

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 60, January 11, 2018

www.hillschurch.org

PLEASE SAVE THESE DATES

Sunday, January 21

Stewards Open Forum
(2018 Budget Review, PLUS an
Overview of the Findings and
Recommendations included in the
2018 Facilities Condition
Assessment Plan (the "FCAP
Report")

Sunday, January 28

WHCC 2017 Annual Meeting

MARTIN LUTHER KING WEEKEND OF SERVICE JANUARY 13-15.

Hills Church has planned a weekend of service in honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

MLK Day of Learning – This Saturday 9-3:30. Guest speakers and small group discussions for the 50th anniversary of the Poor People's Campaign.

All Church Hour of Service – This Sunday 11-2. All ages are invited to spread through the church to work on feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and comforting the lonely.

Choose Your Service - Monday. Organize or participate in an MLK Day service project and be featured on the Hills Church bulletin board and in the newsletter.

Interested in helping? Email Rev. Katherine for more information. Katherine@hillschurch.org.

WARM CLOTHES WANTED!

Are you expecting a new coat from Santa this year? Bring your old one to church! Buying socks to put under the Christmas tree? Pick up an extra pair for a person with too few! In January, the youth group will attend CityReach to learn about homelessness in Boston from people experiencing it, and serve alongside them. We need large backpacks; warm, rugged clothing (gently used); and new socks and underwear. Very large sizes are the most in-demand! Please drop them off in the bins no later than MLK Weekend.

DID SANTA BRING YOU A WRENCH THIS YEAR?

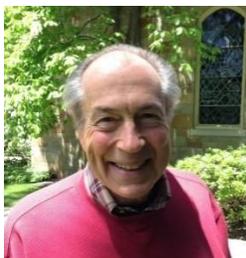
Well, good! Because we are planning **another HABITAT WORK DAY THIS SATURDAY, JANUARY 13 IN LAWRENCE**. This is our annual tribute to Martin Luther King, honoring his legacy of service to others. There are four separate opportunities this time. There will be slots for ten (10) construction volunteers, six (6) slots for those wishing to help with ReStore, two (2) slots for anyone who wishes to bring a lunch to the work site and one (1) slot to offer a prayer for everyone first thing in the morning. Construction volunteers meet at 7:30 a.m. in the church parking lot and return by 5:00 p.m. ReStore volunteers meet at 9:00 a.m. and return by 1:00 p.m.



The SignUp Genius is up and running. So, if you want to join us, you can sign up at any time. If you are not a SignUp Genius fan, just send Elaine an email – and she will make sure there is a spot reserved for you (vildzius@gmail.com).

www.SignUpGenius.com/go/10C0E4EA4AC2EA3F58-habitat

THE NEXT LAY-LED WORSHIP SERVICE IS NEXT WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 17



In the third chapter of First Samuel we find the calling of Samuel to be God's prophet and speak God's word to Israel. It contains the familiar response of Samuel "Speak Lord for your servant is listening." But the third chapter contains much more. We learn that this was a time of great corruption in Israel, even among the religious leaders, and that "the word of the Lord was rare in Israel." I am persuaded that there are many similarities between Israel during the days of Samuel and our nation today. And it could certainly be argued that the word of the Lord is rare

right here and right now.

I love the motto adopted by the United Church of Christ "God is still speaking." And **next Wednesday evening, January 17**, we will wrestle with the possibility that the members of this church are being called to seek God's word and speak that word to all who will listen. Join us for dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the worship service at 7:00.

HAVEN'T PLEDGED YET?

If you have not yet submitted your 2018 pledge, please take a minute to complete your pledge card and mail it back to the church today. Thank you.

BIBLE AND THE NEWS



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.

THANK YOU FOR THE WONDERFUL – AND WONDERFULLY WARM – COATS

Thank you for the wonderful coats donated this past month. Over 110 coats were collected. The children's coats went to Cradles to Crayons and the adult coats were delivered to the Southampton Street Homeless Shelter in Boston.

A special thank you to the Saturday Morning North Hill Knitters who donated a large bag of hats.

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS, TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES – AND A VERY BIG “THANK YOU”

The Family Promise team thanks all of the wonderful volunteers who helped during our hosting in December! You helped make the lives of four busy families much more comfortable.

Please mark your calendars for our 2018 hostings:

- February 25 – March 4
- May 20 – 27
- September 9 – 16
- December 23 – 30 (We will have help from other congregations.)

Some volunteer positions require training. Information about upcoming training sessions follows. All classes start at 7:00 p.m. and typically finish around 8:30.

First Parish UU	24 Vernon St., Framingham	Thursday, January 18	kkcanning@comcast.net
Peace Lutheran	107 Concord Rd., Wayland	Tuesday, February 6	kkcanning@comcast.net
Newton Highlands CC	54 Lincoln St., Newton	Thursday, February 22	
UU Area Church	11 Washington St., Sherborn	Tuesday, March 6	
TBD		Thursday, March 22	kkcanning@comcast.net
The Dover Church	17 Springdale Ave., Dover	Tuesday, April 3	
UU Wellesley Hills	309 Washington St, Wellesley	Thursday, April 19	

Please contact Tricia Frank at pdfrank@comcast.net or Neely Dodge at nadodge@me.com with any questions.

PLEASE CONSIDER TEACHING DURING THE WINTER OR SPRING MONTHS

We need teachers in 2018. Please consider teaching our children about God.

- Are you new to the church and are unsure about what to do? We train and support you!
- Are your children grown up? Then please come share your well-earned knowledge.

Each Sunday we need twelve volunteers to run the school, could you be one?

- Cuddle a new born
- Sing with the Under 5’s
- Grow with a Kindergartner
- Discover with an elementary school age child
- Mentor a pre-teen

Sign up sheets are available on each Church School floor. For more information, please contact: Sally Tomasetti - sallyt@hillschurch.org or visit the church website.

SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE RAISES \$32,691.85

This year the Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive, held at the Wellesley Roche Bros, collected \$32,691.85! Thanks again to all the members of the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church who rang the bell this year, including members of the church’s bell choir. Together with over 200 other volunteers who also rang,



some of them more than once, we were able to reach our goal. We are proud to have assisted the Salvation Army as they seek to “Do the Most Good” for folks in Wellesley and other communities who have come on hard times.

*Dwin and John Schuler, Coordinators
Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive in Wellesley*

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.

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.



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.

THE FOLLOWING IS A SPECIAL THANK YOU NOTE
FROM THE THOM CHARLES RIVER EARLY INTERVENTION CENTER

Thank you to the
Members of the
Wellesley hills congregational
church

for giving so generously to the
Thom Charles River Early Intervention Holiday Gift
Drive.

Your generosity has made a
difference in the lives of over 380 children and family
members in need this holiday season.

THE VILLAGE CHURCH HAS INVITED US TO JOIN THEM FOR ...

Continuing the Conversation about Race and Privilege

Film Screening & Discussion of:

TRACES OF THE TRADE

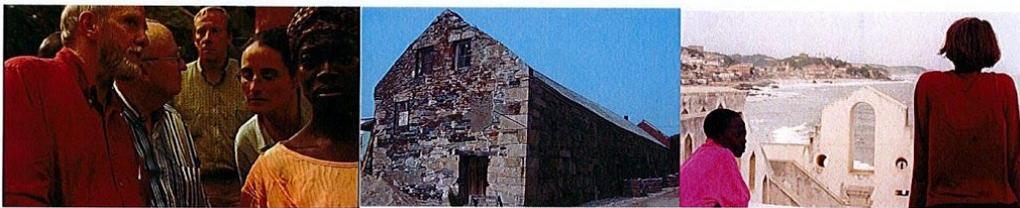
A STORY FROM THE DEEP NORTH

Sunday, January 21, 1-4pm

Wellesley Village Church

2 Central St., Wellesley (driveway access at 17 Church St.)

"It's about all of us, where we are, and how we got here."



Traces of the Trade traces a journey Producer/Director Katrina Browne and nine of her cousins into the dark past of the slave trade which enriched their white New England family.

Dain Perry, one of the cousins, and his wife, Constance, will screen the film and facilitate a conversation on race, reconciliation and healing.



WELLESLEY VILLAGE CHURCH
Congregational † United Church of Christ

For more information, contact
erin@wellesleyvillagechurch.org or 781-235-1988

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, January 11

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 12:00 p.m. Staff Luncheon
- 1:00 p.m. North Hill Tea
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings

FRIDAY, January 12

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, January 13 – Habitat for Humanity Build

SUNDAY, January 14 – All Church Service Weekend

- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
- 9:15 a.m. Children's Handbell Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Group Picture and Continental Breakfast – for Service Project Volunteers
- 11:30 a.m. Service Projects
- 11:30 a.m. Children's Choir Practice
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, January 15 – Legal Holiday (Church Office Closed) – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

TUESDAY, January 16

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

WEDNESDAY, January 17

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 6:00 p.m. Lay-led Worship Service and Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. NAMI Meeting
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

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SATURDAY, January 20

- 9:00 a.m. NAMI Reunion Group

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
1 Samuel 3:1-11
John 1:43-51

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Stewards and Moderators'
Open Forum
(2018 Budget Review and
Overview of the 2018 FCAP
Report)

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WHCC 2017 Annual Meeting

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH GROUP: PAIN INTO POWER – JANUARY 21, 28, AND FEBRUARY 4



Life can often be a difficult journey. Sometimes it's difficult because of the choices we've made, but other times it's difficult because of circumstances beyond our control. By studying the book of Exodus and the stories of Moses and the Israelites, we'll look at how God can turn our pain into progress by **growing us, preparing us, and uniting us.**

JOY TO THE WORLD -- AND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

MARTIN LUTHER KING WEEKEND OF SERVICE:

JANUARY 13-15.

MLK Day of Learning - Saturday 9-3:30. Guest speakers and small group discussions for the 50th anniversary of the Poor People's Campaign.

All Church Hour of Service - Sunday 11-2. All ages are invited to spread through the church to work on feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, and comforting the lonely.

Choose Your Service - Monday. Organize or participate in an MLK Day service project and be featured on the Hills Church bulletin board and in the newsletter.



CITYREACH: JANUARY 19-20.

CityReach gives young people the opportunity to learn first hand about homelessness from people who have experienced it. During the 20 hour session, participants join CityReach staff in street ministry and offer hospitality, food and clothing. This is followed by times of sharing and reflection. Open to grades 9 and up (including up to two adults!).

HONDURAS HOPE

June 2018 - Date to be determined by chosen participants.

Join our partner community in building, painting, teaching, and learning about culture, faith, and development. Mission Trip applications are required of youth participants and adult mentors.

NOW ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING YOUTH LEADERSHIP INTERNS!

Looking for something awesome to put on your college application? Want to make church a better place to be and bring your friends to? Apply now to be a Youth Leadership Intern.

Here are the basics:

- Come to church
- Help plan youth group and special events
- Help get other folks there
- Grow as a person

This is a 4-ish hour per week commitment. You can apply for a full year, or for a season (winter/spring) between sports or extracurricular commitments. ***Ivy League tip: Leadership experience looks great on college applications!***

CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES NEWS AND EVENTS

JOIN THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR

The choir meets every Sunday after worship in the Third Floor Youth Chapel. All ages grades K + are welcome. Contact Kirsten Oberoi, Music Coordinator for Children and Youth, for more information.

CHILDREN'S BELLS

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

The Children's Handbell Choir meets at 9:15 every Sunday morning in the Third Floor Youth Chapel.

CHURCH SCHOOL TEACHER IMMEDIATE NEEDS

"The children of the church need you..."

We are recruiting Church School teachers for the Spring months. There are many spots to fill. Thank you to the many people who have already volunteered.

As of today, we still need the following:

- 3 volunteers in February
- 7 volunteers in March
- 4 volunteers in April
- 10 volunteers in May

The church school depends on the whole congregation to run, and we need your help.

There are several easy ways to sign up:

- Email Sally Tomasetti - sallyt@hillschurch.org or visit the teacher sign up genius.
- Go to the church school sign-up table at community hour and write your name in the spreadsheet