



# The Carriage Stone

April 2015

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



## Palm Sunday



## MAUNDY Thursday



## GOOD FRIDAY



“The Carriage Stone” is the Newsletter of  
**The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church**

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Sunday, April 26

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## Rockland Worships Together

As many of you know, Karen Martin and I have been involved for the past several months with a group of Reformed Church members and pastors in Rockland County. We call ourselves “*Semper Reformanda*”—the Latin phrase for “always being reformed.” It is a way for us to get to know our Presbyterian and reformed sisters and brothers in the county. So many small churches are struggling right now—for money; for membership; with ways to reach out in mission in the community. One of the aims of *Semper Reformanda* is to get to know one another in order to partner in ministry and mission. Our first joint venture is Rockland Worships Together, when several of the PC, USA churches in the county will come together for shared worship, fellowship, food and mission projects.

Mark your calendars for **Sunday, April 19**. We will post a sign on our church doors with a map, and meet for worship at **Haverstraw Central Presbyterian Church at 10:30**. There will be a joint choir (which Kryste is preparing our choir for) and shared Eucharist. The Rev. Dr. Susan Andrews, General Presbyter of Hudson River Presbytery will preach in one of her last engagements before her retirement at the end of May. The youth of several churches will be greeters before worship begins.

After worship, we will share a covered-dish meal and enjoy fellowship with other Presbyterians in Rockland County. There is a sign-up sheet in the Colonial Room—be sure to let us know what you plan to bring. There will be a “mission fair” after lunch (Laura Metallo Bidon has been working with this group), with several outreach groups in the county will be sharing their purposes and projects. So far, we know that Helping Hands and Keep Rockland Beautiful will have tables, and others are being lined up. Undoubtedly, there will be something to interest everyone!

Make plans now to participate in this event. It is a wonderful opportunity to meet other Christian sisters and brothers on the same branch of the “family tree!” For further information, see me, Karen Martin or Laura Metallo Bidon.



## Helping Hands Safe Haven at NHPC on April 15 – 17

From Laura Bidon

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church is proud to partner with Helping Hands to provide Safe Haven for homeless men and women of Rockland County. Our next Safe Haven nights are scheduled for:

- Wednesday, April 15
- Thursday, April 16
- Friday, April 17

It has been a long, difficult winter for our homeless neighbors, and these will be our last Safe Haven nights for this season.

Volunteers are needed to help prepare and serve meals to our guests. Overnight chaperones are also needed. Contact Mission Chair Laura Bidon if you can lend a helping hand.



## What Happened to “One Great Hour of Sharing”?

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church has a proud tradition of participating in all of the Special Offerings of the PC (USA). Every year about this time, we are in the midst of the “One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.” So why haven’t you heard about the “One Great Hour” this year?

This year, the Mission Committee and Session of NHPC have decided not to participate in “One Great Hour of Sharing.” Instead, we are encouraging our members to participate in our “*Feed the Hungry...Feed the Soul*” offering, to help alleviate hunger globally, nationally, and locally.

You can learn more about our concerns with this year’s “One Great Hour” campaign by following this link:

<https://www.pcusa.org/news/2015/1/12/special-offerings-revise-promotional-campaign/>.

Remaining true to our Presbyterian roots and values, we have written a letter to PC (USA) urging them to:

- 1) Seek more diversity in their planning committees so that potentially offensive materials can be identified earlier and avoided, and
- 2) Re-consider their use of for-profit marketing agencies and expensive promotional materials, and focus instead on making sure our offering dollars go directly to people and programs in need.

We hope you’ll support us in this effort by standing with us in principal, and by giving generously to “*Feed the Hungry...Feed the Soul*” this Lenten Season. Contact Laura Bidon, Mission Committee Chair, if you have any questions or concerns.



**“Feed the Hungry...Feed the Soul”  
Special Offering Lent 2015**

Our *“Feed the Hungry...Feed the Soul”* Special Lenten Offering will benefit the **Presbyterian Hunger Program and People to People**, Rockland County’s largest food pantry.

The single mother...the senior citizen...the veteran...your neighbor...someone you know may need assistance providing food for themselves and their family. Please give to this Special Offering and help alleviate hunger globally, nationally, and locally.



**EASTER**

**Our Talented  
Congregation**

Jane Craig Sebok



For the month of April, we have one listing. Remember to let me know when you have performances coming up, either at [janesebok20@gmail.com](mailto:janesebok20@gmail.com), or during coffee hour.

Here is the listing for April:

**April 6, 3 PM – Jane Sebok**  
New Westchester Symphony Orchestra,  
White Plains High School,  
550 North Avenue, White Plains, NY.

*Selections will include Mozart’s Symphony No. 40 and Beethoven’s Leonore No. 3.*

Germonds Presbyterian Church is hosting a

**Love Your Neighbor  
Spring Children's Fair**

Saturday, April 25 2–4 PM

Put your faith into action...

Make a gift for a friend or neighbor.

Help tie a blanket for Hospice.

Enjoy Ice Cream Sundae refreshments.

Bring a friend; all are welcome. We need helpers to assist the children with the gift projects, serve the ice cream, decorate, tell stories, etc.

Please let me know if you are available to help make this a special day.

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