

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 64, February 8, 2018

www.hillschurch.org

God Speaks From The Heart

A Lenten Sermon Series
by Rev. Matt Wooster

February 11 The Gift of Emotions
February 18 A Sense of Gratitude
February 26 A Sense of Incompleteness
March 4 A Sense of Awe

God speaks to us through our emotions. When we feel a sense of gratitude, a sense of incompleteness, or a sense of awe, these are movements of God's Spirit. Entering the season of Lent, we reflect on how we nurture and pay attention to these important emotions.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COLLECTION

The church is collecting children's books throughout the month of February for the benefit of The Grow Clinic at Boston Medical Center.

www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic.htm

The books are given to the children when they are receiving treatments or when waiting for a sibling. This picture was taken after our donation last year.



Collection bins will be inside the church entrances for your new and gently used children's books. Questions? Contact Donna McCabe dmccabe4@comcast.net

JOIN MARY HILL CANAVAN AND JUDY SWAHNBERG ON A CONTINUATION OF THE TUESDAY MORNING LENTEN GROUP'S LENTEN JOURNEY - BEGINNING FEBRUARY 13

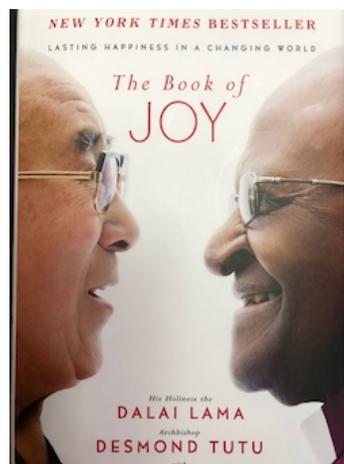
The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World

By His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu

How can we live with joy in the face of life's inevitable sorrows? Through their personal stories, teachings and the science of joy, the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu reflect on how "they have been able to discover a level of peace, of courage, and of joy to which we can all aspire in our own lives."

Please join us as we continue together on our Lenten Journey, **Tuesday mornings, from 9:30 to 11:00**, in the Church Library, co-facilitated by Rev. Judy Swahnberg and Mary Hill Canavan - in the church library.

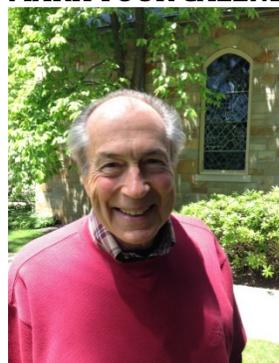
We will put the teachings of the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Tutu to practice using their Spiritual "Joy" Practices for "developing mental immunity" as our framework. Each weekly session will encourage trying out different spiritual practices: lectio divina, tonglen, walking meditations, haiku walking, silent retreat, centering prayer, etc. We will encourage each other to carry over the practice into the rest of the week, and also to share our own experiences: what works, what's hard, what's healing, what insights we have.



February 13	February 20	February 27
March 6	March 13	March 20

All are welcome to participate. Questions? Email Judy: judy@hillschurch.org or Mary: mhillcanavan@gmail.com

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THE NEXT LAY-LED WORSHIP SERVICE - FEBRUARY 21



In the epistle of 1 Peter we are admonished to "not repay evil for evil or abuse for abuse, but, on the contrary, repay with a blessing." However, we are also admonished to "Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands an accounting for the hope that is in you."

Reinhold Niebuhr, perhaps the most influential theologian of the twentieth century, famously said that American Christianity tends to be irrelevant to the problem of justice "because it presents the law of love as a simple solution for every communal problem." **On Wednesday evening, February 21**, we will take a look at what Niebuhr had in mind when he made this statement, and compare his thinking to that of other theologians, all in an attempt to be prepared to make our defense of the hope that is in us.

Join us at **6:00 p.m. for dinner and 7:00 p.m. for worship.**

THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE SUPPORT BOARD THANKS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Over \$11,000 was collected for our Special Christmas offering this past year! Thanks to your incredible generosity the UCC will be able to continue its disaster relief efforts in many areas including Houston and Puerto Rico. There is still much need in these two areas and there will be for months, if not years, to come. On behalf of the Christian Service Support Board, blessings and thanks to all who donated.

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.

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.

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.

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.

PLEASE CONSIDER TEACHING DURING THE WINTER OR SPRING MONTHS

We need church school teachers this spring. 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.

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.

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.**



Whether you are 5 or 95 – come get your game on!

Family Game Night

TOMORROW, Friday, February 9

6:30pm dinner, 7:00pm game on

A great way to unplug and connect with family and friends.

Board games, team games, and trivia.

A fun night for all!

Potluck

A-L Entrée

M-Z Dessert or Salad

Hosted by Parish Life and Families Ministries

Let's Play!

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, February 8

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

FRIDAY, February 9

6:30 p.m. Family Game Night
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, February 10

SUNDAY, February 11

8:30 a.m. Membership Class
9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
9:15 a.m. The Hills Ringers Rehearsal
10:00 a.m. Worship Service
11:00 a.m. Community Hour
11:30 a.m. Children's Choir Practice
11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class
11:30 a.m. Pastor Parish Relations
4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
5:00 p.m. Youth Group
7:00 p.m. Pastor Parish Relations
7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, February 12

TUESDAY, February 13

9:30 a.m. Lenten Group – The Book of Joy
5:00 p.m. Food Pantry Client Supper
7:30 p.m. Search Committee

WEDNESDAY, February 14 – Ash Wednesday

10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
12:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service
8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, February 15

9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
7:00 p.m. Christian Service Support Board

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH GROUP: MAKE IT A HABIT: A LENTEN SERIES ON SPIRITUAL HABITS



If you're an adult, the idea of spiritual habits is probably pretty familiar to you. Spiritual disciplines, quiet time, devotions — whatever you call it, you've probably established at least a few rhythms that help you grow spiritually. (Or, at least, you're working on it.) The teenagers in your life, on the other hand, might need a little help from you to figure out how, exactly, to grow spiritually. So in this series, coinciding with the beginning of Lent, we'll help our students discover

four habits that can help them grow spiritually. The four habits we'll cover are **Spending Time with God, Spending Time with Others, Sharing Your Story, and Using Your Gifts**. By introducing these habits now, we hope to set them up for a lifetime of spiritual growth.

Make It a Habit: February 18 and 25; March 4

SAVE THE DATE: SPRING RETREAT
June 1-3 @ Craigville Center, Cape Cod
Grades 7-12



Each Sunday in February grades Kindergarten through 4th grade will watch movies based on the Parables.

Before film, or even the written word, lessons of life, faith, and morality were passed from generation to generation through exciting, inspiring stories. They were, and still are, a universal teaching tool! Jesus Christ taught his followers through parables because He understood that storytelling can engage people of every walk of life, at every level of education, wealth, or age. Today, that same storytelling is accomplished through movies. Through film, complex ideas can be broken down into understandable messages that inspire as they relate the stories on screen to experiences in their own lives and connect to the Bible message. These Veggie Tales short films are modern-day parables that will make the Bible come alive. Join us as we **GO TO THE MOVIES!**