



The Carriage Stone

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, New City, N.Y.

Newsletter of the English Church

September 2005

“Welcome Back!”

September 11:

- Sunday School Kick-off breakfast 9:30 AM
- Adult Bible Study resumes 9:30 AM
- Return to regular worship time 11:00 AM

September 18:

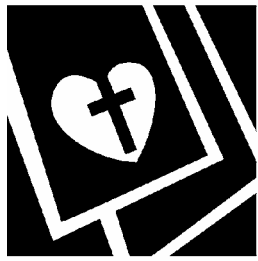
- Sunday School classes begin 9:30 AM
- Newsletter Deadline before Worship
- Welcome back luncheon after Worship

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“The Carriage Stone” is the Newsletter of
The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church
484 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY 10956
The Reverend Lori Knight-Whitehouse, Pastor

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FROM THE PASTOR

From a New Member of the Family

From Lori Knight-Whitehouse

It is my great privilege to take over this column, and the role of pastor of New Hempstead Presbyterian Church this month. I'm looking forward to meeting each and every one of you, my new family.

Families come in all sorts of shapes, sizes and configurations. There are families of origin, the families we make with spouses, and of course, our baptismal family, the Church. Like any family, the church has loving relationships as well as the odd skeleton in the attic.

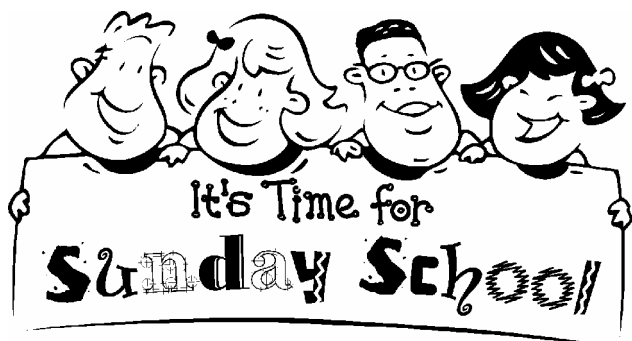
What holds a family together is, of course, love. In the Church, we are bound together by the loving Spirit of God in Jesus Christ. Love in both families and the Church is given shape by our accountability to one another. One big reason why I am Presbyterian is that in our branch of the Christian family tree, accountability is mutual and non-hierarchical. I am accountable to the Session, and together we are accountable to Presbytery. One thing this means is that we have no "loose canon" in our tradition, including (especially!) the pastor.

You will notice that the schedule for September probably looks pretty much as it always has. This is because I don't yet know what you want or need in the way of new programs, nor would I presume to tell you to make all sorts of changes to what's been working for you before I even get unpacked! I do, however have some ideas that I think would be good to try. Book discussions groups; Bible studies; small groups on prayer, spirituality, and moving closer to God and one another; film viewing and discussions — these are just a few things that have gone through my mind, and I'm ready to get started as soon as we can with things that would interest YOU!

I am more excited than I can say about being your pastor, and both Howard and I are looking forward to living, working and worshipping among you. You are all already in our prayers, and we hope we are in yours.

God's Grace and Peace to you,

Lori



Come See What Sunday School Has to Offer!

Our annual Sunday School Kick-off Breakfast will be held on September 11 at 9:30 AM in Murchison Hall. This year's Bible stories will include those of Jacob, Joseph, David and Goliath, along with stories from the New Testament later in the year.

At the breakfast, we will be registering children for Sunday school, which will again follow a rotation format that we have used successfully in the past few years. This enjoyable method employs storytelling, art, music, acting and other experiences, which help the students learn about their religion and encourage their interaction with their faith and one-another. In addition, we hope that many people will come to the breakfast to volunteer to help during one or more sessions as storytellers, guides for art projects or acting skits, or one of the many other talents God has given each of us to share with one another.

Sunday school is held for children in grades K-6, which meets from 9:30 to 10:45 AM Sundays, and we'd love to have older children as helpers! If you cannot make it to the breakfast, please don't hesitate to let Leslie Rosenow or myself know of your interest in getting involved in Sunday school, which officially begins at 9:30 AM September 18. It will be a blast!

Barbara Zacheis
Chair of Christian Nurture and Spiritual Growth

Leslie Rosenow
Sunday School Superintendent

Welcome Back Luncheon

From Carmen Bermudez

The Fellowship Committee invites all members and their friends to our Welcome Back Luncheon which will be held on September 18 immediately after Sunday Service. Weather permitting it will be held "al fresco" between the side of the church and the manse. Please bring a friend! This will be a great opportunity to share your summer experiences and get to know our new pastor, Rev. Lori Knight-Whitehouse. Please share with the committee any ideas you have for future fellowship activities.



Peacemaking Offering

"Guide Our Feet into the Way of Peace"

That is the theme of this year's Peacemaking Offering. The offering will be received on World Communion Sunday, October 2. Our congregation retains twenty-five percent of the offering for our mission and outreach activities. This year, we will donate our portion of the offering to the Rockland Family Shelter.

*Guide Our Feet
into the Way of Peace*

Luke 1:79

For many years, RFS has provided assistance to women and families who are the victims of domestic violence. With their programs, they offer immediate help to these people and hope for a peaceful future. In the coming weeks, you will hear more about the work that the Rockland Family Shelter does. We encourage you to give generously to the Peacemaking Offering so that we can help support the programs of the Rockland Family Shelter.

Lawn and Fix-It Crew

Taking care of our fine facility involves a lot of time and effort, and most of the work is done by an exceptional group of volunteers. Charles Churchwell has taken on the task of mowing most of the lawn during the summer, and Percy Crockett usually joins him. Other lawn and garden helpers include Nancy Jacobs, Mark Zacheis, Marc Bidon and me.

When things need to be repaired or replaced, I can count on Jack Landers and Shirley Martignetti to tell me that something needs to be done. But I can also count on them to arrange for someone to take care of the work. Mark, Percy, Charles, Sid Gerstein, Ed Garcia, Bob Greenhalgh and Joe Bermudez have all been extremely generous with their time and talents in helping to keep the buildings and grounds in wonderful condition. Tim Maroney and Zaida Landers have helped Mark and me with the painting in the Sanctuary.

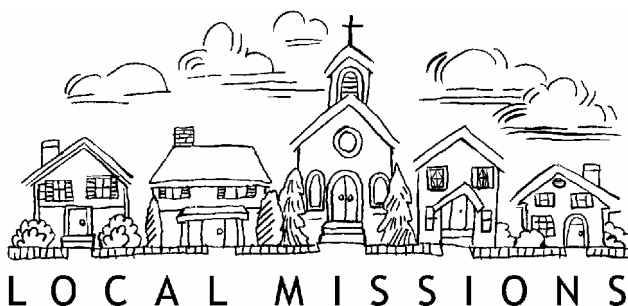
I am so very thankful that I have such a fantastic network of people willing to help take care of our church home. On just about any Saturday morning, there are a handful of us at work somewhere around the church. With buildings this old, there's always something to do. Please feel free to join us anytime.



Summer Offering

The Summer Offering Program has gone on throughout the summer. Funds from this offering benefit

local groups that provide aid and services to people in our local community. We continue to support Rockland Habitat for Humanity, United Hospice of Rockland and the Interfaith Breakfast Program. Many thanks to those of you who have already given to this offering, and we'll be happy to receive additional contributions through mid-September.



Boy Scout Troop 11 News

From John Damtoft, Committee Chairman

Activities in the Past Month:

Our troop went to Summer Camp this year at Camp Ranachqua, during the same timeframe as the National Jamboree. It was a quiet and safe week at camp – for 5 boys from Troop 11. They earned total of 15 Merit Badges and one advancement in rank. Among the Merit Badges earned were: Lifesaving, First Aid, Camping, Climbing, Mammal Study, and Swimming. Besides the merit badge work, there is opportunity for fun, games, competition, swimming, boating, crafts, archery and target shooting.

Thanks:

A note of thanks to all the members of New Hempstead Presbyterian Church for your support of our troop over the last 80 years or so, and especially to William Farro for his support this year as Chartered Organization Representative.





Divine Intervention

For several weeks this summer, Bob Greenhalgh worked on the wishing well located near the driveway. He scraped, patched, primed and painted the wooden sides and

roof. Then he told us the story of long-ago lawn parties, and how the ladies of the church would hang flower baskets in the wishing well. When he was all finished restoring the structure it looked wonderful, and a basket of flowers appeared in the wishing well (courtesy of Mark Zacheis).

Not long after the job was completed, we had a terrible storm. The locust tree that stood beside the wishing well came crashing down. As you can see in the pictures, the tree narrowly missed the wishing well and the barn. A man passing by saw how the fallen tree had just missed the wishing well. He shook his head and said, "Now that's divine intervention." We couldn't agree more.



P.S. Thanks, Bob, for all the hard work on the wishing well. Thanks, too, to Charles and Alice Churchwell, Marc Bidon, Jack Landers and Bob Greenhalgh who came to help me clear away much of the fallen tree.

Manse Cleanup

On July 23, we had a workday to clean the manse, barn and surrounding grounds in preparation for the arrival of our new minister, her husband and their cats. Many members of the congregation came to lend a hand as we painted, scrubbed, swept, dusted, replaced windows, and weeded. Also, some much-needed shelves were installed in the barn (see the picture).



Carmen and Joe Bermudez, Donna Butson, Percy Crockett, Ed Garcia, Bernice and Sid Gerstein, Nancy Jacobs, Bonnie Johnson, Jack Landers, Teri Lowinger, Roida Siregar, Barbara and Mark Zacheis and I worked through the morning. At about noon, Carmen and Joe (representing the Deacons and Fellowship) provided a wonderful picnic lunch for all of the volunteers. We accomplished a lot – the manse is in great shape now – and we also got to enjoy some fellowship time with one another. Thanks to everyone!

“Friends Helping Friends Day”

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church is participating in Boscov’s Friends Helping Friends Day on Tuesday October 18.

Boscov’s Department Stores presents this opportunity for participating nonprofit organizations to raise funds by selling tickets to this event.

What does a ticket cost?

Tickets are \$5 each. (No exceptions)

What Does the Church get out of this?

The entire \$5 of every ticket sold by NHPC members goes to New Hempstead Presbyterian Church.

What do I get for a \$5 ticket?

- Great Shopping from 9 AM – 9 PM
 - A 25% Super Shopping Coupon (some restrictions on certain items)
- Free Refreshments and Entertainment
- And a chance to win one of the following door prizes:
 - One Big Screen TV
 - One Home Theater System
 - One Set of Luggage
 - Ten \$500 Shopping Sprees
 - Five \$100 Shopping Sprees per store

Additional information will be listed in the church bulletin. If you would like to help sell tickets, find out about purchasing tickets, or get additional information about this event, please call the church office or e-mail office@nhpchurch.org

If you would tickets mailed to you (\$5 per ticket), please send a check made out to New Hempstead Presbyterian Church (clearly marked Friends’ Day) to 484 New Hempstead Rd. New City NY 10956, along with your name, address and phone number. Mail orders must be received by September 30.

**Golf Outing
to Benefit
Rockland
County
Parent Aid
Fund**



The Rockland County Parent Aid Fund, Inc. will hold its sixth Annual Golf Classic on Tuesday, September 13 at Spook Rock Golf Course in Suffern. Proceeds will benefit needy families, children and senior citizens in Rockland County through the Department of Social Services. The Parent Aid Fund supplies clothing, holiday gifts, food and household items, which are not provided through government assistance programs, to Rockland welfare recipients and the homeless.

The cost of \$135 per golfer includes golf, lunch, cart and dinner with open bar. The deadline for registration is September 1. Contact Jan Jason at (845) 364-3300 for more information.

Old Church Members Stop By

From Bob Greenhalgh

One Saturday afternoon in June two old timers stopped by and noticed some startling changes in the Old Church. The Pews are upholstered and there is a Choir Loft, for example. Trish and Bob Goettel, now of Cape Elizabeth, Maine, were the visitors. She was Organist and Choir Director from 1947 to 1958.

They remembered Rev. Murchison, Martha Neuffer, Zalene Corey, Clem and Pat Egolf and Jane Klein.

REMEMBER

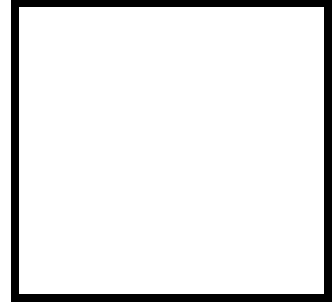


They noticed the fancy banisters left and right of the Pulpit aren't there anymore. Welcome back, old friends.

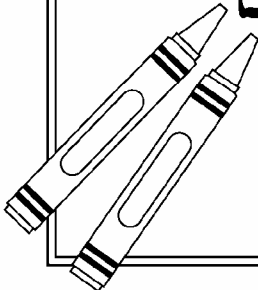


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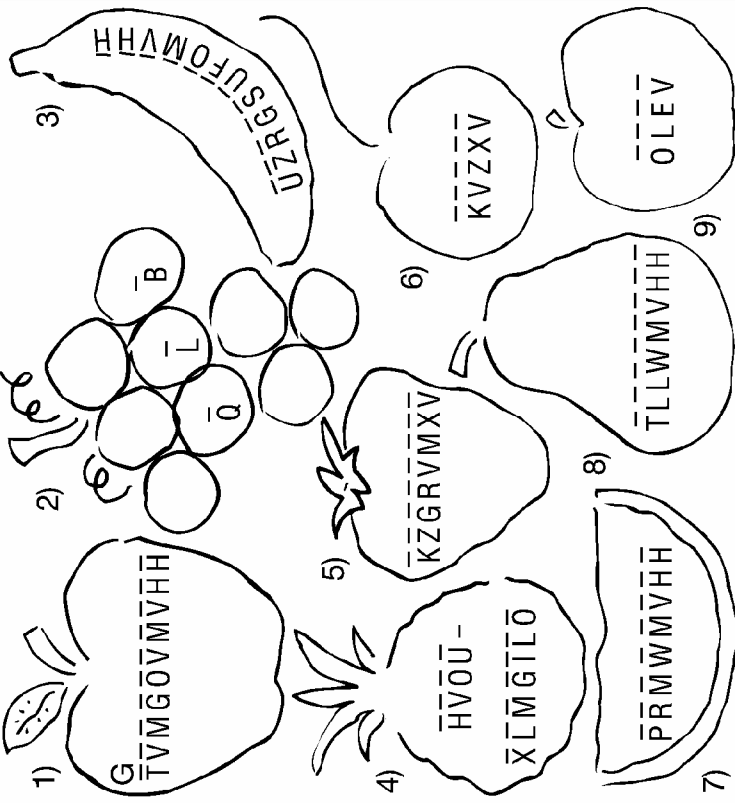
Just for KIDS

Fruits of the Spirit

In the book of Galatians, Paul told the people to "live by the spirit" – to live God's way. He told them what they would need to do this. These characteristics are called the "fruits of the Spirit."

Find the "Fruits of the Spirit" using the code below.

ABCDEF GHIJKL MNOPQRST UVWXYZ
 ZYXWVUTSRQPONMLKJIHG FEDCBA



Gentleness, Joy, Faithfulness, Self-Control, Patience, Peace, Kindness, Goodness, Love