

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 4, September 27, 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 – THIS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 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 **right after the Worship Service this 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).

PLEASE REMEMBER
THIS SUNDAY IS ANNE MARIE HOLLOWAY'S
ORDINATION CELEBRATION
ALL ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

THIS SUNDAY AFTERNOON
SEPTEMBER 30 – AT 3:00

Old South Union Church
25 Columbian Street in South Weymouth

(Estimated travel time from the Hills Church – about 40 minutes)

LAST SUNDAY FOR CHURCH SCHOOL CHILDREN TO DONATE ONE OF THEIR SWEATERS

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 helping your child GIVE at least one of their “like-new” outgrown sweaters and remind them to bring it to church with them **this Sunday** as an offering in Church School. We have a large collection box on the Third Floor. Visit Cradlestocrayon.org for a sweater wish list.

WHAT MIGHT YOU TAKE AWAY FROM MORNING MEDITATION ON TUESDAY MORNINGS THIS FALL?

Here's a sampling of what those who have participated so far have valued about their experiences:

- *Learning how to meditate was a totally new experience for me. I also learned that I can't do it alone; too many distractions;*
- *Listening to others and also being listened to;*
- *Having a meaningful amount of time to practice a technique and then debrief with the small group. Also the time spent talking about our experiences with our spiritual practices as well as the opportunity to talk a bit about whatever was sitting heavy on our hearts;*
- *Since I don't have the extent of knowledge about the Bible and other practices, I couldn't contribute much, but I did enjoy it as a welcome centering respite;*
- *I was aware that there was a real hunger in people to do this kind of mindful centering. And being able to explore in a group was very valuable;*
- *Peace.*

Whether you are new to the spiritual practice of meditation or looking for others to share in this experience together, **please join us on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 - 10:30** in the Reception Room. Questions? Email Mary Hill Canavan at mhillcanavan@gmail.com or Rev. Judy Swahnberg at judy@hillschurch.org.

Come as you are able, whenever you can...we look forward to seeing 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!

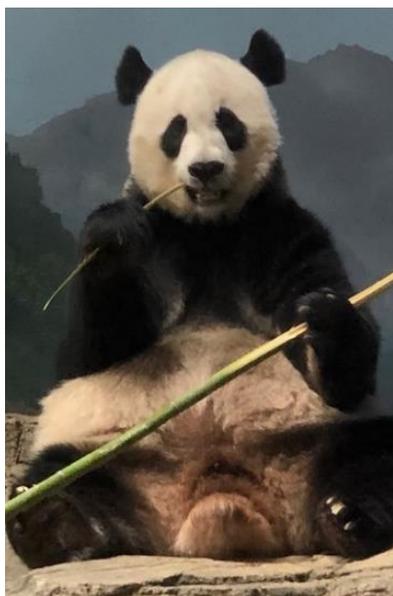
Be sure to stay tuned for more 'Patch details!

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!)



BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – SUNDAY AFTERNOON, OCTOBER 7 – AT 4:00



On **Sunday afternoon, October 7, at 4:00**, Rev. Judy Swahnberg invites all beloved pets and their “people” to gather outside in the church “garth” near Wallace Chapel for a simple service of Blessing of the Animals.

We'll ask God to care for our animals' health and well-being, and bless the relationship and bond we have with them as part of our common kinship, an aspect of the great glory of Creation.

Please consider what will work best for your animal-- bringing dogs on leashes and cats and other animals in comfortable travel containers. Stuffed animals and pandas eating bamboo also welcome!

Questions? Contact Rev. Judy Swahnberg judy@hillschurch.org

**AFTERNOON TEA AT THE HILLS CHURCH - "WELCOME ANNE MARIE HOLLOWAY"
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9 AT 1:30**



We will be welcoming Anne Marie Holloway, our new Associate Minister for Youth and Families at our monthly Tea in October. How lucky we are to have a chance to talk with her in a smaller group and learn more about Rev. Holloway. This will also give Anne Marie a chance to get to know us, too! Some different people from our youth families.

Please make it a point to mark your calendars for this special **Tea on Tuesday, October 9 at 1:30**. As usual, we will serve refreshments, our brew of Tea and of course enjoy the company of many wonderful long time parishioners. And further, if you have never attended, we hope all will feel welcome to come and enjoy our lovely afternoon Tea and say "Hello" to our new Associate Minister. Please call Cynthia, 781-235-4424, in the church office if you need a ride to and/or from the church. Hope to see you there.

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

Coats for Boston's homeless shelters will be collected during November. As you clean your closets this fall, please set aside the warm clothes you don't need. Clean outerwear in good condition is accepted. All sizes are appreciated. Collection bins will be by the church doors **throughout the month of November**. Questions - contact Tina Andersson, TinaAndersson11@hotmail.com



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.

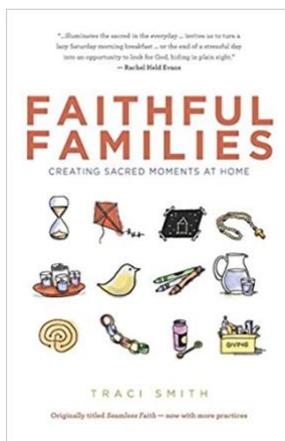
Discussion on how the scriptures relate with the news of the day and the news of our lives. Each week will be focused on a stand-alone discussion of the Biblical passages to be read in worship the following Sunday. Come every week or drop in when you can.

THE CHRISTIAN SERVICE SUPPORT BOARD'S NEW BROCHURES

The Christian Service Support Board would like to call everyone's attention to the new blue brochures in the pews. This brochure gives information about the charitable organizations to which our congregation distributed financial support last year. It also includes a calendar of Outreach events for the year. As described in the brochure, the CSSB is currently in the process of identifying the funding priorities for this year. Anyone who would like more information about this process or who would like to offer input should contact members of the CSSB -- whose names are listed in the brochure.

Also, the CSSB is currently looking for new members to join the Board next year. Anyone interested in joining the Board and helping to carry out this important function would certainly be welcome. Contact Harold Wilkinson (HrldAWlknsn@Verizon.net) or any member of the Board.

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 Book Group is focused on a number of the 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.

This Book Group was designed to run over a four-week period – but each session is independent of the others –so, don't worry if you missed the first one. Just come – and enjoy – the final three:

- 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 sessions run about an hour each and are facilitated by Anne Marie Holloway and Sally Tomasetti. All sessions will be held in the Third Floor Youth Room – and each session is 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.

For more information, please contact Anne Marie Holloway, annemarie@hillschurch.org. Open to all parents, grandparents and caregivers.

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.

REMINDER ABOUT THIS YEAR'S CONFIRMATION PROGRAM:

If you were unable to attend our Confirmation Program Open House and Information Dinner 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 next Wednesday, October 3**. For more information contact Rev. Anne Marie Holloway : annemarie@hillschurch.org.

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.

STORY TIME WITH MRS. T. – NEXT TUESDAY MORNING, OCTOBER 2 - 10:30 - 11:30

A time for our littlest members, for cuddlers and waddlers ages 5 and under, to share time with each other – and with God – through stories, playing and having fun. It is also a time for caregivers to gather and enjoy each other's company in a place bustling with an abundance of exuberant toddler energy. Don't think this is just a mom's group either. Dads, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and anyone with a little one is welcome. Together we nurture lasting friendships and develop a sense of home in our church family.

In the Church Nursery Room. RSVP to Sallyt@hillschurch.org

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY WITH OUR 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) have been attending a special four part workshop about why and how we take Communion, and what this sacrament means. The final two parts will be offered this Sunday, September 30 – both during Church School, then again, after the Worship Service when the children will join Matt in the Sanctuary for a walk-through. (Parents are welcome!)

Our second and third graders will participate in Communion on World Communion Sunday, October 7.

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 this Sunday, September 30.**

LAST SUNDAY FOR YOUR CHILD TO DONATE ONE OF THEIR SWEATERS



Children often want to help in a way that makes sense to them. So, 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 helping your child GIVE at least one of their “like-new” outgrown sweaters to this great cause and remind them to bring it to church with them **this Sunday** as an offering in Church School. We have a large collection box on the Third Floor. Visit Cradlestocrayon.org for a sweater wish list.



YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

YOUTH GROUP AND CONFIRMATION

@ The Hills Church

2018 Fall Season

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

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

*YG Programs meet every Sunday evening unless otherwise indicated

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

Quotable Quote: *"Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine!" ~ The Message, Matthew 5: 14-16.*

OUR YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

***9/30** (Sunday afternoon/evening) **NO YOUTH GROUPS** (NOTE CHANGE!). However, all are invited to Anne Marie's Ordination Celebration which will be held at 3pm at Old South Union Church, 25 Columbian Street, South Weymouth, MA.

10/3 Confirmation Classes begin. Our class will meet together at 7:30pm in the Reception Room for a meal and conversation. Class ends at 8:45pm. If you were unable to make it to our open house, no worries! This is the first class to be held for Confirmation 2019! For more information email Rev. Anne Marie Holloway: annemarie@hillschurch.org.

***10/7** (Columbus Day Weekend) All Youth Group members are invited to bring your pets to church at 4:00, when Pastor Judy will officiate at this year's Blessing of the Animals. Light Refreshments will be served! **There will be no regular scheduled youth group meetings this day!**

10/14 (Sunday afternoon/evening) Youth Groups meet for program titled: **"Getting Along."** We do not always see eye to eye with each other. How do we find ways to communicate with kindness and understanding?

10/17 (WEDNESDAY afternoon/evening) **Pumpkins ARRIVE!** We will need **MANY** volunteers to help us unload the truck! There will be fun, and pumpkins, and FOOD!!! Details TBA!

10/28 (Sunday afternoon/evening) **"Fall Festival"** – A "no trick, only treat" night of food and fun.

11/11 (Sunday afternoon/evening) **"CAN-TUCKY DERBY!!"** A fun-filled canned food drive. More information TBA.

11/18 (Sunday afternoon/evening) Youth Groups meet for program titled: **"Difference Makers."** How can we actively make a difference in the lives of those around us!

AWESOMENESS ALERT!!

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25 IS OUR ADVENT WORKSHOP AND DINNER!! Come join us as we design and build Gingerbread houses, enjoy a meal, sing songs, and light up our favorite Evergreen Tree!

All are welcome!

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, September 27

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

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
Esther 7:1-6
Mark 9:38-41

FRIDAY, September 28

- 9:30 a.m. Children and Families' Ministries *Faithful Families* Book Group
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, September 29

SUNDAY, September 30

- 8:30 a.m. Membership Class I
- 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. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 11:30 a.m. Communion Practice for Second Graders
- 11:30 a.m. Pastor Parish Relations
- 11:30 a.m. *Your Faith in Action* (Stewards Support Board Financial Review)
- 12:30 a.m. Children and Families' Ministries *Faithful Families* Book Group
- 3:00 p.m. Ordination Celebration – Rev. Anne Marie Holloway – Old South Union Church, 25 Columbian Street in South Weymouth
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, October 1

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 7:15 p.m. Board of Deacons

TUESDAY, October 2

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 10:30 a.m. Story Time with Mrs. T

WEDNESDAY, October 3

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class and Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, October 4

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:30 p.m. Church Council

PARISH REGISTER

Congratulations to **Nick and Angela Bahns**, whose son, **Ethan Jacob Bahns**, was baptized on Sunday, September 23.

Prayers of sympathy and comfort for:

Dwight and Suzanne Garland and family, on the death of her mother, **Florence McBride**, on September 16 in New Jersey.

Anne Lysaght and family on the death of her nephew, **Kevin Sullivan**, of Westfield, MA.

Prayers of hope and healing for:

Donny Banks, recovering at home after knee replacement surgery.

Sophia Gauthier, hospitalized.

Carlos Marin, John David Ferrer's close friend of 55 years, in treatment for ALS.

Prayers for **Nancy Fraser's** sister, **Sally Hawthorne**, in hospice care.

Continuing prayers from our congregation for:

Carol Cole's brother and **Sarah Cole's** uncle, **John Shroyer**, in cancer treatment.

Anne Coursey's nephew, **Trevor Moynihan**.

Jeremy "JJ" Demers, in treatment.

Ann Findeisen's husband, **Rob Sokolove**, in treatment

Kirby Green Grochal, currently in treatment at Dana Farber.

Gil Gunn, continuing to recover.

Susan Hoffmann, recovering from foot surgery.

Rob Jaczko, receiving cancer treatment.

Nancy Simons' brother in law, **Harry Kahnhauser**, awaiting surgery.

Jim Nicoletti's friend, **Steve McGrory**, in treatment for ALS.

Gerry Murphy, in treatment

Matt Schuler, son of **John and Dwin Schuler**, in Pennsylvania.

Martin Schultz, in cancer treatment.

Martha Spencer, Bill Spencer's sister.

Rob Ann Tomlinson, at home with health concerns.

Becky Williams' cousin, **Tami Blais**, in treatment.

Betsy Wooster's mother, **Margaret Craft**, hospitalized in South Carolina.

Matt Wooster's mother, **Donice Wooster**, in cancer treatment in Ohio.

To request a pastoral visit or to update information, please e-mail judy@hillschurch.org or call the church office (781.235.4424).

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.**