

The Carriage Stone

Summer 2007

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, New City, N.Y. *Newsletter of the English Church*



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"The Carriage Stone" is the Newsletter of

The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church

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A Love of People

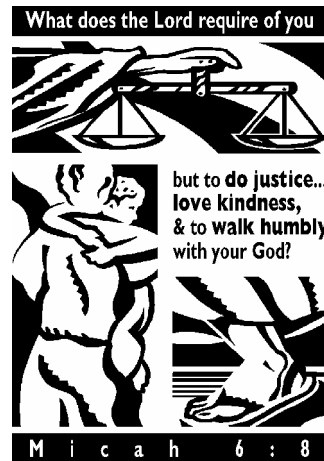
I ran across this story not long ago in Donald Miller's book, *Searching for God Knows What* (which I highly recommend for summer reading, by the way!) I want to share it with you, as I think it points to the secret of a healthy church.

A few years ago, I sat down with a man named Ron Post. Ron was about to retire from a ministry he had started twenty years before called Northwest Medical Teams. Northwest Medical teams is an aid organization that sends doctors to volatile regions of the world to help the sick and dying. We met at a coffee shop across town and I asked Ron questions about how he had built this eighty-million-dollars-per-year ministry, with 98 percent of the money going directly to the work being done in the field. I asked how he structured his time, how he delegated responsibility, and finally asked him what was they key to his success. To answer the last question, Ron pulled from his pocket a tattered envelope filled with pictures.

For the rest of the meeting the man laid down pictures of people he had met, the first of which was a young Cambodian woman, who, at the age of thirteen was being used as a sex slave to the Khmer Rouge. He told me they had rescued her from her captivity and given her a new life filled with the knowledge and love of Christ. As he showed me picture after picture of blind people who, because of a sample surgery, could now see,

FROM THE PASTOR

crippled people who could walk, the starving who had been fed, he told me their names. *He knew their names, every one of them.* I had asked the man what they key to his successful ministry was, and he told me through his stories they key to his multimillion-dollar ministry was a love of people. And I believe now and will always believe that if we are willing to love people, God will pour out His resources to bless our lives and our efforts.



The heart of faithful ministry is simply that: a love of God, and a love of people. When that love of people is shown in concrete acts of ministry, even things as simple as learning people's names,

God is glorified, and the gospel is spread. As we enjoy the slower pace of summer, let's not forget that "doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God" (Micah 6:8) is a commandment for all seasons!

Blessings,



On Pentecost Sunday, May 27, we received three new members who joined with the New Hempstead Presbyterian Church.

Jann Morton recently moved to this area from Pennsylvania and lives with her grandmother, Barbara Hurley. Jann has one daughter, Carol Shaffer.

Jane Craig Sebok has been active in the choir for some time and recently moved to Rockland County from Long Island City.

Lisa Dewey has been attending services and lives in the New Hempstead area. Lisa and her husband, Jim, have one daughter, Natalie.

What are You Doing on Your Summer Vacation?

From Mark Zacheis

School's out for the summer, and students everywhere enjoy the time off by taking family vacations, spending time with their friends and having a good time in general. Two of the members of our Youth Group have special plans this summer.

Annabella Panaro is spending a week in Costa Rica on a mission trip building a childcare facility. As part of "In the Carpenter's Footsteps, Inc.," a non-profit group of volunteers dedicated to Christian projects world-wide (based in and supported by the Christ Presbyterian Church in Tallahassee), Annabella and other volunteers will be finishing a floor, sanding and painting walls, participating in a sewing class and serving food. She is no stranger to this kind of work, having previously gone to Jamaica with the same group two years ago.

Nadia Omer is an artist. Some of her works have been chosen for display at the NAACP convention in Detroit this summer. Nadia and five other young artists from the New York metropolitan area have been invited to attend the convention and show off their work. Nadia will be going to Detroit in July.

Both of these young women will be traveling with the support of our church. You can look forward to hearing them tell of their experiences during Worship later in the year.



The women's breakfast will not be meeting for July, August and September. Labor Day weekend gets in the way and there are many activities in September. In addition, from now on we will be having our breakfasts at the City Line Restaurant at the end of Main Street in New City.

Annual Church Picnic: Our annual church picnic was a great success! About 75 people ate huge quantities of hamburgers, chicken and franks. In addition, there were spring rolls, potato salad, chili, meatballs, corn fritters, salads, deserts and much, much more. In spite of the cloudy skies, the day was cool and dry. Everyone helped setup and clean after the picnic. A very special thanks to our Grill Chefs, Sid Gerstein, Percy Crockett, Mark Bidon and all the Grill Supervisors!

Welcome Back Sunday: September 9 will be welcome back Sunday. We will have an outdoor (weather permitting) light lunch to welcome back all our members and friends who have been on vacation. This will be a great time to share our adventures and experiences. Remember, we return to our 11 AM service on this day! Small finger foods are welcomed.

Peacemaking Offering

From Janine Kallé, Chair,
Mission and Outreach Committee

Dear friends & congregants of NHPC:

Since 1936, Christians around the world have celebrated the unity we have with each other through Christ by means of World Communion Sunday. This special day was begun by a group of ministers who saw that receiving the bread and cup of the Lord's Supper was a unifying act for Christians of all denominations and all nations. World Communion Sunday continues to speak to the need of Christians to find and live out that deep bond we have with each other.

One way we can celebrate our unity through Christ with other Christians is by being peacemakers—following the leadership of the Prince of Peace. For that reason, Presbyterians have been receiving the Peacemaking Offering on World Communion Sunday for more than twenty-five years.

This year the Peacemaking Offering's theme, "And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations," calls us to the vision of a world at peace that John wrote of in Revelation 21 and 22—the New Jerusalem. John tells us that God's home is among the people, and God will wipe away all tears. All the nations will live by the light of God's glory, and because they live



Revelation 21:5

in peace there is no need to shut the gates to the city. The leaves of the tree of life in the New Jerusalem are to heal any divisions and wounds of the peoples of the earth.

The Peacemaking Offering invites PC (USA) churches to find ways to offer leaves of healing to people within our congregations, our communities, and around the world that will help create a

peaceful world. Twenty-five percent of the Offering stays with our congregation for peacemaking activities, so we decide how best to put this



Peacemaking Offering

money to work. Another 25 percent goes to our presbytery and/or synod, and 50 percent goes to the General Assembly for peacemaking involvement throughout the world.

Join us as we work for peace in our community. Join us for worship on World Communion Sunday, and give generously to the Peacemaking Offering.



MISSION PROJECT

Housing Mission Opportunity

From Sue Rentz

Reverend Bruce Page and Greenbush Presbyterian Church are sponsoring a mission trip to Gulfport, Mississippi to help rebuild homes destroyed by Hurricane Katrina. I participated in this same Presbyterian mission project last October.

Dates:

Sunday, October 7 — Thursday, October 11
(Columbus Day Weekend)

You may choose to go earlier or stay longer to work an extra day or to visit New Orleans. More details about costs and accommodations will follow. If you are interested, please let me know.



The Carriage Stone is pleased to announce that Sylvia Miller has agreed to put together a Milestones column for the newsletter. The column will celebrate the milestones in the lives of our church members and friends.

So, if you have a milestone to report send it to Sylvia Miller at 358-1680 or gsmiller98@optonline.net. Submissions should be about a paragraph in length.

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**Josh Charbonneau**, son of **Pam Charbonneau**, graduated Sunday, June 10 from William Mason High School in Mason, OH. One of 580 seniors, Josh graduated *magna cum laude*. In the fall, he will be attending Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN. Josh has decided to major in engineering.

**Terry Lucas** and her husband, who were married in our church in 1969 by **Reverend Verdesi**, celebrated their thirty-eighth anniversary June 28. Congratulations!

**Kristen Rabeler's** daughter **Nadia Omer** is a finalist in the ACT-SO competition of the Spring Valley NAACP. Nadia, a junior at Spring Valley High School, was chosen for her drawing. She will be going to Detroit in July for the National ACT-SO competition. The youth group held a car wash to assist Nadia with expenses for the trip. Sponsors are needed for funding this opportunity.

**Shirley Martignetti's** daughter **Stephanie** graduated from Penn State University with a BFA in Musical Theatre and a Minor in Dance. She will spend the summer working at Music Theatre of Wichita where she will earn her Equity card. She plans to move to New York

City in late August and pursue a career in the theater.

**Kristen Zacheis**, daughter of **Mark** and **Barbara**, has graduated from Moravian College. She will attend Widener in the fall to major in social work.

**Barbara Zacheis** recently performed a very successful recital at our church. According to **Kristen**, this was her mother's first recital since college (*several* years ago).

Those who attended the Rockland Opera's presentation on June 10 were given another historic moment. **Dillon McCartney**, tenor, in the aria *Credeasi misera* sang an F above high C, undisputedly the first time that note has been sung in our church.

**Barbara Hurley's** great-granddaughter, **Amy Davenport**, who reported to us on her 20-day trip to France, Italy and Malta as a People-to-People Ambassador just graduated from high school. During her report, she also delivered a pound of coffee from the Dominican Republic that her father Roland Davenport brought back from his workweek with The Central Christian Assoc. Inc where he worked on building a K-12 School.

**Barbara** also reports that grandson **Robbin Davenport** retired June 30 from the Air Force. He will continue to live in Minot, ND.

**Bob** and **Elaine Philhower** celebrated their eleventh wedding anniversary on June 23.

**Elizabeth Fella**, who has been a solo flautist in our church, recently received the John Philip Sousa Band Award.



**Nora Asamoah** graduated from Ramapo High School, Class of 2007, June 24. She will be attending SUNY Stony Brook with an intended major in Chemistry. Nora has received the following awards: Scholastic Excellence Award, Alpha Kappa Alpha Scholarship of Excellence, Rockland Negro Scholarship Fund, East Ramapo District's Building Association Award and American Legion Civic Award.

**Joshua** graduated from Kindergarten to first grade at Sacred Heart School on June 15. He received the following awards: Purple belt in Little Ninja, Student of the Month and achievement of perfect attendance.



From Vanessa Greenwald

Dear Sunday School Families,

Summer is just around the corner and the New Hempstead Presbyterian Church in collaboration with Germonds Presbyterian Church, are planning an exciting Vacation Bible School adventure!

Are you looking for a safe, friendly and fun environment for your Kids? Are you concerned that your kids will get bored and turn to the television for all of their entertainment? Then sign up today for Great Bible Reef VBS! This



fun-filled vacation Bible school is for everyone (children, youth, parents, etc.) Children five and younger must be accompanied by an adult.

The adventure begins Monday July 9 and continues through Thursday July 12.

Sessions will run from 5:30 – 7:45 PM, with a delicious dinner and yummy snack served daily (Parents, that means no cooking!). All sessions will take place at the New Hempstead Presbyterian Church.

This exciting adventure will be set in a fun underwater environment that will engage your kids in discovering how we can live each day as God's disciples. Through kid-friendly Bible stories that emphasize discipleship, combined with fathoms of hands-on, fun-filled activities, at Great Bible Reef kids will learn that it is fun and faithful to share the good news of Jesus' love with everyone! Kids will also have the opportunity to collaborate on a mission project involving a school located on a tiny Micronesian island named Chuuk.

We promise stories, cool crafts, catchy and fun tunes, zany games and an opportunity to make new friends.

**Registration is going on now!** For more information or to register, visit or call the church office at 354-2372 or speak to Vanessa Greenwald.

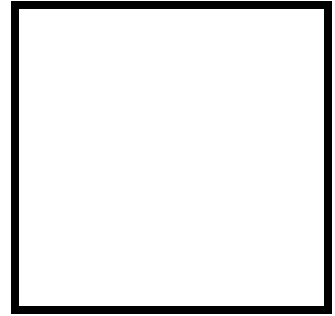
There will be a registration fee of \$5 per person with a \$20 maximum for families with 5+ members attending (monies will go toward dinner and snacks).

We cannot wait to get started so sign up today!

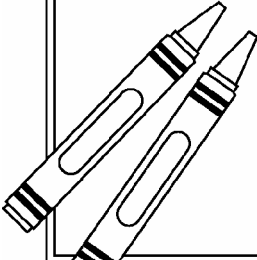


Newsletter of the English Church

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church  
 484 New Hempstead Road  
 New City NY 10956



**DATED MATERIAL**  
**JULY 2007**



**Just for KIDS**

**THE LORD IS MY ROCK**

Skipping stones, rock climbing and hiking are all fun summer activities. What do they all have in common? Rocks! Look at Psalm 18:2 to see the strength in the ONE rock we can depend upon.

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Search the puzzle for the **BOLD** words from Psalm 18:2, and circle them.  
 The words **MY** and **ROCK** only need to be found once.

**"The LORD is MY ROCK, MY FORTRESS and MY DELIVERER; MY GOD is MY ROCK, in whom I TAKE REFUGE. HE is MY SHIELD and the HORN of MY SALVATION, MY STRONGHOLD."**

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GOD ROCKS.