

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 22, February 16, 2017

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES

BIBLE AND THE NEWS

A Weekly Study with Rev. Matt Wooster

Wednesdays, through April, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Church Library

The goal of this hour is to bring the scriptures into dialogue with the news of the world and the news of our lives. Each week is a stand-alone discussion of the Biblical passage to be read at an upcoming worship service. Come every week or drop in when you can.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COLLECTION



The church is collecting children's books throughout the month of February for the benefit of The Grow Clinic at Boston Medical Center. Collection bins will be inside the church entrances for your new and gently used children's books. At the end of February, all books collected will be donated to The Grow Clinic - where they will be given to children who are either receiving treatments at the Clinic - or waiting for a sibling who is in treatment.

This picture was taken after our donation last year. For more information about the Clinic, visit www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic.htm. Questions? Contact Donna McCabe dmccabe4@comcast.net

NEW OR GENTLY USED PROFESSIONAL CLOTHING NEEDED - CAN YOU HELP?

One of our Family Promise Guests will be starting a new job next week and is in need of professional clothing. We are looking for any new or gently used:

- Blouses, blazers, sweaters: size L to XL
- Pants: size 13-14
- Dresses: size L
- Dress boots: size 8.5 wide
- Dress flats: size 8.5 W



Please contact Marbo Hansen (marbo@hansenlink.com) or Tricia Frank (pdfrank@comcast.com) if you can help. Our next Family Promise Network hosting week begins Sunday, May 14. Thank you.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEEDS KNITTERS!

As we welcome with joy the many new babies in our midst, we need to restock our supply of baptismal blankets. These blankets are given as a



symbol of the care and love that we as a congregation promise to these new members of our church family. Women's Ministry will be happy to provide you with yarn and a pattern, if you'd like to knit one (or more!) of these blankets. Contact Laurie Otten at laurieotten50@gmail.com.

HELP EDUCATE OUR YOUNG PEOPLE – BE A CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER!

Every Sunday, twelve (12) church members give their time to educate and enjoy the young people in our church community. So far this year, we have already filled almost 100 church school volunteer positions. A huge accomplishment – meriting a huge thank you to those who have already served.

Now, we just need ten (10) more willing volunteers to help us fill out the balance of this program year's church school teacher calendar. Please look at the list below of open positions to see if you are able to help. Thank you for your consideration – and for your commitment to growing our children's faith.

March:

Shepherd-3 needed (chaperone)
Brains and Games (activity leader)
Lead teacher – Bible study Grades 5/6

May:

Preschool teacher
Brains and Games (activity leader)
Shepherd (chaperone)
Lead teacher – Bible Study Grades 5/6

To the Congregation of the Hills Church –

Please consider this an invitation for all to stop by the Reception Room in the Parish House. Over the past six months a small group has worked to refurbish this wonderful space, and the final installation was the week before Christmas.

Out of a love for the church and a desire to support its beautification from its members, the Hills Church has been blessed with many gifts over the years in the form of antiques and artwork. The Committee's goal has been to honor these past gifts and incorporate them into the room, along with new furniture, carpet and window treatments.

The Committee is grateful for this opportunity to serve the congregation of the Hills Church. We are grateful for the trust and support which was given by so many as well as the enthusiastic response upon its completion. Many thanks to the Congregation, Stewards Support Board, Property Ministry Team, Church Council, Church Staff and Clergy for support and patience. A special note of thanks is extended to Cynthia Gordan for her time and assistance throughout this entire project.

It is the hope of the Reception Room Renovation Committee that the newly redecorated room provides a warm, inviting and welcoming setting for fellowship in the years to come.

The Reception Room Renovation Committee
Myralee Wilson, Chair, Becky Epstein, Robin Swanberg

BEING A HILLS CHURCH GREETER IS SURE TO PUT A SMILE ON YOUR FACE!

Join a Greeter Ministry Team and greet regularly – or just once a year! It’s up to you!

As a greeter, you can help us set the tone for worship, as a place where all are warmly received. The task involves being at one of the doors by 9:40 a.m., with a name tag and a welcoming smile – ready to offer

handshakes and greetings to members and visitors arriving for worship. We especially LOVE children and youth greeters. Your responsibilities end when the worship hour begins.

If you would like to join the Greeting Ministry, please contact Becky Williams (williams.becky.m@gmail.com) or Jeff Thomas (mr_jpt@hotmail.com)

USHERING IS A GREAT WAY TO SERVE YOUR CHURCH

The mission of the Ushering Committee is to provide a staff of ushers who serve and support the Congregation before, during and after the worship service each week. To paraphrase a quote from Rev. Lacy Scott, “An usher ... is so much more than a seat finder. They are the meeters and greeters to our service ... the people who meet our guests and our members alike on a person-to-person basis when they first arrive at church. They are the ones whose smiles and warm welcomes help to set the tone for our worship.” To volunteer to usher at an upcoming service, please [CLICK ON THE FOLLOWING LINK](#) or contact Cindy Jaczko – cindy@jaczko.com.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GIVE CELEBRATION OR MEMORIAL FLOWERS THIS YEAR?

If you would like to make a Chancel Flower dedication this year, please fill out the form below and send it with a check, in the amount of \$75.00 payable to “Wellesley Hills Congregational Church,” to the church office. (Please write Celebration or Memorial Flowers in the memo section of your check.)

I would like to dedicate Chancel Flowers on Sunday, _____, 2017.

Your Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Special requests and/or comments, e.g., I would like my Chancel flower dedication to read: “In loving memory of _____ . From _____.”

Adult Education at the Hills Church – Winter 2017

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 26

A CONTEXT TO BETTER ENJOY THE UPCOMING SPECIAL MUSIC

John Finney, M.M., Director of Music Hills Church

11:30 am – Reception Room

Join John Finney to learn about “The Seven Last Words of Christ” by Théodore Dubois, which will be performed by the Chancel Choir during the Sunday worship service on March 26. We will explore the historical context as well as the sumptuous sonorities of this rarely-heard masterpiece.

Co-sponsored with the Music Ministry Team.

SATURDAY, MARCH 18

RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY AT THE GARDNER MUSEUM – AND LUNCH TOO!

10:15 am to 2:30 pm

Join Hills Church members for a private tour and lunch at one of Boston’s favorite museums, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum. We will learn about the indomitable Mrs. Gardner; her creation of this intimate museum; and her interest in religion and spirituality. Our tour will include religious works of art from different cultures and periods displayed in a unique way. We will dine at the Café starting at 11:15 in the new wing and start our tour at 12:30.

Register in advance through the Church Office. Cost, including lunch, will be \$35. We will carpool and leave the Church parking lot at 10:15.

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

THE CONVERSATION PROJECT

A WORKSHOP TO GET US STARTED TALKING ABOUT DYING

Rev. Rosemary Lloyd, Advisor to Faith Communities, The Conversation Project

11:45 am to 1:15 pm – Reception Room (lunch and childcare provided)

The Conversation Project’s goal is to have everyone’s wishes for care through the end of life expressed and respected. This workshop, led by the Rev. Rosemary Lloyd, will introduce participants to The Starter Kit. Through guided reflection and small group sharing, The Starter Kit will support and motivate you to have a values-based, relationship-building conversation about an experience that touches us all. Don’t wait until it’s too late.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

FROM THE LAST GOSPEL TO THE LAST WORD: JOHN IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

*Adam Isbitsky, M.Div. candidate, Andover Newton Theological School,
Seminar Hills Church*

Rev. Pashington Obeng, M.Th., Ph.D., Associate Minister, Hills Church

11:30 am – Reception Room

There are several books in the New Testament that seem to claim authorship by one or more men named John. The Gospel of John is distinctive in style and content from the other Gospels and deserves special consideration. We will compare it generally to the Synoptic Gospels and then look at specific passages unique to John. Additionally, the short letters 1, 2, and 3 John will be considered as they relate to John’s Gospel and to Paul’s letters. Finally, we will take a short trip through Revelation, which also bears the name John and holds a unique place in the biblical canon. Please remember to bring your Bible.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

PLANNING FOR SUMMER? THINK BIG ADVENTURE V.B.S!

The church's summer camp
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Join us for beginning of summer fun!
June 26- June 30

9:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.
For children entering grades 1-6

A week of FUN - GAMES - ARTS - SCIENCE - FIELD TRIPS - AND SERVICE!

Cost - \$100.00 first camper - \$75.00 siblings
For more information email Sallyt@hillschurch.org

Register at <http://tinyurl.com/hillsbigadventure>
Or visit the church website.

Thanks!

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

FEBRUARY VACATION ICE CREAM OUTING

Have time over February vacation? In private school but ready for a treat by mid-afternoon? Let me take you out for ice cream. The big group will be next Wednesday the 22nd at 3:00 p.m., but I am up for ice cream anytime. Email katherine@hillschurch.org or text 508-658-2933 or Snap [revkdatherine](#)

CONFIRMATION RETREAT: MARCH 10-11

Who: Confirmation Class

Where: Prindle Pond

What: Join with the confirmation classes of churches in Massachusetts and New England. This year's theme: "Not That Kind of Christian: Re-articulating Faith for a New Generation." The mainstream view of Christianity among young people is not very favorable. Many youth and young adults see Christians as hypocritical, judgmental, anti-gay, and out of touch with reality. At our Retreat, we will address some of those stereotypes head on about what it means in our setting to be a follower of Jesus.

CITY REACH SERVICE RETREAT: MARCH 24-25

DEADLINE EXTENDED

CityReach gives young people and adults a chance to learn about homelessness from people who have experienced it, and may be still experiencing it. At CityReach we will also offer hospitality, food, and clothing to guests on Saturday morning inside the church and/or outside in downtown Boston as a street outreach team.

We will leave the church promptly at 6:00 p.m. Friday (eat first or come at 5:30 for pizza) and return Saturday before dinnertime.

Open to grades 9-12. Families are asked to contribute \$40 toward trip costs if they are able. Submit your [permission slip](#) and check to the church office by February 17.

Subscribe to the Youth Newsletter to learn more! Email katherine@hillschurch.org to get your copy.

COMING SOONER THAN YOU THINK: HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH RETREAT

APRIL 28-30

Who: Grades 7-12

Where: Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod

What: Hills Church Olympics, campfires, great food, and music

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, February 16

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:30 p.m. Discernment Committee – Nena Radtke
- 7:30 p.m. Church Council

This Sunday's Scripture Readings:
Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18
Matthew 5:38-48

FRIDAY, February 17

- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, February 18

- 9:00 a.m. NAMI Reunion Group

SUNDAY, February 19

- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study Group
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Community Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Teaching Parish
- 11:30 a.m. Children's Choir
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, February 20 – Legal Holiday (Church Office Closed)

- 7:30 p.m. Christian Service Support Board

TUESDAY, February 21

WEDNESDAY, February 22

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 11:00 a.m. North Hill Worship Service
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, February 23

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings

HILLS CHURCH PUBLICATION DEADLINES

Need to spread the word about an activity or event?

Email your notice to Cynthia Gordan, Church Administrator,
at cynthia@hillschurch.org, or call the Church Office at 781-235-4424.

Weekly Newsletters

Sunday Orders of Worship

Submissions are due Fridays by 5:00 p.m.

Submissions are due Monday by 5:00 p.m.

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers of sympathy and comfort for:

Greta Sarginson on the recent death of her sister, "Ina" Stewart, last week in Scotland.
Libby Zobel on the death of her brother, John, who died while mountain climbing in Argentina.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Jennifer Cassettari, at home, with a dislocated shoulder.
Jerry Coughlan's mother, Mary.
Stephanie Coughlan's brother, Henry Stifel.
Bruce Dishman, recovering from a broken ankle.
Harriet Dishman, recovering from a broken arm.
Lois Dotter.
Lester Fraser.
Owen Freas, at Bradley Hospital for Children.
Mike Holiday, recovering at home.
Bill Marth's mother, Mary Lou Marth.
Judy Nitsch' nephew, Josh Larson.
Marilyn Nutting's brother, Tom McCarthy, recovering from a serious skiing accident in Ithaca, New York.
May Persson, recovering at home from rotator cuff surgery.
Beverly Stewart's daughter, Susan McGee.
Dan Sturtevant's mother, Betty Sturtevant, hospitalized in Washington D.C.
Bob Tomasetti's sister, Rita Colavito, fighting cancer in South Carolina.
Jinx Wheeler's daughter, Nicole McGowan, who is having spine surgery this week in Philadelphia.
David Wimberly, recovering at home.

Continuing prayers from our congregation for:

Hope Bucklin, at Care One in Newton.
Matt Schuler, son of John and Dwin Schuler, in Pennsylvania.
Martha Spencer, Bill Spencer's sister.

To request a pastoral visit or to update information, please e-mail either judy@hillschurch.org or pash@hillschurh.org or call the church office (781.235.4425).