

Grace - Street Ministry-Portland, Maine **Spring 2026**

Celebrating 20 Years of Presence, Prayer and Advocacy

by Jeff Logan, Executive Director and Lead Pastor

Twenty years ago, on a Sunday in late March 2006, Revs. Mair Honan and Karen Christensen decided to provide pastoral care to Portland's unhoused people. Remarkably, the unusual organization that they founded, and that Pastor Mair (pictured below) helmed for many years, is still here! Through Portland's many changes, the pastors of GSM continue to serve with presence, prayer and advocacy.



In honoring GSM's mission, flexibility is a key strength. We have stayed small, we have no bricks and mortar, and we continue to treat any encounter with anyone in this community, no matter where it occurs, as a sacred encounter taking place in sacred space. (Please see one such story, told by Rev. Mair Honan, on page two.)

When the soup kitchen and Resource Center closed during the pandemic, we stayed out on the street, wherever people landed. In 2026, with all shelters on the city's outskirts and the coldest, snowiest weather in recent memory, we remained present on the streets, in the shelters, and where people camped or lived out of their cars. GSM provides camping equipment, including safe in-tent heaters, and continues to offer gift cards for food and coffee. We also provide winter boots and socks, and whatever else we can come up with, through the generosity of our donors.

Of course our ministry of presence still includes sharing the blessings of the holy, whether at street corner services on Sundays in front of Elena's Way, during memorials for community members who have passed, or simply along snowy paths on the edges of a quiet cemetery, with red squirrels chattering from the branches. And although we pray with great regularity that there will no longer be unhoused people to serve – that everyone will have come home – I still pray as well that we are here in another 20 years, if we are needed. Thanks for being part of this journey with us!

Grace - Street Ministry <https://www.gracestreetministry.org> FMI call 207-780-8880

GSM Co-founder Rev. Mair Honan Reflects: At the age of 78, it seems to me a spiritual