

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 49, October 19, 2017

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.

NOTE ABOUT THE OCTOBER 29 WORSHIP SERVICE FROM OUR DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Pash has chosen four wonderful hymns for the congregation to sing on Sunday, October 29. Three are very familiar; one of them, "Ancient Words" may be new to many of us. We'd love for everyone to join in the singing of "Ancient Words," and if you'd like to become familiar with it before October 29, here's a link to an excellent recording: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pK8wYnG7jBY>. You can also find many other recordings of it by searching for "Ancient Words" on YouTube.

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE BEGINS NOVEMBER 1



Coats for the Boston homeless shelters will be collected during November. Clean outerwear in good condition is accepted. All sizes are appreciated.

As you clean your closets, please set aside the warm clothes you don't need. The gray collection bins will be by the church doors during the month of November. Questions – contact Donna McCabe,

dmccabe4@comcast.net.

THE PUMPKINS ARE HERE!

This year's pumpkins arrived last Friday and now that they're here, we need volunteers to staff the Patch during the 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 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.**)

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

Please come to the Reception Room at 11:30 this 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 19

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

FRIDAY, October 20

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, October 21 - Pumpkin Patch Open for Business

SUNDAY, October 22 - Dedication/Stewardship 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. Adult Ed. Event (Gender, Sex, and the Bible - Katherine Blaisdell)
- 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 23

TUESDAY, October 24

- 6:30 p.m. Caring for the Caregivers
- 7:30 p.m. Search Committee

WEDNESDAY, October 25

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

THURSDAY, October 26

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
Romans 12:9-21
John 13:34-35

THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22, IS STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY

When we will celebrate the offering
of pledged gifts for the church's
ministry in 2018 during the
morning Worship Service.

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

PLEASE TAKE OUR ANNUAL SURVEY!

Parents:

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

Or scan code:



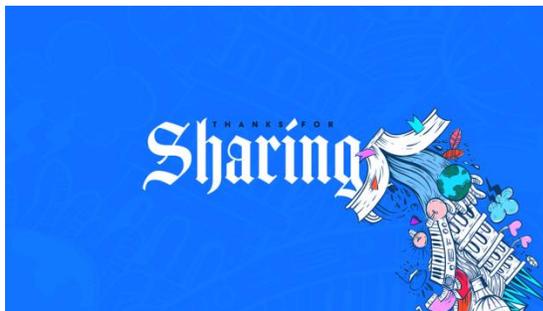
Youth:

<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/hillschurchofthehills/>



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.

HAVE FUN WITH YOUR FAMILY! HELP AT THE PATCH!

This year's pumpkins arrived on Friday, and now we need more volunteers to staff the Patch between now and Halloween. Some of the hardest to fill slots are weekdays – so, if you are able, we would really welcome your assistance at those times. Working in 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.

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.

PARISH REGISTER

Prayers of joy and celebration:

On the birth of **Francesca Belmonte**, daughter of **Jenny Leland Belmonte and Paul Belmonte**, and granddaughter of **Anne and Brad Leland**. Francesca was born on October 13, 2017 and weighed in at 7 pounds, 11 ounces.

On the October 12 birth of **Oscar Valentin Steffen**, son of **Anna-Claire and William Steffen** and grandnephew of **John Finney**. Oscar weighed in at 8 pounds, 12 ounces and is now home with his parents and big sister **Calliope** (age 3).

Prayers of sympathy for:

Judith Strang-Waldau, on the death of her aunt, **Catherine Bazirgan**.

Matt Wooster and Betsy Wooster and family, on the **October 13** death of Matt's stepfather, **Burdette Green**, in Columbus, Ohio. A memorial service for Burdette will be held in Ohio on October 26.

Prayers of healing and wholeness for:

Ron Alexander's brother, **Scott Alexander**, having health concerns in Michigan.

Roland Andersson's father, **Vilhelm Andersson**, hospitalized in Sweden.

Ruth Andress's sister, **Marcia Jester**, receiving medical care in Springfield, MA

Pam Broderick's mother, **Penny Wright**.

Donna Kent's granddaughter, **Tammy Paar**, in cancer treatment in Wisconsin.

Nana Poku, recovering from surgery at home.

Gloria Schluntz, recovering at Lasell House in Auburndale, Massachusetts.

Martin Schultz, in cancer treatment.

Guil Spencer, continuing in rehabilitation, now at Lincoln Commons.

Beverly Stewart's daughter, **Susan McGee**.

Pam Tucker.

Robert Williams's mother, **Susie Williams**.

Betsy Wooster's mother, **Margaret Craft**, recovering from surgery in South Carolina.

Continuing prayers from our congregation for:

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 judy@hillschurch.org or call the church office (781.235.4424).

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.**