

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 11, November 15, 2018

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES



COME DECK THE CHURCH!

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1, 10:00 A.M.-NOON

decorating our sanctuary and entrances for Christmas –

And WE COULD USE YOUR HELP!

Trimming the tree

Setting up the Advent wreath and candles

Polishing the wrought iron candleholders on the pews

Adding bows to our wreaths

Decorating our outdoor planters with Christmas greenery

And more

No special talents required - we will put you to work when you arrive, and there are plenty of jobs for everybody to help with.

To learn more or to volunteer to help Deck the Halls on Saturday, December 1, contact Karen Gunn at kmgunn@comcast.net or 617-584-7829.

OR

Hop onto SignUpGenius (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4ea4ac2ea3f58-deck>) and **VOLUNTEER ONLINE NOW!**

Still Making Progress – But We’re Not There Yet

To date, 154 households have pledged.

Commitments for 2019 now total \$800,000.

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 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.

TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION...

We welcome all to Morning Meditation on Tuesdays from 9:30 - 10:30am in the Reception Room at the church whether you are new to meditation or practice daily.

Questions? Email Mary Hill Canavan at mhillcanavan@gmail.com or Rev. Judy Swahnberg at judy@hillschurch.org.

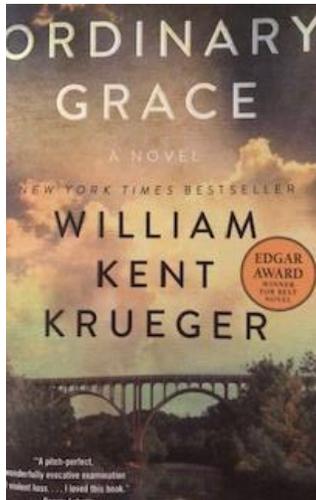
Come as you are able, whenever you can...we look forward to seeing you then.

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



ADVENT 2018 SPIRITUALITY GROUPS: *ORDINARY GRACE*



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 hold the last of its three meetings in the Reception Room from 7:30 pm -9pm **this Sunday, November 18**.
- The **Tuesday morning group** will meet for the final time in the Reception Room from 10:30 to 11:30 **next Tuesday morning,**

November 20.

Have Questions? Want to sign up? Email Rev. Judy Swahnberg at judy@hillschurch.org.

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.

WHCC ALTERNATIVE GIFT FAIR – SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2 AND 9, DURING COMMUNITY HOUR

Puzzled about how to select meaningful gifts this holiday season? Consider supporting the church's Christian Service international ministry outreach teams through our Alternative Gift Fair. Your purchases will advance the work of the church's partnerships with the African Indian Alliance and Honduras Hope.

- **African Indian Alliance (AIA)** will sell handsome gift cards of varying amounts to support the education of economically and socially disadvantaged Siddi students in SW India. This is the community we support through the efforts of our WHCC missionary, Pash Obeng.
- **Honduras Hope** will sell beautifully crafted baskets to support its work with economically and politically marginalized families in Honduras. Dangerous conditions necessitated postponing a planned WHCC outreach service trip here, which only highlights their need for our support.

Can you think of special individuals in your lives who would appreciate these gifts of love? If so, please join us on December 2 or 9. For further information, please contact Sarah Pedersen (pedersenfamily6@verizon.net) about the African Indian Alliance or Sue Spencer (suespencer42@gmail.com) about Honduras Hope.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR LOW-INCOME FAMILIES ~ AN OPPORTUNITY TO SERVE OTHERS



For many years members of this congregation have generously provided Christmas gifts for low-income families in Waltham that are identified by Early Intervention clinicians. All of the families on our list have at least one child under 3 years old who has developmental challenges due to a diagnosed disability or whose development is at risk due to certain birth or environmental circumstances.

The need is great...you can help! Sign up to shop for an individual, or a family (or more) at Community Hour on November 18 or November 25. We'll provide gift suggestions and instructions. Wrapped gifts should be delivered to the church on, or before, December 9. Questions? Call Sue Spencer at 781-893-2972. Thanks!

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.

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 or Neely Dodge at 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. 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

MADDIE (DOWNER) FOSTER – AT HER ORDINATION LAST SUNDAY ...



... Wearing the stole that was presented to her by WHCC ...

Donate Blood in memory of

Dan McCabe



The need is constant.
The gratification is instant.
Give blood.™

Celebrate life and make a difference by giving blood. Blood is needed for many different kinds of patients. It could be a young child with a rare blood disorder, a family member fighting cancer, or a friend involved in a car accident. Please schedule an appointment to donate at this special blood drive. You'll feel good knowing you've helped change the lives of patients in need.

A Day of Giving to Honor the Memory of Dan McCabe Wellesley Community Blood Drive

Wellesley Hills Congregational Church
207 Washington St (Rt 16)
Wellesley, MA 02481

**Wednesday, November 21, 2018
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM**

Sponsored by The Youth Fellowship of Wellesley Hills Congregational Church
& Wellesley Boy Scout Troop 182

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: McCabe to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

American Red Cross

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767

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CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

HATS, MITTENS, AND SCARVES...*OH, MY!*

The Church School is hosting a mitten tree in the Assembly Room during the Advent season. Leading up to Christmas we will collect mittens, hats, and scarves. All donations are given to Boston folk in coordination with Cradles to Crayons.

Let's cover the tree with warmth to share!

PLEASE CONSIDER TEACHING DURING THE WINTER OR SPRING MONTHS

We need teachers in 2019. Please consider sharing your time with our children. Are you new to the church and are unsure about what to do? We train and support you! Or are your children grown? Then please come share your well-earned knowledge. Each Sunday we need 12-14 teachers to run the program, could you be one? Cuddle a new born - Sing with the Under 5's - Grow with a Kindergartner - Discover with an elementary school age child - Mentor a pre-teen.

We need your caring support, your time and your grace for one month. **Contact: Sally Tomasetti - Sallyt@hillschurch.org - [or sign up here - https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a44a4ab2ba64-teacher1](#)**

SIGN UP FOR THE ADVENT DINNER AND GINGERBREAD HOUSE WORKSHOP DURING FELLOWSHIP HOUR THIS SUNDAY!

OR VISIT THE REGISTRATION LINK IN THE EVENTS AT THE HILLS

<http://events.constantcontact.com/calendar/monthview?llr=uccnypcab&eso=001Z5tGFik5sllEULphLzEckA==>

VOLUNTEER AT THE ADVENT DINNER

To make this event a great success, we need help. Meet new people of the church, make new friends, serve your church and have some fun. All volunteers can still participate fully in the event. Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a44a4ab2ba64-2018>

SANTA NEEDS OUR HELP! - DECEMBER 8 - FROM 9:00 A.M.- 11:00 A.M.



The big guy is almost here; that's right Santa is coming to Hills Church! However, he needs a little help. Close to 70 kids come to decorate cookies and sit on his lap, and Santa is marvelous but can't greet that many kids alone. He needs church helpers to lend a hand. Can you spare an hour or two on December 8th? Contact Sally or [view the sign up here: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a44a4ab2ba64-cookies1](#)

DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S – ADVENT WORKSHOP AND DINNER!



**You are invited...
Advent Workshop and Dinner
Sunday, November 25**

The Hills Church has a great tradition of starting the Advent Season with Gingerbread House making, Christmas Carols, and Dinner. All are welcome!

**Gingerbread House Making
4:30-5:30 p.m.**

This is always a huge success, so we're bringing them back again. Houses can be reserved in advance for \$15 each. Buy one for each person in the family, or just buy one for your whole family to decorate together. Every year sees new advances in home decorating, so bring your ideas, creativity, and extra supplies (frosting, candy, and more will be provided). Gingerbread Houses are \$15:00

**Carol Singing and Advent Fun
5:30-6:15 p.m.**

We move to the Sanctuary for a time of seasonal fun and carol singing led by John Finney.

**Dinner in the Assembly Room
6:15 p.m.**

Reservations are required for the dinner. Lasagna and pasta dishes from Comella's, fruit, salad, bread, drinks, and more. Each family is asked to bring a finger dessert to share.

Dinner- Adults \$8.00, Child \$5.00, Under 3 \$3.00

**Tree Lighting on the Front Lawn
7:00 p.m.**

For more information or if you would like to register for the evening:
Visit the Advent Dinner sign up table during next Sunday's Community Hour,
Check the *Events at Hills Church* online listing, or
Contact Cynthia – Cynthia@hillschurch.org





YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

YOUTH GROUP

At The Hills Church

2018 Fall Season (September. – December)

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.

Quotable Quote: **“Hope is the thing with feathers that perches in the soul – and sings the tunes without the words – and never stops at all.” ~ Emily Dickinson**

OUR YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE(S) AT A GLANCE

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 register online [HERE](#) . Please be sure to

check your emails for more information. You can also email Rev. Anne Marie -- annemarie@hillschurch.org.

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>

12/9 Youth Group Christmas Party! Both Youth Groups meet at regular times for festive games, the exchanging of gifts and sharing of treats!

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, November 15

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

FRIDAY, November 16

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, November 17

- 9:00 a.m. NAMI Reunion

SUNDAY, November 18

- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
- 9:15 a.m. Hills Ringers Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:30 a.m. Community Hour
- 11:30 a.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal
- 11:30 p.m. Master Plan Steering Committee
- 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 19

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Youth and Children's Ministry Teams
- 7:30 p.m. Stewards Support Board

TUESDAY, November 20

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation Group
- 10:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Advent Group

WEDNESDAY, November 21

- 10:00 a.m. Red Cross Blood Drive
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, November 22 - Thanksgiving Day - Legal Holiday

FRIDAY, November 23 - Church Holiday (Thanksgiving Break)

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
Psalm 126
Mark 13:1-7

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.**