

# The Carriage Stone

May 2008

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, New City, NY.  
The English Church



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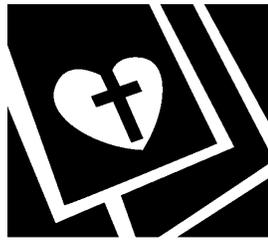
"The Carriage Stone" is the Newsletter of  
**The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church**  
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**Next Deadline:**  
Sunday, May 18

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# FROM THE PASTOR

## Pentecost Blessings

What does Pentecost look like? We all know the story from Acts 2, where the disciples are gathered together in Jerusalem, and a mighty wind blows through the house where they are staying. Tongues of fire alight on their heads, and the Holy Spirit fills them with the ability to speak languages they had never learned, in order that the Gospel could



be proclaimed to all gathered for the feast of Pentecost.

What does Pentecost look like here, in the middle of Rockland County, New York?

It looks like people who gather once a week for worship and fellowship. It looks like people visiting those who are sick, infirm, or those recovering from surgery. It looks like people sharing their vision of what our congregation can do with its property, and challenging us to donate to the Capital Fund Campaign. It's Deacons organizing a "baby shower" for moms-to-be who may have little or no other community support. It's dedicated choir members and Christian

Educators, youth group leaders, and Presbytery members and Elder Commissioners.

Pentecost, the "Birthday of the Church" is a time to remember God's gift of power through the Holy Spirit. It's a time to think intentionally about the ministry and mission of this congregation. Already, a "house-building" trip to Nicaragua is being planned for the summer of 2009. The youth are planning to participate in a CROP walk to help feed the hungry this June.

This is a broken hurting world. As Christians, we are called not to turn aside from the world, and take a kind of shelter from the storms of life in the church. We are called to be **with** the suffering of the world as Christ's continuing presence on earth. May we keep our eyes, ears, and hearts open for more opportunities to BE Christ's body for our community.



## BOARD of DEACONS

### Deacons Invite You to Help Pregnant Women

The Deacons, in an attempt to expand our local outreach are working with the Nyack Resource center. We want to provide pregnant women who are in need of assistance with items that would be given as gifts for a baby shower. The Deacons are requesting donations of baby items from the congregation. We can use baby clothes, blankets, etc, which are in good condition. The items may be new or nearly new in good condition. Gently used items will be gladly accepted and distributed. The items can be brought to the church and we will handle the rest. We are planning to make our first delivery shortly after Mother's day.

### Prayer Group Meeting

Sylvia L. Pridgen, Prayer Committee Chair

There is a prayer group meeting in the church after worship on Sunday for the success of our Capital Campaign. We pray for the success of the campaign and for any other prayer suggested by the congregation. We also have committed to

pray every evening at 9 PM. If you would like to join us, please do. This campaign is very urgent because of all the repairs and upkeep of this grand church.

#### Prayer Group



Prayer partners are Carmen Bermudez, Jocelyn Daniel, Valarie Garcia, Cathy Greenhalgh, Barbara Hurley, Wendy Keryk, Joanna Meckley, Lois Mauriello and Sylvia L. Pridgen.

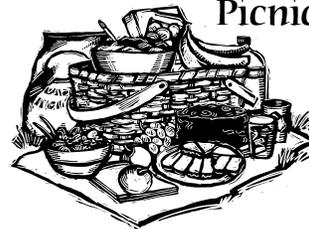
### Memorial Day Celebration

The church will be celebrating Memorial Day during Worship on Sunday, May 25. There will be special music, an American flag cake and a light luncheon.



Starting June 15, Worship services will move to their summer time of 10 AM. If you forget, just go directly to coffee hour, scan the bulletin to find out who m to thank for special music and enjoy some fellowship.

### Annual Picnic



If we're talking about summer Worship services, then the annual church picnic must be just around the corner. Not much

is available at press time, but save the date, June 8, just in case. You can expect food, fellowship and fun with an opportunity to share your favorite dishes and to invite your friends and family to join us.

## Senior Awareness Day

From Rockland County office for the Aging

On Tuesday, May 20, there will be a Senior Awareness Day at Rockland Community College. Co-sponsored by the county office for the aging and RCC, the conference will include two workshop series, exhibits, refreshments and much more. Dr. Joan Facelle, Commissioner of Health, is the Keynote Speaker.

The free event runs from 8:30 to 2:30 at RCC. Registration is in the Cultural Arts Building. If you go, bring a non-perishable food item to fight hunger in the community.

## Poll says Bible is America's favorite book

From Brittani Hamm, Religion News Service

The Bible is the favorite book of all time for American adults, regardless of demographic group, according to a new 2008 Harris Interactive Poll.

Researchers said it's rare to find such consensus among Americans, regardless of gender, education level, geographic location, race/ethnicity or age. Yet, more than 2,500 Americans surveyed in an online poll agreed that the Bible is their No. 1 favorite book.



The poll also found that political affiliation did not affect novel preference — Republicans, Democrats and Independents

alike agreed on The Bible and "Gone with the Wind" as their top two favorite books.



According to the survey, America's favorite books are:

- 1) "The Bible"
- 2) "Gone with the Wind" by Margaret Mitchell
- 3) "Lord of the Rings" (series) by J.R.R. Tolkien
- 4) "Harry Potter" (series) by J.K. Rowling
- 5) "The Stand" by Stephen King
- 6) "The DaVinci Code" by Dan Brown
- 7) "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee
- 8) "Angels and Demons" by Dan Brown
- 9) "Atlas Shrugged" by Ayn Rand
- 10) "Catcher in the Rye" by J.D. Salinger

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There are people in the world so hungry, that God cannot appear to them except in the form of bread.

— Mohandas K. Gandhi

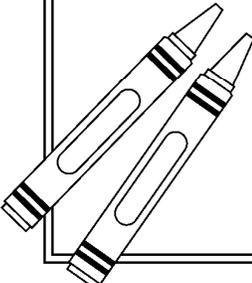


Newsletter of the English Church

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



**DATED MATERIAL**  
**MAY 2008**



**Just for KIDS**

*A Mother of Noble Character*

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

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- 1** "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2** "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3** "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4** "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5** "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6** "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7** "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

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Caring \_\_\_\_\_

Godly \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared \_\_\_\_\_

Hardworking \_\_\_\_\_

Hearty \_\_\_\_\_

Priceless \_\_\_\_\_

Kind \_\_\_\_\_

Answers:  
1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. hardworking, 4. hearty, 5. caring, 6. prepared, 7. godly