



HopeGateWay

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Sunday, February 3, 2019 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!

Current Worship Series: Start Here

Sundays at 9 am + 11 am // through February 10

During this first series of worship series of 2019, we're thinking about what it means to put our best foot forward spiritually. Together we are exploring opportunities to live more fully into community, building relationships, growing in faith, deepening our inner lives — doing justice, loving kindness, and walking humbly with God. Next week we'll conclude this series, so make sure you're with us for worship at 9 am or 11 am — and invite a friend to join you!

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!

Today we celebrate Souper Bowl of Caring!

Today we join a nationwide effort to raise awareness about hunger, and to care for hungry people in thousands of cities and towns in all 50 states. Some troubling statistics: Maine is 7th in the nation and first in New England for food insecurity, and nearly 1 in 5 children in Maine are food insecure. We can make a difference! Thanks to all who have donated food for Sacred Heart Food Pantry. We're also collecting money in a soup kettle today to support the food pantry. We're hoping to surpass last year's totals: 880 food items and \$671. Can we?

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.

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!

Youth Group Gathering for all Youth grades 7-12

TODAY // 2 – 4 pm // HopeGateWay

Today the youth will complete the Souper Bowl of Caring service project, tallying up and organizing food donations, plus games, hunger-awareness activities, and conversation. Next gathering: Sunday, Feb. 17, rescheduled trip to The Escape Room, 2:30–4:30 pm. For more information, contact Youth Group Coordinator Katie Holicky: katie@hopegateway.com

Holy Conversations: a workshop on racism and privilege

This 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. This workshop 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.

START HERE Small Groups beginning soon!

This month we'll kick off a series of new small groups. Each group will meet three times during February and March, and each will offer a great opportunity to meet new people, deepen relationships, and explore faith. Check out the clipboards on the table in the back to see when groups are meeting — evening groups, daytime groups, and even a group for parents of preschool children (kids come for playtime, too!). Sign up today! We hope you will say yes to this opportunity to deepen connections within our community.

End Immigrant Child Detention: a press conference

This Wed., Feb. 6 // 11:45 am // Maine State House

Currently there are more than 100 child immigrant detention centers in the U.S. and an estimated 10,500 children being detained. Join faith leaders and people of faith in Augusta to call for an end to this inhumane practice. FMI: Contact Allen.

Workshop: How to Be a Successful Tenant

This Wednesday, Feb. 6 // 3 – 5 pm // Hope House

Learn all about your rights and responsibilities as a tenant in Maine: how a lease works, why you need a security deposit, and how to communicate important issues with your landlord. Translations available in French and Portuguese. This workshop is a prerequisite to qualifying for a security deposit loan through SIT / Infinity Credit Union. For more information or to register, contact Joanna at ProsperityME: 797-7890. Hope House is located at 14 Sherman Street, Portland.

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.

Confirmation: Next Sunday at Woodfords Church

Next week all youth participating in Confirmation this year will attend worship at Woodfords Congregational Church (202 Woodford Street). Meet there at 9:45 am. We'll have lunch afterward, concluding at 1:30 pm. Questions? Talk to Allen.

Centering Prayer Group

Tuesdays // 12:00 – 12:50 pm // HGW Room 5

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. Beginners and newcomers are always welcome!

Greater Portland Family Promise Volunteer Training

Tuesday, Feb. 26 // 5:30 – 8:30 pm // Allen Avenue UU

If you want to volunteer with Family Promise during our next Host Week in April and have not yet attended training, this is for you! Whether you provide a hot meal, arrange activities for children, set up or take down beds, or stay overnight, you can make a difference in the lives of families who have suffered the ordeal of losing their home. Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church is located at 524 Allen Avenue, Portland.

2019 Faith-based Advocacy Days

Building peace with justice. Guiding justice with love.

Monday-Tuesday, March 25-26 in Augusta

Join leading policy analysts and theologians for this two-day event designed to inspire and equip people of faith to speak confidently and with conviction to legislators around key issues facing our state: health care & the opioid crisis, climate justice, hunger & poverty, and immigration & racism. Monday includes workshops and a keynote speaker. Tuesday is a day of advocacy at the State House. We'd love to send a strong HGW contingent! Cost is \$25; breakfast and lunch included both days; HGW can assist with the cost. FMI: talk with Allen or Sara or visit www.mainecouncilofchurches.org.

Ongoing Groups:

- **Shambala Heart of Recovery** / Mondays, 6:30 pm
- **FA / Food Addicts in Recovery** / Tuesdays, 9 am
- **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
- **Ladies Night / CA** / Thursdays, 7:30 pm
- **Drumming Circle** / 1st 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

Rev. Sara Ewing-Merrill sara@hopegateway.com

Administrative & Program Assistant

Bethany Smart bethany@hopegateway.com

Musician

Kelly Muse kelly@hopegateway.com

Youth Group Coordinator

Katie Holicky katie@hopegateway.com

Childcare provider

Keera Swan 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

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 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

Hayli & Ophelia Hu Kinney – loss of Hayli's grandmother

All those fighting for human rights in Cabinda

Sylvia Thompson – recovering from broken shoulder & surgery

The Family & Friends of Rita Stahl – Wanda, Caitlin & Marissa

Barbara Kszystyniak – health concerns

Fozia Gbuduwe – grieving the loss of her brother

Shantia Wright-Gray – recovering from surgery

Anita Leeman – recovering from surgery

Evelyn Johnson Moore – upcoming medical tests

Governor Janet Mills & the new Maine State Legislature

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

Special United Methodist General Conference – Feb. 23-26

All immigrants, including refugees and asylum seekers

Our Confirmation Youth

All affected by anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry

Kelly Frey, Patsy's mother, for continued healing

Robin Jellis – as she continues her studies at CHIME

All who have been affected by 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

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

A just and peaceful path forward for Israel & Palestine

Fred & Irma Baker – health concerns

Shasta Beane – living with Parkinson's Disease

Peace in Rwanda, DR Congo, Burundi, and Angola

Hospitality

Feb. 3	Wesley By the Sea folks
Feb. 10	Stephanie Cooke, Matt Frey-Davis, Eileen Purdy

Offering Counters

Feb. 3	Sam Johnson & Beth Turnidge
Feb.10	Odette Nyirabahire & Sara Bruce



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.