

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 30, April 11 2019

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES

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.

EASTER EGG HUNT



This year the Big Hunt will take place **this Saturday, April 13, from 9-11a.m.** Enjoy breakfast, a petting zoo, an appearance by the Easter Bunny, crafts, and of course the Hunt (with prizes)! Just hop onto the church website – hillschurch.org - and click the "Register for the Egg Hunt" button on the home page or e-mail egghunt@hillschurch.org **TODAY**, with the number of adults and children, so we can provide food and prizes...then, HOP ON OVER! Rain or shine. (The Hunt is indoors in the event of cold or inclement weather.)

YOUR THOUGHTS/IDEAS NEEDED, PLEASE

STRATEGIC PLANNING TEAM ASKS: WHY ARE WE HERE AS THE HILLS CHURCH?

The recently formed strategic planning work group members have been discussing important elements of the strategic plan, including the five Hallmarks of our church ministry, in order to discern where we are going as a faith community and how we are planning to meet needs in our church and community. The group has identified a key piece of this process as being able to articulate **why** we are all here as the Hills Church. It is easier to describe **what** the Hills Church does or **how** we practice ministry. For example, we support, reflect, nurture, and learn through community service, musical celebrations, and education programs with children and youth.

We want to hear from the whole congregation about "Why we are here as the Hills Church?" We will use this feedback to help formulate a collective "why statement" which will serve to focus and inspire a strategic plan for the Hills Church.

Please take a few minutes today to think about this question: "Why we are here as the Hills Church?" We welcome **everyone's** response to this question. Your voice matters, as it is our collective discernment that will help to determine steps in our collective faith journey.

This Sunday morning, there will be a second opportunity to write your responses and post them to a **"brainstorming board"** during this Sunday's community hour. Your response can be words or a statement. It can be anonymous or you can sign your name. You may also email your thoughts, words or statements to the church c/o the office of the moderator:

officeofthemoderator@hillschurch.org. Thank you for taking the time to think about **why**.

- Strategic Planning Ministry Team
*Rob Andrews, Mary Hill Canavan, Nancy Simons
Jessica Sturtevant, Kristen Toffer, Gintas Vildzius
Anne Marie Holloway, Matt Wooster*

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.

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-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.

TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION – 9:30 TO 10:30 – FASTING FROM DISTRACTIONS

One of the foundational practices during Lent is prayer and when we meditate, we can become present to prayer - and to God's presence in our lives.

I have often associated a second Lenten practice, that of fasting, with food; abstaining from a meal or favorite food in order to make space for God, to reflect and to pray. But fasting can also be about giving up concerns and material things, each of which can distract us from being present to God; how about fasting from impatience? Or worry? Or fasting from purchases that seem like necessities but may, in fact, just add to our clutter?

The spiritual practice of meditation is a way to clear out those distractions and clutter that keep us from noticing God's presence in our lives. Please join us and learn how - on Tuesday mornings in the Reception Room from 9:30 - 10:30am.

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.

**SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS FOR WOMEN (SCW) - THURSDAY, APRIL 25
AT 7:30 - IN THE THIRD FLOOR YOUTH ROOM**

By popular demand and because we are growing and hearing new stories each week, we will continue with Our Faith Stories through the end of April. We meet every **second Tuesday** and **fourth Thursday** of each month, from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. We are a diverse, open group who 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.



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 **next 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.

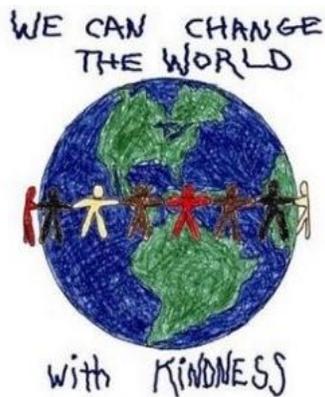
Weekly Newsletters

Sunday Orders of Worship

Submissions are due **Fridays by 5:00 p.m.**

Submissions are due **Monday by 5:00 p.m.**

[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: "If someone were to pay you ten cents for every kind word you said about people – and collect five cents for every unkind word, would you be rich or poor?"

~ Author Unknown

UPCOMING YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE(S) AT A GLANCE

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 regular Sunday Youth Group Meetings)

04/21/19 (EASTER SUNDAY) – No Sunday Youth Group Meetings. Alleluia! Jesus has risen!

04/28/19 (SUNDAY) – No regular Youth Group meetings. Grace Knight Babson Event at 4:00 p.m. Details TBA.

05/05/19 (SUNDAY) – Confirmation Sunday! Join us for our worship service at 10:00 a.m. as we confirm and celebrate alongside our 2019 Confirmation Class! Youth Groups meet at regular times for program titled, "Dear Future Self ..."

05/12/19 (SUNDAY) – Mothers' Day. No Youth Group meetings! (Be sure to celebrate and be good to those awesome "motherly humans" in your lives!!)

05/19/19 (SUNDAY) – Both Youth Groups meet Sunday afternoon from 4:00 to 5:15 for a Shaving Cream Wiffle Ball Tournament.

05/26/19 (SUNDAY) – Memorial Day Weekend! No Youth Group Meetings!

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, April 11

- 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

This Sunday's Scripture Reading
Philippians 2:5-11
Luke 19:28-40

FRIDAY, April 12

- 12:00 p.m. Egg Hunt Set-up
- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, April 13

- 9:00 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt

SUNDAY, April 14 - Palm and Passion 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
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, April 15 - Patriots' Day - (Legal Holiday - Church Office Closed)

TUESDAY, April 16

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, April 17

- 10:00 a.m. Bible and the News
- 8:00 p.m. Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, April 18 - Maundy Thursday

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 8:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service