

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 27, March 23, 2017

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES

Special Music Sunday is
This Sunday, March 26
During this Sunday's Worship Service, our Chancel Choir and soloists will be joined by a full orchestra to present the magnificent oratorio "The Seven Last Words of Christ" by Théodore Dubois.

CROSSING BORDERS: A STORY OF A MONK, A SCHOOL, AND A VISION - THIS SUNDAY
Mary Hill Canavan's trip to the South Asian country of Myanmar was inspiring for many reasons but in particular, for the opportunity she had to stay at one monastery and witness the work being done there to educate children and to help build the country's emerging democracy. She traveled to Myanmar in January along with 11 students, faculty and staff as part of Andover Newton Theological School's Border Crossing Immersion Program.

What might it mean for us as a faith community in this season of Lent? Please join Mary after church this Sunday, March 26, at 11:30 a.m. for conversation as she shares her experiences in Myanmar and her encounters crossing borders of religion, culture, and politics.



THE SABBATH AN INTEGRATED SERIES OF LENTEN SERMONS AND SPIRITUALITY GROUP DISCUSSIONS

Jesus taught that the Sabbath was made for people, and yet the commandment to remember the Sabbath day for rest may be the commandment that is least practiced by Christians in our time and place. In the season of Lent, we will explore the concept of Sabbath for our time. Sabbath is God's gift for all who are weary of work, busy schedules, demands, or worry.

- This Sunday, March 26 Sabbath is Prayerful. Special Music Sunday.
- Sunday, April 2 Sabbath is Hungry. *1 Kings 19:1-8*
- Palm Sunday, April 9 Sabbath is Just. *Isaiah 56:1-7*

RECOMMENDED READING ON THE SABBATH

From *Keeping the Sabbath Wholly*, by Marva Dawn:

The story is told of a wagon train on its way from St. Louis to Oregon. Its members were devout Christians, so the whole group observed the habit of stopping for the Sabbath day. Winter was approaching quickly, however, and some among the group began to panic in fear that they wouldn't reach their destination before the heavy snows. Consequently, several members proposed to the rest of the group that they should quit their practice of stopping for the Sabbath and continue driving onward seven days a week.

This proposal triggered a lot of contention in the community, so finally it was suggested that the wagon train should split into two groups—those who wanted to observe the Sabbath and those who preferred to travel on that day. The proposal was accepted, and both groups set out and traveled together until the next Sabbath day, when one group continued while the other group remained at rest.

Guess which group got to Oregon first.

You're right. The ones who kept the Sabbath reached their destination first. Both the people and the horses were so rested by their Sabbath observance that they could travel much more vigorously and effectively the other six days of the week.

Keeping the Sabbath Wholly and the following books are available at the church.

The Sabbath, by Abraham Joshua Heschel

Sabbath in the Suburbs, by MaryAnn Mckibben Dana

Sabbath as Resistance, by Walter Brueggemann

BIBLE AND THE NEWS - A WEEKLY STUDY WITH REV. MATT WOOSTER

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

During Lent, we will discuss scripture related to keeping Sabbath:

Isaiah 56:1-7 on March 29.

HILLS CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Easter is coming and this year's Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 8, from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.! Enjoy breakfast, a petting zoo, the Easter Bunny, crafts, and of course THE HUNT (with prizes!) To register, visit the church website (hillschurch.org) or e-mail the Church Office (cynthia@hillschurch.org) by Tuesday, April 4, so we can provide food and prizes...then, HOP ON OVER! Rain or shine.



EGG HUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Participate in the joy and warmth of the day! Signup at www.tinyurl.com/besthuntever or e-mail Erin Johnson at emmetcalf@gmail.com.

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)

JOIN THE HILLS CHURCH CARE TEAM!

Every March our Hills Church Care Teams welcome new members. Four Care Teams rotate weeks of the month, with different opportunities to reach out to members of the congregation with a card, a visit, a meal--or other kindness, always depending on your own schedule. There are no meetings, just ministry. To sign up, contact Luree Jaquith at fluryj@comcast.net or Judy Swahnberg at judy@hillschurch.org.



Are you interested in learning more
about the Hills Church?

Please join us at an Inquirers' Gathering
Sunday, April 2

After Worship in the Reception Room
Please RSVP to the church office TODAY

Would you like to become a member of the Hills Church?
The next Joining Sunday will be May 21, 2017.

Please join clergy and church members in the Reception Room for an evening Membership Class on May 3, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner will be provided, and child care will be available on request.

This class will include information regarding Educational Programs, Service Opportunities, The United Church of Christ (UCC), Baptism, Communion and Confirmation at the Hills Church, and Community Life. We will also discuss the Order of Worship, Church Governance, the Membership Covenant and Stewardship.

If you would like to participate, please RSVP to the church office at 781-235-4424, ext 210 or via email to cynthia@hillschurch.org.

WANT TO MEET FOR COFFEE?



We do too! We are looking for a few folks to do some small tasks on Sunday mornings...for the second, third or fourth Sundays of the month. You may do any of the jobs – for any or all of the weeks.

You can set-up before church, serve during Community Hour itself, or whistle while you work (and make new friends!) cleaning up afterwards. Training is available for any job. Contact Anne Leland for more info.

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.

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.

Adult Education at the Hills Church – Winter 2017

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,
Seminarian 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.



EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to give Easter lilies in memory of—or in honor of—a loved one, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office by Tuesday, April 11.

You may donate whatever amount you wish. Checks should be made payable to the *Wellesley Hills Congregational Church*. Please note *Easter Flowers* on the memo line of your check.

My donation for Easter Flowers is given (PLEASE PRINT)

In memory of: _____

or

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Mail your check to:
Wellesley Hills Congregational
Church
207 Washington Street





8th Annual ***Walk Away Homelessness*** Walkathon

SATURDAY, April 8, 2017 at the Natick Community Senior Center, 117 E. Central Street
at 9:00 am, registration opens at 8:00am

Join WROR 105.7 FM radio personality LBF and hundreds of walkers of all ages for fun, music,
food, face painting, prizes and more!

Special Guest Laura Vecchione

TOGETHER WE WILL WALK to End HOMELESSNESS!

All proceeds from the walk will help Family Promise Metrowest end the cycle of homelessness
by providing families with shelter, meals and professional services. Walkers raising over \$100
will be entered into a raffle to win Amazon Fire HD10 tablet, Red Sox tickets, American Girl
Dolls, Bose wireless speaker and a Authentic Autograph baseball from Jason Varitek!

The first 400 registered walkers receive a newly designed long sleeve t-shirt.

Be the first 100 walkers to raise \$500 and receive a Family Promise Metrowest embroidered
Pack N Go Jacket from Charles River Apparel

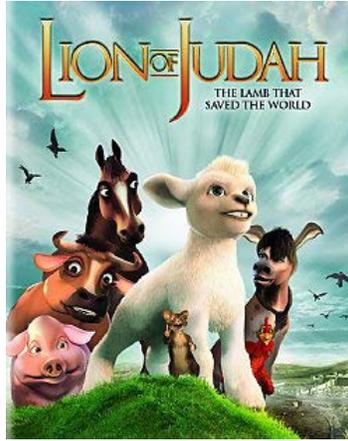
Remember to qualify for the VIP raffle and the Pack N Go Jacket all donations must be in to
Family Promise by Friday, April 7 at 5:00pm.

<http://walkawayhomelessness.familypromisemetrowest.org>

or call 508-318-4820.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY

JOIN US FOR AN EASTER MOVIE!
THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 26, AT 10:00 A.M.
CHILDREN IN GRADES KINDERGARTEN & UP ARE INVITED TO WATCH "THE LION OF JUDAH"



The Lion of Judah is a heart-warming account of the Easter story as seen through the eyes of a lovable pig (Horace), a faint-hearted horse (Monty), a pedantic rat (Slink), a rambling rooster (Drake), a motherly cow (Esmay) and a downtrodden donkey (Jack). The journey weaves seamlessly through the biblical accounts of Palm Sunday, Jesus turning the tables in the temple, Peter's denial and with a tense, heart-wrenching climax, depicts the crucifixion and resurrection with gentleness and breathtaking beauty

Find a movie review

here: http://www.christiancinema.com/catalog/product_info.php?products_id=6085

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

Register at hillschurch.org



Cost:

\$100.00 first camper - \$75.00 siblings

For more information

Sallyt@hillschurch.org



YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

LENTEN “WEDNESDAY WORKSHOPS”

6:00-8:00 p.m. during Lent

Sure it’s a weeknight, but you have to eat, right? For the season of Lent, we’re going to have a different workshop each Wednesday. Come for dinner at 6:00, followed by some hangout and discussion time.

March 29	Caring for Others: Bullying and Bystander Responsibility
April 5	Caring for Others: Footwashing, Justice, and Other Weird Churchy Things

CITY REACH SERVICE RETREAT: MARCH 24-25

Who: High School Youth (Grades 9-12)

Where: Downtown Boston

What: 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 participate in our ministry with poor and homeless people by offering hospitality, food, and clothing to guests on Saturday morning inside the church and/or outside in downtown Boston as a street outreach team. Please let Katherine know if you would like to participate -

Katherine@hillschurch.org.

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, March 23

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:30 p.m. Music Ministry Team

FRIDAY, March 24

- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, March 25

- 12:00 p.m. Special Music Sunday Rehearsal

SUNDAY, March 26 – Special Music Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study Group
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Community Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Adult Ed. Event – Crossing Borders (Mary Hill Canavan)
- 11:30 a.m. Children’s Choir
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. Sunday Night Lenten Group
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, March 27

TUESDAY, March 28

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Lenten Group

WEDNESDAY, March 29

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 11:00 a.m. North Hill Worship Service
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Group Lenten Dinner and “Wednesday Workshop”
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, March 30

- 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.