



# The Carriage Stone

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

*February 2018*



# LENT



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

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## Lent, Again

In an odd calendrical quirk, this year Ash Wednesday falls on Valentine's Day this year. Easter falls on April fool's Day! I find this amusing rather than portentous. As we enter Lent, we should be mindful of the incredible love of God in condescending to become one of us in Jesus Christ. St. Valentine may or may not have existed. If he did, he was martyred for his faith in a God of Love, so it is appropriate that we observe Ash Wednesday on a day dedicated to St. Valentine.

And we must never forget that the Resurrection of Our Lord is a joyous event. If it is a practical joke, as April fool's day is famous for, the joke is on Sin, Death, and Satan. The forces of evil believed they had rid the world of God. But God raised Christ in triumph.

During Lent, it is our task to think and pray with intention about how God seeks to deepen relationship with us.

James 4: 8 reminds us,

“Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.  
Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your  
hearts, you double-minded.”

This is a call, not to wallow in guilt, but to get on with the business of living the Christian life. How will you draw nearer to God this Lent?





## Per Capita

### Per Capita For 2018

From the Finance  
Committee

*The Westminster Confession of Faith says, "All believers are, therefore, under obligation to sustain the ordinances of the Christian religion where they are already established, and to contribute by their prayers, gifts, and personal efforts to the extension of the Kingdom of Christ throughout the whole earth" (The Book of Confessions, 6.058).*

*Per Capita is a fundamental way in which all of the nearly 11,000 congregations of the Presbyterian Church (USA) are connected to and participate in the work of the wider church.*

...taken from the Office of the General Assembly website

The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church is a member of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and as such participates in and supports the work of the national church. Part of that work is a per member contribution of \$37 in 2018. We will be writing a check of more than \$3,000 for that support. Our Session asks that you consider contributing that much for each church member in your household. You can use the blue envelope at the front of your box of envelopes or mark your check "per capita".



### Pastor's Secret Santa Strikes Again!

Once again, someone left me a lovely Christmas gift—anonymously! Whoever played Secret Santa for me, giving me a lovely blue, lace-edged scarf, thank you! I know I will enjoy wearing it!

Lori

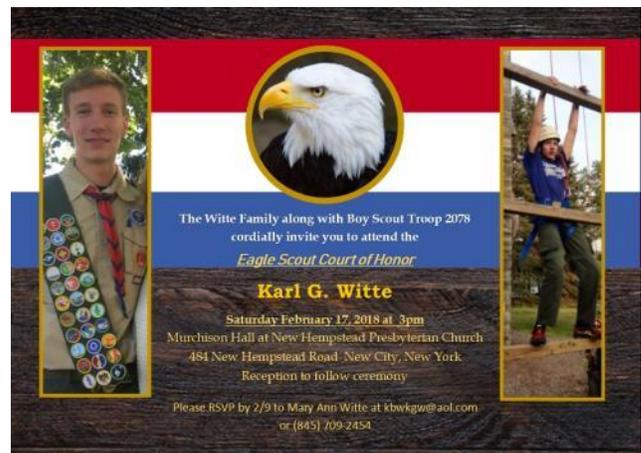
## Celebrate Karl Witte's Eagle Court of Honor

Eagle Scout is the highest rank in the Boy Scout of America and requires years of hard work and dedication.

With that being said, please join us at Karl's Eagle Scout Court of Honor! There will be a ceremony followed by a buffet dinner.

ALL of our church family is welcome and encouraged to help us celebrate!

Please RSVP by February 9 to Mary Ann at [kbwkgw@aol.com](mailto:kbwkgw@aol.com) or call me at 845-709-2454



## OUR HISTORIC CHURCH.

In 1775, Robert Burns was our Minister. On July 17 of that year, he was one of 391 signers of a Resolution declaring, "Allegiance to the Cause of Liberty." Many other members of the English Church signed this Resolution. Before that, the "Orange Town Resolutions" were adopted at the '76 House" in Tappan on July 4, 1774. These "Contained the germ of the great principles adopted the following year."

By Bob Greenhalgh, from Cole's History of Rockland County, 1884.

