

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 3, Issue 65, February 15, 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.

RUMMAGE SALE 2018: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The WHCC rummage sale is an annual event that will take place this year on Saturday, April 7, 2018, from 8:30 a.m. till noon. We need all kinds of help, at a range of times, including help with collection, sorting, and set up the week before sale day as well as take down and cleanup afterward. You

don't need to commit to an entire day, and there are times that you can bring your kids.

If you haven't signed up yet, please contact carolacole@verizon.net to lend a hand. Thank you!

*Carol Cole & Monica Garfield
2018 Rummage Chairs*

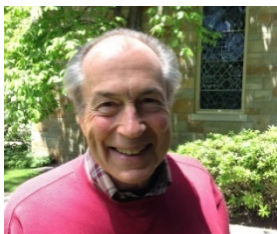
NEW MEN'S GROUP FOR AGES 30'S, 40'S, 50'S - WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 7:30 - 9:00 P.M.

A new church men's group is beginning for members and friends of the church in their thirties, forties, and fifties. Facilitated by Rev. Matt Wooster, this group will focus on building friendships and growing together in faith.

The first meeting will be Wednesday, February 28, at the home of Raleigh Shoemaker. Meetings will continue on the fourth Wednesday of each month, rotating among the homes of those group members who are willing to host (no expectations).

To RSVP and join the email list, contact Rev. Matt Wooster at mattw@hillschurch.org.

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.

THIS YEAR'S SUNDAY NIGHT LENTEN GROUP WILL BEGIN MEETING SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25

This year's Sunday Night Lenten Group will begin its Lenten journey on Sunday, February 25, and continue on March 4, 11, and 18 from 7:30-9:00 p.m. The first meeting will take place in the Reception Room at church. The remaining three meetings will be held at Nancy and Bob Anthony's home.

We will read *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, exploring how we can live with joy in the face of life's inevitable sorrows. The authors 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."

Co-facilitators are Robin Swanberg and Kelly Ford. All are welcome to participate. Join us on our Lenten journey! Questions? Email Judy: judy@hillschurch.org or Kelly: tjfketo@rcn.com

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.

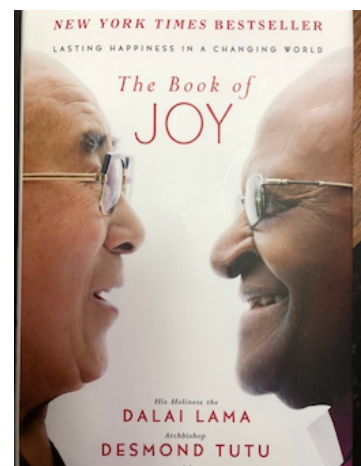


Collection bins will be inside the church entrances for your new and gently used children's books. Questions? Contact Donna McCabe dmccabe4@comcast.net

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

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, now through March 20, 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. All are welcome to participate. Questions? Email Judy: judy@hillschurch.org or Mary: mhillcanavan@gmail.com

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

Submissions are due Fridays by
5:00 p.m.

Sunday Orders of Worship

Submissions are due Monday by
5:00 p.m.



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 Monday, March 26.

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:
WHCC - 207 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

THURSDAY, February 15

9:30 a.m.

10:30 a.m.

6:30 p.m. *New Beginnings*

7:00 p.m.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>This Sunday's Scripture Readings</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Deut. 170</i></p>
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Christian Service Support Board

FRIDAY, February 16

7:00 p.m. *AA Meeting*

SATURDAY, February 17

9:00 a.m.

NAMI Reunion

SUNDAY, February 18

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

4:00 p.m.

Hills Bells Rehearsal

5:00 p.m.

Youth Group

7:30 p.m.

AA Meeting

MONDAY, February 19 – Presidents' Day (Legal Holiday) – Church Office
Closed

TUESDAY, February 20

9:30 a.m.

Lenten Group – The Book of Joy

6:30 p.m.

Caring for the Caregivers

7:30 p.m.

Search Committee

WEDNESDAY, February 21

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

THURSDAY, February 22

9:30 a.m.

Clergy Meeting

10:30 a.m.

Staff Meeting

6:30 p.m. *New Beginnings*

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 **NEW DATE**: SPRING RETREAT
May 4-6 @ 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!***