

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 27, March 21, 2019

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES

THIS SUNDAY, MARCH 24, IS SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY

This Sunday morning, March 24, during our regular 10:00 a.m. worship service, our Chancel Choir and soloists will be accompanied by a full orchestra in presenting one of the most beloved pieces in all the choral repertoire, the sublime "Requiem" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Mark your calendars, and invite your friends and neighbors to be with us on March 24 to experience this moving and soulful masterpiece!

BUILDING A VIBRANT CHURCH: ONE SPIRIT, MANY GIFTS

Having sat in on several meetings with the leadership of the Master Plan Steering and Capital Campaign Committees, you may have heard us remark on the confidence we have in those involved in this effort given the experience they bring to this work. So that you can appreciate as well, the gifts of those members who are overseeing the care and renovation of our church, we would like to share a little bit of the background they bring to this important work. Over the coming weeks, we will add the stories of other members' gifts on these committees for they bring to mind Paul's letter to the Corinthians in writing about the church: "There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord."

To keep everyone up to date on the Master Planning process, we will report to you periodically through "Events in the Hills." And at any time, do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions or concerns. E-mail officeofthemoderator@hillschurch.org to share them with Mary Hill Canavan, Gintas Vildzius, and Chris Stowell or reach out to any of them individually.

Wherever you sit on a Sunday morning in the sanctuary, whether your connection to this church is old or new, your participation and voice matter - as it is our collective discernment that determines the next step on our church journey and in our life as a faith community.

In service and faith,
Mary Hill Canavan, Gintas Vildzius, Chris Stowell
Office of the Moderator

Master Plan Steering Committee Co-Chairs (MPSC)

Janeen Hansen

Janeen's professional background includes 30 years as a project manager at Massport, including managing construction of a 176-unit apartment building, a major harbor dredging project, capital improvements in an industrial shipyard, and renovation of the former Commonwealth Pier into the World Trade Center Boston. She also recently managed the relocation of Andover Newton Theological School to Yale Divinity School located in New Haven, CT.

Judy Nitsch

Judy is the founding principal of Nitsch Engineering which specializes in providing civil engineering, land surveying, transportation engineering, structural engineering, green infrastructure, planning, and GIS services. Judy's work over the past 40+ years in the civil engineering field has focused on the design and management of site development and infrastructure-related projects. Domestically and internationally, her company has worked with academic clients, developers, corporate and institutional owners, public agencies, architects, and other design professionals on major private development and public infrastructure projects.

Capital Campaign Committee Co-Chairs

Bob Minetti

As Vice President for Development, Corporate and Alumni Relations at Bentley University for ten years, Bob managed a successful \$100 million campaign. He has also served as in-house development counsel before assuming the role of senior management director responsible for raising philanthropic support for Massachusetts General Hospital's Cancer Center. While at MGH, Bob helped manage the fundraising efforts for the Center for Regenerative Medicine and the Center for Global Health.

Steven A. Patrick

Steven is the Vice President of Development for the Spaulding Rehabilitation Network and Partners HealthCare at Home. Steven is currently leading fundraising efforts in a \$75M "From Discovery to Recovery" Campaign for Spaulding Research Institute. Prior to entering the development field, Steven worked for over ten-years in healthcare administration at Spaulding, Joslin Diabetes Center, Children's Hospital, and Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

VOLUNTEER AT THE EGG HUNT... SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 13, 9:00 - 11:00

Check out the sign up genius for fun volunteer opportunities that include:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a44a4ab2ba64-hills>

- Week leading up to the Egg Hunt: Purchase items, prepare food.
- Friday night, April 12, set up: 4:30-6:30 at the Church. Many hands make light work!
- **THE MORNING OF THE HUNT** - 8:30 to 11:00: Help monitor the egg hunt, bouncy house, face painting, animal care, Easter Bunny helper, serve food, play games with kids.
- **THE DAY OF THE HUNT** - 11 to Noon. Clean-up



Or visit our sign up table on **Sunday, March 24th** during fellowship.

The Easter Bunny will be hopping with Joy!

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.

WELCOMING ANNE MARIE HOLLOWAY AS OUR PASTOR AND TEACHER

AT THE RECEPTION AFTER ANNE MARIE'S INSTALLATION SERVICE – MARCH 17, 2019



PLANT FAITH THIS SPRING!

Working in children's ministry is an awesome opportunity to make a difference. To plant a seed of goodness that grows.



Be a part of this ministry, and you will see what we're talking about.

We have changed the schedule of church school team member needs a little:

- **K-6 Sunday, April 7 only** – Easter workshop with Rev. Anne Marie Holloway
- **K-4 Sundays – April 28, and May 12 and 19** – Three Sundays of rotation class. Sign up to teach all three Sundays. NOTE THE DATES.
- Nursery and Pre K class – All Sundays in April and May.
- June helpers – June 2 assisting in Church School and June 9 in the Worship service.

See the updated sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a44a4ab2ba64-spring> or see Sally.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP SERVICES
Palm Sunday, April 14, 10:00 a.m.
Maundy Thursday, April 18, 8:00 p.m.
Service of Holy Communion and Tenebrae, the service of “shadows.”
Good Friday, April 19, Noon worship, followed by silent vigil in the sanctuary and a liturgy for the end of the vigil at 2:45 p.m.
Easter Sunday, April 21, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
We will celebrate Christ’s resurrection with the joyful music of choir, brass and timpani, handbells, and our magnificent pipe organ.
Rev. Matt Wooster will preach the sermon “The Life of Hope.”
Communion will be celebrated at 11:00 a.m.

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.

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.

**TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION – 9:30 TO 10:30 –
AWAKENING THE HEART AS WE MAKE SPACE FOR GOD**

If you have ever read anything about Christian spiritual practices, you may well have come across one of many books written on this subject by the theologian Fr. Thomas Keating, a central figure in the development of the contemplative Christian practice of Centering Prayer. In the season of Lent, as we are invited to step back from our day to day busyness and become aware of God’s presence in our lives, this practice of Centering Prayer can help us create such a space for God.

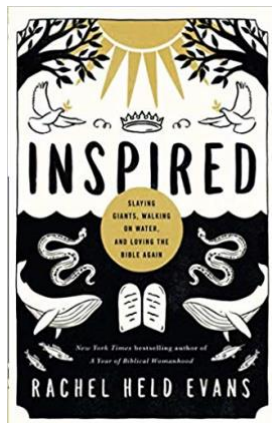
Fr. Keating talks about viewing Lent “as an artful preparation to a slow and sustained intentional journey where the heart is awakened into a new life in and through divine love.” Join us on this journey of awakening the heart as we learn about this practice during Tuesday Morning Meditation from 9:30 - 10:30am in the Reception Room.

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.

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:



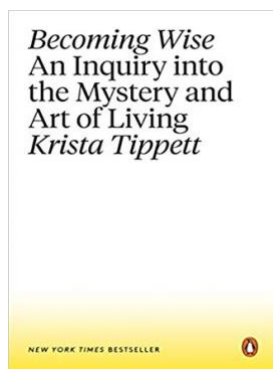
INSPIRED, by Rachel Held Evans, a New York Times best-selling author, who has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian*, *Christianity Today*, *Slate*, *The Huffington Post*, *The CNN Belief Blog*, and on NPR. Evans served on President Obama's Advisory Council on Faith Based and Neighborhood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

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



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 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.

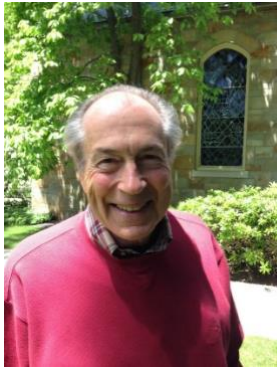
To get your copy of either book: A limited number of both of these books will be available in the Church Office for \$12.00, or you may obtain your copy directly from the bookseller of your choice or read/hear the book on Kindle/Audible.

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.

SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS FOR WOMEN – THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 28 – AT 7:30

We will meet in the Third Floor Youth Room on the **second Tuesday** and **fourth Thursday** of each month from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Our next meeting will be **Thursday March 28**. Our current topic: Our Faith Stories. This is an ongoing, open group which embraces you *wherever you are in your faith journey*. Come and participate by sharing or just listening. Sponsored by: Patty Sibanda, Jessica Sturtevant, Elaine Vildzius, Becky Williams, Kristen Toffer, Ntonhle Kekana, and Judy Marth.

THE NEXT LAY-LED WORSHIP SERVICE AND DINNER IS WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10



In the twenty-first century, we seldom hear sermons which focus on the Holy Spirit, or the difficult concept of the triune God which we profess in the sacrament of baptism. And yet, the most cursory reading of Luke's gospel and the book of the *Acts of the Apostles* reveals that the presence of the Holy Spirit was of vital importance to the earliest Christian communities. Indeed, the presence of God's spirit in the church may have been the primary factor in setting the community apart from the rest of society and enabling the community to grow and flourish. **On Wednesday evening April 10**, we will try to make some sense out of this very difficult concept and its importance for our individual lives and the mission of our church. Join us for dinner at 6:00 and the service at 7:00.



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.



EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

If you would like to give Easter lilies in memory of—or in honor of—a loved one, please fill out the form below and place it in the offering plate or send it to the church office by **Monday, April 15**.

You may donate whatever amount you wish. Checks should be made payable to the *Wellesley Hills Congregational Church*. Please note *Easter Flowers* on the memo line of your check.

My donation for Easter Flowers is given (PLEASE PRINT)

In memory of: _____

or

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____

Mail your check to:
Wellesley Hills Congregational
Church
207 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481

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.

YOUTH MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS



YOUTH GROUPS

At The Hills Church

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: *“Everything in the world is about to be wrapped up, so take nothing for granted.*

Stay wide awake in prayer. Most of all, love each other as if your life depended on it.

Love makes up for practically anything.”

~ 1 Peter 4:7-10, **The Message**

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE(S) AT A GLANCE

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

03/31/19 (SUNDAY) Both youth groups meet Sunday afternoon from 3:00 to 5:00 for an “Around the Town” scavenger hunt!!! More TBA.

04/07/19 (SUNDAY) Both Youth Groups meet at regular times for “Tin Canny Voting” and the “Board Game Challenge”.

04/13/19 (SATURDAY) Easter Egg Hunt help and fun from 8:30am-12:00pm!!! All youth are invited to volunteer as Bunny Helpers! Join the fun! (No Sunday Youth Group Meetings)

04/21/19 (EASTER SUNDAY) – No Sunday Youth Group Meetings.

04/28/19 (SUNDAY) – Both Youth Groups meet Sunday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:15 for a Shaving Cream Whiffle Ball Tournament.

*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, March 21

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

This Sunday's Scripture Reading
Isaiah 55:1-5
Luke 23:39-43

FRIDAY, March 22

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, March 23

- 12:00 p.m. Special Music Sunday rehearsal

SUNDAY, March 24 – Special Music Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
- 9:15 a.m. The Hills Ringers Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Community Hour
- 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
- 7:30 p.m. Sunday Night Lenten Book Group

MONDAY, March 25

- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Monday Night Lenten Book Group

TUESDAY, March 26

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 10:45 a.m. Tuesday Morning Lenten Book Group
- 7:00 p.m. Strategic Planning Working Group

WEDNESDAY, March 27

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 7:30 p.m. Confirmation Class and Dinner
- 7:30 p.m. Men's Group
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, March 28

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:30 p.m. Spiritual Conversations for Women