

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 3, September 20, 2018

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES



LIFT YOUR VOICE A SPECIAL FALL SERMON SERIES

September 9: Healed by Love Mark 7:31-37

September 16: Shaped by Awe Psalm 19

September 23: Spoken and Unspoken Words Mark 9:30-37

September 30: Esther's Time Esther 7:1-6

The central theme of this fall's first sermon series is one of good news: God gives voice to God's people. With a voice from God, people claim that which is true, teach goodness, describe wonder, and communicate love.

YOUR FAITH IN ACTION - SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE

- How do we retain talented ministers who teach and inspire us?
- How do we hire dedicated staff who support us?
- How do we send missionaries to India and to Boston?
- How do we provide support to children and youth?
- How do we heat the buildings and power the lights?

All of these activities and more are the result of our collective financial support. Please join us **after the Worship Service on Sunday, September 30**, in the Reception Room. Stewards of the Hills Church will walk you through our financial strengths and financial challenges

We'll provide care for kids and a light lunch for all. And if further inducement is needed, we will have above-average coffee.

In the congregational tradition, this is your church: come and learn what makes it possible to put our faith into action. There will be plenty of time for your questions and comments.

And speaking of questions, if you have any about this opportunity, please contact Jeff McGrew (jeffmcgrew@comcast.net), Steve Hansen (swhansen8@gmail.com), or David Ingram (ingram87@comcast.net).

CHURCH SCHOOL COLLECTING CHILDREN'S SWEATERS FOR SEPTEMBER MISSION

Children often want to help in a way that makes sense to them. Sometimes they don't understand what giving money will do. As a way to offer more tangible support to our friends and neighbors as they prepare for winter, our Church School is partnering with Cradles to Crayons to help them achieve their goal of supplying children's sweaters this WINTER to every child who needs one. In fact, the need is great – and last year Cradles to Crayons received more than 50,000 requests for children's sweaters and sweatshirts.



Please consider GIVING at least one “like-new” outgrown children's sweater per child and allow your child to bring it to church this month as an offering in Church School. We will have a large collection box on the Third Floor. Visit Cradlestocrayon.org for a sweater wish list.

MEN'S GROUP - WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 7:30 P.M. – 9:00 P.M. AT THE HOME OF MARK FRAGA

The next meeting of the Hills Church Men's Group is set for next Wednesday evening, September 26, at 7:30. Facilitated by Rev. Matt Wooster and with a focus on building friendships and growing together in faith, this group is geared for the generation that is generally now age 30-60. To join the email list, contact Rev. Matt Wooster at mattw@hillschurch.org. Meetings of this group are generally on the fourth Wednesday of each month, with the next two meetings scheduled for **October 24 and November 28**.

HOLY MOMENTS: WHAT DOES IT MEAN FOR YOU?

“Though we may not live a holy life, we live in a world with holy moments. We need only take the time to bring these moments into the light.”

Kent Nerburn, “Small Graces: The Quiet Gifts of Everyday Life”

Holy moments are different for each of us. For some, it may occur while reflecting with others on a passage from a book. For others, it is in feeling one's spirit rise in response to a beautiful piece of music. And for still others, it is in stocking the shelves at the Wellesley Food Pantry.

This past spring, Morning Meditation was an opportunity to experience such holy moments by just being; being present to God's grace in our lives through stillness, meditation, and prayer.

Morning Meditation will continue to meet on Tuesday mornings this fall starting next Tuesday, September 18, from 9:30 - 10:30 in the Reception Room. Questions? Email Mary Hill Canavan mhillcanavan@gmail.com.

Come as you are able ... whenever you can ... we'll see you then.

CALLING ALL YOUTH AND THEIR FAMILIES!!



The Pumpkins Are COMING! The Pumpkins are COMING!

Be sure to mark your calendars for **Wednesday October 17!**

Our youth and their families are invited to join in this AWESOME annual Fall fundraising tradition! We will need all hands on deck to help unload pumpkins this day!

Be sure to stay tuned for more 'Patch details!

SOUP'S ON! – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 7, RIGHT AFTER THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Parish Life would like to invite all WHCC worshipers to enjoy fellowship – and soup! – on **Sunday, October 7, immediately following the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.** This event is a continuation of the communion ritual and will include soup, bread and a chance for us all to enjoy each other's company over a simple meal. All are invited from the youngest to our most senior worshipers, vegetarians and non-vegetarians alike. (And don't worry. Those participating in the *Faithful Families* Book Group will have plenty of time to enjoy this wonderful Parish Life event – and still report in for the beginning of the 12:30 Book Group gathering with time to spare!



BIBLE AND THE NEWS – FALL SESSION I – SEPTEMBER 12 – OCTOBER 10

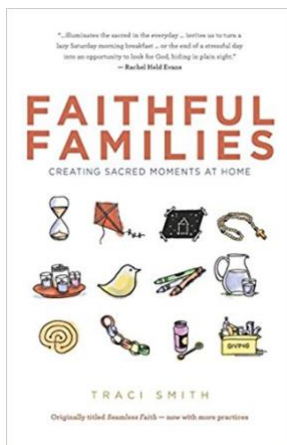


A Weekly Study with Rev. Matt Wooster

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Church Library.

Discussion on how the scriptures relate with the news of the day and the news of our lives. Each week will be focused on a stand-alone discussion of the Biblical passages to be read in worship the following Sunday. Come every week or drop in when you can.

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES PRESENTS A FOUR WEEK BOOK GROUP



Faithful Families by Traci Smith

Traci Smith, a pastor and mother of three, offers ways to discover and develop new spiritual practices as a family, whether you're a new seeker or a lifelong follower. *Faithful Families* is brimming with easy, do-it-yourself ideas for transforming your family's everyday moments into sacred moments!

As one reviewer put it, "*Faithful Families* helps you: connect faith to your family's everyday life; add family faith moments into your daily routine; learn new spiritual practices alongside your children; teach your children to appreciate religious diversity with time-tested non-Christian and Christian spiritual practices; respond to life's everyday challenges and opportunities with meaningful practices."

A limited amount of books will be available for purchase through the Church Office at a price of \$15.00. You may also order the book online through any of the major book retailers.

Faithful Families is not a book that lends itself to traditional study because it's a book of practices that are meant to be, well, *practiced*. This four week study identifies four values that are woven through *Faithful Families* and uses them as a framework for discussion. Each lesson features an online article as well as a Bible passage. Suggested practices from *Faithful Families* are outlined each week and also used in each week's closing prayer practice.

The four sessions are:

- Faithful Families Value #1: Embrace the Messiness and Imperfection of Life. Attend either time slot: Friday, September 21, at 9:30 a.m. or Sunday, September 23, at 11:30 a.m.
- Faithful Families Value #2: Fight Against Consumerism and Materialism. Attend either time slot: Friday, September 28, at 9:30 a.m. or Sunday, September 30, at 12:30 p.m.
- Faithful Families Value #3: Prioritize Time Together. Attend either time slot: Friday, October 5, at 9:30 a.m. or Sunday, October 7, at 12:30 p.m.
- Faithful Families Value #4: Value Mystery and Accept Doubt. Attend either time slot: Friday, October 12, at 9:30 a.m. or Sunday, October 14, at 11:30 a.m.

All four sessions are designed to run about an hour each and will be facilitated by Anne Marie Holloway and Sally Tomasetti. All sessions will be held in the Third Floor Youth Room – and each session is being offered at two different times for your convenience. But whether you decide to come to a particular session on a Friday morning or the following Sunday, the same content will be discussed – and you are welcome to attend either time slot for that subject session.

Children are welcome. Toys, snacks, and coloring materials will be available. If there is preference for child care, it can be arranged.

Please RSVP to Anne Marie Holloway, annemarie@hillschurch.org by September 20. Open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers.

REMINDER ABOUT THIS YEAR'S CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:

If you were unable to attend our Confirmation Program Open House and Information Sinner on Wednesday, September 19, have no fear!

Our Confirmation Program for Grades 9 and 10 will officially begin its regular weekly class gatherings on Wednesday evenings in the Reception Room from 7:30-8:45 pm **beginning October 3**. For more information contact Rev. Anne Marie Holloway : annemarie@hillschurch.org.

**BOY SCOUT TROOP 182 TO HOLD OPEN HOUSE ON
THIS SUNDAY EVENING, SEPTEMBER 23, FROM 7 TO 8:30**

Troop 182 Wellesley, MA would like to invite all youth ages 11-17, along with their parents and friends to our annual Open House on Sunday evening, September 23, from 7-8:30 in the Assembly Room at the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church

For more information, or to RSVP, please contact Committee Chair, Paul Hurney (paulmhurney@gmail.com) or Assistant Scoutmaster Nicholas Hurney (nick.hurney@gmail.com).

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

ARE YOU A NEW FRIEND IN CHURCH?

If your CHILD is nervous about coming to Church School, please come with them! Parents can stay in class as long as they would like to. You are welcome. Please see Sally Tomasetti if you or your child would like a tour of Church School. We strive to help all ages feel comfortable, loved and welcomed at church. We are so glad you are here.

SECOND AND THIRD GRADE COMMUNION CLASS

In preparation for World Communion Sunday on October 7, all second and third graders (and any children who missed this class in previous years) are invited to learn about why and how we take Communion, and what this sacrament means. This class has two sessions remaining: this Sunday, during Church School – and then during and after the Worship Service on September 30, when the children will join Matt in the Sanctuary for a walk-through. (Parents are welcome!) Please let Sally know if you would like your older child to join this class.

SIGN UP TO TEACH!

Do you feel the call of service? What better way to live out that call than to welcome young hearts to Jesus' teaching. This ministry is fulfilling and fun. If you would like more information contact Sally Tomasetti – sallyt@hillschurch.org.

CLUBNIGHT - NERF AND NACHOS! TOMORROW EVENING, SEPTEMBER 21 - FROM 6:00 - 7:30

This is a fun evening gathering for children in grades 3-5 – and it is always a big hit with the kids. For this night to happen, we are looking for two helpers willing to form a team with Sally and Anne Marie. A young adult. A dad. A fun-loving older adult. We need you to share God's joy with this age group. We do games. We play sports. We get messy. But mostly, we build relationships. Can you help? Please RSVP to Sally.

LOVE TO SING? CHILDREN'S CHOIR MEETS AFTER WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS

Does your child love to sing???? Then encourage them to join Director of Children's Music Ms. Kirsten Oberoi – **in the Third Floor Children's Chapel – after the Sunday Worship Service.** Children's Choir is for children in all grades who want to sing. Try something new. It is a fun time.

CHILDREN'S BELLS

If you have a child in grade 4 or above who is interested in ringing, please contact Martha Stowell - cpbranwell@gmail.com. Meeting times for Bells' practices are flexible but mostly held on the third floor – before each Sunday's Worship Service, **beginning Sunday, September 30.**

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS



YOUTH GROUP @ The Hills Church

2018 Fall Season

Middle School YG meets: 4:30-6:00 p.m.

Senior High meets: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

*Programs meet every Sunday evening unless otherwise indicated

Middle School YG meets in the Assembly Room and Senior High YG meets in the Youth Room!

Quotable Quote: "Your Talent is God's Gift to you...What you do with it is your gift back to God." ~ Leo Buscaglia

Sunday September 16th

"And Then Some!" - Who are you? What are your gifts? A night of fun ice breaker games and sharing of stories...!

Sunday, September 23rd

"Saving The World" - Who are your heroes? How do they encourage you to make a difference in the world around you?

*Sunday September 30th (NOTE CHANGE)

NO YG Tonight!

However, all are invited to Anne Marie's Ordination Celebration! TBA

Sunday October 7th (Columbus Day weekend)

No Reg. YG Meetings this night....

*Blessing of the Animals with Pastor Judy at 4pm. All are welcome to bring your pets for this special event!

Sunday October 14th

"Getting Along!" - We do not always see eye to eye with each other. How do we find ways to communicate with kindness and understanding - even when we disagree?

*Wednesday October 17th:

Pumpkins ARRIVE!! We will need MANY Volunteers to help us unload the truck! There will be fun, and pumpkins and FOOD!!!! Details TBA!

Sunday, October 21st

"Walking in the dark" - Discussions about fear and courage

Sunday October 28th

"Fall Festival" - A "no trick only treat" night of food and fun!

Sunday November 4th

"Attitude of Gratitude" Reflections on what we are grateful for ...

Sunday November 11th

"CAN-TUCKY DERBY!! - A fun filled canned food drive. More information TBA

Sunday November 18th

"Difference Makers" - How can we actively a make a difference in the lives of those around us?

Sunday, November 25th - ADVENT DINNER

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, September 20

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a
Mark 9:30-37

FRIDAY, September 21

- 9:30 a.m. Children and Families' Ministries *Faithful Families* Book Group
- 6:00 p.m. ClubNight – for children in Grades 3-5
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, September 22

SUNDAY, September 23

- 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 Rehearsal
- 11:30 a.m. Care Team Leader Meeting
- 11:30 a.m. Children and Families' Ministries *Faithful Families* Book Group
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group – Grades 6 through 8
- 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group – Grades 9 through 12.
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, September 24

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee
- 7:00 p.m. Pastor Parish Relations

TUESDAY, September 25

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 7:30 p.m. Stewards Support Board

WEDNESDAY, September 26

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Group (at the home of Mark Fraga)
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, September 27

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings