

# Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 10, November 8, 2018

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

## OPPORTUNITIES



### Stewardship - Fun Facts

To date, 149 households have pledged.

Commitments for 2019 now total \$784,500.

About 30% of pledges were made online.

We've still got a way to go.

If you haven't yet had a chance to pledge, we hope you will take a minute now to either:

Pledge online at

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

Fill out your Pledge Card and mail it back to the church today.

Pledges are vital for planning next year's programs and activities.

See you Sunday.

**Your Pledge Counts!**

**Thank you for pledging.**

*Ann*

*David*

*Caitlin Jonathan*

### SOUP AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER CHURCH THIS SUNDAY NOVEMBER 11



All are welcome to share an after-church meal this **Sunday, November 11**, at 11:45AM. Spend some time, enjoy some good food, and get to know more of your fellow worshippers. We will have two varieties of soup (one vegetarian), with bread, and macaroni and cheese for those who are young at heart.

The meal is sponsored by the Participation and Involvement committee. contact Bill Spencer or Laurie Otten for more details. [notbill.spencer@gmail.com](mailto:notbill.spencer@gmail.com), [laurieotten50@gmail.com](mailto:laurieotten50@gmail.com)

**A MESSAGE FROM YOUR MASTER PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE**

**PLEASE UNMARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

It has been a very busy summer and fall at the Hills Church, including lots of activity and planning meetings of the Hills Church Master Plan Steering Committee and our architect.

Although we had hoped to have a Master Plan ready to share with the congregation on November 18, it has become clear that more time is needed to do the work well. The Master Plan Steering Committee will continue to work through November and December, with additional input from ministry team and support board chairs, Church Council members, and other stakeholders. Our new goal is to have a plan ready for discussion with the congregation in late winter or early spring.

Thank you for your patience!

*Janeen S. Hansen  
Judy Nitsch*

Co-chairs, Master Plan Steering Committee

**TEA AT**

**THE HILLS CHURCH – THIS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13 AT 1:30**

We hope you will join us for a special November Tea when we will explore the spiritual practice of meditation. Hills Church member Mary Hill Canavan will share how this ancient practice of “resting in God” through simple breathing exercises, stillness, and prayer can lower our blood pressure and enrich our day.

Please join us in the Reception Room **at 1:30 this Tuesday, November 13**, for this special experience. We will enjoy our usual tea and treats as well as conversation in the company of friends.



Please call Cynthia in the church office if you need a ride to and or from the church at 781-235-4424.

**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.

**TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION IN THE AFTERNOON: AN INVITATION**

**Next Tuesday, November 13, Morning Meditation will not meet until 1:30** in the afternoon so that we can join in conversation and practice with those church members who attend the monthly Tea at the Hills Church. So if mornings are not convenient for you but you want to see what this spiritual practice is about, please join us in the Reception Room next Tuesday afternoon, at 1:30. **Please note that The Tuesday Morning Advent Book Group will still meet that morning at 10:30.**

Come as you are able, just as you are.

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

### A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL PUMPKIN PATCH VOLUNTEERS!!



Whether you:

Unloaded them ...

Sold them ...

Rolled them ..., or

Counted the money we raised ...

**It Took a Village. And the Village Came.**

**YOU WERE MAGNIFICENT!**

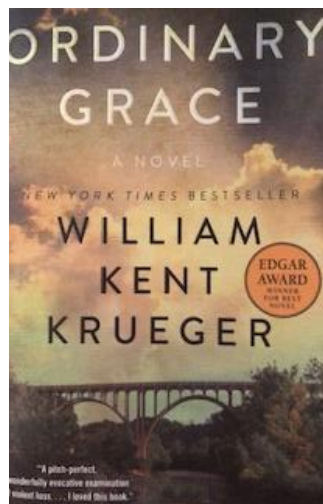
### ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

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)



### ADVENT 2018 SPIRITUALITY GROUPS: *ORDINARY GRACE*

*Advent Spirituality groups are convening a little early this year.* By popular demand, it's "Advent in November."



This fall the Board of Deacons and clergy invite members of the Hills Church to read and reflect on: *Ordinary Grace*, by William Kent Krueger, (Simon and Schuster).

One reviewer called this book, "*Extraordinary...with authentic characters who grow in wisdom and grace and learn to accept what they cannot change.*" Another wrote, "*A beautiful and engaging story...revealing in even the smallest ways how grace enters into brokenness and loss and grief and provides hope.*"

This year we will be hosting two groups for discussions of our reading, prayer, fellowship, and faith reflections.

- The **Sunday evening group** will meet in the Reception Room from 7:30 pm -9pm **this Sunday, November 11, and next Sunday, November 18**. Kelly Ford will convene this group.
  - The **Tuesday morning group** will meet in the Reception Room from 10:30 to 11:30 **next Tuesday morning, November 13, and the following Tuesday morning, November 20**. Mary Hill Canavan and Rev. Judy Swahnberg will lead this group.
- Tuesday's "Morning Meditation" is continuing!**  
So many of us are appreciating our quiet time that we have decided to continue that practice. **From 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays.**

So – **on Tuesday mornings this month, the Reception Room will be the place to be!** Come for Book Group. Come for Meditation. Or come for both! Participating in small groups is a wonderful way to meet people and enliven our faith.

Have Questions? Want to sign up? Email Rev. Judy Swahnberg at [judy@hillschurch.org](mailto:judy@hillschurch.org).  
(A limited number of books will be available for purchase through the Church Office, or you may order your copy online or through your favorite bookstore.)

### **COMMON CATHEDRAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITY – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2**

Fellow worshippers, WHCC has accepted an invitation to serve lunch and worship at **common cathedral** on Sunday, December 2. An outdoor congregation, **common cathedral** shares God's love through community, pastoral care, creative expression, and worship on Boston Common.

We need volunteers to help us to prepare lunch for the service. If you are interested in volunteering, please log on to Sign-Up Genius <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EA4AC2EA3F58-common> and choose one of the following tasks:

- Food shopping **on Saturday, December 1**. Start time will be announced soon.
- Food preparation at the WHCC kitchen on Sunday morning December 2, at 8:00 a.m.
- Leave from WHCC at 11:00 a.m. and serve lunch at **common cathedral at 12:30**. Set up, serve lunch, participate in 1:00 p.m. worship service (optional) and help clean up after the service.
- Leave Boston Common at 2:30 to return to WHCC.

Menu: 150 sandwiches (turkey, ham, and veggie), with chips, water, oranges and warm apple cider – and cookies for dessert.

The Hunger Outreach Ministry Team would be grateful for your contribution towards this mission.

### **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).

### **MADDIE DOWNER(NOW FOSTER), FORMER HILLS CHURCH SEMINARIAN, HAS BEEN APPROVED FOR ORDINATION**

Maddie Downer(now Foster), former hills church seminarian, has been approved for ordination by the New Haven East Association of the Connecticut Conference of the United Church of Christ. Maddie has been called to serve the Congregational Church of Needham, U.C.C. as assistant pastor. We hope that you can join Maddie at her home church in North Bradford, CT for her ordination service and reception to follow.

**This Sunday, November 11 at 3:00 pm**  
North Bradford Congregational Church  
1680 Foxon Road, North Bradford, CT 06471

### **FAMILY PROMISE NEWS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES**

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, Nov. 29	Christ the King	<u>600 Central Street, Holliston</u>
Tuesday, Dec. 11	FPM Day Center	<u>6 Mulligan Street, Natick</u>

**JOIN THE HILLS CHURCH RUNNERS THIS THANKSGIVING FOR THE WELLESLEY TURKEY TROT!**



Looking for something to do Thanksgiving morning? Then join the Hills Church Runners for the Wellesley Turkey Trot on November 22. This annual 5K fun run is held right in Wellesley. The event, which features over 2,000 runners, starts at 8:00 am. Everyone runs at their own pace. Children are welcome (but no pets or strollers allowed). T-shirt and bib number provided for required entry fee (\$40, less for children under 18). The course starts and ends at Linden Square in front of Roche Brothers, so there is plenty of free parking. It's both fun and a great way to start the day. The event also raises funds for good local causes, such as (in previous years) the Wellesley Cancer Prevention Project,

Wellesley Education Foundation, and the Wellesley Field Fund. Details and registration here (be sure to register for the team "Hills Church Runners")

- <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=9580> Space is limited so you are encouraged to REGISTER SOON if you are interested. Questions? Contact Doug Eisenhart, [douglaseis@comcast.net](mailto:douglaseis@comcast.net). See you there!

**ENJOY A THANKSGIVING COMPLETE WITH GOOD FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP**



For the past few years my family has had Thanksgiving dinner with members from our church family. It has always been a true moment of thankfulness. The feast and festivities began through a conversation and realization of just how many of us spend this time without extended family, as we do.

This year we are opening our home to all who would otherwise spend the day alone or who would, for many reasons, not be able to have a traditional Thanksgiving Day meal. Whether it's just you or your family unit, we would love to share this holiday with you.

We will prepare together, eat together, feel full together, watch children play, and if you so wish, drink a beer and watch football together.

In order to make it easier for guests without transportation, we will arrange pick up.

Please come with a special family dish to share. Of course we'll have pumpkin and apple pie, my favorites, but before I devour taste those, I hope to have the chance to sample traditional family recipes of yours too. We can never have too much turkey, or can we? And we mustn't leave out corn, so important when celebrating. And there's always squash... We will supply the turkey and coordinate the menu; we look forward to an open full table- and the nap that follows.

To be held at the Tomasetti home or at church – depending on the number of RSVP's received.

**Thanksgiving Day - Appetizers @ 2:00 p.m. Dinner @ 3:00 p.m.**

**Please RSVP to Bob and Sally [sallyt@hillschurch.org](mailto:sallyt@hillschurch.org)**



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## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

### **PLEASE NOTE: THERE WILL BE A CHURCH SCHOOL FIRE DRILL THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

In caring for "our children" we must face the reality that emergencies happen, and so it is important that we prepare. This Sunday, in Church School, we will practice a fire drill. Our first concern is the safety and well-being of the children, staff and anyone else present at this time. All teachers and volunteers have received training to handle this event. You'll probably not even notice that this fire drill happened - as all children will return to class for pick up time - but just in case your children mention it, we wanted to be sure you were "in the know."

### **DON'T FORGET THAT 'EXTRA' CANDY!**



The Children's Church School is collecting leftover Halloween candy for Operation Gratitude again this year. This foundation collects leftover Halloween candy and sends it along with other care items to thank Troops, Veterans, New Recruits, and First Responders for their service to our country. The candy is highly sought after and considered a necessary boost for our neighbors that serve. Please consider bringing in your unused, individually wrapped and commercially made leftover candy. Donation boxes will be in the hallway near the Reception Room, and by the Third Floor Chapel. **We will be collecting candy through Sunday November 11.**

Then on Sunday, November 11, we will package the candy and write thank you notes. Thank you in advance for sharing this precious bounty. Any questions, please contact **Sally Tomasetti**.

### **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.

### **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.

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**YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS**  
**YOUTH GROUP AND CONFIRMATION**  
**PROGRAMS UPDATE**



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 and Senior High YG meets in the Youth Room!

Confirmation Class meets in the Reception room weekly.

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

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Quotable Quote: *"Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another: 'What! You too? I thought I was the only one.'"* (CS Lewis)

OUR YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE(S) AT A GLANCE

**11/11** Youth Groups meet for the program titled: **"Can-tucky Derby"**. Join us for this fun-filled canned food drive. Bring as many canned goods as you can hold to youth group and earn chances to WIN prizes!!!! (Fun and service go hand in hand tonight!) Both youth groups meet at regular times!

**11/18** Youth Groups meet for program titled: **"Difference Makers."** How are we actively making a difference in the lives of those around us? Both Youth Groups meet at regular times!

**11/25 Advent Dinner!** Gather together with our church family as we kick off the beginning of the season of Advent! We will be making our own gingerbread houses (\$15), we will be singing hymns and carols, enjoying a scrumptious meal (reservations required) and enjoy the lighting of our favorite evergreen tree! Festivities begin at **4:30 and run through until 7:00pm!** All our welcome!



**11/30 @ 7:30pm -12/1 @ 8:00am: An Overnight Retreat at Rock Spot Climbing Rock Gym!** We cannot wait for this overnight retreat! The Retreat is open to youth in grades 6-12! If you have a passion for rock climbing and making unforgettable memories -- than this is the retreat for you! Be sure to check your emails for more details about this awesome Youth Group team building overnight retreat!

**Looking Ahead:**

**12/2 Serving with Common Cathedral:** We hope that our youth and their families will support our Hills Church *Hunger Outreach Ministry Team with this awesome service opportunity!* Please click on the link below to sign up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EA4AC2EA3F58-common>



## HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

### THURSDAY, November 8

- 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  
Psalm 146  
Mark 12:38-44

### FRIDAY, November 9

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

### SATURDAY, November 10

### SUNDAY, November 11 - Veterans' Day

- 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 - After-Church Soup Lunch (Participation and Involvement)
- 11:30 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 12:30 p.m. Outdoor Church Service Opportunity
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 4:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
- 7:00 p.m. Sunday Night Advent Group
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

### MONDAY, November 12 - Legal Holiday (Veterans' Day Observed - Church Office Closed)

### TUESDAY, November 13

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Advent Group
- 1:30 p.m. Tea at the Hills Church
- 4:30 p.m. Food Pantry Client Supper
- 6:30 p.m. Caring for the Caregivers

### WEDNESDAY, November 14

- 6:00 p.m. Lay-led Worship Service and Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class and Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

### 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.**

## PARISH REGISTER

Congratulations to:

**Cindy Lowe**, on the November 4 birth of her granddaughter, **Charlotte Lily Lowe**, daughter of **Chris and Caitlyn Lowe**, in South Carolina.

**Michael Collora**, on the October 26 birth of his grandson, **Finn Michael Burr Buckman**, son of **Rebecca Collora and Andrew Buckman**, in Orlando, Florida.

Prayers of sympathy for:

**Greg and Donna Muzzy** on the November 4 death of Greg's brother, **Keith "Kit" Muzzy**, in Bar Harbor, Maine. He was 68.

**Betsy and Bob Sechrest**, on the October 26 death of their brother-in-law, **John "Jack" Taylor**, age 93, in Chelmsford, Massachusetts.

**Laurie Burke** and her family on the death of her mother, **Alice Ward**. A Memorial Service in celebration of Alice's life was held here on Friday, November 2.

**Ann Findeisen** and her family on the October 28 death of her husband, **Rob Sokolove**. A Memorial Service in celebration of Rob's life is being planned for December.

Prayers for those who are in hospice care and their families:

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

**Donna Kent**, in Wisconsin.

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

Continuing prayers from our congregation for:

**Donny Banks**, 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.

**Alice Erickson**, recovering at Pine's Edge, North Hill.

**Sophia Gauthier**, recovering at home.

**Kirby Green Grochal**, currently in treatment at Dana Farber.

**Gil Gunn**, continuing to recover.

**Susan Hoffmann**, recovering from foot surgery.

**Barry Jacobson**, in treatment.

**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.

**Gerry Murphy**, in treatment.

**Greta Sarginson**, at Marist Hill in Waltham.

**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 after surgery.

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

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

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