



Volume 3, Issue 72, April 5, 2018

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MASTER PLANNING UPDATE

On behalf of Church Council we offer this update to the Hills Church Master Planning Process.

Our Hills Church Master Plan process is underway! One of the early tasks in this effort is for the planning consultant team to meet with “user groups” to learn about their specific activities, space needs, and current uses of the spaces we have. In addition to understanding the functional needs of each user group, they are interested in the hopes and dreams you and others might have for the church going forward.

Here is the schedule of the Master Plan User Group Meetings which have been set up.

Thursday, April 5	5:30 p.m.	Clergy Meeting	Matt Wooster’s office
Thursday, April 5	6:30 p.m.	Church Council, Stewards, Master Plan Team, Resource Planning Committee	Reception Room
Sunday, April 8	11:30 a.m.	Children and Youth Ministry Teams	Reception Room
Sunday, April 8	1:00 p.m.	Christian Service and Family Promise	Reception Room
Sunday, April 8	7:00 p.m.	Spiritual Care/Deacons	Reception Room
Monday, April 9	10:30 a.m.	Music Ministries (Bells and Choirs)	Reception Room
Monday, April 9	Noon	Nursery School Staff	Reception Room
Thursday, April 12	6:00 p.m.	Parish Life/Women’s Ministry/Seniors Ministry	Reception Room
Sunday, April 22	11:30 a.m.	Clergy, Church Council, Stewards, Master Plan Team, Resource Planning Committee	Reception Room

In addition to these user group meetings, **there will also be an Open Forum in the Sanctuary on Sunday, April 29, right after the Worship Service – for everyone who is interested**, whether or not they have already participated in one of these other group sessions.

The consultant has provided a questionnaire to each of these groups to help get everybody’s creative juices flowing. Copies of this questionnaire are available in and through the Church Office. If you would like a copy, please just let the Church Office know.

We thank everyone in advance for your active participation in this process. We look forward to hearing your ideas!

Master Plan Committee for the Church Council

FEEDING THE HOMELESS

Our church has had a long history of feeding the homeless through the Woods Mullen shelter. However, when the Long Island bridge needed repair and the shelter was permanently closed this ministry came to an end for us. Unfortunately hunger did not end as well. There is interest among some members of the congregation to restart a ministry to feed the homeless and those suffering from food insecurity. If this is something that tugs at your heart or you believe you could be helpful, please join us to explore how our church could help to meet this important need. We will have a conversational meeting **in the Board Room after worship on Sunday, April 22. All are welcome.**

RUMMAGE SALE 2018: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The WHCC rummage sale is an annual event that will take place this year **this Saturday, April 7, 2018**, from 8:30 a.m. till noon. If you would like to help - with collection, sorting, or set up before sale day - or with take down and cleanup afterward - please contact carolacole@verizon.net. You don't need to commit to an entire day, and there are even times you can bring your kids! Thank you!

Carol Cole & Monica Garfield, 2018 Rummage Chairs

JOHN FINNEY CONDUCTS AT SYMPHONY HALL

This Saturday, April 7 at 1:00 p.m., our Director of Music, John Finney, will conduct the University Chorale of Boston College and the Boston College Symphony Orchestra in a concert at Symphony Hall in Boston ([301 Massachusetts Avenue](http://www.bostoncollege.edu/artsandsciences/symphonyhall)). This is in honor of John's 25th year as Conductor of the Boston College Chorale. The concert will feature selections from Mendelssohn's "Elijah" and Orff's "Carmina Burana," along with other choral and orchestral favorites. Tickets (extremely reasonably priced!) will be available through the Symphony Hall Box Office beginning soon. For up-to-date ticket information, visit the website of the University Chorale at <https://choralebc.com/>



Rev. Judy Swahnberg's Sabbatical

We are pleased to announce that Rev. Judy Swahnberg will be taking a well-earned three-month sabbatical **beginning April 16 and continuing through July 15**. Sabbatical leave is a regular practice for clergy who serve in congregations, recognizing the benefit of this time for rest and restoration. Please join us in offering her our prayerful hope and trust for this time of refreshment and spiritual renewal.

At the Hills Church, a three-month sabbatical is typically scheduled after six years of ministry, and Rev. Swahnberg is in the middle of her seventh year as a called minister with us. The schedule for this sabbatical has been carefully planned in consultation with the Rev. Matt Wooster and the Board of Deacons. The last clergy sabbatical was taken by Rev. Pash Obeng in 2014.

We are also pleased to announce that Adam Isbitsky has agreed to serve as an interim part-time associate minister during Judy's time away. In this capacity, Adam will take on many of the weekly ministerial responsibilities, including worship leadership and pastoral care. Adam knows the congregation very well from his two years as a seminarian here, and he is now a licensed minister in the United Church of Christ. We look forward to welcoming Adam in this new role.

Look for more information about this sabbatical time in early April, right after Easter.

FAMILY PROMISE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Our next hosting is May 20-27. Some Family Promise volunteer opportunities require the completion of a two-hour training course. Information about upcoming training sessions follows. All classes start at 7:00 p.m. and typically finish around 8:30. Please contact Tricia Frank

at pdfrank@comcast.net or Neely Dodge at nadodge@me.com with any questions. They can also help you sign up for training classes.

UU Wellesley Hills	309 Washington St, Wellesley	Thursday, April 19	lmartinsen@verizon.net
WHCC	207 Washington St. Wellesley	Tuesday, May 1	Laurieotten50@gmail.com

Also, please mark your calendars for future 2018 hostings:

- September 9-16
- December 23-30 (We will have help from other congregations.)

PLEASE CONSIDER TEACHING CHURCH SCHOOL THIS SPRING

We need church school teachers this spring. Please consider teaching our children about God. Each Sunday we need twelve volunteers to run the school, could you be one?

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.

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.

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.

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.

**WHCC Rummage Sale 2018
 This Saturday April 7
 8:30-noon!**



207 WASHINGTON STREET, WELLESLEY HILLS, MA 02481

All proceeds from the sale are donated to local charities, with an emphasis on supporting organizations that help meet the needs of women and children. Known for its many bargains, the sale is one of the largest in the area.

This year, the sale will take place **this Saturday, April 7**, but behind the scenes preparation began much earlier!

Here's how you could help tomorrow! (It's fun, and you get the first look at the items being donated for sale!)

- Help get the donated items ready for sale 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. daily. This includes:
 - Sort donations
 - Stage articles for sale
 - Price items.
 - Even if you only work a couple of hours, your help can make a difference. Sign up below.
- Staff the sale itself on April 7, 8:30 to noon. Cashiers, sales assistants, clean-up, and food staff are all needed. Plan to arrive half an hour early to get your assignment and stay half an hour late to help clear any leftover items into trucks so they can be donated to other charities.
- Workers are also needed on **member's night, tomorrow, Friday, April 6, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Please let Monica Garfield, mgarfield@bentley.edu, or Carol Cole carolacole@verizon.net, know if you would like to help – and please be sure to indicate which days you are willing to work, and what kind of assignment you would like to have.

Or use our

[Signup Genius](#)

Organized by: WHCC Women's Ministry

Sorry we cannot accept: Cribs, car seats, computers, televisions, stained or ripped clothes, large pieces of exercise equipment.

YOUTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

YOUTH GROUP THIS MONTH



With so many incredible stories to explore in the Bible, it's easy to lose sight of the fact that God has been telling one story since the beginning of time, from creation and suffering, to the good news of Jesus and our mission today.

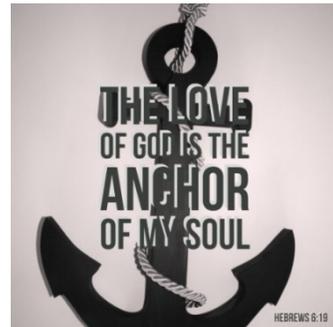
In this four-week series, we'll discover **the big story of God, our place in that story, and how we can share that story with others.**

Sundays - April 8, 15, 22, & 29. From 5:00 to 7:00 - with Dinner!

SIGN UP NOW! SPRING WEEKEND

May 4-6 @ Craigville Center, Cape Cod
Grades 7-12

Email katherine@hillschurch.org for more information and to sign up.



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.**

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, April 5 – Rummage Sale Drop Off ends at 5:00 p.m.

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 5:30 p.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting - Clergy
- 6:30 p.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Stewards, Church Council, Master Plan Team, Resource Planning Committee
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:45 p.m. Church Council

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
 Gospel of Mary 4:11-5:9
 John 20:24-29

FRIDAY, April 6

- 5:30 p.m. **Members' Night at the Rummage Sale**
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, April 7

- 8:30 a.m. **Rummage Sale**
- 12:00 p.m. NAMI – Family to Family

SUNDAY, April 8

- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
- 9:15 a.m. Hills Ringers Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Community Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Choir Practice – Children's Choir
- 11:30 a.m. Confirmation Class
- 11:30 a.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Children and Youth Ministries
- 1:00 p.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Christian Service Support Board and Family Promise
- 2:00 p.m. Adult Ed. Event – Trinity Armenian Church
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 5:00 p.m. Youth Group Gathering
- 7:00 p.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Spiritual Care Support Board/Deacons
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, April 9

- 10:30 a.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Music Ministries (Bells and Choirs)
- 12:00 a.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Nursery School
- 7:15 p.m. Board of Deacons

TUESDAY, April 10

- 4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Client Supper
- 6:30 p.m. Caring for the Caregivers
- 7:30 p.m. Search Committee

WEDNESDAY, April 11

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, April 12

- 9:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. North Hill Tea
- 6:00 p.m. Master Plan User Group Meeting – Seniors/Parish Life/Women's Ministries