

The Carriage Stone

April 2010

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, New City, N.Y.
The English Church



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"The Carriage Stone" is the Newsletter of

The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church

484 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY 10956

The Reverend Doctor Lori Knight-Whitehouse, Pastor

Office: (845) 354-2372

E-mail: office@nhpchurch.org

Web: nhpchurch.org

Newsletter Editor:

Robert Philhower

Next Deadline:

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Submissions: in my mailbox
or e-mail to

carriagestone@nhpchurch.org

Pilgrimage to Peru

Adventure in Mission, the Presbyterian Way

From the rugged desert coastline to its majestic Andean mountains, God is at work among the people in Peru. Presbyterian Mission Co-Worker, Jed Koball (former pastor in Hudson River Presbytery and current resident of Peru) is our link to the Peruvian people, supporting and connecting us to ministries among God's people in one of the most culturally rich and ecologically diverse nations in the world -- the land of the former Incan Empire.

A new partnership is emerging through which we will engage the PC(USA)'s Peruvian partners who live out the gospel of Jesus Christ by combating poverty in its most vicious forms through courage, perseverance and coordination in the face of corporate greed, political corruption, climate change and the remnants of a violent past.

Our objectives:

to dig deeper into a globalized world, political and economic systems in order to understand the root causes of poverty;

to dig deeper into ourselves in order to hear God's calling;

to dig deeper into the role of the church in world mission today in order to understand our role in international church partnership.

As we build this partnership, we will engage with

an urban youth-run radio station addressing local issues of poverty and the environment;

coastal communities recovering from an 8.5 earthquake;

Andean alpaca farmers and artisans responding to the urgent crisis of global warming;

and **La Oroya** -- the most polluted place in the Western Hemisphere where 99% of the children have lead poisoning.

This introduction, from www.hudrivpres.org (and last month's newsletter!) is a reminder of the trip Pastor Lori and Howard will be making May 29 through June 9.



As a congregation, we watched the DVD produced by the Save La Oroya organization. We were, I think, appalled at the egregious behavior of the mining company currently working in La Oroya. Perhaps toughest to swallow is the fact that the mine is owned and operated by an American company. We know

that such mistreatment of people—especially children—is not the American Way! As Christians, we seek to be part of a solution to the problems facing our world, and our sisters and brothers here at home and abroad.

The ten of us going on this pilgrimage from Hudson River to Peru have been working together for several months learning about the economic and political realities that affect folks in this part of the world. We will continue to meet regularly in preparation for this trip, and to learn how we can respond most faithfully once we get home. As your pastor, I covenant with you to keep you informed, and to help us look for ways to work on behalf of our sisters and brothers in Peru.

There are ways you can be a part of this effort.

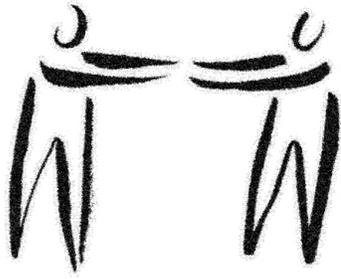
- **Pray!** Pray for the people of La Oroya as they struggle against the lead mine that keeps their children imperiled.
- **Study** and educate yourselves. www.savelaoroya.org is a website with a lot of information as well as links to other related sites.
- **Give.** At its February meeting, the Session authorized a love offering to defray the expenses of the trip. The cost of the trip is \$1500 per person. Howard and I are grateful for any financial assistance you can afford to share with us. As I have said, this is not a mission trip: we will not be taking money or clothes to the folks in country. But we will be coming back to report to you, and to continue to work with the Presbytery and its partners in bringing justice to this part of the world that God loves, and Jesus died for.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lori". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline.



One of the questions raised after the showing of the DVD was what the commercial uses of lead are. As you know, it is has been all but eliminated from paint, vehicle fuels and shotgun pellets. Recently, environmental regulations in many countries (including the United States) have forced large reductions in the use for solder (both electrical and plumbing). In the United States, the majority of lead used (88% according to the USGS) goes into lead-acid batteries in automobiles, industrial electric vehicles such as forklifts, emergency lighting and uninterruptable power supplies.



From the Deacons

The Deacons will be collecting items to be sent to Seth Concklin, son of Ellen and Richard. Seth is presently serving in the U.S. Marine Corps in Afghanistan. He is married and the father of twins. This is his second deployment.

Packages with comfort items as well as necessities are greatly appreciated by our troops, and the contents are shared among their fellow Marines and Soldiers. Seth's address is posted on the bulletin board in the Colonial Room. Cards and letters are always welcome.

Suggestions for packages:

Toiletries such as toothpaste, brushes, deodorant, shampoo, shaving cream and razors.

First Aid supplies: Band-Aids, Q-Tips, Chap Stick, sunscreen

Snacks such as gum, hard candy, peanuts, microwave popcorn, snack crackers, trail mix or small canned fruit.

Activity books: crosswords, Sudoku, etc. or inspirational reading.

Later in the month, the Deacons will be announcing a community outreach program that will assist the Martin Luther King Center. The Center has always been so grateful for any gifts that we give; therefore, the board wants to continue to help them in a small way to carry out their very charitable mission to local families, children and the elderly. Announcements will be made asking for donations of scrap paper, construction paper, old pictorial calendars, crayons, glue sticks, calculators, dictionaries, rulers and children's books. These items may be

new or used. In addition, the Deacons will provide additional supplies from monies left over from your very generous gifts during the Thanksgiving project.

Our next "Change in the Jar" contributions will go to our own Sunday school, which will be raising money to send to the children in Haiti. In the near future, look forward to a special coffee hour hosted by the Sunday school and the Deacons.

Youth Group Food Drive

We are very excited and pleased to report that 236 pounds of food was collected over January and February and has been passed on to the People to People food bank. This is a great start



Youth Food Drive

to meeting our goal of 1,500 pounds of donations over the year. As fun as it is to have a

goal and be competitive about reaching that goal, what is even more important to us is the original proposition, that each of us brings one item of food each week to donate. This serves two purposes – one, it serves to remind us all that we are all blessed with plenty and that plenty was meant to be shared, and two, doing so will allow us to attain the 1,500 pound goal with ease.

So again, many thanks for your generosity, and keep up the good work!

Charles Churchwell

The Carriage Stone expresses its sympathies to Alice Churchwell, family and friends on the loss of Charles Churchwell. The Churchwells joined the Church in 1976 shortly after they were married. In 2006, they moved to Florida to enjoy their retirement. Charles Churchwell entered the Church Triumphant on March 5.



Join the
Writer's Group!

Writer's Group

From Howard Whitehouse

The New Hempstead Writer's Group has been meeting twice a month on alternate Saturday afternoons since October. Currently it has a floating membership of around six, some NHPC members, some not.

Jane Craig Sebok is working on a fantasy novel.

Kryste Andrews is writing a comic/serious memoir of her Colorado childhood.

Howard Whitehouse has just completed "Zombie Hunters of the Fifth Grade" and is wondering what to inflict next on an unsuspecting world.

Other members are working on a Renaissance-era romance, a childhood fantasy novel and a guide to London.

Seniors Teaching Seniors about Computers

Seniornet is an organization of retired seniors who volunteer to teach other seniors (and those over 50) how to use computers. Classes are two hours, once a week for eight weeks at a cost of \$65 for the course. They teach Introduction to Computers, Word Processing, Quicken, Internet and E-mail, Digital Imaging and Genealogy. Classes are small—only eight students with one instructor and two coaches.

For more information, call Eileen Herkes at (845) 623-5467.

Seniornet is a program of Meals on Wheels.



CONTINUING EDUCATION

Sunday School
SCHEDULE

From Pauline Mattis

Here is a look at the lessons your children will be learning in Sunday school in the coming weeks.

March

- 7 Hosanna
Matthew 21:1-11
- 14 This is My Father's House
John 2:13-16
- 21 Remember Me
Luke 22:7-23
- 28 A Prayer in the Garden
Mark 14:32-50

April

- 4 Jesus Lives
Luke 24:1-2
- 11 Peter and John
Acts 3:1-10
- 18 Philip Spreads the Word
Acts 8:26-38
- 25 Peter and Cornelius
Acts 10:1-48

May

- 2 Who is Paul
Acts 9:1-9
- 9 Escape
Acts 9:19-25
- 16 Paul and Barnabas
Acts 9:26-31
- 23 Pentecost
Acts 2:1-13
- 30 Paul and Lydia
Acts 16:11-15

Photos from the Archive

Here are some old photographs of the church from the archives of the Rockland Historical Society.

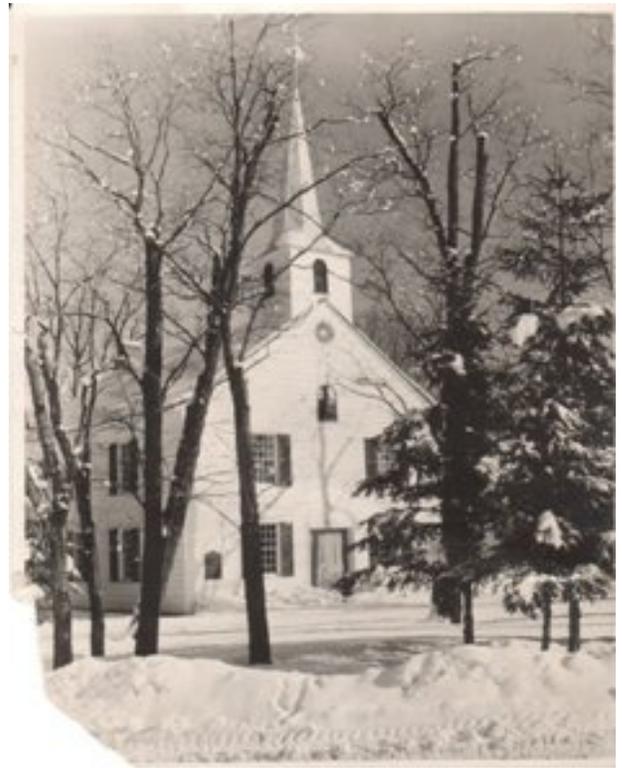


From
1958





1963



1966



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