

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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www.hillschurch.org

Called to COMMUNITY



FALL SERMON SERIES SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 22

The church exists because God calls us to be in community. In community, we enter into a closer union with God. Through community, the mission of God becomes more real in the world. This fall, we are invited to reflect on the value of our community and our participation in God's calling.

September 24	Called To Community: Because Life is Difficult
October 1	Called To Community: Because Life is Good
October 8	Called To Community: Because We Need to Keep Going
October 15	Called To Community: To Hear God Speaking
October 22	Called To Community: To Preview God's New Creation

SAVE THE DATE - SUNDAY OCTOBER 29 REV. PASH OBENG'S FINAL SUNDAY AS A MINISTER OF THE HILLS CHURCH.

As Pash retires from parish ministry, we celebrate his years of service. Pash will be preaching on the 29th. The worship service will include the liturgy of farewell as the Hills Church releases Pash from his covenantal vows after 28 years of service and pastoral care.

As we release Pash from being our Associate Minister, we will welcome him into his new role as Missionary of the Hills Church. In his new role, Pash will serve the church's mission through his leadership of the African Indian Alliance, including continued visits to India.

After worship, a special reception will honor Pash and Vida.

More details will follow, including an invitation to contribute to a monetary gift, and to write a letter for their memory book.

THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING, THE PUMPKINS ARE COMING!!

Fall is here and the wonderful Pumpkin Patch will soon be gracing the front lawn of the church! This event is a longstanding tradition at the church, and it has proven to be a great way to build community, showcase the church at its finest, and raise funds for two groups: the Youth Group and various beneficiaries designated by the Christian Service Support Board. The Youth Group typically uses its share of the proceeds to offset a portion of the cost of its service trips, and annually the Patch team works with the Christian Service Support Board to identify a specific local, national, or international outreach opportunity to receive their share of the Patch proceeds.



This year's pumpkins will be arriving **late tomorrow afternoon, Friday, October 13**, so mark your calendars so you don't miss the chance to help unload the truck and set up the Patch. Once the pumpkins are here, we will need volunteers to staff the Patch during the 18 days leading up to Halloween. Some of the hardest to fill slots are weekdays – so, if you are able, we would really welcome your assistance at those times. Staffing the Patch is a great opportunity to meet new friends and catch up with old ones. It is also a great family activity!

We encourage folks to sign up using SignUpGenius, so please sign up now. You will also be able to sign up during Sunday's Community Hours between now and Halloween. Thanks to everyone in advance. We are looking forward to another great year at the Patch!

CALLING ALL PUMPKIN PATCH VOLUNTEERS

Training Classes on Opening the Patch and
Using the Square app. on the Patch iPad
This Sunday, October 15 and Sunday, October
22
Meet Rob Andrews in the Church Library
Right after the Worship Service

The Patch Team (Dave Thornton, Rob Andrews, Rev. Katherine Blaisdell, and Gintas Vildzius).

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES

Sunday evening, October 29

Hills Church youth will once again be assembling and decorating care packages for our friends in college and boarding school as they recover from mid-terms and prepare for finals.

What we need from you now is your child's name and current mailing address, so we can get them their packages.

It would be helpful if you could also send us their email address and cell phone number, so we can update them on other upcoming events.

If you have a college or grad student or a high school boarder in your family, send us their info, too!

Please email the appropriate information to carepackages@hillschurch.org or **fill out this form:** <http://tinyurl.com/churchcares>. (The sooner, the better; but please **no later than October 25.**)

OUR NEXT FAMILY PROMISE HOSTING WEEK BEGINS THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15

Please let either Tricia Frank (pdfrank@comcast.net) or Marbo Hansen (marbo@hansenlink.com) know if you would like to help make our guests feel welcome.



Please remember that while no training is needed for most volunteer positions, training is required for individuals wishing to serve as overnight or meal hosts. Thank you!

TEA WITH MINISTERS – NEXT TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17 AT 1:30

This month's Tea will be one you won't want to miss.....

"The Hill's Church – Past, Present and Future"

The Hills Church has just turned 170! Susan Walton wrote a history of our first 150 years, entitled Gathered Together, but now we want to look at the last twenty years – what has changed, where we are now, and where we are headed.

Susan will bring some photos from our history, and Matt Wooster will join us to talk about our church community as we experience it today and as we would like it to be. Whether you have attended the Hills Church for five years or fifty – please join the conversation!



Tea and afternoon treats will be served as we enjoy the presentation **next Tuesday, October 17**, at 1:30, in the Reception Room. Call Cynthia in the church office at 781-235-4424 if you would like a ride to and or from the church. See you there!

GENDER, SEX, AND THE BIBLE - SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, AT 11:30 A.M.

Please come to the Reception Room at 11:30 on Sunday, October 22, for lunch and a presentation entitled "Gender, Sex, and the Bible."

Rev. Katherine Blaisdell, Hills Church Associate Minister, will open our conversation with a Bible study to help us think about how God might understand gender. Then she will share a presentation intended to help us be comfortable with terms of gender identity and expression -- especially as terms have changed and may well continue to change. We will also discuss challenges faced by gender minorities, and explore how to be welcoming individuals and a welcoming church. We hope that people who attend will feel comfortable both asking questions and sharing experiences of providing support.

This event is co-sponsored by the Adult Education and Youth Ministry Teams

BIBLE AND THE NEWS – WEDNESDAYS AT 10:00 A.M.



A Weekly Study with Rev. Matt Wooster

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

Discussion on how the scriptures relate to the news of the day and the news of our lives. Each week will be stand-alone discussion of the Biblical passages to be read in worship. Come every week or drop in when you can.

SIGN UP TO TEACH CHURCH SCHOOL

Teaching in the Church School is fun and rewarding – and it's NOT HARD! It is a four week commitment, and full job descriptions for each role are available on the church website. If you are new to this role, the Children's Ministry Team will teach you everything you need to know, pair you with an experienced teacher, and cover for you if you need to miss a Sunday. To sign up, go to the Children and Youth page on the church website or e-mail Sally at sallyt@hillschurch.org.

HONDURAS HOPE



Participants will be commissioned and sent to Honduras in June of next year to work with our mission partner, Honduras Hope. Mission Trip applications are available outside the Church Office. **Applications are due October 31.** Email katherine@hillschurch.org or suespencer42@gmail.com for more information.

NOW IS A PERFECT TIME TO JOIN THE BELL CHOIR!

If you have ever played a musical instrument and can follow the notes on a piece of music, consider giving bell ringing a try. The bell group would welcome high school and middle school students, and adults alike. We will provide introductory lessons to anyone who is interested. To learn more about The Hills Bells, please contact Martha Stowell at cpbranwell@gmail.com or the Church Office.



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, please contact Rich Sweeting - rich@sweeting.us.

SHARE YOUR GIFT OF HOSPITALITY AND WELCOME



Consider sharing your gift of hospitality and welcome by volunteering to help! Five or six people are needed each week to ensure that each Sunday there are beverages, pastries and fruit waiting for our members and guests to enjoy after worship - while they catch up with friends (old and new).

The Community Hour Ministry Team already has a Team Leader in place for each week - to guide, help or train anyone interested in helping - and is seeking volunteers to fill out each of its weekly team rosters. Call or e-mail Anne Leland for more information or to volunteer - 617-669-6512 or akoteen@gmail.com.

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, October 12

- 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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
1 Samuel 3:7-9
Luke 1:39-45

FRIDAY, October 13 – The Pumpkins Are Coming!

- 4:00 p.m. Pumpkins scheduled to arrive
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Connections (at the home of Susan Whittaker, 47 Colburn Road, Wellesley)

SATURDAY, October 14 – Pumpkin Patch Opens For Business

SUNDAY, October 15 – Family Promise Hosting Week Begins

- 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. Confirmation Class
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, October 16

- 7:30 p.m. Adult Ed. Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Service Support Board

TUESDAY, October 17

- 1:30 p.m. Tea with a Minister
- 7:00 p.m. Pastor-Parish Relations
- 7:30 p.m. Search Committee

WEDNESDAY, October 18

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 7:30 p.m. NAMI Meeting
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, October 19

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

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PLEASE TAKE OUR ANNUAL SURVEY!

Parents:

<https://goo.gl/forms/D6gPPAgWksDs0ZnL2>

Or scan code:



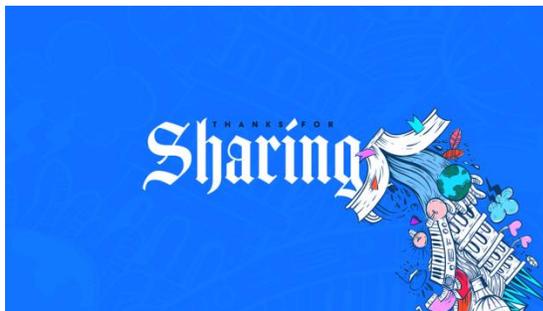
Youth:

<https://goo.gl/forms/E2AejKMu22a5LgAv1>

Or scan code:



OCTOBER YOUTH GROUP INFO



Youth Group is from **5:00 to 7:00 p.m. on October 15, 22, and 29** -- culminating in Care Package Night! This Month's Topic is: **THANKS FOR SHARING: A Series on Loving Others**

When you were a kid, you probably had to be reminded to share some things. Your toys. Your cookies. Your video games. But learning to share isn't just for kids. Jesus had to remind His followers to share a few things, too. In our October series, we'll

explore passages from the Gospels and the Book of Acts through the lens of community. Each week, we'll look at one passage about Jesus and one story about how some of His first followers put His teachings into practice in the days of the early Church. As we do, you'll learn to better love and care for each other by sharing what you have: your stuff, your ideas, your life, and your stories.

Then, on October 29, we'll practice what we've learned by making Care Packages for our friends in college!

NOVEMBER 4-5: FALL RETREAT

We're kicking off this school year with a weekend retreat designed to help you connect with God and with each other. Get the details at <https://www.facebook.com/hillschurchofthehillsyouth/>



YOUTH GROUP SHIRTS!

As our walls will soon say, **"Everyone's welcome, because nobody's perfect, and anything is possible."** T-shirts and sweatshirts both available. Order at tinyurl.com/hillsyouthshirt

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES NEWS AND EVENTS

TEACHERS NEEDED IN CHURCH SCHOOL

We still need teachers for the fall months. Please consider teaching our children about God. We will train and support you! Contact: Sally Tomasetti @ Sallyt@hillschurch.org Or visit our website for more information.

DECORATE A PUMPKIN – AND HELP AT THE PATCH! – OCTOBER 13

This year's Pumpkins arrive **tomorrow, Friday, October 13**. We need help unloading the truck. This is a fun way to serve the church and the Wellesley Community. Not only that – kids who help get to decorate a pumpkin after the work is done!



The truck is scheduled to arrive at 4:00 p.m. More information to come.

JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The choir meets every Sunday after worship in the Third Floor Youth Chapel. This is a wonderful opportunity to sing with friends, make new friends and have musical fun! All ages grades K + are welcome. Contact Kirsten Oberoi, Hills Church Music Coordinator for Children and Youth, for more information (Kirsten@hillschurch.org).

CHILDREN'S BELLS

If you have a child interested in playing Bells, please contact Martha Stowell – cpbranwell@gmail.com.

Probable meeting time will be before worship on Sunday mornings.

GOT YARN? GET KNITTING!



Church School will work on a collection of hats, mittens, and scarves for our neighbors at City Reach. Our Youth Group will have the opportunity to deliver them later in the winter season.

Look for the Mitten Tree coming in November!

If you need knitting lessons or a refresher course, contact anyone on the Women's Ministry team. They would love to help.