.

**Grab a Wooden Nickel**

If you regularly give electronically, pick up a wooden nickel from the red bowl in the back and drop it in the basket as it comes around, as a symbol of your offering.

**Holy Conversations: a workshop on racism and privilege**  
**Saturday, February 9 // 9 am – 3 pm // HGW**

HopeGateWay will host this Tri-State District event being led by the New England Conference Commission on Religion & Race, with the guidance of Bishop Sudarshana Devadhar. This event seeks to promote relevant and real conversations related to racism, faith, privilege, and culture. All are invited and encouraged to attend. To register, please sign up on the clipboard in back. Lunch will be provided.

**Storm cancellation notifications**

Normally, even if it's snowing, HopeGateWay will gather for worship on Sundays, but on rare occasions, when the roads are dangerous, we may decide to cancel. If so, you will find notices on the HopeGateWay website, on our Facebook page, and on Channels 6, 8 and 13 closings / delays listings.

**Ongoing Groups:**

- **Shambala Heart of Recovery** / Mondays, 6:30 pm
- **Women's Conduct / 12 Steps** / Tuesdays, 5:45 pm
- **Step Sisters / Women's Big Book** / Tuesdays, 7 pm
- **Tai Chi** / Wednesdays, 9 am
- **Chapter 2 / AA** / Wednesdays, 7 pm
- **Bible Study** / Thursdays, 10:15-11:30 am / 75 State St.
- **LGBTQ Group** / email Hayli: [haylihukinney@gmail.com](mailto:haylihukinney@gmail.com)
- **Ladies Night / CA** / Thursdays, 7:30 pm
- **Drumming Circle** / 1<sup>st</sup> Fridays, 7 pm
- **Late Night Faith / AA** Fridays, 9 pm
- **SLAA / Augustine Fellowship (Men)** / Saturdays, 9 am
- **Out of the Dark / Candlelight CA** / Saturdays, 6 pm

**Pastors**

Rev. Allen Ewing-Merrill [allen@hopegateway.com](mailto:allen@hopegateway.com)  
 Rev. Sara Ewing-Merrill [sara@hopegateway.com](mailto:sara@hopegateway.com)

**Administrative & Program Assistant**

Bethany Smart [bethany@hopegateway.com](mailto:bethany@hopegateway.com)

**Musician**

Kelly Muse [kelly@hopegateway.com](mailto:kelly@hopegateway.com)

**Youth Group Coordinator**

Katie Holicky [katie@hopegateway.com](mailto:katie@hopegateway.com)

**Childcare provider**

Keera Swan [childcare@hopegateway.com](mailto:childcare@hopegateway.com)

**Office Hours:** Tues, Wed, Fri: 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

*Doing justice • Loving kindness • Walking humbly with God*

**Consider Electronic Giving // [hopegateway.com/give](http://hopegateway.com/give)**

Your generosity fuels our ministry and mission. Consider setting up a weekly or monthly recurring gift with a transfer from your checking account or with a credit or debit card. Visit [www.hopegateway.com](http://www.hopegateway.com) and click on "Give."

**Parking: Use our underground parking garage.**

In addition to street parking, we have use of the underground parking garage, weeknights after 5 pm and weekends. Enter at the access ramp just beyond Portland Ballet / Casco Bay Movers dance studio. At the keypad, use code: 1101\*

**Prayer and Care**

Hope, peace, and joy for all in 2019  
 Shantia Wright-Gray – health concerns, surgery on Wednesday  
 Governor Janet Mills & the new Maine State Legislature  
 All who are affected by the shutdown of the federal government  
 Our elected leaders – for bold, justice-seeking leadership  
 Ongoing concern for the future of health care in the U.S.  
 Miranda Rooney – chronic pain  
 Mike Davis – recovering from surgery  
 Rita Stahl – Wanda Stahl's mother, recovering from broken hip  
 Hayli Hu Kinney's grandmother – health concerns  
 All immigrants, including refugees and asylum seekers  
 All affected by back-to-back tsunamis in Indonesia  
 Our Confirmation Youth  
 All affected by the earthquake in Alaska  
 All affected by the terrible, deadly wildfires in California  
 All affected by anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry  
 Kelly Frey, Patsy's mother, for good news & continued healing  
 Robin Jellis – as she continues her studies at ChIME  
 All who have been affected by recent acts of gun violence  
 Our country, during this time of polarization and turmoil  
 Our planet Earth – the devastation of climate change  
 Families and individuals experiencing homelessness  
 All who are affected by the disease of addiction  
 Victims of sexual violence  
 Shantia Wright-Gray's cousin, John – awaiting liver transplant  
 Emile Uwimana – complications with diabetes  
 Immigrant families – especially children separated from parents  
 Our Muslim sisters & brothers experiencing persecution  
 The people of Burundi during a time of unrest and violence  
 A just and peaceful path forward for Israel & Palestine  
 Fred & Irma Baker – health concerns  
 Teresa Lefebvre – health concerns  
 Shasta Beane – living with Parkinson's Disease  
 Peace in Rwanda, DR Congo, Burundi, and Angola

<b>Hospitality</b>	
Jan. 6	Wesley By the Sea folks
Jan. 13	Eileen Purdy, Matt Frey-Davis, Stephanie Cooke
<b>Offering Counters</b>	
Jan. 6	Annika Smart & Beth Turnidge
Jan. 13	Odette Nyirabahire & Rick Smart



**HopeGateWay**  
**an open & affirming community**  
**Our Reconciling Statement**

We worship an inclusive and loving God, who calls all persons into relationship, both with God and with neighbor. In response to this love, demonstrated most perfectly in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves as an open and affirming community, welcoming and celebrating people of all races, gender identities, sexual orientations, abilities, economic situations, and social statuses.