

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 24, February 28, 2019

www.hillschurch.org

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CALL TO SPECIAL MEETING SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2019

The members of the First Congregational Church in Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts, qualified to vote, are hereby notified that a Special Meeting of said church will be held on Sunday, March 3, 2019 immediately following the regular worship service, to act upon the following articles:

Article I. To choose, if necessary, a chairperson to preside over said meeting.

Article II. To hear and act upon the 19 February 2019 recommendation from Church Council regarding certain immediate upgrades needed to the church's HVAC system and related funding matters, including but not limited to, authorization to:

- Proceed with up to \$1.5 million of repairs and upgrades to the church heating and air conditioning systems, the cost of such repairs and upgrades to include expenses related to HVAC system design, engineering, construction management, and permitting fees, as well as equipment, construction, and other related costs (the "2019 HVAC System Project.")
- Finance the costs associated with the 2019 HVAC System Project over the short-term in accordance with funding recommendations to be made by the Stewards Support Board.
- Finance such costs over the long-term through a Capital Campaign to be initiated by the end of 2019 and intended to cover the anticipated and yet-to-be determined costs of both: 1) the 2019 HVAC System Project and 2) the Master Plan currently being developed and slated for consideration by the congregation at a Special Meeting of the Congregation to be held before the end of this program year.

Article III. To transact any other business not included in the above which may legally come before the meeting.

Richard J. Sweeting, Clerk
21 February 2019

OPPORTUNITIES

HOEDOWN AT THE WHCC RANCH

Saturday, March 9
5 PM - 7:30 PM
Assembly Room



Hey, buckaroo, come have your photo taken (props provided), eat a delicious supper, dance, and have fun with new and old friends!

Never line danced before?

Well, here are the rules of our renowned teacher, Art Sullivan:

1. Have Fun!
2. Learn the dance
3. When Rule #2 is too complicated, go back to rule #1

Remember: you cannot make a mistake in Line Dancing. You can only do moves the rest of the crowd has not yet learned!

Need to sit - Art will teach dances you can do right in your chair, so no excuse not to dance.

\$15 per adult, \$5 per child, children 3 and under free
payable at the door

Just RSVP to mimi8386@hotmail.com
by Sunday, March 3

We need the number of adults and kids along with one fun fact about each party-goer for our "get to know you better" activity.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP – MARCH 6, NOON AND 7:00 P.M. IN WALLACE CHAPEL



Worship on Ash Wednesday provides a prayerful beginning to the season of Lent. The symbol of ashes is an ancient sign of repentance, which is also a sign of newness and resolve. All are welcome to receive the mark of ashes, but it is not required. As observed at the Hills Church, Ash Wednesday is a paradoxical service: death and sin are honestly confronted in the context of grace and the power of God. The service carries both sorrow and joy. Rev. Matt Wooster will give a homily at both services, which last about 50 minutes.

VOLUNTEER AT RESTORE – SATURDAY, MARCH 9

Would you like to serve others but aren't up for a full day of Habitat building? Come join us at ReStore on **Saturday, March 9**. ReStore is Habitat's discount building supply outlet. Volunteers are needed to straighten shelves, move donated items to the proper area and do general clean up duties. The proceeds from ReStore sales go to finance the building of Habitat houses in the area. We will meet at the church parking lot at 8:45 on Saturday morning, March 9, and return just after 2:00 p.m. (plenty of time to make it to the Hoe Down!). Email Elaine at vildzius@gmail.com if you want to come along. You must be at least 16 years old to participate.



The Wellesley Hills Congregational Church
and the Metropolitan Boston Association
of the Massachusetts Conference
of the United Church of Christ

joyfully invite you to celebrate

*the installation of
Rev. Anne Marie Holloway*

Sunday, March 17, 2019
Three Thirty p.m.

207 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, Massachusetts

Clergy: red stoles

A reception to follow

**DOES YOUR HEART YEARN TO REACH OUT?
THEN JOIN THE CARE TEAM MINISTRY OF THE HILLS CHURCH!**



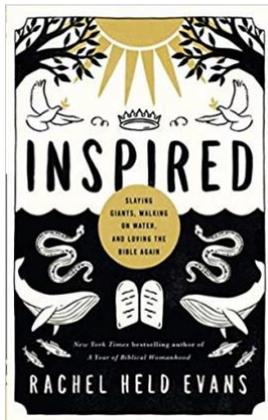
Would you like to reach out to members of the congregation who are experiencing life's joys, sorrows or other challenges?

If so, we invite you to join the Hills Church Care Team Ministry. There are four Care Teams, each responsible for kindnesses every fourth week. The ministers notify your team via email suggesting individuals who might benefit from more care or celebration, and team members respond as their heart guides them.

You are asked to serve at least a year, but may sign up or resign at any time. Our 2019-20 Care teams will be celebrated and blessed during worship on **Sunday, March 31, 2019**. If you are interested in joining, please email Rev. Judy Swahnberg: judy@hillschurch.org or call Judy at the church.

BE INSPIRED AND BECOME WISE THIS LENT

Just as the Spirit led Jesus into the wilderness for a period of reflection and prayer, we invite you to be led on a Lenten journey through the pages of these written works:

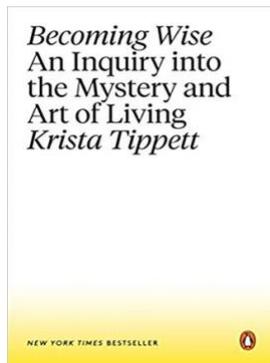


INSPIRED, by Rachel Held Evans, a New York Times best-selling author, who has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *Christianity Today*, *Slate*, *The Huffington Post*, *The CNN Belief Blog*, and on NPR. Evans served on President Obama's Advisory Council on Faith Based and Neighborhood Partnerships.

Evans asks the question, "What do people mean when they say the Bible is inspired?"

One reviewer wrote: "Evans wrestles through the process of doubting, imagining, and debating Scripture's mysteries. The Bible...is not a static work but is a living, breathing, captivating, and confounding book that is able to equip us to join God's loving and redemptive work in the world."

Led by Rev. Anne Marie Holloway and Betsy Wooster. **Monday evenings, from 7:00 to 8:00, March 18-April 8** – in the Third Floor Youth Room (March 18 and April 1) and the Reception Room (March 25 and April 8).



BECOMING WISE, by Krista Tippett, winner of the National Humanities medal for "thoughtfully delving into the mysteries of human existence" and host of the NPR program and podcast, *On Faith*.

In her book, Tippett reflects on what she calls the "breeding ground of wisdom: words, flesh, love, faith and hope." We'll wrestle with big questions: what does it mean to be human? What matters in life? How can we be of service to one another?"

Led by Kelly Ford at **7:30 on Sunday evenings**: March 17, March 24, March 31, and April 7 - in the Reception Room.

Led by Rev. Judy Swahnberg and Mary Hill Canavan at **10:45 on Tuesday mornings**: March 19, March 26, April 2, and April 9 - in the Reception Room.

To get your copy of either book: A limited number of both of these books will be available in the Church Office for \$12.00, or you may obtain your copy directly from the bookseller of your choice or read/hear the book on Kindle/Audible.

Contact Rev. Judy Swahnberg (judy@hillschurch.org) or Rev. Anne Marie Holloway (annemarie@hillschurch.org) or the Church Office (cynthia@hillschurch.org) if you are interested in participating in either of these Lenten studies.

NEW!! WOMEN'S STUDY GROUP –TUESDAY EVENING, MARCH 12 AT 7:30 – IN THE BOARD ROOM.

All women (members and non-members) are invited! This first meeting, we will gather for prayer, fellowship and discernment as to how to structure our future meetings. Ideas include: Discussionbased Bible study with a focus on the inspirational dimension (possible topics: The prophetesses 16 in the OT; Famous couples in the Bible; Jesus' parables), Book study, Meditation, Yoga, Topical study (e.g. Prayer, How to develop a nourishing group), Conversations about our faith (e.g. What do you think about God?). Sponsored by: Patty Sibanda, Jessica Sturtevant, Elaine Vildzius, Becky Williams, Kristen Toffer, Ntonhle Kekana, and Judy Marth.

TOWEL DRIVE TO BENEFIT NEW LIFE FURNITURE BANK IN MARCH

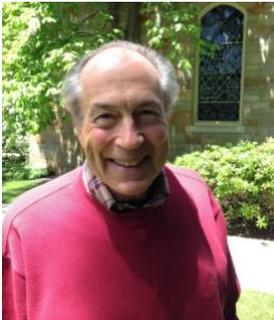
A towel drive for New Life Furniture Bank of Massachusetts will take place throughout March at Hills Church. A charitable organization staffed by volunteers, New Life accepts donations of furniture and household items, and makes them available at no charge to those in need.

<https://www.newlifefb.org/>

The goal is to provide a new or gently used towel and washcloth for each member of the families New Life serves. Collection bins will be located by the choir room, at the front and back narthex, and at the east entrance by the nursery school.

For more information, contact Donna McCabe at dmccabe4@comcast.net.

JOIN JIM MCKINNEY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, FOR THE NEXT LAY-LED WORSHIP SERVICE



The recent controversy over the Virginia governor and his admission of wearing black face has caused this good old boy (who grew up in Oklahoma and was educated in Texas) to re-examine his own actions and his understanding of racism. **On Wednesday evening, March 13**, we will explore Jesus' command to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" and the implications of that command for our conversation about racism, assessing the action we have taken in the past, and directing the action we will take in the future. Join us at 6:00 p.m. for dinner in the Reception Room and stay for the service at 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel

TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION – 9:30 TO 10:30

CONNECTING IN COMMUNITY WITH EACH OTHER

In addition to the physical and spiritual benefits of meditation, there is another benefit, often unexpected yet just as vital to our health and well being. As noted by one member when asked why she came to Morning Meditation, she remarked, "I try not to let the busyness take over my day, and this time on Tuesday morning helps me to reconnect with others and meet new people I wouldn't meet otherwise. When I have felt disconnected, this time helps me to reconnect."

This time we spend in quiet stillness is also time spent connecting with each other, and what better place to experience this beloved community than at church, where we come as we are able, just as we are....

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

MEN'S GROUP 30'S – 50'S

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 27, AT THE HOME OF MATT WOOSTER

The men's group for members and friends of the church ages 30's – 50's meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Facilitated by Rev. Matt Wooster, this group focuses on building friendships and growing together in faith.

To RSVP and join the email list, contact Rev. Matt Wooster at mattw@hillschurch.org.

BIBLE AND THE NEWS



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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY NOTES

The Rummage Sale will not be held this year. Instead, it will return in the spring of 2020. Monica Garfield has graciously agreed to co-chair the sale again, but of course it takes many people to make it work. We will announce next year's date shortly after the May 2019 calendaring meeting.

In the meantime, the Unitarian Universalist Society, just down the street at 309 Washington Street, will be holding a rummage sale this spring, and would be happy to have your donations. Their sale is on Saturday, March 30, 8:30 a.m. – 1 p.m. Drop off begins Sunday, March 24, from 12 – 5, and continues most of the week. They will take: Clothing (Men's, Women's & Children's), Books, Housewares, Furniture, Electronics, Kitchenware and China, Linens and Notions, Sporting Goods, Toys and Games, Treasures. Please call 781-235-7423 for more information.



10th Annual Family Promise *Walk Away Homelessness* Walkathon
SATURDAY, April 6, 2019 at the Natick High School
15 West Street, Natick
Registration opens at 8:00am

Join hundreds of walkers of all ages for fun, music, food, face painting, prizes and more!

TOGETHER WE WILL WALK to END HOMELESSNESS!

Help us celebrate our 10th Annual Walk to End Homelessness. This year Family Promise is hoping for 100% participation from all of its congregations as it marks this special 10th year anniversary.

All proceeds from the walk will help Family Promise Metrowest end the cycle of homelessness by providing families with shelter, meals and professional services.

<http://walkawayhomelessness.familypromisemetrowest.org> or call 508-318-4820.

CHILDREN'S BOOK COLLECTION

The church is collecting children's books throughout the month of February for the benefit of The Grow Clinic at Boston Medical Center.

www.bmc.org/pediatrics-growclinic.htm

The books are given to the children when they are receiving treatments or when waiting for a sibling.

Collection bins will be inside the church entrances for your new and gently used children's books. Questions? Contact Donna McCabe dmccabe4@comcast.net



ESPECIALLY FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES!

Below, you will find a tentative schedule of some monthly service opportunities for our teens to participate in together. Some are more geared to High School-aged teens, and others are open to both Middle School and High School youth!

If you are interested in serving with us for any of these local service opportunities, please reach out to Rev. Anne Marie Holloway – annemarie@hillschurch.org ! We encourage our teens to invite their friends!

As we approach each month, we will reach out to those who wish to participate and share additional details for each event!

March: (High School Youth)

Make and serve a meal at Rosie's Place on Sunday, March 10, leaving the church at 2:00 p.m.
<http://www.rosiesplace.org/volunteer/groups>

April: (Middle School and High School Youth)

Alongside the members of our Parish Life Ministry team, our youth will have the opportunity to make soup and cookies for our church family to enjoy following the April 7 Worship Service. Preparations and cooking to be done on Saturday April 6, at 9:30 a.m. Soup to be served following worship on Sunday, April 7.

May: (High School Youth)

Feed the homeless with the Outdoor Church. Details TBA.
<https://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/outdoor-church-0>

We are so very excited about the ways in which our teens wish to work together to serve as the hands and feet of Jesus in the world!!

Rev. Anne Marie Holloway

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS



YOUTH GROUP

At The Hills Church

2019 Winter Season (January- March)

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

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

*Both programs meet every Sunday evening in the Youth Room unless otherwise indicated
For more information email Rev. Anne Marie Holloway: annemarie@hillschurch.org .

Quotable Quote: *"Everybody has their own path. It's laid out for you. It's just up to you to walk it."*
~Justin Timberlake

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE(S) AT A GLANCE

03/08/19 (FRIDAY) Middle School Youth Group meets from 5-7 pm for a **Bowling Party** at Needham Bowlway! There will be NO Middle School Youth Group on Sunday, March 10.

03/09/19 (SATURDAY) A Saturday evening of food, fun, and line dancing at The Hills Church Hoedown! Details TBA.

03/10/19 (SUNDAY) Sr. High School Youth Group and Confirmation Class serve at **Rosie's Place**. Details TBD. There will be NO Middle School Youth Group on the 10th.

3/17/19 (SUNDAY) All are invited at 3:30 pm to celebrate a Service of Installation for Rev. Anne Marie Holloway. We will be officially installing her as a minister of the the Hills Church! In the UCC, we host installations when a new minister is called to serve a new church community! Anne Marie would be honored if you would join her in celebrating her call to serve as our Associate Minister for Youth and Families! (And besides – cake will be served!!!)

03/24/19 (SUNDAY) Both youth groups meet at their regular times for a program titled, "Tacos and Truth."

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

*Our **Middle Schoolers** meet on the third floor for church school on the second and fourth Sundays of each month.*

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, February 28

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

This Sunday's Scripture Reading
Exodus 34:29-35
Luke 9:28-36

FRIDAY, March 1

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, March 2

SUNDAY, March 3

- 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. Special Meeting of the Congregation (HVAC System)
- 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, March 4

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 7:30 p.m. Board of Deacons

TUESDAY, March 5

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation

WEDNESDAY, March 6 – Ash Wednesday

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 12:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service
- 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service
- 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class and Dinner
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, March 7

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:00 p.m. Faith Formation Support Board

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.**