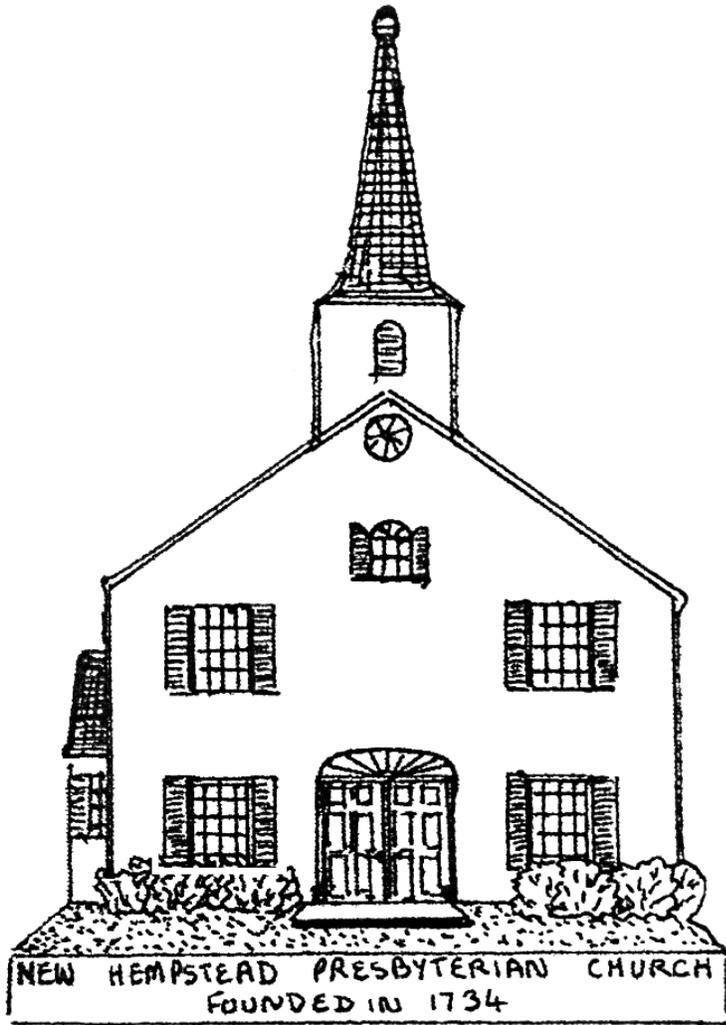


The Carriage Stone

October 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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Service for Healing and Wholeness

“In a variety of ways the church has a commission to minister wholeness: communion with God made whole; community with one’s neighbor made whole; and a relationship to the created world itself made whole.” This statement comes from the PC(USA) *Supplemental Liturgical Resource for Pastoral Care* (Westminster/John Knox Press, 1990). At its August meeting, the Session approved a series of monthly services for healing and wholeness. The first of these will be held Wednesday, October 8, at 7:30 PM in the Sanctuary.

Such a service has deep roots in Christian Scripture and tradition. James 5: 13–14 reminds us, “Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.”

But such healing is not only for individuals with physical, mental, or emotional illnesses. It is about what the Hebrews called *Shalom*. This word, often translated “peace” means much more than that. It includes wholeness—having everything we need to be who God created us to be. It is also about the whole of creation, and the nations of the earth. The Revelation to John speaks of the river of life flowing from the throne of God, watering fruit-bearing trees. “And the leaves of the trees are for the healing of the nations.” (Rev. 22: 2b) We know from the



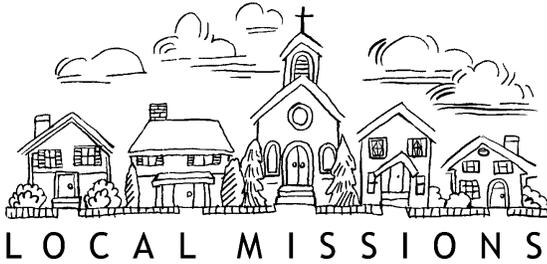
healing ministry of Jesus Christ that God longs to make all of creation whole; indeed, Jesus’ healing ministry was a sign to the world that the Messianic Age had been ushered in.

When we gather as God’s people to worship God and to pray for the wholeness of individuals who are sick, for ourselves, for our country, for the Church and for the world, we are aligning ourselves with God’s will for creation. Healing is not only about cure—or freedom from the signs of sickness. It is also about placing ourselves and those for whose healing we pray into God’s care and keeping; it is about asking for and receiving the strength necessary to be agents of healing and wholeness in our own relationships, and participating in God’s work of healing and reconciliation in the world

The Session and I hope that you will participate in a monthly worship service of prayer, quiet music, and scripture reading. Anointing, which I wrote about in September 2006[†], will be available for those who wish it.

Blessings,

[†] Can’t locate your copy of the September 2006 newsletter? Find it online at:
nhpchurch.org/newsletter/cs_09_06.pdf



Food Drive

The Sunday School and the Youth Group are sponsoring a food drive to benefit Rockland County food banks. The media have been reporting increasing demand at local area food banks, while donations have gotten harder to come by. As a result, many are finding their shelves bare. We believe that we can help. We are asking that each Sunday when you come to church that you bring one packaged foodstuff with you and drop it into the basket placed in the narthex. As the basket fills, the young people will be taking the donations to one of several Rockland County food pantries. We would like the food drive to be ongoing throughout the year, and we hope that your bringing a foodstuff each week will become second nature.

Examples of foodstuff we are collecting include canned vegetables, canned fruit, dried fruit, packaged pasta, cake mixes, jars of pasta sauce, Jell-O mix, powdered milk and oatmeal.

Kickoff of the program started in church on September 21. We hope to continue the drive year round, but will suspend it during the Deacon's Thanksgiving Baskets drive.

Food Drive for Hunger



Share God's Love: Invite Someone to Church!

The next weeks present a prime opportunity to reach out to others and invite them to join you in worship.

- **Think of family members:** spouse, parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, in-laws
- **Think of neighbors:** next-door neighbors, elderly persons down the street, new families on your block
- **Think of people at work:** colleagues, clerical staff, students you teach, clients, new staff members
- **Think of friends:** single friends, parents of your child's friends, old friends from school
- **Think of casual associates:** your dentist, doctor, real estate or life insurance agent, your child's teacher, merchants, service or luncheon club members
- **Think especially of people undergoing personal life stresses of some kind:** people recently divorced, couples with new babies, families that have experienced a recent death, households where someone has lost their job

Reprinted from the newsletter of First Presbyterian Church, Savannah, Georgia.

Worship, Music and the Arts

Worship, Music and the Arts next meeting is October 29 at 8 PM in the Colonial Room. All are welcome.



From the Deacons

Throughout the summer, the Deacons have sponsored a fellowship and coffee hour after Worship on Sundays. As we enter into a new season filled with celebrations and events, we would like to extend the invitation for the congregation to be come involved in the planning and the sponsoring of these weekly affairs. A coffee hour can be as simple or as elaborate as one would like. The idea is simply to bring our members and friends together in fellowship. So if you would like to lend a hand, please see one of the Deacons. They will be able to assist you and schedule a Sunday that is convenient for you.

Thanksgiving Baskets

It does not seem possible that our thoughts can already be of Thanksgiving and of our community outreach to those in need during the season. Once again, the Deacons of New Hempstead will organize and distribute food baskets. Carmen Bermudez will have more specifics in the near future, but in the meantime, we can all be looking for sales in the supermarkets. This congregation has always been so generous and kind in providing for this project.

Fundraiser

Enclosed in this issue of *The Carriage Stone* is an order form for an exciting new fundraiser; one that is a must have for those who not only love New Hempstead Presbyterian Church but also love history and architecture. Thank you Wendy Keryk for investigating this idea and for your time in bringing it to reality.

Children's Time

From Barbara Zacheis
Chair, Worship, Music
and the Arts



Perhaps you might like to share some small insight, story, lesson or activity with our youngsters? During our worship service would be the perfect avenue for that! We would love to have members of the congregation volunteer to get involved in the service by leading the Children's Time. You could do it once, or plan to help several times during the year. Think about it and then speak to Pastor Lori or myself and we'll schedule an opportunity for you to share.



Directory Updates

From Shirley
Martignetti,
Office Manager

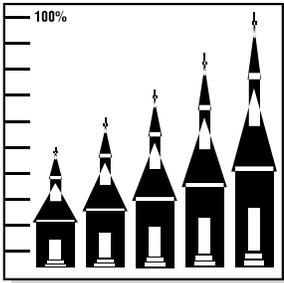
Please confirm that your email, phone number and home address are correct as listed in our directory.

Any updates or corrections can be sent to:

smartignetti@nhpchurch.org

or mailed to:

Shirley Martignetti / Directory Updates
New Hempstead Presbyterian Church
484 New Hempstead Road, New City NY 10956



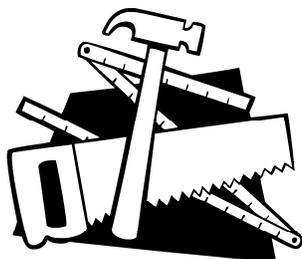
CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Capital Campaign Update

From Mark Zacheis

Thank you all for your support of the capital campaign and for your continued generosity for making payment on your campaign pledges. Many of you have been asking how the fund is going, what the next capital project is or when we are starting such and such a project. The answers are that many of you have been very generous to the campaign, and while we did not reach the stated goal, we still did pretty well and we expect to move forward on many of the projects that were mentioned in the campaign literature.

There have been a few projects that required immediate attention and we have been working on them throughout the summer. Murchison Hall required a number of immediate building upgrades to bring it up to code and proper fire safety levels. The emergency exit out the back of the building has been rebuilt, fire alarm pulls and new emergency lighting were installed and the front door lockset was replaced. Other capital projects include completing the renovations to the Colonial Room and the painting of the east side of the church building.



RENOVATION PROJECT

One of the primary projects of the campaign is the renovation of the bathrooms in Murchison Hall. This will involve careful planning and significant expense. There will be demolition involved and a certain period where the building will be without bathroom facilities. We are going

to want to have a complete and thorough plan in place before we start and are going to want to do the project when there will be the least amount of disruption to Murchison Hall users. Likely, this will not happen until next summer at the earliest, as we accumulate the funds and prepare our plans. We will keep you informed.

One of the other projects on the list was to paint the barn. The painter's estimate was significant and given that we did not raise as much as we had hoped, we decided that our capital campaign funds were best spent elsewhere. This still left us with an unpainted barn, so the men's breakfast group decided that they would take on that project themselves. As of this writing we have already power washed the building, stripped off the loose paint and started the priming. We hope to finish the priming and painting this fall before the weather turns cold.



If you have any questions about the capital fund and about how the money is being spent, please be sure to talk to Mark.

Large Print Bulletin



If you are having difficulty reading the church bulletin or the words in the hymnal, you are probably not alone. Please let us know if there is a need to make available a few larger print copies of the service and hymns each week. If this would help you please contact the office at

office@nhpchurch.org

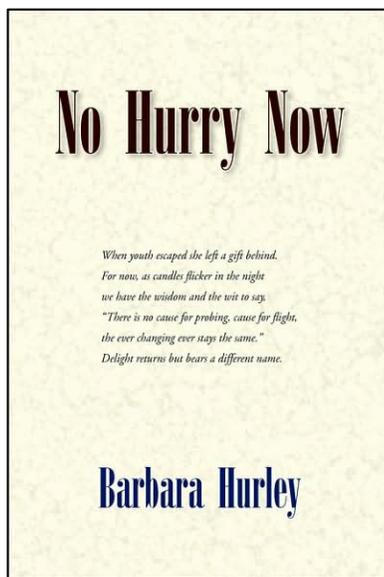
or (845) 354-2372 or let Barbara Zacheis know.

Barbara Hurley Book Signing

“How do you savor each moment that life brings? How do you make sure you don't miss every chance to create new memories? Author Barbara Hurley shares her sentiments and thoughts on life through a wonderful poetry anthology, *No Hurry Now*.

No Hurry Now is a beautiful poetic album of verses that speaks of the author's personal reflections on dreams and hopes, keen observations on people and nature, and deep views on love and other emotions. Feel the emotions flowing through her autobiographical poetry. As Hurley paints her experiences and memories with vivid and vibrant words, she shows her most honest expressions. In some of her poems, she features the splendor and magic of Dan's love - and somehow makes this collection a tribute to a man whose affection she will always treasure.”

So writes the book reviewer at Barnes and Noble of Barbara Hurley's recently published book. On October 19 at 2 PM, we will celebrate Barbara's



book with a reading in the Colonial Room. Her beloved Ramapo Poets will be on hand to help in the presentation, and Barbara will be there to read from her own work and to sign your pre-ordered copies of it. Even if you did not order a book (or have already

procured one elsewhere), come and hear her read from her work and talk about her writing. Refreshments will be served and there is no charge for admission.

Youth Group

The Youth Group has started back up for the fall season and already has several activities on its schedule. In September, we



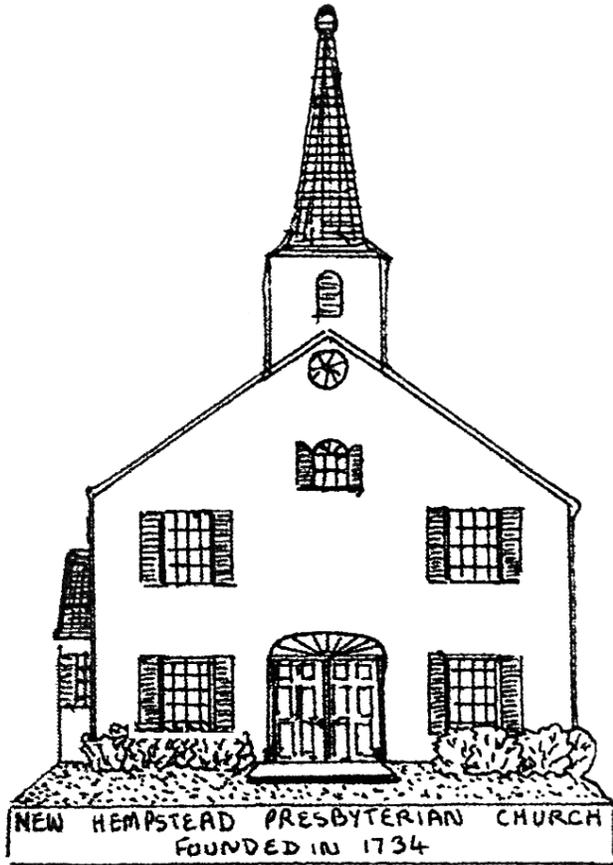
went back in time to the Renaissance Faire and saw knights in shining armor and fair maidens in distress, many talking on their cell phones. We have scheduled a trip to the Forest of Fear where we expect to see ghosts and goblins, many talking on their cell phones. We also have a lock-in scheduled for that same evening after our return, when we can watch videos, eat junk food, stay up all night and talk on our cell phones.

In a more serious vein, the Youth Group will be looking for ways to be more active outside of itself this year. The young people will be helping with Sunday School, working on the on-going church food drive, and looking to team up with the youth groups of other local churches.

If you are a young person between the ages of 12 and 20 and are interested in having fun and eating pizza, or if you know of one who might be, please make Howard or Mark aware of yourself. We meet every Sunday afternoon from 4 to 6 and would love to have you join us.



Miniature Replica of New Hempstead Presbyterian Church



A delightful gift or treasured keepsake, this miniature wooden replica silhouette of our Church is beautifully hand crafted, laser cut and signed by local artist, John Rossi.

To ensure December delivery, all orders must be placed by October 26.

Proceeds to go toward the continuing restoration of our Colonia Room

Dimensions:

4" wide

6" high

1" deep

Please complete and mail or hand deliver this order form to one of our Deacons.

Name _____

Phone # _____ Email _____

Quantity _____ @ \$25 each Total: \$ _____

Date of order: _____ Check # _____ Cash _____



Joanie Fiore has sent in some poems that have given her strength during her recent hospitalizations.

The first was written by Saint Francis de Sales, the bishop of Geneva in the early 1600s. Saint Francis de Sales was known as an inspiring preacher and writer.

Do not look forward to what may happen tomorrow; the same everlasting Father who cares for you today will take care of you tomorrow and every day. Either He will shield you from suffering, or He will give you unfailing strength to bear it. Be at peace, then, put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations and say continually:
“The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart has trusted in Him and I am helped. He is not only with me but in Me and I in Him.”

The second is a prayer for healing attributed to Father Larry J. Hess, pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel Church in Pennsylvania.

Heavenly Father, I call on you right now in a special way. It is through your power that I was created. Every breath I take, every morning I wake and every moment of every hour, I live under your power.

Father, I ask you now to touch me with that same power. For if you created me from nothing, you can certainly recreate me. Fill me with the healing power of your spirit. Cast out anything that should not be in me. Mend what is broken. Root out any unproductive cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and



rebuild any damaged areas. Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection.

Let the warmth of your healing love pass through my body to make new any unhealthy areas so that my body will function the way you created it to function.

And Father, restore me to full health in mind and body so that I may serve you the rest of my life.

I ask this through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The final is a “Bereaved Person’s Prayer” provided by the Archdiocese of New York.



We seem to give our loved ones back to you, Lord. You gave them to us. But just as you did not lose them in the giving, neither do we lose them in the return.

You don’t give in the same way that the world gives. What you give you don’t take away. You have taught us that what is yours is ours also, if we are yours.

Life is eternal, Lord, and your love is undying. And death is only a horizon. And a horizon is nothing but the limits of our sight.

Lift us up strong, Son of God, that we may see farther. Cleanse our eyes that we may see more clearly. Draw us closer to yourself, that we may find ourselves closer to our loved ones who are with you.

And while you prepare a place for them, prepare us also for that happy place where you are and where we hope to be... forever.

Amen

