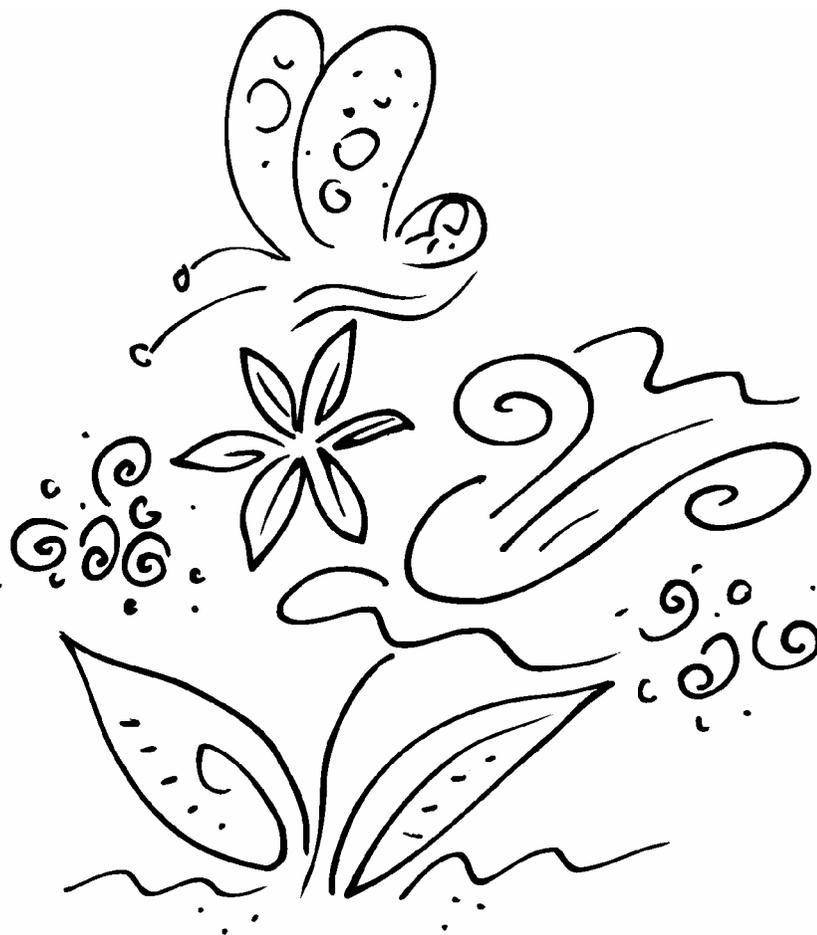


# The Carriage Stone

May 2006

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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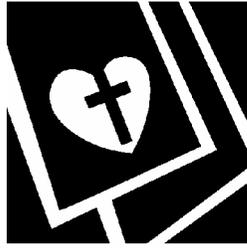
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**Submissions:** in my mailbox or to carriagestone@nhpchurch.org



# FROM THE PASTOR

## The Gospel and Forsythia

As I write this, the flowers are just starting to bloom. One of my favorite early spring plants is forsythia—that lovely, golden shrub that glows so beautifully against a stormy April sky. It seems like it’s lit from within. There’s something so inviting about that beautiful, glowing yellow bush that makes me want to get closer. I always think if I go stand next to it, I would feel warmer!

This year, June 4 is the feast of Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples after Jesus ascended into heaven. It’s what the Church calls a “moveable feast” which means its date moves from year to year, like Easter. The liturgical color is red, symbolizing the flames of the Spirit,

which  
empowered  
those disciples



to spill out into the streets of Jerusalem, proclaiming the Gospel in languages they did not speak. Sometimes, I wish that color were glowing yellow, like forsythia.

Today, we rarely have the need to speak in languages unknown to us in order to share The Good News of our risen Lord Jesus. We are much more likely to try to live that Good News. When we are *living* the Gospel, we cast a warm glow around all we meet.

We strive to be an inviting people, sharing by our loving attitude the love of God that we have experienced in Jesus Christ. When folks experience that warmth and love, they want to know where it comes from, and then we have an invitation to talk about our faith in God.

We are so blessed to have a warm, loving congregation. Consider asking a friend to come and worship with us some Sunday, and feel that love for themselves.

Blessings,

# Pentecost Offering

for Children at Risk, Youth, and Young Adults

Through the Pentecost Offering, the church expresses a common commitment to provide hope for children at risk, opportunities for youth and young adults to grow in their faith, and short-term mission service options for young adults.

Please give generously.



## Pentecost Offering

From Janine M. Kallé, Mission and Outreach

Pentecost is an exciting time of year. We celebrate the birthday of the church and celebrate the Holy Spirit, who brings new life and hope! Through our participation in the Pentecost Offering, we act on the gifts the Spirit brings to provide healing and hope to younger members of God's family: children at risk, youth and young adults.

This year's Offering theme, "And they were amazed," comes from Acts 2:7, part of the story of the Day of Pentecost. The multitude's response to the coming of the Holy Spirit is described as being amazed or utterly astonished. Pentecost is like that. It is utterly amazing. Through the Holy Spirit, God completely transformed the cowering disciples into people who changed the world. We can be utterly astonished by the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Pentecost Offering, like the Day of Pentecost itself, is a vehicle for that astonishment. It gives us the opportunity to use 40 percent of the amount we receive to make amazing changes in our community on behalf of children at risk. Through General Assembly ministries, the Pentecost Offering also makes an astonishing impact as it guides and nurtures the faith of Presbyterian young people, calls forth a new generation of church leadership and advocates for children at risk on a national level.

Thank you for your support of the Pentecost Offering on June 4. Your gifts will have an amazing impact!

## Confirmation Class Service Project "Fasting for Food"

As part of their educational training, the confirmation class will be doing a service project. The project selected is raising money to provide food for the People to People food pantry. The class will be fasting for thirty hours, starting Friday, May 19 at 6 PM and culminating at midnight Saturday, May 20. That Saturday evening the young people will be holding a lock-in at Murchison Hall, talking about what it means to be hungry and traveling to the grocery store to buy food for the pantry. The following week they will deliver the food to People to People.

The confirmation class is asking you the congregation to help, by donating either money or food to their effort. Canned food can be dropped off in the entry to the Colonial Room. Checks can be made out to the church, with "Confirmation Class" written on the memo line.

Look forward to hearing more from our confirmands about our project and hunger in Rockland County during the Minute for Mission time in May.



## Thank You, Valarie

From Bernice Rice Gerstein

For the past twenty something years Valarie Garcia has climbed the stairs to the choir loft to sing God's praises. Now, however, it is no longer physically possible to maneuver those narrow steps. So, Valarie has "resigned" from the choir. Fortunately, for those of us lucky enough to get a seat near her, we can still enjoy Valarie's melodic praise. Thank you so much Valarie for so many years of such wonderful singing.

## Upcoming Events

May 28 **Memorial Day** 11 AM Service

Please join us as we remember our veterans, past and present. We will have a very special service that will include music, light lunch and a special dedication.

June 4 **Feast of Pentecost** 11 AM Service

Last day of Sunday School; annual church picnic. (See below.) Rockland Opera will be in the sanctuary to rehearse by 2:30 PM for a 4 PM performance.

June 10 **Premiere of "The Parting"**

See details to the left.

June 11 **Trinity Sunday** 11 AM Service

Confirmation class will be received. This is also the last 11 AM service until after Labor Day.

June 18 **Eleventh Sun. in Ordinary Time  
Fathers' Day** 10 AM Service

## Church Picnic

This years Annual Church Picnic will be in early June to give early vacationers a chance to attend. The picnic will be held between the Manse and the side entrance to the Church. Please sign up and let us know if you would like to bring a dessert or salad (finger foods are optional). We will provide the drinks and all the food for the BBQ.

If the weather is warm enough, the children usually play with water behind Murchison Hall. So, they should bring bathing suits and towels so they can join in the fun!



FADE IN: FILMS PRESENTS

## *The Parting*

A Short Film by Thomas Collardeau & John Frobel Hong

## Movie Premiere

From Mark Zacheis

The movie, "The Parting" that was filmed on location at New Hempstead Presbyterian Church last August, has completed postproduction and had its New York City premiere on April 15. The twenty-minute short film is not scheduled to be shown in theaters but will make the rounds of the film festivals. If you missed the April 15 showing, you'll need to go to Cannes or Sundance to be able to see it.

Alternatively, you could mark your calendar for Saturday, June 10 and plan to attend the Rockland County premiere. We will be showing the film in Murchison Hall in its entirety that evening. We will also have as our special guests, the producers Thomas Collardeau and John Hong in attendance to give a talk on the making of the film.

Exact details about the evening were still in the planning process at press time but when finalized they will be publicized in the church bulletin and on the website. In the meantime, keep the date and plan to join us. How often do you get to go to a movie premiere anyway?

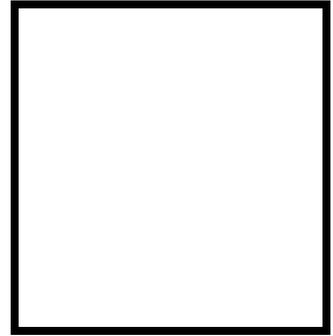
The Parting tells the story of a couple dealing with the changing dynamics of their relationship and the role the community plays in supporting their marriage.

For more information about the film, including a short trailer, you can go to the production company's website, at [www.fadeinfilms.com](http://www.fadeinfilms.com).

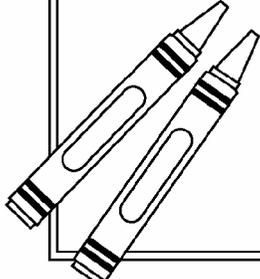


Newsletter of the English Church

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



DATED MATERIAL  
 MAY 2006



**Just for KIDS**

*Mothers of the Bible*

*God wants us to love and honor our mothers – not just on Mother’s Day, but every day. The Bible tells us about many mothers who loved God.*

Use the code to discover each mother’s name.

CODE	
☛	☚
1 A	☚
2 R	☚
3 Z	☚
4 D	☚

4☛ 1☚ 1☚ 2☚ 1☚

2☚ 1☚ 3☚ 3☚

1☛ 4☚ 1☛

3☚ 1☚ 2☚ 1☚ 3☚

3☚ 1☚ 4☚ 1☚ 2☚

3☚ 1☚ 4☛ 4☛ 1☚ 3☚

2☚ 1☚ 2☚ 2☚

1☛ 2☚ 1☚ 1☚ 3☚ 1☛ 3☚ 1☚ 3☚

2☚ 1☛ 1☚ 3☚

2☚ 1☚ 2☛ 3☚ 1☛ 2☚

2☚ 1☛ 3☛ 1☛ 4☚ 1☚ 3☚



Answers: NAOMI, RUTH, EVE, SARAH, HAGGAR, HANNAH, MARY, ELIZABETH, LEAH, RACHEL, REBEKAH.