

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 17, January 10, 2019

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES

The Christmas Pageant

THANK YOU, HILLS CHURCH!



Dear Hills Church Family,

As we hold you prayerfully in God's love, the ministers and staff of the Hills Church give thanks to God for your gifts and service in the ministry of our church. We are grateful for the many people who have given hours of service and financial support. On Christmas Eve, you welcomed over 1,100 people to worship together on that holy night. Throughout this season, you engaged members and visitors by putting love in action at the Advent Dinner, Cookies with Santa, two holiday concerts and Special Music Sunday. Caring visits were made by Deacons to deliver poinsettias to special members who are coping with illness or limited mobility, and a quartet from the Hills Bells played carols in front of Roche Brothers!

By your generosity, the church shared 175 coats with local service organizations; Christmas presents for 293 children and adults; hospitality to families who received shelter and meals at our church during Christmas week through Family Promise; and a special offering of over \$13,000 to benefit the Lazarus House in Lawrence, MA, and Disaster Relief through our United Church of Christ.

We lift you to God in prayer, giving thanks for you and for your generosity in the ministry of Christ, the light of the world.

Peace,

*Matt, Judy, Anne Marie, John
Cynthia, Sally, Julie, Jelena*

**WOULD YOU LIKE A GUIDED TOUR OF THE CHURCH'S 2019 BUDGET?
THEN, COME TO THE RECEPTION ROOM – THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 13 - AFTER WORSHIP**

- Would you like to know more about where the money needed to run your church comes from – and where it goes?
- Want to be completely ready for this year's Annual Meeting on the 27th?

Then, please join representatives from the Stewards Support Board – in the Reception Room – **right after this Sunday's Worship Service** – for a guided tour of the church's 2019 Budget – and a bird's eye view of our financial strengths and financial challenges.

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 if you would like to know more about this opportunity before this Sunday, please contact Jeff McGrew (jeffmcgrew@comcast.net), Hills Church Stewards Support Board Chair.

**GRAB YOUR HAMMER – AND GET READY FOR OUR NEXT HABITAT WORKDAY
SATURDAY, JANUARY 19**



What do you need to serve? According to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., “You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.” Join us as we honor Dr. King at our next Habitat for Humanity work day. We will be going on Saturday, January 19, We will meet at the church at 7:20 a.m. and return by 5:00. Please register on Sign Up Genius - <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EA4AC2EA3F58-habitat3> - or email Elaine at vildzius@gmail.com. (Must be 16 years old or older to participate).

TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION...

The Tuesday Morning Meditation Group took a bit of a break over the holidays, but will resume next Tuesday, January 15 at 9:30 a.m. So, if you feel the need to press your own personal “re-set” button as you work to hit your stride during this new year, do stop in to the Reception Room from 9:30 - 10:30 on the 15th - so that we can pause and reflect together on the hope and peace and joy of a new beginning.

Come as you are able, just as you are.

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

BIBLE AND THE NEWS IS BACK!



A Weekly Study with Rev. Matt Wooster
Wednesdays, 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the Church Library
Discussion on how the scriptures relate to the news of the day and the news of our lives. Each week will be stand-alone discussion of the Biblical passages to be read in worship. Come every week or drop in when you can.

SUNDAY INFANT AND TODDLER CARE TEMPORARILY MOVING TO THE THIRD FLOOR

Over the holidays, a heating system pipe broke, resulting in water damage to the carpeting and ceiling tiles in the Nursery. Work is underway to deal with the problems this damage has created, but it is not currently clear when this work will be completed.

In the meantime, Sunday morning Infant and Toddler care will be available on the third floor of the Parish House, where age-appropriate cribs and toys have been temporarily moved into the room currently used for Storytelling and adjacent to the rest of the Church School classrooms.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Cynthia Gordan in the Church Office, cynthia@hillschurch.org.

ORDER YOUR 2019 OFFERING ENVELOPES TODAY

If you would like to order a complete set of 2019 offering envelopes, please contact Hills Church Financial Coordinator Jelena Kovrlija at jelena@hillschurch.org, or call her at 781-235-4424. Envelopes, for those who have ordered them, are available for pick-up in the Board Room.

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The Christmas Spirit was in full swing at WHCC, Christmas week! We hosted four families – twelve people altogether – four adults and eight children. It was a hectic schedule with kids out of school, parents working, a few people away for a night or two. We had extra help from many neighboring congregations – and that made a big difference. Thank you to all who pitched in!



Our next two weeks of hosting are **February 24 through March 3** – and **May 5 through May 12**. Both sign ups are live on CERVIS. Link for volunteers is: <http://cerv.is/m?0002>

Any questions, please contact: Tricia Frank pdfrank@comcast.net or Neely Dodge nadodge@me.com

Many Family Promise volunteer positions require training – but not all! The schedule for upcoming Family Promise training sessions follows. All classes start at 7:00 p.m. Please contact Tricia Frank at pdfrank@comcast.net or Neely Dodge at nadodge@me.com with any questions.

Tuesday, Jan. 8	FPM Day Center	<u>6 Mulligan Street, Natick</u>
Thursday, Jan. 24	TBD	
Tuesday, Feb. 5	Cong. Or Atid	<u>97 Concord Rd., Wayland</u>
Thursday, Feb. 21	TBD	
Tuesday, March 5	TBD	
Thursday, March 21	St. Paul’s Church	<u>39 East Central, Wayland</u>
Tuesday, April 2	TBD	
Thursday, April 18	TBD	

HAVEN’T PLEDGED YET?

If you have not yet submitted your 2019 pledge, please take a minute to complete your pledge card and mail it back to the church today or hop onto the church website, hillschurch.org, and click on the “Donate” button in the upper left hand corner of the home page. Thank you.



Martin Luther King Jr. Hills Church Weekend of Service January 19-21

SATURDAY: HABITAT FOR HUMANITY BUILD

Construction Group: Leaving the church at 7:30 a.m. and returning by 5:00 p.m. We will be doing any number of tasks such as building and insulating walls, clearing debris and possibly some painting. This construction group is limited to ten folks (16 years old and older). **Advance signup required:** Contact Elaine Vildzius via the Church Office.

SUNDAY: ANNUAL ALL CHURCH SERVICE DAY

SCHEDULE

- 10:00 - 10:55 a.m.: Worship Service
- 11:00 - 11:10 a.m.: Group Picture
- 11:10 - 11:30 a.m.: Light Brunch
- 11:25 a.m.: Commissioning and Introduction of Tasks
- 11:30 - 12:55: Service Projects
- 1:00 p.m.: Blessing the Work

After some light refreshments in the Assembly Room, we will head to various sites around the church to work on projects. Projects are designed for young people, old people, and everyone in-between. Most will take about an hour or so. Service Opportunities are varied and for all abilities.

Choose your favorite community service project from among the following opportunities: Making Meals and Baking Cookies for the Wellesley Food Pantry, the Wellesley Fire Department, the Wellesley Police Department, and our own Care Team Ministry; Assembling Tables and other furniture - and sorting donations - for the New Life Furniture Bank; Writing letters of support, gratitude, friendship, and love to our older members, local heroes, other area churches and institutions with missions consistent with our own, and; Making fleece scarves for underprivileged children.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME.

Join other volunteers for hands-on service projects that will touch the lives of local people in need. This is a great family service opportunity at church!

And please: Don't come empty handed! Bring a can of food, gently used bedding, towels or toiletries for someone in need. For a more detailed list of donations needed, please visit our information table this Sunday during Community Hour.

Child Care will be provided from 9:30 - 2:00 p.m. in the upstairs nursery for those too young to serve.

For more information, contact Anne Marie Holloway or Sally Tomasetti - AnneMarie@hillschurch.org or Sallyt@hillschurch.org. - or visit our Information Table in the Assembly Room during Community Hour this Sunday.

MONDAY: DAY OFF-DAY ON

Martin Luther King Jr. Interfaith Day of Service at Brandeis University

9:00 AM to 1:00 PM

Honor and learn from the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (1929-1968), pack meals for food pantries and congregations that serve the homeless, and participate in social justice discussions with Brandeis clubs and local non-profits. Many workshops available to attend with activities for younger children too. All ages are welcome. Donations would be gratefully received. Serve in projects and/or attend workshops on the legacy of Martin Luther King Jr. More information on the Brandeis University website.

A BIG THANK YOU - FROM THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH TEAM

As we enter into this New Year, we would like to thank all of those who volunteered to teach our young ones, serve as youth leaders, and/or confirmation mentors throughout 2018!

Our church school program would not be able to run smoothly without the dedicated hearts of our volunteers! The impact of your ministry on our children and youth will last a lifetime!

We at the Hills Church care deeply about our children and youth, value their participation in the life of our church, and are constantly seeking ways to help them grow in faith and service.

As part of our commitment, the whole congregation participates in ministry with children and youth as mentors and teachers for church school, confirmation class, and youth groups.

Our Church School continues to depend on teachers who are willing to engage our children while providing faith-filled moments of learning.

We always need parents, grandparents and teens who are willing to commit to serve on Sunday mornings each church school year. (As we said, we could not do this without YOU!!!) Our youth groups depend on youth leaders who have an awesome sense of humor and an open heart to join us each Sunday evening!

If you feel called to serve the church in ways that are life changing and spirit led, please sign up to teach, lead or mentor our children and youth today!

To learn more about our children and youth ministry volunteer opportunities please reach out to Rev. Anne Marie Holloway (annemarie@hillschurch.org) or Sally Tomasetti (Sallyt@hillschurch.org).

*Peace and Joy,
Anne Marie and Sally*

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS



YOUTH GROUP

At The Hills Church

2019 Winter Season (January- March)

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

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

*Programs meet every Sunday evening unless otherwise indicated

Middle School YG and Senior High Youth Groups meet in the Youth Room!

For more information email Rev. Anne Marie Holloway: annemarie@hillschurch.org .

Quotable Quote: *“We believe in ordinary acts of bravery, in the courage that drives one person to stand up for another.” ~ Veronica Roth*

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE(S) AT A GLANCE

1/13/19 Both youth groups meet together from 6-7:30 pm for our first annual “Youth Group Winter Sports Competitions!”

1/20/19 Day of Service at WHCC! Youth will gather together to participate in service projects offered at the church following worship on Sunday!

***1/27/19 No Youth Groups This Sunday (Confirmation Retreat Weekend)**

2/3/19 Youth Groups meet at regular times for program titled, “If not you – Then who?”

2/10/19 Tentative “road trip” to Gunstock Mountain Resort for Snow Tubing Fun! Details TBA!

Our Confirmation Class meets every Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m. in the Reception Room.

Our middle schoolers meet for church school on January 13th and 27th (the second and fourth Sundays) on the third floor.

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, January 10

- 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
- 7:30 p.m. Christian Service Support Board
- 7:30 p.m. Church Council

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
Isaiah 43:1-4
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

FRIDAY, January 11

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, January 12

SUNDAY, January 13

- 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 Practice
- 11:30 a.m. Stewards Open Forum - 2019 Budget Review
- 4:00 p.m. Hills Bells Rehearsal
- 6:00 p.m. Middle and High School Youth Groups - Youth Group Winter Sports Competition
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, January 14

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting

TUESDAY, January 15

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 7:00 p.m. Master Plan Steering Committee

WEDNESDAY, January 16

- 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class and Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, January 17

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

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.**