

a publication of H.O.M.E. Inc., Orland, Maine - 04472

As Poverty Goes in Maine, the Nation Should Not Follow.

By Tracey Hair

Turning off Route 1 towards the collection of old and new buildings that make up the village of h.o.m.e., a hand cut wooden sign announces "This is h.o.m.e." Another says, "We have crafts for sale and the Bargain Barn is open", and yet another, says "We're looking for wreath makers for the holiday season." Curious visitors will find an impressive array of activity on H.O.M.E.'s campus. When I think of my journey at H.O.M.E., I am reminded of a book written by Mitch Albom titled "the five people you meet in heaven", only my version is a little grittier, it could be called "the five people you meet at H.O.M.E." I think of people such as Lucy Poulin, who's the visionary founder of H.O.M.E. Sister Marie Ahern and Bonnie Williams, who led H.O.M.E.'s shelter work for decades, Sister Lucille who carried the Emmaus Center through the tumultuous times of the 'not in our backyard' era and, Sister Barbara Hance, the namesake of H.O.M.E.'s transitional housing building in Ellsworth and author of the famous Hallmark quote "Show me a day when the world wasn't new."

H.O.M.E. has been doing this work for 47 years with abiding commitment. The tradition of service continues today and is visible in our work; shelters for the homeless, affordable day care, automotive repair, organic gardens, a saw mill, shingle mill, a craft coop for home based industries such as weaving and sewing, a food pantry and soup kitchen, plus programs to support permanent housing and stability. Basic needs are cared for here, shelter from the cold, a home base, a warm meal and a sense of community.

While many people who are homeless are only homeless temporarily, some also struggle to overcome the relentless disease of addiction and mental illness. They often remain homeless for years or even decades. Our work is to find ways to connect human beings with opportunities to rebuild their lives. One of those connections, in response to the lack of affordable housing, was to change the function of the Hospitality House in Bucksport, which until January of this year served as temporary or emergency shelter. While emergency shelter spaces will remain at five other locations, the new function of the Hospitality House is permanent housing, provided in the form of seven one bedroom apartments. Rents are subsidized at an affordable percentage of the person's income.

For a small portion of Maine's elderly like those whose pictures are memorialized on our chapel mantel, senior housing equals living in a homeless shelter, or in a car. Though Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid provide a safety net for some, not all people live out their final years with a secure, stable place to live.

Maine has the 3rd highest rate of "very low food security" in the country. Only Mississippi and Louisiana are doing worse than we are when it comes to hunger. Food insecurity is a fancy term, but on the ground it means families either completely run out of food, skip

meals, or constantly worry about how they will put food on the table.

When H.O.M.E.'s food bank started giving out food in January last year, 38 families came for help. When we started giving out food in January of this year, 73 families lined up for second-hand and donated food at our pantry. Our little Food Pantry, rather than being an emergency resource, now serves as an ongoing means of survival for families in our community.

When a Social Security check is the only monthly income one has, there's not much left over to pay for food, heat, or medicine after the rent is paid. Hard living conditions of chronic homelessness cause the aging process to speed up, and people living in chronic homelessness often at 50 years old, possess physical traits resembling a 70-year old.

As I write this, four seniors are staying in our shelters, one senior is living in his car, fiercely clinging to his right to independence, another is living in a shack with only a generator for electricity and finally, six more are housed in our subsidized apartments. For every homeless person living in our shelters, there is another just barely holding on to their apartment or house. People say of Maine, "As Maine goes so does the Nation" In these times, the Nation should not follow.

While H.O.M.E. staff tend to the needs of people in crisis, others are responding to the needs of H.O.M.E.

A local Foundation of Maine sponsored the rehabilitation of The St Francis Inn, a homeless shelter for women and women with children. Eighteen new windows will be installed as well as the building scraped down and repainted. Their generosity allowed H.O.M.E. to purchase a new wood boiler and emergency generators for the shelter and food spaces on campus. Maine State Housing Authority provided support to rehabilitate The Sister Barbara Hance House, home to people transitioning out of homelessness. St Francis by The Sea Episcopal Church in Blue Hill, donated 43 window inserts, while Trinity Episcopal Church in Castine assisted shelter staff by providing 21 children with healthy food for weekends throughout the summer.

For the Learning Center, The First Congregational Church of Greenwich, Connecticut contributed to the purchase of a passenger van for our daycare and children's programs while the Bangor Savings Bank Foundation, along with the Leonard C. and Mildred F.

Ferguson Foundation, made it possible for H.O.M.E. Learning Center to set up a computer lab for shelter residents and people living in our area. Witham Family Hotels and individual supporters donated the 81 school back packs needed to distribute to families in need and volunteers contributed over 8000 hours of time.

There's hope to be had, in spite of it all. As one of those five people who left their mark at H.O.M.E. reminds us, "Show me a day when the world wasn't new."



The new Computer Lab in The Learning Center



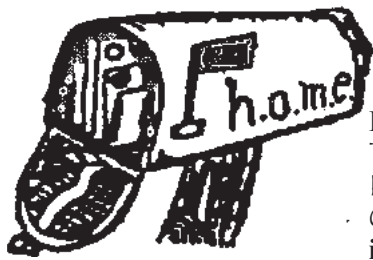
The H.O.M.E. Team making window inserts.



A new deck at The Sister Barbara Hance House

"We must realize the truth of ourselves--we are one human family. One a part of the other. My old work horse Teddy and the fancy registered horse visiting us had no trouble eating out of the same dish. We must discover the same."

-Lucy Poulin



Letters

Please send letters to:
This Time
PO Box 10
Orland, ME 04472
info@homecoop.net

H.O.M.E. wants to hear from you!

Please send your questions, comments, concerns and whatever else might be on your mind to:

H.O.M.E. Inc.
PO Box 10
Orland, ME 04472

Dear H.O.M.E.,

I'm never going to forget my time here and the people I've gotten to know.

Thank you for being so welcoming to us & letting us be a part of your family.

Alex, UDaB 2017

Hello,

Enclosing a bit of help for H.O.M.E. May God continue to bless your work.

My dear husband died last year. He'd be very pleased to know of your recent good works.

Love & prayers, Sue Baker

This Time
is published by H.O.M.E. Inc.
Part of the World Emmaus Movement

Editor: Julie Ream
Visit our web-site for a digital version of this Newsletter in full color!
<http://www.homemmausa.org>

Dear Friends at H.O.M.E.,

Thank you so much for keeping in touch with us to share the fine work you do there in Maine. Honestly, I have a bit of a tear in my eye right now remembering the wonderful graphic on the back of the Spring 2017 appeal. Oh my.

We find ourselves in a position to send this check along with our best thoughts for the coming year.

Looking forward to hearing from you in the fall.

Diane & Bill Trimble

Dear Julie,

Thank you so much for letting us have such an amazing week at H.O.M.E. We loved every minute of our stay here. We met so many incredible people who we will all remember forever. This has been such a great experience.

Thank you so much for all you did, from helping us turn off alarms to making sure we were dry to helping us feel welcomed.

St. Anselm College SBA 2017

H.O.M.E. Inc. Board of Directors

Allen Snowman, Chairperson, Bucksport
Denise Linscott, Staff Representative, Orland
Dalores French, Treasurer, Orland
Mike Guare, Secretary, Bangor
Barbara Horgan, Orland
William Sheldon Heath, Orland
Brad and Susie Craig, Jefferson
Sharon Bray, Orland
William O'Donnell, Bucksport
Helen Stummer (Honorary), Metuchen, NJ
Lucy Poulin, Board Member Emeritas, Orland

Dear H.O.M.E.,

As a former Saint As student and recent graduate, I am happy to contribute to such a great and compassionate organization!

Thank you for opening your doors to our SBA group this year. We loved meeting all the people at co-op.

I learned so much from H.O.M.E. and I want to continue that culture of love, acceptance, and compassion in all aspects of my life.

I hope the organization continues to grow because we need more places like this all over the country. Thank you!

Sincerely, Chris Valente

P.S. Please stay warm this winter

H.O.M.E. Inc. Fall Appeal 2017



"Serve First Those Who Suffer Most"

Dear Friend,

A young volunteer wrote to us about a time she sat at a water fountain in New York, the kind that children throw change in and make a wish. This time, she wrote, the story was a little different. Instead of the child throwing change into the fountain, she watched as the seven-year-old rolled up her jeans and waded in the water collecting the change. At first she thought the child was simply 'being a kid', making a wish. Instead, the child counted a handful of shiny coins and put them in her pocket. The volunteer was saddened by this image, a tradition we're all familiar with, disrupted by poverty. Not everyone has spare change to wish upon.

H.O.M.E. welcomes families who are forced to forgo their wishes in order to provide for their basic need for food and shelter. Men and women, suffering with mental illness and/or addictions, who have become more and more marginalized over the years. Angry adults, needing to heal while learning how to be a part of our communities. People fleeing abuse, others who simply made bad decisions and need to start over, and some of our veterans and seniors, stumbling around in poverty within a system that doesn't offer reprieve. This doesn't begin to cover all of the people who knock at our doors.

H.O.M.E. is at the front lines of the basic needs system where needs are not met by jobs, transportation outreach, or safety net incomes alone. Since January of 2016, 125 people have moved from shelter into permanent housing, during that same time, twenty-five more people came for emergency shelter than the previous year. The food bank provided 35 more food boxes in January of this year than during the same time last year. H.O.M.E.'s back to school program met an increase in need from 45 backpacks in 2016 to 81 backpacks for the current school year. That's why we're writing to you. We simply can't do this work without you.

I ask you for more of your financial support. We continue to rely on private funding in lieu of costs not covered by government support, still needing to reach one-half of our annual operating budget. And all we can really offer you is our commitment to stay on the front lines, to continue to respond to an increasing need for help.

Thank you for your support.

Tracey Hair
Executive Director

Christmas Wreaths and Centerpieces

We offer several choices of wreaths and centerpieces. Our wreaths are first quality 22" double faced wreaths made of fresh balsam fir. They are available either undecorated or fully decorated with red velvet ribbon, pinecones and berries. Our centerpieces are hand crafted at H.O.M.E. using fresh greens: Balsam, Cedar and Pine. The centerpieces are available either as single (one candle) or as triple (three candles) with cones and red ribbon or our winter feature includes white ribbon and white candles. Below is our new order form for this year's wreaths and centerpieces. We hope that you are interested in ordering one for yourself and/or giving one or more as gifts to friends or family members. **Orders are processed in the order they are received. Shipping begins on Monday, November 20th.** Please note sales tax of 5.5% must be charged for Maine residents. Please add this to your order total. *To ensure delivery before Christmas, orders must be received no later than December 4th.*



To Purchase Wreaths:

- Fill out the order form. Orders must be received by December 4th.
- Mails this form (or fax or call) along with your payment to the address below.

2017 Retail Order Form

Send to:

h.o.m.e. Wreaths
P.O. Box 10
Orland, ME 04472

Phone: (207) 469-7961

Fax: (207) 469-1023

(call to confirm receipt of fax)

Please include all information below
 for **ALL ORDERS**

Your Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

E-mail : _____

(In case we have questions)

My Order

Ship to me:

- _____ Decorated Wreath(s)
- _____ Undec. Wreath(s)

Centerpiece(s) - (Circle color)

- _____ Single - Red / White
- _____ Triple - Red / White

Refer to price lists and include in the totals at right.

Gift Order:

- Ship: _____ Decorated Wreath(s)
 _____ Undec. Wreath(s)
 Centerpiece(s) — (circle color)
 _____ Single - Red / White
 _____ Triple - Red / White

to Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Gift Order:

- Ship: _____ Decorated Wreath(s)
 _____ Undec. Wreath(s)
 Centerpiece(s) — (circle color)
 _____ Single - Red / White
 _____ Triple - Red / White

to Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____

Please enter the total charges

Order Summary and Total

<u>Number of items</u>	<u>Total of Prices</u>
Dec. Wreaths:	
_____ @ 34.00	\$ _____
Undec. Wreaths:	
_____ @ 26.00	\$ _____
Single Centerpieces:	
_____ @ 30.00	\$ _____
Triple Centerpieces:	
_____ @ 39.00	\$ _____
Subtotal:	\$ _____

Maine residents please add

5.5% Sales Tax : \$ _____

Total of Order: \$ _____

— Shipping Included —

Lower 48 states only!

Check, Money Order,

Visa, Discover or Mastercard

Make checks payable to "h.o.m.e."

Card# _____

Exp. Date: ____ / ____

Security code: ____

Signature: _____

Please include phone numbers!
 We cannot send refunds for any undeliverable orders

Send to: H.O.M.E. Wreaths
PO Box 10
Orland ME 04472
 Phone: 207-469-7961
 Fax: 207-469-1023
www.homemmausa.org/wreaths

Hammer and a Nail 2017 - Reflections

The following is a collection of thoughts, memories and reflections from our time with the H.O.M.E. community in Orland, Maine.

“A General Reflection”

As volunteers with Hammer and a Nail we come to H.O.M.E. to “Serve First Those Who Suffer Most”, however, as contributors to this special community, it is common that we take away just as much as we give. While we give in the physical, we receive in the spiritual. Gifted with the perspective on the lives outside our own, in this place we are constantly reminded of our responsibility to serve outside our own community, far often we forget we are just as needy, in many other ways as those we come to serve.

--During the community dinner Ralph was very excited about the H.O.M.E. theme song. He went inside and got the words for all of us. Then he proceeded to sing the song to us. It seemed to mean so much to him that we started to learn the H.O.M.E. song. The smile on his face grew bigger the more people joined in. I felt that this was the time in the week where I was an official part of H.O.M.E..

--I have helped serve others by working at Millvale and trying to help as much as possible around H.O.M.E., also spending time with members of H.O.M.E. and making good conversation. I have been served. My soul is cleaner. My eyes are brighter. My mind is stronger, and my mood has been uplifted. Worries have fled my mind. I have been served more than I can repay.

--And just like that, my first week at H.O.M.E. with Hammer and a Nail (and hopefully many more to come) has come to an end. This week was beyond fantastic. In only 7 days: I have made life long friendships, helped re-do a roof, installed flooring and window framing, helped rebuild a bridge. I was able to spend a week away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. This week will always hold a special place in my heart as will the people I spent it with. Just by playing cards, cooking meals and talking with people here at H.O.M.E. in our time off of the work sites, I have served many and I have been served which to me shows that this is a special place. I cannot wait to come back in the future and make more memories.

--Truthfully, I was not overly excited this year. Very few conferees were doing it and even fewer of them were friends from last year. But despite my negativity and the fact that I missed old friends, I was given the gift to overcome these emotions and form bonds with new friends and really get to enjoy our time together.

--One of my standout moments for this week was the community dinner. It was a great way to meet a few people from H.O.M.E. It also hit me then how hard day-to-day life can be for most here and how it is probably hard to come over and accept this dinner from a group of strangers. The community dinner made me most aware of how a little help/caring can go a long way.

--Stacking lots of wood!!!

--I remember the willingness of everyone to step in and help out--learning along the way. All the places where we have worked and loved and cared have become sacred ground and I thank God for this time together!

--With my first visit to H.O.M.E. I expected that everyone else would all be good friends and I would end up being the odd man out. Though the Hammer and a Nail crew was certainly tight-knit, everyone was more welcoming than I could have hoped. Even more surprising was how welcoming everyone at H.O.M.E. was. I didn't talk to a single person that wasn't inviting and gracious for us being there.

--One of the things that struck me most this week was how everyone was so eager and generous and willing to help others--whether those in our Hammer and a Nail group or in the larger H.O.M.E. community--every time I turned around. It felt like a week-long chorus of “What can I do to help?” or “I'm happy to do anything.” I think it's so rare and inspiring to spend a week with an



Beginning of the new bridge to the Market Stand above. New steps for the Dorr House below. Thank you!



entire group of people who are “all in” and ready to give everything they've got at any time. Thank you all for that!

--The community dinner is always a highlight of the week--giving us a chance to not only volunteer in a community but to also be part of it as we share a meal.

--It's Friday night and we just went around the circle and did our stand out moments. It was hard to pick just one because it was a stand out week as a whole. It was great to be with each and every one of you. Your gifts are all special and I thank you for sharing them with me. Don't forget: If you have a care in the world, you have a gift to bring.

--Lots of laughter and hard work. We came together to form our own little small community so quickly and the amount of good work we were able to do was truly amazing.

--As I entered H.O.M.E. for the 2nd year with excitement and enthusiasm, I wasn't prepared for the astonishment and accomplishment I would feel when we arrived at Millvale to find a fully built house. I ran to

the row of shingles I helped nail in and walked through the house beaming with pride. How lucky are we that our efforts here are so visual, that we can return year after year seeing our impact. I am always so moved by the support we give this H.O.M.E. community, but also each other as Hammer and a Nail this week makes me pause to realize how lucky I am, in so many ways and I'm grateful for that.

--When I was working in Millvale, I felt like I really helped. It felt good hearing that Julie and Tracey really like when we are here.

--I had an opportunity to talk with Lucy for about ½ an hour--maybe the longest in many years. She told me that this week was her first “time off” since 1970 and she had “rather enjoyed it”. She had been reading and praying and simply enjoyed the beauty of God's creation.

--Listening to people from the H.O.M.E. community talk about the community dinner with great appreciation.

--Sharing time with Sister Lucy and discussing the importance of helping each other.

--After the community dinner, Julie, the Volunteer Coordinator, spoke. She was saying how happy and grateful she was to have us come and how we did so much for the H.O.M.E. community. She also said how glad she was to see such wonderful people willing to spend a week of their summer to help the less fortunate.

H.O.M.E. Meets Challenge of Growing Need in RSU 25

By Julie Ream

Every August for the past eight years, H.O.M.E. Inc. has collected backpacks and school supplies to distribute to low-income families that have children attending RSU 25. Pencils and pens, notebooks and folders, even headphones and tissues are on every grade's list. This year was no different except the number of children in need had grown.

In 2016, H.O.M.E. provided between 45-50 backpacks to local students whose families applied for the assistance. Every item they can get from programs such as ours, allows them to use their dollars towards other items such as warm clothes and sturdy shoes. This year H.O.M.E. distributed backpacks stuffed with school supplies, water bottles and warm hats to 80 students. The need in Hancock County has almost doubled and H.O.M.E. is doing its part to ensure that every low-income student starts school with all the supplies that are required by the district.

H.O.M.E. may have distributed the backpacks but we could not have done it without the generous support of many friends. An article in the Ellsworth American and a radio interview at WZON in Bangor helped get the word out about our program. Local people dropped off backpacks with supplies to the front office. A wonderful volunteer reached out to her Facebook friends and started a drive to supply LLBean backpacks for the older students to ensure they had a pack strong enough to carry the many books they will bring home daily. Her drive provided every high school student on the list with a sturdy LLBean pack. The last volunteer group of the season, First United Methodist Church of Meriden, CT arrived with lots of glue sticks and erasers. The ever-generous Witham Family Hotels Charitable Fund arrived with 48 backpacks and 60 bags of supplies to put H.O.M.E. over the top and ensured every child in the program walked away with ample materials to start their school year.

Although H.O.M.E. works diligently to assist the homeless and low-income individuals and families in our area, we know it is the generosity of our donors and volunteers that enable us to continue with our work. H.O.M.E. and the children appreciate all that they do!



Donations of supplies such as these helped 80 school children start their year out right!

Wishing good, merely, is a lukewarm charity; but doing good is divine.

-James Lendall Basford

What the H.O.M.E. Mission Trip Means to Me

By A Ridgefield Volunteer

I was visiting New York City with some friends. We had been touring all morning, and had finally arrived at the Washington Square Arch in the Village. Just beyond the Arch, we could see a beautiful fountain with aesthetically chiseled stone, right in the heart of Washington Square. It was a gorgeous fountain that seemed to sit right under the blue sky.

A girl, seeming seven or eight years old, had her pants rolled up to the knees, and was wallowing through the fountain water. I watched as she stuck her whole arm in the water and brought back up a handful of shiny coins. She counted them quickly, then pocketed them, and turned to look for more. Strange. I still do not know whether the girl was in desperate need of those coins or if she had taken them on her own accord. But I am still disturbed by what I saw and it wasn't until later that I realized why.

In fact, I believe that I am so troubled by it because when I was that age, I only concerned myself with throwing in the coins. My parents offered them easily enough and when I would throw them, I would always close my eyes and wish for something. And peering over the edge afterward I would see so many coins at the bottom of those fountains. So many wishes, I had thought.

So it is a strange thing watching this sort of tradition disrupted. It has forced me to realize that not everyone can afford to throw away their spare coins. In fact, some people don't even have spare coins. But I have some. And now I know what to do with them. Now I believe that even the smallest act can make a difference in someone's life. So, although construction is not something I'm used to, I am ready to offer what I can. I will offer my coins in this organization.



H.O.M.E. founder, Sister Lucy with young volunteers who offered their coins in 2017.

A Cherokee Parable

A Grandfather and Grandson were spending long hours working together. At the end of the tiring day, the Grandfather said to the boy, "I'm worried. There are two wolves at war in my heart. One is full of love, kindness, and compassion. The other is full of hate and anger, he is vicious and cruel." Timidly, the boy asked, "Grandfather, which do you think will win?" Smiling, the old grandfather replied, "The one that I feed."

Thank you! Immanuel UCC Mission Trip 2017

On June 18, 2017, a group of 18 youth and 6 adults departed at approximately 4:30 am from Shillington, Pennsylvania, a small town about 45 minutes outside of Philadelphia, to head up to H.O.M.E. After a 14-hour drive, a small bout of carsickness, lots of naps and some quality bonding time, we pulled into what would be our "home" (haha, get it?) for the week. Set back at first by the closeness of our bunks, we moved in with a feeling of excitement and we were ready to dive right into whatever work Tracey, Julie and Josh gave us.

Our week was filled with organizing the thrift shop barn and building steps for it, painting and constructing window frames for a house in Millvale, and doing some odd jobs around the H.O.M.E. campus. The week we spent in Orland was filled with friendly faces everywhere we ventured, bonding moments, and dirt, lots of dirt. We feel so honored to have been able to be a part of your world for such a short amount of time.

We wished we could've stayed longer. We loved being able to serve the community and bring a pop of color into your world in the same way that you brought a pop of color into ours. While we may be a couple states away now, you-and your many animals-will always have a place in our hearts. Thank you so much for an amazing week, we hope to be back soon.---The Immanuel United Church of Christ 2017 Mission Trip Team



The Front Office lobby and kitchen were freshened up thanks to the volunteer group from First Church in Pembroke



H.O.M.E., Built by Volunteers

When H.O.M.E. thinks of its volunteers, we are always grateful for what they do to help us with our mission. Every summer H.O.M.E. is blessed with volunteers from away. Groups from Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Delaware, Connecticut, Rhode Island, New York, Pennsylvania and beyond come for a week in the summer or in the case of our college groups, during spring break. They come to help build homes, replace roofs, paint inside or out. Sometimes they help with cleaning projects that are so terrible that we wouldn't blame them if they refused to touch them, but they do the job. They always have smiles on their faces and ask what they can do next.

Our friends have heard about the many wonderful things H.O.M.E.'s volunteers do for us, so it was nice to hear from our volunteer group leaders what volunteering at H.O.M.E. does for them and the youth they bring every summer. What follows are some excerpts from essays of the young people from First Congregational Church in Ridgefield, CT who have spent time here at H.O.M.E.

-For me, the H.O.M.E. trip is a week where I can repay the world the most I can for what it has given to me. By chance I came into this world more fortunate than most others. The H.O.M.E. trip allows me to do something really important for the people effected by the mission.-S.

--Sleeping in a tent and roughing it will certainly make me appreciate my comfortable, warm bed at home.-K.

-I originally joined the H.O.M.E. trip last year in order to make a difference in the world, and to have the ability to help those in need. This past summer, I recently embarked on the H.O.M.E. trip journey, and have learned that my original goals could not be more prevalent.-J.

-Another aspect of the trip I truly enjoyed, were the prayer services each night. Our spiritual leader was interactive and easy to connect to and I enjoyed the group bonding and stress relief activities. Lastly, one of my favorite parts was the dinner with the locals, because it allowed me to

have a better understanding of who I was helping and why. Overall I had an amazing time last year and cannot wait for the trip this year.-K.

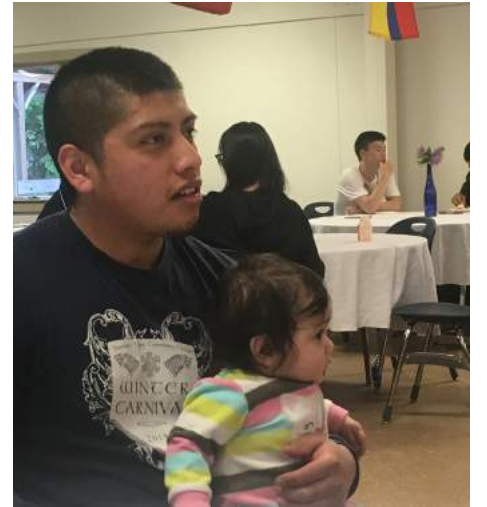
--The H.O.M.E. trip to me has been a huge educational and rewarding experience. It's about learning how to build personal relationships, and give back to people in need.-A.

--To me, the H.O.M.E. trip is more than just a community service trip to put on a resume. It is a bonding and rejuvenating experience. This will be my third consecutive year going and from my past trips I can honestly say they changed my life. I made lifelong friends and learned so much.-J.

--In Orland there is a sense of community I have never seen before. To not only help build a home or reconstruct a school is a life altering experience. To see people so happy with so little is the true reason I want to go back. Being around people like that makes me realize what really matters.-J.

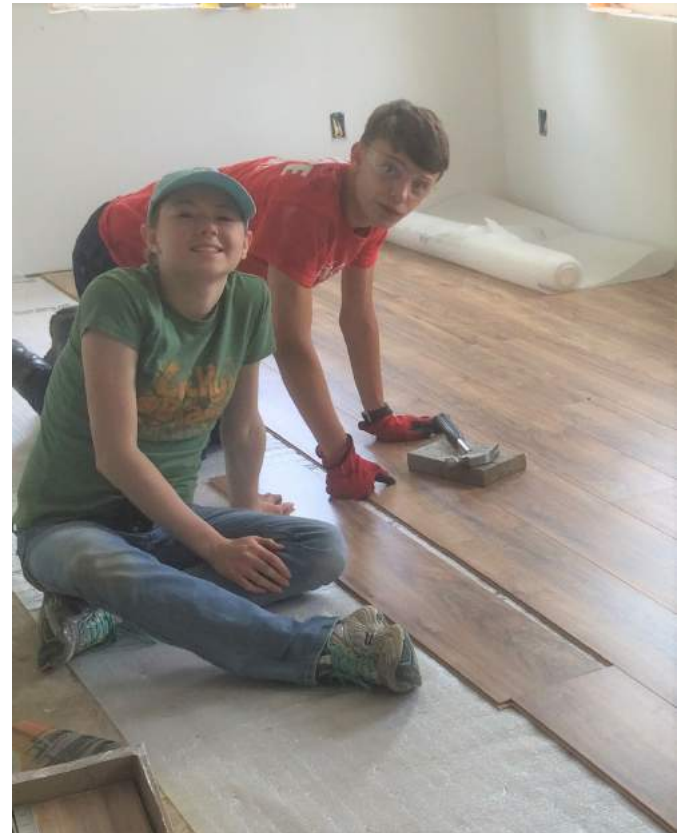
--The H.O.M.E. trip to me is a chance to give back to the world. Myself and many of my peers are often guilty of normalizing our lives that we have in our hometown, but it is important to see that this is not always the case. There are towns, closer than we think, that live in poverty and depend on the help of those stronger than them. I have never done anything like this trip before and I look forward to using what I have to help those who don't.-A.

--I have attended the trip for the past two years and I can honestly say it has changed my life. The most important part of the trip to me is witnessing the positive effect our hands have on changing people's lives. It has made me more thankful for what I have.-M.





*"Success is not
the name of God"
-Leon Bloy*



No Heat, No Lights, Plenty of Service

By Julie Ream

How often does a newspaper actually "stop the presses" to add a breaking story I wonder. In this digital age probably not as often as they once did. We can get the information on the internet faster than even the television does nowadays. Fortunately for me, we do not have to stop any presses to squeeze this story in. We had a bit of space to fill in this edition and were trying to decide what we should add that our friends would be interested in knowing about H.O.M.E. Actually, I was contemplating a few things when I realized I had the perfect story to contribute. The story of how the folks at H.O.M.E. come together to get through unexpected hardships.

On October 30th, just a few days ago, Maine was hit with gusty winds and rain that caused more power outages than the Ice Storm of '98. According to a story in the Bangor Daily News, close to half a million customers of the two major utility companies were without power. Although some residents have power back, many may not see the return of electricity until Saturday, November 4. As of today, November 1, the H.O.M.E. campus is on its third day with no lights, water or heat.

Thankfully, the temperatures here have been mild. The residents of the two shelters and the few rental apartments on campus have not accepted the offers of moving to another location. Mainers are a tough bunch and unless it gets below freezing, many will stay where they are until the power comes back on. I believe that another reason they have stayed is because the staff of H.O.M.E. is going the distance to be sure they are safe, warm and have all that they may need.

Without electricity, many here are unable to do their typical jobs. No shelter occupancy data will be entered. Checks will not be printed. And, most unfortunate, no meals will be prepared in the kitchen. The only reason this story is being written at this particular moment is because I am one of the few employees without vital information on their computer and so was able to bring it to my home where, by the grace of God, we still have power. Despite it all, the staff of H.O.M.E. has shown up every morning to make sure what needs to be done is done.

Bookkeepers have taken their own vehicles to go to the fire departments with 5 gallon buckets to make

sure the shelters can flush their toilets. The executive director has visited both shelters to make sure they are still warm enough. Administration and daycare personnel have taken empty jugs to their own homes to fill with drinking water. Market stand employees have supplied bread and peanut butter and whatever else they have that doesn't have to be cooked so everyone stays fed. Shelter staff have shuttled residents who do not own vehicles to McDonald's to charge their phones and to local community centers or other shelters so they may shower. Every department was available this morning to help give out meat from the food pantry freezers before it spoiled. Extra blankets were distributed for those who wanted to stay in their own rooms. And again, space was offered in other places that have electricity.

H.O.M.E. isn't the only place working tirelessly to ensure their neighbors have what they need. Local community centers and the middle school have opened their doors to people needing to charge their phones or take a shower. Businesses along the main road in Bucksport have signs posted to let people know they are welcome to charge their phones and use their wifi. The people of Bucksport and Orland are showing that we are all here to help one another. H.O.M.E. is happy to have such neighbors.

We are ever hopeful that the power will be restored at any time. The first day the power was out, crews from the state and towns were sent to remove fallen trees and branches and to take care of downed wires. Traffic was at a standstill or detoured in many neighborhoods because safety should always come first. The second day was devoted to making sure that hospitals and other vulnerable places were back online. I hope they were able to accomplish that in one day. Today, the crews continue to work at getting the people of the state of Maine back into the light. We are thankful for their dedication and their perseverance to get the job done.

I know pride is one of the deadly sins. I hope I am forgiven for saying that I am so proud of how the staff at H.O.M.E. has responded to this crisis. I am proud that everyone was there to do what had to be done and not one person felt that it wasn't "their job" to haul water or to drive people around or do any of the other little things keeping our shelters going through this outage and I just wanted you all to know that.---Julie

PAX CHRISTI MAINE

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

May 20, 2017 at H.O.M.E., Orland, Maine

On a bright and beautiful spring day about 20 people gathered to discuss Catholic Social Teaching (CST) and consider how its precepts can help us faithfully live the nonviolent life as we strive to bring positive change in our distressed world. After our opening prayer we viewed four educational videos, enjoyed a delicious lunch provided by H.O.M.E., accompanied with lively conversation, and then gathered for serious discussion.

Pax Christi Maine chose to honor Sister Lucy Poulin and acknowledge her retirement as Director of H.O.M.E. by presenting her with a certificate of gratitude during our Assembly. Several years ago, she was one of a few Mainers who were recipients of PCM'S "Romero Award for Nonviolent Service to the Poor". They expressed their gratitude to retiring Council members Suzanne Fitzgerald and Elaine Testa for their years of service on the Council and welcomed new member Tracey Hair.

Right: Millie Grimes observing the photo board at the Annual Assembly.



Left: Mary Beth Paquette presents Lucy with a certificate of gratitude for her work.

Green Thumbs

By Millie

Our gardening season this year was disappointing as we had low yield due to catastrophic breakdowns of our rototiller and two weedwhackers (at the same time!). Severe rain in the middle of the growing season added to the poor production. We did have a great garlic harvest, lots of basil and cherry tomatoes. Harvesting in a friend's garden is enabling us to do well in our farmer's markets in Ellsworth and Bucksport. We've planted yellow wax beans, spinach, kale and lettuce in our high tunnel greenhouse.

Our butterfly garden (a work in progress) produced wonderful sunflowers and cosmos. We had colorful zinnias in our hoop greenhouse. We've made bread and butter pickles, peach jam and pickled beets for sale and we're hoping for a more bountiful harvest next season.

Here's a recipe from the Belfast Coop cookbook.

Fresh Tomato Pie

- 1 unbaked pie shell
- 3 large garlic cloves, minced
- Fresh or dried basil, chopped fine
- Ripe tomatoes, sliced thick and drained on a paper towel
- 4 oz. shredded cheese (a mix of cheddar, mozzarella or whatever is handy)

Cover bottom of pie shell with minced garlic. Place chopped basil on top of garlic. Layer with half of the drained tomatoes. Sprinkle with half the shredded cheese. Layer remaining half of drained tomatoes. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake at 350 degrees for 45 minutes. You can also put other veggies in this pie as I did. Too many tomatoes are too acidic for me. I added broccoli, more garlic and more cheese. Happy eating!



In the Heart of the World

Mother Teresa

To make possible true inner silence, practice:

Silence of the eyes, by seeking always the beauty and goodness of God everywhere, closing them to the faults of others and to all that is sinful and disturbing to the soul;

Silence of the ears, by listening always to the voice of God and to the cry of the poor and the needy, closing them to all other voices that come from fallen human nature, such as gossip, tale-bearing, and uncharitable words.

Silence of the tongue, by praising God and speaking the life-giving Word of God that is the Truth, that enlightens and inspires, brings peace, hope, and joy, and by refraining from self-defense and every word that causes darkness, turmoil, pain and death;

Silence of the mind, by opening it to the truth and knowledge of God in prayer and contemplation, like Mary who pondered the marvels of the Lord in her heart, and by closing it to all untruths, distractions, destructive thoughts, rash judgments, false suspicions of others, revengeful thoughts, and desires:

Silence of the heart, by loving God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength and one another as God loves, and avoiding all selfishness, hatred, envy, jealousy, and greed.

Fishing day in Maine

By Mary Mahan

It is 5:00 am and it is still chilly outside. We gather our gear, lunch, drinks, worms and whatever else we think we may need; then a stop to Dunkin Donuts and away we go. Our ride is long as we head down Route 9 stopping at every culvert that has enough water to fish in. I used to get a bit squeamish when putting on the worm but now it is no big deal to wipe off the guts on my pant leg. I like being the first to cast the line because I want the first fish. I am not the best at casting; it doesn't seem to go out far enough with a worm. I like to use crawlers because they do cast farther. It hits the water and you hope you get a bite very quickly. I start reeling in carefully not to miss that fish that may be going by my line. Got a bite. Oh, pull it in Mary, don't lose it. Dang it's gone and he ate my worm. On goes another worm and cast again. This goes on and on until you pull in that fish. It is so exciting to catch a fish. The hooking and reeling in of a fish can be challenging.

My father would say you have to hold your mouth just right to be a good fisherman. Some days fishing is good and you cast and hook fish quickly. Those are the spots you stay at until you don't catch anything else within a short time. Rick likes to hit lots of spots and I prefer staying for a while to see if I can catch that big one. On to the next spot.

Sometimes the fishing is not so good and we spend time just relaxing by the water and watching the wildlife. Every season we fish shows us how different Maine is. We go to one spot that has a great view of the cascade of water rushing over the rocks. How soothing. We have learned the hard way that the ground is not so comfortable so we now bring folding chairs. Big difference.

Lunchtime and Rick wants to go to another spot. Now the sun is high and it's getting hot. Off comes the first layer of clothes. My favorite fish to catch is trout because I love to eat them but bass gives you quite a fight.

Over the years, I have learned how to put on the line and to tie the hook so you do not lose it when you cast. I love shopping for different lures and hooks. They are so pretty but can be very expensive. I get so mad when I get stuck on something and I lose my gear.

By the end of the day and all your worms are gone it's time to pack it up and drive home. All in all our fishing days are so much fun. Just to spend time with Rick and being away from the everyday craziness is all I need.

Stories From Lucy

NO BIG ONES

One day I was driving the truck and Phil Gray and I were going on some mission, like hauling lumber to houses that were being built. We drove up to a very busy intersection and I asked, "Is anyone coming?" "No big ones," he said, always bringing humor to what we were doing. There was another fellow who was our neighbor, Eddie Facticeau. There were animals in our pasture near his land. They got out one day and he started shooting. Well, this is quite a problem. I went out to see him and asked if he would like to work for us. He would. I thought it better to have him inside shooting out than outside shooting in. He was a good worker, he ran the saw mill and shingle mill on different occasions.



LOCAL HISTORY

My cousin, Jack Pooler, phoned to tell me he was sending some stock he had to help us rebuild Sister Marie's House. He also researched family history and that our grandfather four times removed had settled on the St. Lawrence Seaway in Quebec. His family gave five acres of land on which to build the St. Anne deBeaupre Cathedral. Early on French-Canadians had great devotion to this place. Bernard Pooler, his father, started the Bucksport Free Press, the first local paper in this area. He also wrote a history of the migration of French-Canadians to the Bucksport area.

My mother was very ill with tuberculosis of the bone. Although French-Canadians went to St. Anne's on pilgrimage, her father took her to St. Joseph's Oratory in Montreal and met a Hale Brother "Andie Bessette". She was sure she would not be cured but Brother Andie said you will be cured and so she was.

She married, had eleven children and lived to be 86 years old. Brother Andie has since been canonized by the Catholic Church.

On several occasions my mother took us to Montreal to visit the Oratory there and pray.

CHRISTMAS TREES

A big idea to raise money was to take Christmas trees to Boston and sell them. A friend secured for us a church basement and frontage on Massachusetts Avenue in Boston. My brother, Tony, had a large tractor trailer. An old red one without proper plates or stickers. Well, anyway, he and friends cut trees and loaded them on the truck. Off to Boston.

We found the church but had great difficulty driving the truck in Boston with all the one way streets. By chance it was one of the coldest years in history. We slept on the floor in the church basement but outside nearly froze. Sales

were poor. Our trees, while natural from the woods, did not compete with the domesticated trees. Ours were called "Charlie Brown Trees" we now know. We never went again.

SOAP POWDER

It was very clear something was wrong with the seasoning in the kitchen. but the crux of the matter came to life when we had visitor from Emmaus Paris to see our community and H.O.M.E. and some of Maine. Ellen cooked a wonderful dinner complete with mussels, a delicacy to them. We had a lovely salad and other vegetables. We finally figured out a jar of dish soap was used instead of salt. Dennis kept his soap in a jar in the house. It was a white granular and easily mistaken for salt. Emmanuel, one of the guests was also a nurse and said, "a little soap would not hurt anyone." And so our guests from Paris remained friends.

My Story

By Kathy Walton

In March of 2013 I became homeless. The events leading to my homelessness began in October when my mother passed away. I had to close my retail store (temporarily I thought), foreclosure on my house was imminent, I had to give up my pets and I went to live with my dad who had lost his wife of 65 years.

At 57 years old with a Master's degree in Business, it felt like my whole life was pulled out from under me. Since my dad was almost inconsolable over losing my mom, I had little time to process my own grief. Eventually he became verbally and mentally abusive to me and I left.

I stayed at my daughter-in-law's parents for two weeks while running to my counselor's office every other day in a panic. I was crying almost all the time. My counselor called H.O.M.E. Inc. and they had a space in one of their shelters for me.

It was very difficult to get a housing voucher because I was not disabled nor did I have children with me (they were grown and out on their own). I stayed in the shelter for two years. During that time I volunteered at H.O.M.E.'S thrift shop. It turned into a paying position and I ended up becoming the head of the In-Kind Donations Department.

I was offered the job of administering the shelter where I had been staying. Along with the job came an apartment attached to the shelter. I finally had my place to live!

I enjoy running the shelter very much. It is easy for me to relate to the women coming in because I have experienced many of the difficulties they are now going through.

In the meantime, I am also working in the Shelter Department at H.O.M.E. Inc., where I not only relate to homeless people, I can also help them get out of homelessness!

The Beginning of Claudia's Story

By Claudia Gilbert

My name is Claudia Elizabeth Gilbert. I was born January 10, 1940 to Corinne Meade Gilbert and Leslie Ellison Gilbert on the corner of Gilpin Road in an old white house in Orland, Maine. It had 12 rooms and housed the Meade family for generations. They had met through The Lonely Hearts Club because my mother, who was 32 years old, didn't want to be an old maid and she wanted to marry.

My daddy being of sound mind and a veteran of World War I wanted a family. He had been married before which he told me when I was about 10. He was divorced just before I was born. My parents were very poor and worked hard to get money to pay the bills.

We didn't have a bathroom or water in the house, although daddy did get a pump put in the bay window room so we would have water in the summer.

There were two springs, one in the cellar and another one down by the lawn across the small bridge, just by the cellar drain. The water was pure, good. There once had been a fish in this water when I was a small child.

My nearest memory began when I was three. My mother's sister, Thelma, took pictures of me when we visited to their house on Verona Island.

I loved those times.

"What we would like to do is change the world...by crying out unceasingly for the rights of workers, of the poor, of the destitute. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world."--Dorothy Day

SERVE FIRST
THOSE WHO
SUFFER MOST

HOME Daycare



H.O.M.E.'s licensed daycare provides affordable childcare for working families. The daycare has the capacity to serve up to 12 children from infants to 12 years old.

For more information about our program call (207) 469-7961 and speak with Jade.

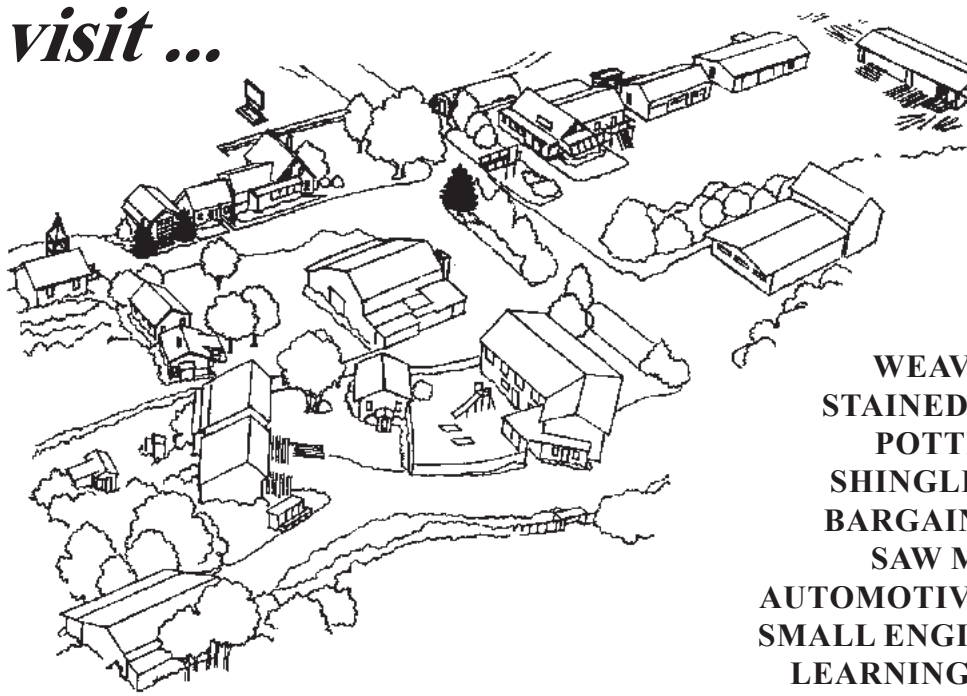
Check out our Go Fund Me page to see how you can help support a nurturing, healthy, and creative childcare experience.

<https://www.gofundme.com/givingtochildren>



H.O.M.E. Craft Village

visit ...



WEAVING
STAINED GLASS
POTTERY
SHINGLE MILL
BARGAIN BARN
SAW MILL
AUTOMOTIVE GARAGE
SMALL ENGINE REPAIR
LEARNING CENTER

CRAFT STORE HOURS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
AND SATURDAY
10AM-4PM.

H.O.M.E.'s Wish List

- Food
- Any Tools
- Fire Wood
- Office Supplies
- Mechanic's Tools
- Building Materials
- Saw Logs for our Mill
- Useful Trucks and/or Cars**
- Cotton Fabric Pieces for Quilts & Large Pieces for Quilt backing
- Windows 7 Computers & Printers
- Big Pots & Pans for our Soup Kitchen
- Appliances
- Stocks or Money

Guatemala Trip

H.O.M.E. is still planning its next trip to Guatemala. We try to send off a group of interested individuals at least once a year with the goal of providing support to the San Juan Comalapa Emáus Group. We provide this support by buying local weavings produced by members of the group, raising funds to buy corn for families in need and working with other local nonprofits who have similar goals.

For those of us at H.O.M.E., we look forward to the opportunity to be in solidarity with our friends in Guatemala.



Families waiting to receive donations of corn. One bag can feed a family for up to three months.

You can help by:

Joining us on the trip

Helping raise \$1000 for corn

Donating money for weavings

Collecting shoes and school supplies

Holding a pledge or donation drive

Sponsoring a traveler



H.O.M.E. sent a container to Guatemala once before. We hope to send another this year, if we can raise the funds.

Please consider donating these items for our container:
Bicycles, Tools, Shoes, Sewing Machines, Kitchen Appliances, Money

Volunteer At H.O.M.E.!

H.O.M.E. is always looking for volunteers to help out! There are many different ways to get involved, from crafting to repairing houses. Bring your friends too! We have accommodations for individuals or groups. We would love to see you!

If you are interested, call Julie at 207.469.7961 ext 106

We Need Your Help!
Contact H.O.M.E.'s Learning Center at (207)469.7961 and ask for Rosa or email rosalanimoore@gmail.com

Reflections ~~Reflections~~ ~~Reflections~~

While I was the director at Emmaus House in Harlem, I attended the Tuesday evening meetings of Kairos, a group of Catholic faith and justice who met to discuss ways to combat the injustice of our world. It was held at the Jesuit House right off Houston Street where Dan Berrigan lived. He was the animating spirit of the group. When he learned that Emmaus House had started up again and was slated to come up for a visit.

-Julia

DAN
-Julia Demaree

I came to your circle late in life
Not feeling worthy to stand with
A legion of time tested souls
I never entered your center.

You were a sage of pure welcoming
With eyes to hear and ears to see.
Your years of speaking out now distilled
Into razor sharp moments of wisdom

The activist in you still standing ramrod tall
Your circle sensitized to the past as present
And grateful to be in your presence
Of your poet self, yielding to sacred time.

I served you soup once
Far away from this sacred post
And at the Emmaus table

Bread and wine became as one.

Fun with Astrology

By Kathy Walton

How each sign responds to being on a blind date...

- Aries:** Yes, it is an amazing view! That's why I've arranged for us to go bungee jumping so we can REALLY see ALL of it!
- Taurus:** This historic theater is running a Three Stooges marathon. It also has really comfortable seats.
- Gemini:** Sorry I'm half an hour late. I was all ready to leave when I got a great idea for a poem! Let me read it to you...
- Cancer:** ...so the guy says, "No, that was my can of peaches!" *giggle, giggle, giggle, snort, cackle
- Leo:** Oh, you're redoing your living room? A gold over-stuffed couch and chocolate brown vibrating recliner look great with orange drapes and predominantly yellow walls.
- Virgo:** I love cats. Do you have a cat? I noticed a cat hair on your sleeve (while removing the hair).
- Libra:** So, which movie should we see? I hear the comedy is good and a good laugh is always healthy. On the other hand, that action thriller looks interesting and they always leave me so energized.
- Scorpio:** My sign? You'll never guess it. (Said with a piercing, unflinching gaze while staring over dark glasses).
- Sagittarius:** That's an interesting color you're wearing. Few people can pull that off.
- Capricorn:** I got us invitations to this exclusive get-together so I could talk to the host. He is a successful businessman and is bound to give me a job when he hears my ideas on improving cash flow.
- Aquarius:** I love coming to this children's museum. So many inventive ideas! Hey! See that child's outfit with the giraffes all over it? I wonder if they make that in my size.
- Pisces:** I work at the aquarium across town. The water is so soothing with its blues and greens and the fish are so colorful. It all puts me in such a meditative mood.

Prayer for Shelter

Leader: Lord, reveal to us what is good, acceptable and your perfect will,
People: That we may be transformed by the renewing of our minds.

Leader: You have chosen and ordained us,
People: To bring forth fruit and to be faithful.

Leader: O God, fill us with the fruit of righteousness,
People: So that we may bring forth love, joy, peace and hope.

Leader: Open our eyes that we may see our world as you see it,
People: So that we may not ignore those without a decent and safe home in which to live.

Leader: Lord, help us respond as you respond to the hurts and needs of those around us,
People: That we may repair the breach between those who do not have a place to lay their heads at night and those who lay peacefully in a safe home.

Leader: God, as we labor in love and partnership to build homes with your children,
People: We pray that others will see not just buildings, but evidence of your love.

Leader: O God, plant us like a tree by the river.
People: May we bring forth fruit and give shade and rest to those in need.

Leader: You, O God, are love.
People: We pray that we will plant seeds of love everywhere we go.

Leader: We will love through action so others may know you,
All: And together we can rejoice in your mercy and goodness. Amen.

\$2.00 Broom

Submitted by Pam Spencer

The wood fire has started
To warm up my seat
Alongside my coffee
Hot oatmeal to eat

Broom partner in hand
I scurry outdoor
To a half inch of snow
It's snowing galore

Swept up the driveway
Had started back down
When along came a truck
That plows for the town

I stomp and I scowl
It's quite plain to see
If not for that plowman
There'd be little for me

Resigned to relax
But snowtime again
I hear it's a blizzard
This dance just don't end

Oh darn! The broom broke

Part of the World Emmaus Movement

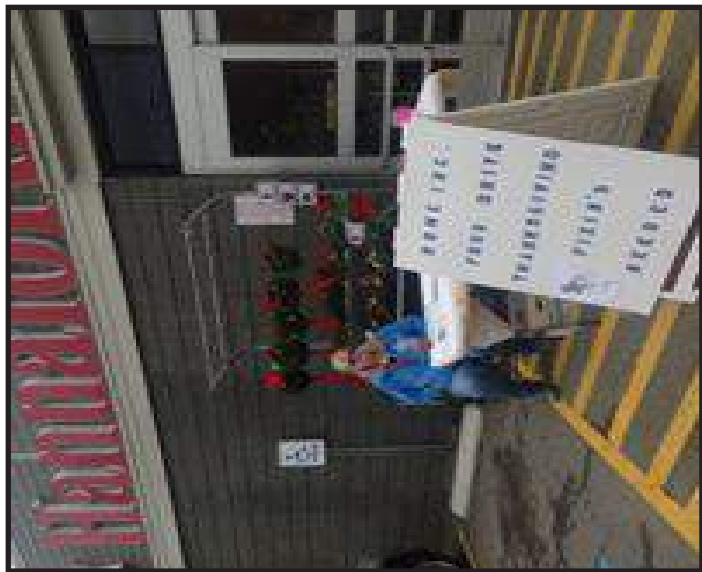
H.O.M.E.

PO Box 10
Orland, ME 04472

NONPROFIT ORG
US Postage
PAID
Bangor, ME
Permit No. 76

This Time

Homeworkers Organized for More Employment



H.O.M.E. staff participate in an Annual Thanksgiving Food Drive.



Visit Us On Facebook



Proud member
of Emmaus
International.

"Serve First Those Who Suffer Most"