



HopeGateWay

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Sunday, March 10, 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!

Broken Vessels

A Worship Series for the Season of Lent begins today

Do you ever wish that you and everyone around you were a little more unbreakable? Do you long for a world with less brokenness? The truth is, we are all quite fragile. Today is the First Sunday in the Season of Lent. Recalling Jesus' 40 days in the wilderness, Lent is a season of 40 days (plus six Sundays!) for intentional self-reflection and prayer, as a way of preparing for Holy Week and Easter. During this season, we'll explore how God's grace works through broken vessels, and how God longs to make broken things whole. Make a commitment to be with us for worship each Sunday in Lent, and invite a friend to join you next Sunday, at 9 am or 11 am.

Confirmation Retreat this weekend

This weekend Confirmation youth from HopeGateWay and Woodfords Congregational Church have been on retreat. This morning they are attending a Mass at Sacred Heart / St. Dominic Catholic Church. Next we will visit Congregation Bet Ha'am in South Portland for their Shabbat service: Friday, March 22 at 7 pm. Questions? Talk to Allen.

An Invitation to embrace our Community Practices

We invite you to express your commitment to God and to the HGW community by signing your name to our 2019 Community Practices commitment wall today. This is an annual practice – an opportunity to say yes to prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness — yes to God — and yes to HGW! If you didn't sign last week, consider doing so today.

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!

Help wanted: Bring snacks one Sunday soon.

Share the gift of hospitality! Here's an easy way to serve: Grab a friend and sign up on the clipboard to bring snacks and coordinate coffee hour clean-up one Sunday soon.

2019 Faith-based Advocacy Days

Building peace with justice. Guiding justice with love.

Monday-Tuesday, March 25-26 in Augusta

Register now! Join leading policy analysts and theologians for this two-day event designed to inspire and equip people of faith to advocate 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; HGW can assist with the cost. Learn more / register: www.maineCouncilofChurches.org.

START HERE Small Groups

We're in the midst of a series of "Start Here" small groups. Each group offers a great opportunity to meet new people, deepen relationships, and explore faith. If you're participating in one, make sure you have the future meeting dates on your calendar. Thanks to all our group leaders and hosts!

Youth Group

Next Sunday, March 17 // 2-4 pm // Woodfords Church

Youth grades 7-12 are invited for a fun gathering next Sunday afternoon (planning session at 1:30 pm, gathering 2-4 pm) at Woodfords Congregational Church, 202 Woodford Street. We'll work on a service project, play some games, and share snacks. Next gathering after that: an overnight "lock-in" — Friday, April 4 to Saturday, April 5 at St. Luke's Episcopal Cathedral — details coming soon. Questions? Contact Youth Group Coordinator Katie Holicky: katie@hopegateway.com

Greater Portland Family Promise Volunteer Training Tuesday, March 19 // 5-8 pm // Trinity Episcopal Church

If you want to volunteer with Family Promise during our next Host Week (April 21-28) and have not yet attended training, this is for you! Whether you provide a hot meal, arrange activities for children, transport beds, or stay overnight, you can make a difference in the lives of families who have suffered the ordeal of losing their home. Trinity Episcopal Church is nearby at 580 Forest Avenue, Portland.

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 leads a Tuesday mid-day Centering Prayer group — a chance to connect with God who is present within us always. Beginners and newcomers are welcome!

Grab a Wooden Nickel

If you give regularly through our electronic giving system, with a credit or debit card or through a funds transfer, 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.

Courageous Conversation:

**Unpacking the actions of General Conference
Tuesday, March 19 // 7-9 pm // Thornton Heights UMC**
Facilitated by General Conference delegates and others, this is another opportunity to discuss the decisions of the recent General Conference in St. Louis and to process feelings and experiences together. This gathering will be at Thornton Heights United Methodist Church (100 Westbrook St., South Portland). There's another one in Brunswick on March 24. Talk to Allen or Sara for more information.

**Carrie Newcomer in Concert with pianist Gary Walters
Saturday, March 30 // 7:30 pm // South Portland**
Do you remember our Advent theme, "Lean in Toward the Light"? Here's your chance to hear the songwriter, artist Carrie Newcomer, in a concert to benefit Greater Portland Family Promise. Come and enjoy conversational, introspective songs that celebrate and savor the ordinary, yet sacred, moments of our lives. The concert will be held at First Congregational Church, 301 Cottage Rd, South Portland. Tickets: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/4054864

Socks for Preble Street
During Lent we're collecting white unisex socks (new) to be given to Preble Street guests on Holy Thursday, when Portland clergy will wash feet and assist with the foot clinic.

Grateful // Practicing Faithful Stewardship in 2019
If you haven't yet, please take some time in prayer and then make your 2019 stewardship commitment this week, either by returning your yellow commitment card or by making your pledge online. We're still counting on 100% participation!

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
 - **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.
 - **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
Barbara Kszystyniak – recovering from surgery
Margaret Menger's dear friend – cancer treatments
Miranda Rooney's friend Carol – health concerns
The United Methodist Church and the LGBTQ community following General Conference
Our Confirmation Youth on retreat this weekend
People of Alabama recovering from devastating tornadoes
Evelyn Johnson Moore – upcoming medical tests
Shantia Wright-Gray – recovering from surgery
Sylvia Thompson – recovering from shoulder surgery
Immigrant families – especially children separated from parents
Stephanie, Peter, Eva, and Jonah Cooke – in Costa Rica
Hayli & Ophelia Hu Kinney – loss of Hayli's grandmother
Our elected leaders – for bold, justice-seeking leadership
All those fighting for human rights in Cabinda
Ongoing concern for the future of health care in the U.S.
Mike Davis – recovering from surgery
Robin Jellis as she continues her studies with ChIME
All immigrants, including refugees and asylum seekers
All affected by anti-Semitism and other forms of bigotry
Kelly Frey, Patsy's mother, for continued healing
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
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	
March 10	Eileen Purdy & Matt Frey-Davis
March 17	~ open ~ please sign up!
Offering Counters	
March 10	Sara Bruce & Annika Smart
March 17	Rick Smart & Mike Henault



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.