

# Events at the Hills

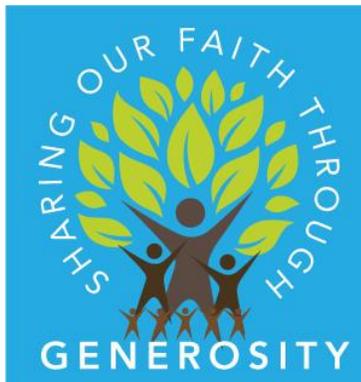
WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 6, October 11, 2018

[www.hillschurch.org](http://www.hillschurch.org)

## OPPORTUNITIES

### OCTOBER IS STEWARDSHIP MONTH



#### Excerpts from Caitlin Baron and Jonathan Donner's October 7 "Witnessing Stewards" Remarks

**CAITLIN:** Jonathan and I are relatively new members of the church. When we were married in 2003, it felt like we walked out of the church and directly into a whirlwind. Our careers in international development brought us through 10 houses, 5 cities, 3 continents. Along the way, we were blessed with two kids and loved being able to share our adventures with them. After a decade overseas in India and South Africa, we decided it was time to put down roots closer to family and friends.

Soon after settling in, we set about finding a church. We knew we had found our spiritual home when we arrived at the Hills Church on a Sunday when Pash just happened to be preaching. It meant so much to us to find vibrant connections to Africa, right here in Wellesley Massachusetts ... and so we became *Congregationalists!*

2016 was an interesting time to decide to move back to America. We had really been looking forward to teaching our daughter about what it means to be American. Instead, we've spent a lot of time explaining to Calliope what we're **not** about, drawing a line between our values and those holding sway in the current political climate. Working to hold the coarsening national discourse at bay ... and hoping our children won't see the news when we're passing through an airport or a restaurant.

But as parents, it's not enough for us to simply point to what we're NOT. This church is so important to us because it's a tangible manifestation of what we ARE, what we value, and a picture of the kind of leadership we want to see in the world at large. A leadership that's built on love, and trust, and kindness.

**JONATHAN:** So we came to the church for the kids. But what we found for ourselves was no less important...With each month, a different part of the service seems to activate us. We treasure and discuss the wise words – the sweeping music – and the heartfelt expressions of support shared among the congregation.

But as I'm getting to know more of you in the church and out in our community, it's becoming clear to me that the Sunday service is just a small part of the Hills Church. Sunday service is what we all do together, but there's Hills Church experience, and Hills Church impact, for every day of the week, no matter where we are on life's journey.

We're so grateful for all the different ways we have to serve, and reflect, and connect, and worship with all of you in this special community of God's love.

**CAITLIN:** And participating in stewardship is one central element of being a part of this community.

Talking about money is always awkward. When we were first joining the church and it came time for Matt to share guidance on annual pledges, he looked a *little* uncomfortable. But to be honest, we really welcomed the clarity. And one of our views on the stewardship committee is that we could all benefit from being a bit more comfortable talking about what it takes to make an amazing church like this possible.

We have an incredible congregation, filled with people who give generously, both personally and financially. But there are still some folks among us who haven't *yet* had the chance to become contributors. In particular, many of us with young children have not yet managed to get around to making an annual pledge.

We want to encourage every single member of the congregation to be sure they are contributing, at some level. And, if you need guidance on what level of contribution might make sense for your family, give us a shout. Jonathan and I would be happy to talk you through it.

For those of us with young kids, we're fundamentally in the BUSY phase of life. In the mad rush from soccer practice, to piano lessons, to dance recitals. It's easy to lose track of a lot of things.

But what really is the point of all that rushing around, enriching our kids physically and academically, if we fail to feed their souls?

**JONATHAN:** We can't keep our kids from seeing the news forever. But being a part of this church, and raising them together with all of you, means we don't have to. Ultimately, and in no small part thanks to this church, we're not preparing our kids to *weather* current events, but to shape future events for the better.

**CAITLIN:** There's never been a more important time than this year, this moment, to invest in the spiritual growth of the next generation. And when we make our annual pledges, we do just that.

So when your pledge card comes in the mail, remember this is not just your chance to do your part to sustain the church that means so much to us today. It's really your chance to make a down payment on a better future.

### BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - 2018



**DO HOLIDAY DECORATIONS LIFT YOUR SPIRITS?**

Would you like to join a team working to prepare the church building for Christmas?

To learn more, contact Karen Gunn at [kmgunn@comcast.net](mailto:kmgunn@comcast.net) or 617-584-7829.

**A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION ON TRANSGENDER EQUALITY  
THIS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 7:00 PM – TEMPLE BETH ELOHIM, 10 BETHEL ROAD IN WELLESLEY**

A community conversation about the challenges of living in Massachusetts as a transgender person viewed from several different perspectives. What are the rights currently in place? What would be the threat to these rights if the current law is not upheld by a “Yes” vote for Question 3 on the November 6 ballot?

Gather at **6:30 this Sunday, October 14**, for light refreshments. Program begins promptly at 7:00 pm.

Co-sponsored by World of Wellesley, League of Women Voters Wellesley, and a number of Wellesley faith communities.

**TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION THE REST OF THE WEEK...**

We welcome all to Morning Meditation on Tuesday mornings from 9:30 - 10:30 in the Reception Room whether you are new to meditation or practice daily. Can't make Tuesday mornings but want to give it a try? See what you think of the Centering Prayer App from the website Contemplative Outreach. You may find this app a helpful way to experience the practice of "resting in God" wherever your week takes you.

Questions? Email Mary Hill Canavan at [mhillcanavan@gmail.com](mailto:mhillcanavan@gmail.com) or Rev. Judy Swahnberg at [judy@hillschurch.org](mailto:judy@hillschurch.org).

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

**CALLING ALL PUMPKIN PATCH LOVERS!!**



The Pumpkins Are COMING! The Pumpkins are COMING!

Be sure to mark your calendars for **next 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!

And, of course, once this year's pumpkins are gracing the front lawn, MANY MORE HANDS will be needed to sell them. So, if you would like to help, please let

David Thornton [dthornton023@gmail.com](mailto:dthornton023@gmail.com) know – or hop onto SignUpGenius NOW (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4ea4ac2ea3f58-pumpkin2>) to volunteer online!

**COMMON CATHEDRAL SERVICE – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2018  
SPECIAL PRESENTATION HERE ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28 – RIGHT AFTER WORSHIP**

The Hunger Outreach Ministry Team has accepted an invitation to serve lunch and worship at Common Cathedral on **Sunday, December 2**. Common Cathedral is an outdoor church which worships on Boston Common. The services are open to the public including homeless people.

The Hunger Outreach Ministry Team has invited Ms. Amanda Grant-Rose, the Executive Director of Common Cathedral to join us **for worship here on Sunday, October 28** and give us an overview

about the organization. Amanda will be available during Community Hour to continue the discussion about Common Cathedral and answer any questions you may have. Please join us **in the Reception Room during Community Hour on Sunday, October 28.**

Amada Grant-Rose is a social worker and educator with years of experience in serving the needy in faith-based and secular settings in the United States and Africa. She holds degrees in social work and education from the University of Arizona (BA, Special Education), the University of Pennsylvania (MSW) and Harvard University (Master of Education in International Education Policy).

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR  
THIS YEAR'S LAY-LED WORSHIP SERVICES

Wednesday evenings  
November 7  
December 5  
January 16  
March 13  
April 10

Dinner at 6:00. Service at 7:00

**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](mailto:sallyt@hillschurch.org).

**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](mailto:TinaAndersson11@hotmail.com)



**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

**On Sunday, November 4,** we remember those who over the past year passed from this life to the larger life in the nearer presence of God, by reading their names aloud in our worship service. If you'd like the names of your loved ones included, call or email the church office by 5:00 p.m. **on Tuesday, October 30.**

**FAMILY PROMISE NEWS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

WHCC Family Promise **NEEDS:** Six (6) or more queen sheet sets for our new queen mattresses for our hosts and guests – **AND** two (2) to four (4) long, rectangular tablecloths for our "dining" tables. Tables are approx. 36 x 96.

Please mark your calendars for our **2018 CHRISTMAS WEEK HOSTING** - December 23 through December 30. As of now, we are responsible for set up and breakdown. On December 23 we will need one dinner provider, two dinner hosts and two overnight hosts. Other congregations have taken a few of the other dates. Guests are often away on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day.



The schedule for upcoming Family Promise training sessions is listed below. All classes start at 7:00 p.m. and typically finish around 8:30. Please contact Tricia Frank at [pdfrank@comcast.net](mailto:pdfrank@comcast.net) or Neely Dodge at [nadodge@me.com](mailto:nadodge@me.com) with any questions. They can also help you sign up for training classes.

Thursday, October 18	Temple Shir Tikva	<u>141 Boston Post Road, Wayland</u>	
Tuesday, Nov. 6	Wellesley Hills Cong. Church	<u>207 Washington Street, Wellesley</u>	<a href="mailto:laurieotten50@gmail.com">laurieotten50@gmail.com</a>
Thursday, Nov. 29	Christ the King	<u>600 Central Street, Holliston</u>	
Tuesday, Dec. 11	FPM Day Center	<u>6 Mulligan Street, Natick</u>	

### OUR NEXT HABITAT BUILD IS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3

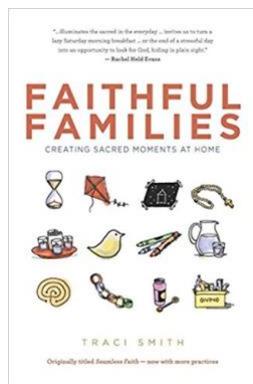


Come join us for a Habitat work day on Saturday, November 3rd. We will be working in Northborough converting an old grocery store into two new residences.

We will meet in the church parking lot **at 7:30 Saturday morning** and return by 5pm. Lunch will be provided. Go to the link below to sign up or email Elaine Vildzius ([vildzius@gmail.com](mailto:vildzius@gmail.com)) or the church office. You must be 16 years old to participate.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EA4AC2EA3F58-habitat2>

### JOIN THE CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES TEAM FOR A BOOK GROUP



#### *Faithful Families* by Traci Smith

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.”

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

- Faithful Families Value #4: Value Mystery and Accept Doubt. Attend either time slot: **tomorrow, Friday, October 12, at 9:30 a.m. or this Sunday, October 14, at 11:30 a.m.**

Children are welcome. Toys, snacks, and coloring materials will be available. For more information, please contact Anne Marie Holloway, [annemarie@hillschurch.org](mailto:annemarie@hillschurch.org).

## A SPECIAL INVITATION FROM ANNE MARIE ...

October 2018

Dearest Church Family,

*It has been delightful to be able to observe the ways in which the faith of our church school teachers, confirmation leaders, and youth group parents has been shared so easily with our children and youth. What a gift it is to walk alongside you as we serve together here at the Hills Church!*

*We welcome the input, creative feedback and planning of our volunteers. We are blessed with the talents of so many members of our church, how incredible would it be to hear from more of you as we continue to grow these beautiful ministries. How are you being called to serve the church? Are you interested in learning more about these important family ministries? Let us walk together as we determine the best ways to serve our families!*

*Therefore, we would like to extend an invitation to all of you to join us for the any or all of the following meetings:*

***Our Youth Ministry Team Meeting Monday October 15 at 7:30 pm in the Board Room  
Our Children's Ministry Team Meeting Monday October 22 at 7:30pm in the Assembly Room***

***A combined meeting of our Children's and Youth Ministry Teams Monday November 19 at 7:30.***

*We invite our church school teachers, youth group leaders, and others to join us! Our meetings run approximately one hour.*

*We are mindful of how busy each of your lives are and we are grateful for the time that you generously give to these very important ministries of the church! It is our hope to continue to grow our faith formation classes for our children and youth in ways that explore how God is speaking to us all in our teaching, shepherding, leading, planning and growing of our faith formation classes and programs.*

*Please consider joining us on Monday evening! We look forward to seeing you!*

*Peace and Joy,*



Rev. Anne Marie Holloway – Associate Minister for Youth and Families

## 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.

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## 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.

### PUMPKIN PAINTING! – NEXT WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 17



Children's Ministry invites families and children to help unload this year's pumpkin truck – and have fun together while serving together.

Children in attendance will be invited to choose a small pumpkin to decorate.

Join Mrs.T. for this fun event. Serve, play and decorate!  
The exact time of the truck delivery is not yet known.

Time is TBA.

Stay tuned!

### 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 – every Sunday, right 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](mailto:cpbranwell@gmail.com). Meeting times for Bells' practices are flexible but mostly held on the third floor – before each Sunday's Worship Service.



## 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 meets: 7:00-8:30 p.m.

\*Programs meet every Sunday evening unless otherwise indicated

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

For more information email Rev. Anne Marie Holloway: [annemarie@hillschurch.org](mailto:annemarie@hillschurch.org).

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**Quotable Quote:** "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." ~ Mahatma Gandhi

### OUR YOUTH MINISTRY SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE

**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!

**\*10/21 Youth** Group members in Middle School meet from 4:30-6:00pm. High School Youth Group will gather @ 6:30pm for a meal and the opportunity to learn how to be trained as hosts for Family Promise! This meeting will run until 8:30pm!

**10/28** Information Session about serving the homeless with Common Cathedral following Worship! The Hills Church will be serving with "Common Cathedral" on December 2<sup>nd</sup>. All are welcome to attend this informative session about this incredible ministry!

**10/28** Confirmation Youth to serve at **Outdoor Church**. We will gather at 12:30 to make sandwiches and will leave for the Outdoor Church by 1:15pm. We will return to the church by 6pm. There will not be regular Youth Group Meetings this week!

**11/2-11/3 Overnight Retreat** for High School Youth Group with CityReach Boston, details to be announced!

**11/4 Junior High Youth Group** Program titled "**Attitude of Gratitude**". There will be **no Sr. High Youth Group this day.**

**11/11** (Sunday afternoon/evening) "**Can-tucky Derby !!**" A fun-filled canned food drive. Bring as many canned goods as you can hold and earn chances to WIN prizes!!!! (Fun and service go hand in hand tonight!) Both youth groups meet at regular times!

**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!

**11/25 Advent Dinner! Details TBA**

## HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, October 11

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. North Hill Tea
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:00 p.m. Master Plan Steering Group
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Service Support Board

This Sunday's Scripture Readings  
Hebrews 4:14-16  
Mark 10:17-27

### FRIDAY, October 12

- 9:30 a.m. Children and Families' Ministries *Faithful Families* Book Group
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Connections (at the home of Mimi D'Angelo, 182 Cedar Street, in Wellesley)

### SATURDAY, October 13

#### SUNDAY, October 14 – Joining Sunday

- 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. Children and Families' Ministries *Faithful Families* Book Group
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

### MONDAY, October 15

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care
- 7:30 p.m. Stewards Support Board
- 7:30 p.m. Youth Ministry Team

### TUESDAY, October 16

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 6:30 p.m. Caring for the Caregivers

### WEDNESDAY, October 17 – PUMPKIN DELIVERY DAY! HOORAY!

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 6:00 p.m. ClubNight
- 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class and Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

### THURSDAY, October 18

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 4:00 p.m. Flu Shots – Town of Wellesley Health Department – 90 Washington Street
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:00 p.m. Master Plan Steering Group
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Service Support Board

## PARISH REGISTER

Congratulations to:

**Lynette and Donny Banks** on the October 3 birth of their grandson, **Tyler George Mello**, son of **Joy** and **Sam Mello**, and baby brother of **Graham** and **Hadley**.

**Jennifer Rossetti** on the October 6 birth of her granddaughter, **Nina May Rossetti**, to parents **Peter and Kate Rossetti**.

Prayers for:

**Betsy Wooster's** mother, **Margaret Craft**, who has entered hospice care in South Carolina.

**Donna Kent**, who has entered hospice care in Wisconsin.

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

Continuing prayers from our congregation for:

**Donny Banks**, recovering at home after knee replacement surgery.

**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

**Sophia Gauthier**, hospitalized.

**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**, in treatment.

**John David Ferrer's** friend, **Carlos Marin**, in treatment for ALS.

**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.

**Judy Swahnberg's** father, **Richard Swahnberg**, recovering from surgery.

**Rob Ann Tomlinson**, at home with health concerns.

**Alice Ward**, hospitalized for treatment.

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

**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](mailto: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](mailto: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.**