

# Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 29, April 6, 2017

[www.hillschurch.org](http://www.hillschurch.org)

## OPPORTUNITIES

### HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES

Palm and Passion Sunday, April 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Sabbath is Just. *Isaiah 56:1-7*

Sabbath is God's gift for all who are weary of work,  
busy schedules, demands, or worry.

Maundy Thursday, April 13, 8:00 p.m. service of Holy Communion and  
Tenebrae, the service of "shadows."

Good Friday, April 14, Noon worship, followed by silent vigil in the  
sanctuary  
and a liturgy for the end of the vigil at 2:45 p.m.

Easter Sunday, April 16, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Matt Wooster will give  
the Easter sermon at both services, and both services will also include the  
Hills Bells and the Chancel Choir, accompanied by organ, brass and  
timpani.

Holy Communion will be celebrated at 11:00.

### HILLS CHURCH EASTER EGG HUNT

Easter is coming and this year's Egg Hunt is this 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](http://hillschurch.org)) or e-mail the Church Office  
([cynthia@hillschurch.org](mailto:cynthia@hillschurch.org)), so we can provide food and prizes...then,  
HOP ON OVER! Rain or shine.



### EGG HUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There is still time to participate in the joy and warmth of the day! Signup at  
[www.tinyurl.com/besthuntever](http://www.tinyurl.com/besthuntever) or e-mail Erin Johnson at [emmetcalf@gmail.com](mailto:emmetcalf@gmail.com).

### 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:  
Matthew 28:1-10 on April 12.



Invitation to Maundy Thursday  
Worship 8:00 p.m.

I'll never forget my first Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service. The tone of worship was quiet and contemplative but its cumulative power has never left me. On the anniversary of that first Communion, I heard Jesus' familiar call to remembrance and discipleship with fresh ears, as if addressed to me personally. The readers arrayed at the long table in the chancel evoked da Vinci's rendering of the Last Supper, wordlessly conveying the mystery of God's abiding love in the upper room and in all our trials. The scripture passages interspersed with Bach chorales, the flickering candles and the encroaching darkness joined to create for me one of those thin places where God's presence becomes palpably real.

As Christmas Eve's Lessons and Carols combine with the darkness and candlelight to declare God's incarnation in the miracle of birth, the lesser known Maundy Thursday Tenebrae service illumines the great mystery of God with us even in times of betrayal and death. I treasure revisiting this service every year, not to dwell on Jesus' suffering but to more fully know his presence in mine. Whether it's your first time or your sixty-first, I hope you will join me.

Nancy Simons, Deacon

TEA WITH A MINISTER - TUESDAY, APRIL 18 AT 1:30

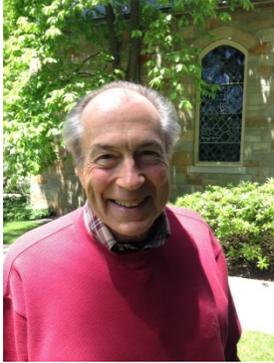


It is time to welcome spring! And our April Tea presentation is just the ticket when it comes to helping us think about the wonders of this season.....

..... *"Hope is the thing with feathers that perches on the soul"*

Tia Pinney will talk with us about backyard birds and even may bring along a “feathered friend”! Please join us on Tuesday, April 18 at 1:30 in the Reception Room for a very special presentation. We can provide rides for anyone to and or from the church. Call Cynthia, 781-235-9838, in the church office if you need transportation.

#### THE NEXT LAY-LED WORSHIP SERVICE AND DINNER IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19



Our Lay-Led Service for March addressed the threat posed to our Judaeo Christian heritage and our American democracy by alternative facts and what George Orwell described as “doublethink” (the ability to use conscious deception while retaining the firmness of purpose that goes with complete honesty.)

Our Lay-Led service for April will address the faith found in our heritage that has brought joy and completeness to believers, even in the midst of turbulent times when doublethink reigns supreme. This faith does not allow us to ignore evil, but it does give us the ability to recognize that God (the very ground of our being) is with us in the midst of the turmoil, providing the strength to withstand and confront the evil. Join us on April 19 at 6:00 p.m. for dinner and 7:00 p.m. for worship in the chapel.

#### HABITAT VOLUNTEER TIME

Want to volunteer for a day with Habitat for Humanity? Join us on May 20 for construction work or ReStore sorting in Lawrence.



May doesn't fit your schedule? This year we will also have three summer volunteer days in Holliston! We will be helping to build a house for one of our former Family Promise guests. Mark your summer calendars now for July 22, August 19, or September 16. Contact Elaine Vildzius, [Vildzius@gmail.com](mailto:Vildzius@gmail.com) for more information or to sign up for any of these dates.

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](mailto: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](mailto:cindy@jaczko.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](mailto:williams.becky.m@gmail.com)) or Jeff Thomas ([mr\\_jpt@hotmail.com](mailto:mr_jpt@hotmail.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](mailto:laurieotten50@gmail.com).

## Adult Education at the Hills Church – Winter 2017

SUNDAY, APRIL 23

THE CONVERSATION STARTER PROJECT – PART II

*Harold Wilkinson, M.D. and Rev. Judy Swahnberg, Facilitators*

11:30 am – Reception Room

If you found the March 19 Conversation Starter Project discussion helpful, you won't want to miss the additional support provided during this follow-up session.

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

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

*Adam Isbitsky, M.Div. candidate, 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.



## *Progressive Dinner*

*Hills Church Progressive Dinner  
An Annual, Adult Event  
Sponsored by Parish Life  
Saturday, April 29, 2017*

This year's dinner is scheduled for Saturday, April 29, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Assembly Room for hors d'oeuvres, wine, beer, and soft drinks. (Each guest is asked to bring an appetizer to this cocktail hour at the church.) Then, we will progress to various members' homes for dinner!

*What's on the menu, you ask? Chicken Pot Pie.* In 2007, Kevin Weeks wrote an article for NPR entitled, "Restoring Humble Potpie to Its Rightful Place". He wrote the following:

*"The humble potpie was once the height of culinary style. Filled with four and twenty blackbirds, for example, it was, at least in the nursery rhyme, a dainty dish to set before the king.*

*During the Elizabethan era, these savory pastries — decorated with flowers, fanciful designs and heraldic devices — were elaborate assertions of the chef's skill in the royal households of France and England. Among the lower classes, potpies were popular because the addition of a crust helped feed another mouth or two, while individual pies such as pasties, empanadas and pierogies were well-suited for sale by street vendors as portable meals."*

A refreshing salad will complete this course.

We will make all appropriate substitutions for our vegetarian and gluten free friends.

The main course, salad, and wine are provided by the Parish Life committee and delivered to the host houses in the afternoon. We ask hosts to provide a dessert for their guests but they are excused from providing an appetizer for the cocktail hour.

The cost of the event is \$20.00 per person, payable at the door.

The Progressive Dinner is a WONDERFUL way to get to know the members of our church family a bit better!!

If you are interested in attending or hosting, please contact  
David Otten at [otten@mit.edu](mailto:otten@mit.edu).  
Or you may sign up at Community Hour.



### 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 next 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  
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481



## 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  
Register at [hillschurch.org](http://hillschurch.org)

Cost:  
\$100.00 first camper - \$75.00 siblings  
For more information  
[Sallyt@hillschurch.org](mailto:Sallyt@hillschurch.org)

### THIS SUNDAY IN CHURCH SCHOOL

This Sunday is Palm and Passion Sunday, marking the beginning of Holy Week. At the beginning of this Sunday's Worship Service, Rev. Katherine will be inviting all church school students to join her at the back of the Sanctuary, and wave their palms during the Processional Hymn. Please make sure your child picks up a palm on the way into the Sanctuary.

In addition, to prepare all church school children to fully participate in – and truly enjoy – this year's Easter Sunday Worship Services, after the Passing of the Peace this Sunday morning, all young people in Grades K-12 are invited to join Katherine and Sally in Wallace Chapel for a very special Palm Sunday Worship Service. During this fun and kid-friendly service, all Hills Church young people will have the opportunity to learn more about the liturgical elements that make up every Sunday's Worship Service.

Pick up in the Assembly Room during Community Hour.

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## YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

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, April 6

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. North Hill Tea
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:30 p.m. Church Council

This Sunday's Scripture Readings  
Isaiah 56:1-7  
Matthew 21:1-13

FRIDAY, April 7

- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, April 8

- 9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt!

SUNDAY, April 9 - Palm and Passion Sunday

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

MONDAY, April 10

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

TUESDAY, April 11

- 9:30 a.m. Lenten Spirituality Group
- 5:00 p.m. Food Pantry Client Supper

WEDNESDAY, April 12

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 7:00 p.m. Rehearsal - Maundy Thursday Service
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, April 13 - Maundy Thursday

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 8:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service

### 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](mailto: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.