

Events at the Hills

WELLESLEY HILLS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Volume 4, Issue 47, November 7, 2019

www.hillschurch.org

OPPORTUNITIES

MASTER PLAN LISTENING SESSION THIS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10 – AFTER WORSHIP

During Community Hour **this Sunday, November 10**, Rising Moderator Chris Stowell will lead a listening session for members of the congregation who have questions or concerns about the Master Plan.

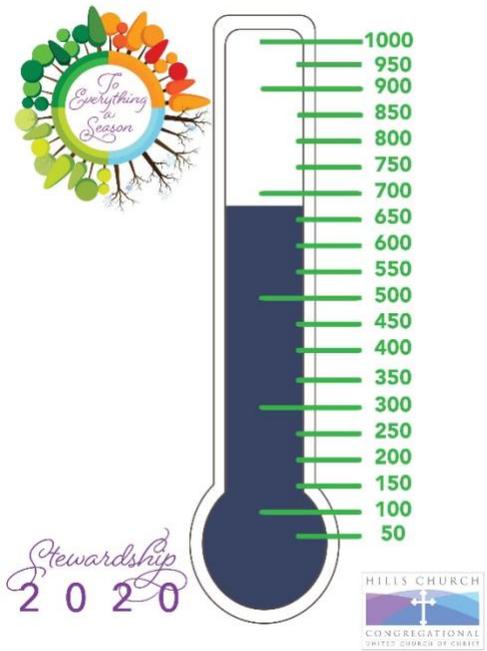
Grab a cup of coffee after the service and meet Chris in the 'Board Room' adjacent to the Sanctuary at 11:15.

SOUP AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER CHURCH – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 17

All are welcome to share an after-church meal **on Sunday, November 17**, at 11:45 a.m. Spend some time with your fellow worshippers, enjoy some good food, and take a minute to share your thoughts about happenings at the church.



This meal is sponsored by the Parish Life Ministry Team. Thank you, Parish Life!
Contact Mimi D'Angelo or David Otten – mimi8386@hotmail.com or otten@mit.edu for more details.



Stewardship Status Report

To date, 123 households have pledged.

Commitments for 2020 now total about \$675,000.

We are making progress!

If you have already pledged, THANK YOU!

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.

Your Pledge Counts!

Thank you for pledging.

ANNUAL COAT DRIVE

Coats for the Boston homeless shelters will be collected during November. Clean outerwear in good condition is accepted. All sizes are appreciated.

As you clean your closets this fall, please set aside the warm clothes you don't need. The collection bins will be by the church doors throughout the month of November.

Questions – contact Tina Andersson, TinaAndersson11@hotmail.com



AFTERNOON TEA AT THE HILLS CHURCH

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, AT 1:30 PM – IN THE RECEPTION ROOM

Who were Francis and Clare of Assisi?

How do their spirits live on in the church?



At this tea, Rev. Judy Swahnberg will be sharing insights and images from her recent continuing education retreat in Assisi, Italy, and reflecting on how Francis and Clare continue to influence the church—and the world—today.

All are invited for tea, cookies and conversation on **Tuesday afternoon, November 12, at 1:30** in the Reception Room. To arrange for a ride, please contact Cynthia Gordan in the Church

Office – cynthia@hillschurch.org or 781.235.4424.

HAMMERS UP! OUR NEXT HABITAT WORKDAY IS SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23!

Join us for a WHCC Habitat workday on Saturday, November 23 (the Saturday before Thanksgiving).

We will be working on the Concord Street Project again, doing a number of different jobs. You do not need any special construction skills, just a willing heart!

We will meet in the church parking lot Saturday morning at 7:20 and return by 5:00. (Must be 16 years old or older) Follow the link to sign up.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0e4ea4ac2ea3f58-habitat5>



**TUESDAY MORNING MEDITATION:
"RED LIGHTS ARE GOOD LIGHTS..."**

In addition to the many health benefits of spending an hour in the quiet stillness of meditation, our hope is when the time has ended and you leave church, the practice will go with you into your day.

One morning when sharing with each other the ways in which the practice is used after we leave church, the following idea was shared. It is one we can all benefit from even if you cannot make Tuesday morning's meditation hour:

I am trying to be more aware at red lights and think, "Red lights are good lights." So often I think we hear/think "Ugh, another red light!"; or how red is used in anger-related phrases like "seeing red". I have just been trying to retrain my thinking that a red light is a good opportunity to look around, breathe, take notice, meditate, pause, and be present. Often I hear in my head at a light when I am remembering to think "red lights are good lights," Simon and Garfunkel's song; "Slow down, you move too fast. You got to make the morning last ..."

Can't make Tuesday mornings? Try thinking, "Red lights are good lights," the next time you are lucky enough to encounter one in your travels.

And if you have an hour, please join us on Tuesday mornings as we gather in the Board Room from 9:30 - 10:30 to experience this ancient spiritual practice. Your health will thank you for it.

Come as you are able, whenever you can...

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

FAMILY PROMISE NEWS AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

We need your help for our November Hosting -Thanksgiving Week!

Our next hosting week is November 24 through December 1. We have four very busy families coming to stay with us: five adults and ten children! 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.

WOMEN IN THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES

MONDAY EVENING – NOVEMBER 25 – FROM 7:00 TO 8:30 – IN THE ADAMS BOARD ROOM

Emerging from Jewish tradition and the patriarchal culture of the time, a new generation of women uses their hands, hearts, and voices to continue Jesus' ministry. Let us enter the world and times of the Acts of the Apostles, including some of these women:

- A sudden, shocking death.
- An unlikely leader of a house church that provides fellowship, prayer, and shelter.
- A disciple raised from the dead.
- A prophetic slave.
- Another slave who recognizes Peter's voice and lets him in.
- A respected preacher.
- Faithful tenders of the sick and hungry.
- Prisoners of the Roman constabulary.
- A member of the nobility who sits mute at Paul's hearing.

Bearing witness, preaching salvation, living the faith – but also sometimes fearful, persecuted, burdened by human weakness, these women were emboldened by Jesus' message and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Join with others in the congregation to learn about these early believers. Yes, the focus of this Bible Study will be on women, but it is an opportunity for anyone with curiosity about how the early Church struggled and grew, spreading The Word of God throughout the trials and challenges of two thousand years of history. All are welcome!

**DON'T MISS THE FINAL TWO CLERGY-LED BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS
CHOOSE EITHER MORNING OR EVENING SESSIONS –
WHICHEVER WORKS BEST FOR YOU – NOVEMBER 18 AND JANUARY 27**

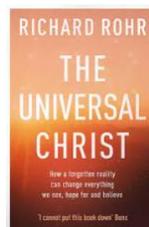
Monday, November 18

Morning: 10-11:15 am,

Evening: 7:30-8:45 pm

Text: *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr

Led by: Rev. Judy Swahnberg



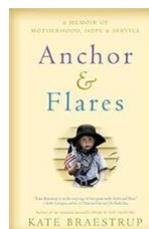
Monday, January 27, 2020

Morning: 10-11:15 am,

Evening: 7:30-8:45 pm

Text: *Anchor and Flares* by Kate Braestrup

Led by: Rev. Anne Marie Holloway



**SPIRITUAL CONVERSATIONS FOR WOMEN
NEXT MEETING – TUESDAY NOVEMBER 19 - 7:30-9PM**

We love our new focus, continuing the conversation started by one of our minister's sermons. As you listen to sermons over the next weeks, what moved or intrigued you that would like to talk about some more? We are a group of diverse women, from 6 different countries, Hills Church members and non-members from multiple faith backgrounds who join together to listen and share our traditions, ideas, questions about faith topics. Come and bring your unique voice or just listen. All women of the church (members and non-members) are welcome. Location: At the home of Marilyn Nutting, 144 Washington Street, in Wellesley.

MAKE VOLUNTEERING IN CHURCH SCHOOL YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE!

Volunteering in Church School is an opportunity:

- To have fun,
- To discover abilities you didn't even know you had,
- To strengthen your own faith, as you strengthen the children's,
- To get to know more people in our church – adults and children, alike,
- To build friendships with the other Church School teachers, and
- To help to keep our church community healthy and strong.

Volunteers make a big difference in a child's life.
Please consider teaching. The children are waiting for you.

Don't be afraid. We make teaching easy! To support our Church School teachers, we provide:

- Curriculum materials for all classes.
- Teacher training and orientation before your teaching month begins.
- Ongoing support and guidance – on an as-needed basis, from both the clergy and Sally Tomasetti, Coordinator of Children's Ministry.

For more information, contact Sally: Sallyt@hillschurch.org, or sign up to help at the Children's Ministry table.

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR THANKSGIVING DINNER!

For the past few years we've joined the Hills Church members and friends Thanksgiving dinner at the home of the Tomasetti family. This year, we are opening our home to continue the tradition while the Tomasettis are traveling. Many of you, like us, do not have extended family in the area, making it a special treat to celebrate a holiday with church family.

Whether it's just you or a whole family unit, consider joining us for fabulous food and great conversation. We have a foosball table too! We'll make the turkey (already reserved at the Natick Organic Farm), dressing, cranberry sauce and my famous pumpkin pie. You bring the rest of the desserts, vegetables and salads. We particularly love something special from your own culture/family tradition.

Thanksgiving Day - Appetizers @ 2:00 p.m. Dinner @ 3:00 p.m.

Please RSVP to Becky and Robert Williams williams.becky.m@gmail.com.

JOIN THE HILLS CHURCH RUNNERS THIS THANKSGIVING FOR THE WELLESLEY TURKEY TROT!

Join the Hills Church Runners for the Wellesley Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning, November 28. This is a 5K fun run/race held right in Wellesley. The event, which features up to 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.



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! Importantly, the event raises funds for good local causes. As the Wellesley Turkey Trot Foundation states, "Our goal is to engage the community in the event and to support local charities in the areas of cancer, medical research, education, and community service."

For details and registration here - be sure to register for the team "Hills Church Runners" - <https://racewire.com/register.php?id=10901> Space is limited so *you are encouraged to register soon* if you are interested. Questions? Contact Anne Marie Holloway, annemarie@hillschurch.org. Hope you can join us! More info at wellesleyturkeytrotfoundation.org

MEMORIAL BLOOD DRIVE

A Day of Giving to Honor the Memory of
Dan McCabe



Red Cross Blood Drive

Wednesday November 27, 2019

10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Wellesley Hills Congregational Church
207 Washington St.

Co-Sponsored by; the Hills Church Youth Fellowship
& Boy Scout Troop 182

As a 17-year old Dan gave blood 3 times. He also encouraged his friends to donate blood to the Red Cross. Please help us honor Dan's memory by joining his family, friends, and fellow travelers by giving the gift of life.



American Red Cross
Together, we can save a life

Appointments are encouraged.
Please call 1-800-733-2767
or visit www.redcrossblood.org

DON'T MISS THIS YEAR'S – ADVENT FUN WORKSHOP!



**You are invited...
Advent Fun Workshop
Saturday, November 30**

The Hills Church has a great tradition of starting the Advent Season with Gingerbread House making, Tree Lighting, and Christmas Carols. 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.

**Hot Chocolate and a Snack in the Assembly Room
6:15 p.m.**

Grab a snack and a hot drink – and then head for

**Tree Lighting on the Front Lawn
6:30 p.m.**

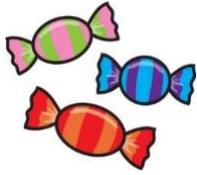
For more information or if you would like to register for the evening:
Visit the Advent Workshop sign up table during next Sunday's Community Hour, Check the *Events at Hills Church* online newsletter, or
Contact Cynthia – Cynthia@hillschurch.org



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS AND EVENTS

EXPLORE. CREATE. WONDER. SERVE.

GET READY TO SHARE SOME HALLOWEEN CANDY!



It's soon to be Halloween! It is a candy-filled day we all love a little toooo much, but we don't need all that candy lying around the house for months after. So, we have a solution! The Church School will be collecting leftover Halloween candy for Operation Gratitude again this year.

This foundation collects leftover Halloween candy and sends it along with other care items to thank Troops, Veterans, New Recruits, or First Responders for their service to our country. The candy is highly sought after and considered a most welcome boost for our neighbors that serve.

Please consider bringing in your unused, individually wrapped and commercially made leftover candy. A donation box will be in the hallway near the Reception room, and by the third floor Youth Chapel. We will be collecting candy **through Sunday November 10.**

Then, on Sunday, November 10, we will package the candy and write thank you notes.

Thank you in advance for sharing this treasure!

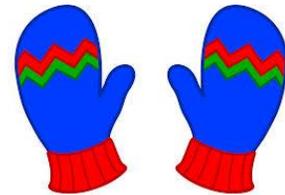
THE MITTEN TREE IS COMING SOON...

DO YOU WANT TO KNIT A HAT OR A SCARF FOR THE MITTEN TREE?

Every year we collect hats, scarves and mittens for the Advent Mitten Tree. So, why not knit one this year?

The Women's Ministry is available to get you started, to provide guidance and to set you on your way. They have yarn and needles (or you can bring your own) and they really know how to knit!

Contact Sallyt@hillschurch.org if you are interested. This is a very fun way to learn a new skill while serving others.



BIBLE PRESENTATION FOR 4TH AND 5TH GRADERS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 - DURING WORSHIP

A special day in their walk of faith! We are excited to give the church's 4th and 5th graders their own (more grown-up) children's Bible in the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) translation. We hope this gift will journey with them through the years of Church School and hopefully a lot longer!

All 4th and 5th graders will be encouraged to bring their new Bibles to class, dog-ear verses, write their thoughts and prayers on the pages, and learn and grow with their Bibles by their side. The ceremony is a time when the 4th & 5th graders are honored and commissioned to their work studying the Bible and exploring what it means to them.



SAVE THE DATE!

Advent Fun Workshop

Saturday afternoon, November 30 – from 4:30 to 6:30

Join us for gingerbread house decorating, Advent fun, carol singing, hot chocolate and tree lighting.

YOUTH AND FAMILY MINISTRY HAPPENINGS – NOVEMBER 2019:



Calling all Children and Youth Ministry VOLUNTEERS
Join our “Pop-up” Advent FUN Workshop Ministry Team!

Join us, as we gather together as a ministry team to serve our community and bring great JOY to so many as we celebrate the kick off of the Advent Season with our beloved annual Gingerbread House building, carol sing and tree lighting!

Our **Pop-up Ministry team** serving opportunity is one for the whole family – and designed to allow for flexible volunteer schedules and short-term adventures in serving others!

Won't you join us?

Be on the lookout for our Sign up Jesus (oops Genius)!!

We invite parents, youth, college students, grandparents – in short, EVERYONE! – to join us in preparing for the Advent Fun Workshop - which will be held this year **on SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30.**

For more information please email: Sally Tomasetti: sallyt@hillschurch.org or Rev. Anne Marie Holloway: annemarie@hillschurch.org.

And, here are some more Special November Dates for members of our **Middle School Youth Group** to mark on their calendars:

Sunday November 12 – Veteran’s Day Weekend: No Youth Group Meetings this weekend

Saturday November 16 @ 6:30 pm – BODA BORG Adventure (Rescheduled from October 19) Sign up [HERE](#).

Sunday November 17 at Noon – “Birthday Parties in a Box” Service Project. After Community Hour Soup Lunch! Come assemble birthday party boxes for children living in homeless shelters! (Middle School Youth Group is invited to gather at noon -- there will be no additional Sunday evening meeting!)

Sunday November 24: “Stuffed” -- a fun evening of pre-thanksgiving fun from 4:30-6:00pm!

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP NEWS AND EVENTS



Senior High Youth Conversation Circles, Service Opportunities and Confirmation Class News

CONFIRMATION NEWS: Our class will continue to meet weekly – on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 – most likely in either the Reception Room or the Third Floor Youth Room – but please always be sure to check your e-mails and

Confirmation Calendar for class schedules and meeting locations, as they do vary from time to time. Our next larger group meeting (with past and present Confirmands) will be November 20. (See below for more info.)

NOVEMBER CONVERSATION CIRCLES (Confirmands Past/Present and Friends!)

Our High School Youth will meet as a whole group again **on Wednesday NOVEMBER 20** in the Youth Room for Qdoba as we gather together for our second Dinner and Conversation Circle Gathering! Don't worry if you have not been able to join us for a gathering before! Come when you can! And your friends are always welcome, too! There is always room at our table for all!

At these monthly meetings, our Confirmation Alumnae (and friends) are invited to join our new Confirmation Crew on one designated **Wednesday a month** for dinner and conversation circles! These once a month Senior High gatherings will run from 7:30-8:45 pm and will be specifically tailored to current events in our teens' lives!

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH SERVICE OPPORTUNITY:
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17 FROM NOON TO 1:30**

Our youth in grades 6-12 are invited to help with our "Birthday Parties in a Box" Service Project after the Community Hour Soup Lunch on the 17th! Come assemble birthday party boxes for children living in homeless shelters! There will be no additional Sunday evening middle school or senior high youth group meetings!)

**For More information regarding Youth Group Programming at The Hills Church, please contact the Rev. Anne Marie Holloway by email or text: annemarie@hillschurch.org , (508)-404-0287 .

THANKS TO ALL THESE HELPERS - "UNPACKING FOR PIZZA" WAS A HUGE SUCCESS



We had tons of help unpacking and setting up the Church School on the third floor of the Parish House this past Sunday - and we are VERY GRATEFUL! (Not all featured here!)

Shelli, Josh, Emily and Brynn Waetzig, Michelle and Robert Foster, Amanda and Annie Crowley, Kristen Toffer along with two of her children Kathryn and Alex Bonnette, Marc, Colin, Liam and Faith Holloway, Tina Anderson, Erin Johnson and Bob Tomasetti, all joined together alongside Mrs. T and Nick to put in a couple of hours of work!

We moved furniture, boxes, and buckets! We unpacked, cleaned up and decorated! It was awesome!

There is still much to do, but we are in such a better place moving forward -- thanks to these good folks!

HILLS CHURCH CALENDAR

THURSDAY, November 7

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings
- 7:00 p.m. Recent Member Gathering

This Sunday's Scripture Readings
Psalm 98
Luke 20:27-38

FRIDAY, November 8

- 7:00 p.m. AA Meeting

SATURDAY, November 9

SUNDAY, November 10

- 9:00 a.m. Hills Ringers Practice (Children's Bell Choir)
- 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. Church School
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service
- 11:00 a.m. Community Hour
- 7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

MONDAY, November 11 - Veterans' Day (Legal Holiday - Church Office Closed)

TUESDAY, November 12

- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Meditation
- 1:00 p.m. Clergy Pastoral Care Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting

WEDNESDAY, November 13

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

THURSDAY, November 14

- 10:00 a.m. Clergy Worship Planning Meeting
- 10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting
- 1:00 p.m. North Hill Tea
- 6:30 p.m. New Beginnings

PUBLICATION DEADLINE - HILLS CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

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.

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