

The Carriage Stone

September 2009

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

275th Anniversary Family Picnic



Pastor

Pastor's Message2

Christian Education

Christian Ed. at NHPC2
VBS Thanks.....4
Sunday School Starting.....4
Youth Group News.....4
Inquirer's Class5

275th Anniversary

Church Family Picnic3

Committee Reports

From the Deacons3

Life of the Church

Women's Breakfast.....3
Barbara Hurley5
Choir Starting.....5
Nursery School Opening.....5
Fair Trade.....6
From the Editor.....6

"The Carriage Stone" is the Newsletter of

The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church

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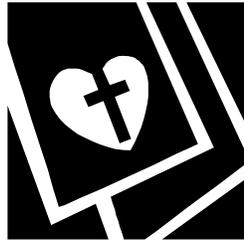
Robert Philhower

Next Deadline:

Sunday, September 20

Submissions: in my mailbox
or e-mail to

carriagestone@nhpchurch.org



FROM THE PASTOR

Christian Education at New Hempstead Presbyterian Church

“Will our children have faith?” the writer and Christian Educator John Westerhoff asked over 30 years ago. Children are a precious gift from God, and when our children are baptized, we as a congregation take vows to rear them in the nurture of the Lord. The leadership of our church takes this responsibility very seriously. The session oversees the Sunday School, Youth group, Adult study events and Vacation Bible School. Under the able leadership of Vanessa Greenwald and Pauline Mattis, the Sunday School program for children has been continued and has grown. Mark Zacheis and Howard Whitehouse provide our teen-agers with a safe space to have fun and some supervised wildness on Sunday evenings. But more is needed.

In order to address this need, the Session has decided to move the Sunday School hour out of the 11 AM worship service. Sunday School for children will now meet in Murchison Hall from 9:30–10:30 on Sunday mornings. As we all know, working with small children can be like herding cats!

The move to 9:30 will accomplish two things:

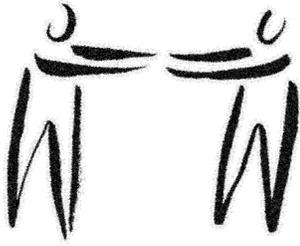
It will give the teachers more time to complete a lesson and activity, and it will allow our children to be in worship with the family of God.

For parents who are concerned that their children may get squirmy, there are packets of kid-friendly puzzles, crayons and pictures to color. These are located in the Narthex.

Christian Education is not just for kids, however. For adults, we offer a Monday Night Discussion group and the Adult Sunday School class led by Ed Garcia. We will be adding another adult class beginning Sunday, Sept. 20 at 9:30 (location to be determined!) This will be more for the study of contemporary issues and how they relate to the life of Christian Faith.

As summer closes and autumn begins, I hope you will take the opportunity to work this time change into your families' plans. Expanding our Christian Education opportunities is a sign of just how our congregation is growing. We want our children to have faith. Just as important, we want our Faith to have children!

Blessings,

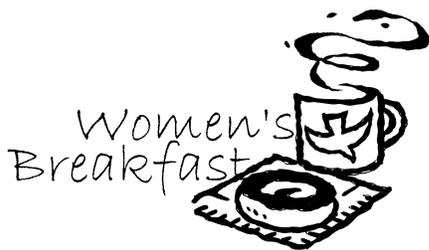


From the Deacons

The Board of Deacons would like to thank all who have participated in the collection of greeting cards, stamps and Bibles that will be delivered to the Hudson River Presbytery's Prison Ministry Program. With your help and cooperation, New Hempstead will be sending a very generous and loving gift.

It is hard to believe that, with the changing of the seasons, our thoughts of Thanksgiving are already in the planning stages. As in every year, New Hempstead will once again participate in a local ministry to distribute food to our less fortunate neighbors. Details will be forthcoming in the weeks ahead; however, if you are aware of a family or individual who could benefit from help during the holidays, please supply a name and contact number to one of the Deacons.

The next Deacons' meeting will be Tuesday, September 8 at 7:30 PM in the Colonial Room.



The Women's Breakfast will resume meeting on Saturday, September 12 at 8:30 AM. We meet at the City Line diner on Main Street in New City.

Anyone is welcome to come; both men and women attend regularly on the second Saturday of each month.

You're invited to the

275th Anniversary Family Picnic

Bring the whole family and invite all your friends to come join the fun. Something for everyone and an opportunity to get to know each other better!

Where: Congers Lake Memorial Park

(Shaded picnic area beside the kids playground) 6 Gilcrest Road, Congers

When: Saturday, September 26, noon to 4 PM

Rain Date: Sunday, September 27, 1 to 5 PM

What will be provided:

Cold soft drinks
Trestle tables and benches

What you will need to bring:

Food, plates, flatware, drinking cups, napkins and flasks of hot beverages—enough for your own family and friends — and a little extra to share with others

Bring a tablecloth and seat cushions to make the benches a little softer or bring a blanket and sit on the grass.

Events:

Mystery Baby Photo Contest
Mystery Characters Contest



Thanks for Your Help with VBS!

From Pauline Mattis

Thanks to everyone who contributed time, talent and donations to Vacation Bible School 2009. Your efforts and support was greatly appreciated. The theme was:

Discovery Canyon: Explore the Wonders of the Word!

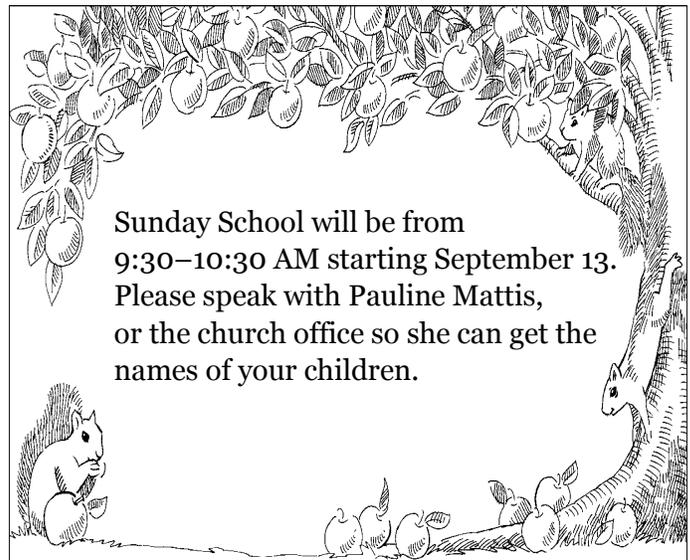
New Hempstead Presbyterian Church and our sister church, Germonds Presbyterian, participated and it was a success. We had about 30-40 adults and children each night. The children heard stories that taught them how to pray, rejoice, seek and trust. The food, music and games were great.

We collected school supplies and non-perishable food items that were sent to People to People charity organization.

Special thanks to Nora Asamoah, Timothy Bidon, Barbara & Mark Zacheis, Nancy Jacobs, Carmen Bermudez, Pat & Percy Crockett, Howard Whitehouse, Sonia Henderson, Lona Asher & Walter Hemsley, Pastor Lori, Pastor Scott of Germonds, Michele Batista of Germonds and all members and friends of Germonds who helped by giving time, talent, and donations.

Thanks to all the parents who brought and stayed with the children; and again, thanks to ALL of you who supported and made donations.

We look forward to VBS 2010!



Sunday School will be from 9:30-10:30 AM starting September 13. Please speak with Pauline Mattis, or the church office so she can get the names of your children.

Youth Group News

The youth group reconvenes on Sunday, September 20 from 6 to 8 PM. There are a number of young people in this church who have come of YG age this year, and we encourage them to come and check us out. We are also looking forward to seeing our returning youth-groupers from last year. We'll be playing games, eating pizza, and talking about our plans for the coming year that night. Come and find out what our Halloween plans are!



The youth group will be continuing the food drive that it started last year. Please consider bringing one non-perishable food item to church with you each week, which will be donated to a Rockland County food pantry. Our goal is 1,000 pounds of food in 2009; we are well within reach of that. September is canned fruit and vegetables month. Please give generously.

Any questions? Speak with Howard and Mark.



IN LOVING MEMORY

Remembering Barbara Hurley

From Bernice Rice Gerstein

Morning Music Club was one of the many non-profit organizations actively supported by Barbara. For many years, she was the Club's Treasurer before turning the position over to me. I can think of no more befitting way to honor Barbara's memory than to issue a scholarship in her name to a deserving Rockland High School Senior at our awards recital in May 2010. If you are interested in contributing to this scholarship, please send your donation to me as follows:

Bernice Rice Gerstein, Treasurer
Morning Music Club
4 Baltic Court
New City, New York 10956-7002

Checks should be made payable to Morning Music Club; in the memo area please indicate "scholarship in memory of Barbara Hurley." All contributions are fully tax deductible.

Inquirer's Class

There will be a class for those interested in considering membership in New Hempstead Presbyterian Church. It will be held on Sundays after Worship starting September 20. Contact Pastor Lori or Ed Garcia for more information.



Choir Rehearsals Starting

From Kryste Andrews, Music Director

Looking forward to choir rehearsals starting Thursday, September 14. We welcome volunteers, especially potential tenors, as we are short on men. This year we'll be adding exciting new choral pieces to our repertoire and featuring the chimes once again. Look for solos, duets, trios and visiting singers from Circle in the Square Theatre School.

Do you want to join but think you can't sing or are hesitating because of lack of music-reading ability? Come and try! It may be time to learn and it certainly can be fun!



Join the Choir...
You'll Be Glad
You Did!

Nursery School Opening

Announcing the opening of Peace through Play Nursery School NORTH in the basement of Murchison Hall.

Peace through Play continues the philosophy of Peace Education as a Montessori-based program and an eclectic approach to best practices in early childhood education preparing children and families for kindergarten and beyond. NYS Licensed; Large outdoor play area; Music, movement and art with an emphasis on cooperative learning, socialization and pre-academic skills looking at each child's individual abilities and growth.

We offer a Universal Pre-K program. For more information, call 354-2924 or 356-8746. See the website at www.peacethroughplay.com

Buying Fair Trade is a Choice for a Better World

From the Presbyterian Hunger Program

Rehima Hussein and her coffee-farming family live far from town, but thanks to the economic benefits of fair trade, Rehima completed high school and now attends college. Fair trade premiums benefit the entire community by allowing farmers to support their families. Parents can afford to keep their children in school rather than sending them out to work. Rehima's family is a member of the Orimia Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union in Ethiopia.

Brian O'Shaughnessy, the Executive Director, recently wrote a letter of thanks to the Synod of the Northeast and Albany Presbytery for our support, saying in part, "We thank you for your prayers and are happy to publicize that our grant is made possible through the sincere responses of Presbyterians to the love of God expressed in Jesus Christ through One Great Hour of Sharing."

The LRC Fair Trade Project builds support for the fair trade movement among union members, their families and their communities. International worker-to-worker solidarity trumps the ravages of corporate monopolies as union members "walk the walk" with workers around the world.

Fair Trade creates a relationship between a consumer who receives a product of excellent quality and a producer who gets a fair price for it. In addition to quality, we have something other sellers cannot offer the consumer — the chance to help communities develop by supporting farmer-owned organizations and care for the environment through the purchase of organic coffee.

—Victor Perezgróvos, Unión Majomut Coffee Cooperative, México.

Presbyterians are connected to the Orimia Coffee Farmers Cooperative Union through their One Great Hour of Sharing donations, which benefit the Union through the LRC. And those who participate in the Presbyterian Coffee Project, especially those who purchase Ethiopian coffee, support them by drinking their coffee. For more information, see: pcusa.org/coffee



From the Editor

By Bob Philhower

As an editor, I cannot abide empty spaces, so I will endeavor to fill this one.

Thank you very much to all of you who send me articles, columns, reports and other tidbits to include. I truly appreciate your contributions. In addition, I even more deeply appreciate that over the past eight-and-a-half years, you have kept your deadlines and enabled me to keep my deadlines with Shirley.

Shirley, of course, is the hero of *The Carriage Stone*. I deliver only one copy to one location; she handles the other 99 copies going out to the ever-changing address list. Thank you, Shirley. Thanks also to Denise Farro who puts the newsletter out on the website.

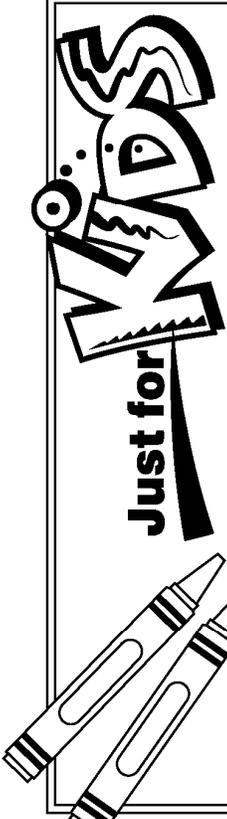


Newsletter of the English Church

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



**DATED MATERIAL
 SEPTEMBER 2009**



Be transformed

It's the beginning of a new school year, and you'll be growing and changing every day. Below is an important lesson that God wants you to remember.

Color in the letter boxes that have an asterisk (*).
 Then write the letters that are left on the lines below to finish Romans 12:2.

c	h*	o	n	d*	f	t*	q*	o	s*	r	a*	b*	r*	m
x*	p	j*	e*	a	t	m*	t	o*	c*	p*	e	r	k*	n
w	d*	o	s*	r*	j*	r	g*	l	b*	l*	i*	n*	d	y*
t	r	i*	a	t*	n	s	r*	f	o	r	v*	m	e	d
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a*	r*	s*	t	e	o*	w*	s	k*	v*	l*	t	e*	a*	
a	p	e*	r*	p	l*	r	g*	o	n*	v	h*	j*	p*	e
n*	o*	G	b*	l*	o	s*	d	a*	l*	l*	s	e*	t*	h*
s*	p	l	m*	e	y*	a	s	o*	r*	i	n	c*	g	n*
p	e	t*	i*	r	f	w*	t*	e	m*	l*	c	d*	a*	t

"Do not _____ any longer to the _____
 of this _____, but be _____
 by the _____ of your _____. Then you will be able
 to _____ and _____ what _____ will be — his good,
 _____ and _____ will." *Romans 12:2, NIV*

Answers: conform, pattern, world, transformed, renewing, mind, test, approve, God's, pleasing, perfect