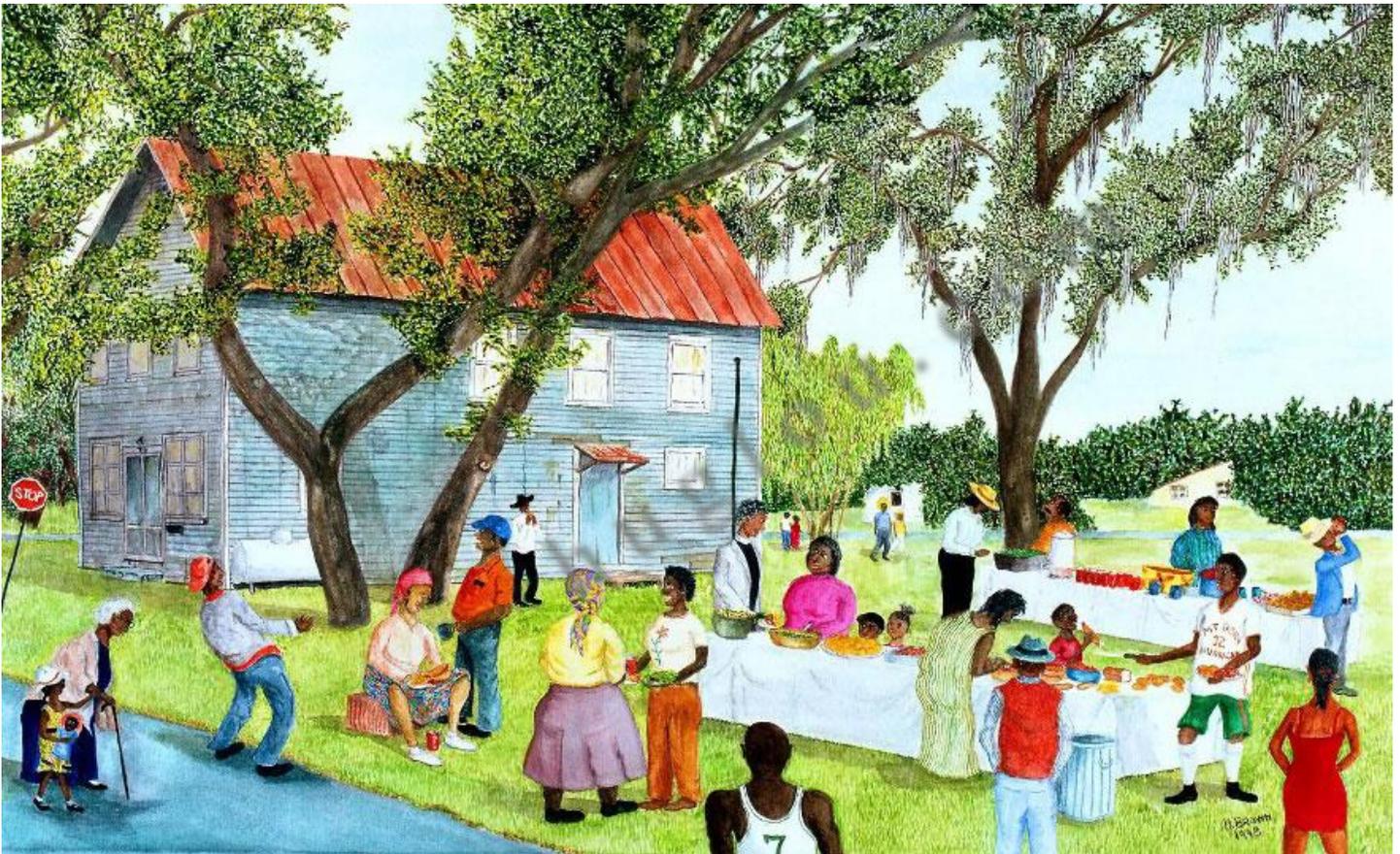




# The Carriage Stone

September 2018

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



Church Picnic on September 23 after Worship



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

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## It's Start-Up Time!



As always, summer has flown by. September is church start-up time. The Sunday after Labor Day, (Sept 9) we start go back to worship at 11:00 AM. Also, adult Bible study will begin again. We are still in Mark's Gospel, and are being very thorough rather than very fast as we move through the text.

September 12 at 7:30 PM, our Race and White Privilege book discussion group will begin conversations around Octavia Butler's fantasy novel, *The Parable of the Sower*. Amazon says,

When unattended environmental and economic crises lead to social chaos, not even gated communities are safe. In a night of fire and death, Lauren Olamina, an empath and the daughter of a minister, loses her family and home and ventures out into the unprotected American landscape. But what begins as a fight for survival soon leads to something much more: a startling vision of human destiny...and the birth of a new faith, as Lauren becomes a prophet carrying the hope of a new world and a revolutionary idea christened "Earthseed".

(I've got to get cracking on this one, I haven't read it yet.) We have been meeting for almost 3 years now, and it is a wonderful group. Read the book, come along and bring a friend! We hope to Facetime that evening with Dennis Rouse, who recently moved to North Carolina—he's a stalwart part of the group.

Be ready to bring your favorite dish and enjoy a meal to celebrate fall. Our Back to Church Picnic is September 23 after worship. It coincides this year with the autumnal equinox. Our Church meals, while bad for the waistline, are always good for the soul. Again, be welcome to invite someone to join us that day for worship and a meal—guests bring just themselves.

"If the way be clear," as Presbyterians say, we will also have our new choir director beginning in early September. There's an article by Sue Rentz later in this newsletter with some details.

Thanks be to God for this wonderful congregation, who seek to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength as we follow Jesus into the future!



## **New Director of Music**

From Sue Rentz,  
Chair, Music Worship and the Arts

Great news! We have a new Director of Music for NHPC! Her name is Lois Anderson and she previously was on the music staff at Germonds Presbyterian Church. Her first Sunday with us will be September 2, so please make her feel welcome! I would like to thank the members of the Search Committee for helping to make this possible — Barbara Zacheis, Jane Craig Sebok, Jocelyne Daniel, Percy Crockett and Rev. Lori Knight-Whitehouse, advisor. We look forward to making beautiful music together!

## **Mission to Help the Kitty Cats**

From Nancy Jacobs

On Wednesday, a group of us met at Murchison Hall (Carmen, Sylvia M., Pam, Lona, Lori K.W., Karen M, and Karen's granddaughter!), for the purpose of cutting bed sheets to fit the cages of the resident/adoptable cats at the HiTor Animal Care Center (Shelter). Among the eight of us, we cut enough sheets to outfit 230 kitty cages in under 2 hours. I brought the cut sets over to HiTor on Thursday, disseminated many of the sets to the various rooms and sheds, where workers were cleaning cages, and placed the rest in the materials room, where I'm certain they will be used within the next couple days.

The benefits of cutting sheets include these:

1. Workers can more rapidly outfit cages if they don't have to spend so much time folding sheets to fit them. Time saved from outfitting cages can be used to pay attention to the "higher" needs (petting, brushing, exercising, socializing) of the cats.

2. Donated sheets can be used more efficiently if they are used for two to four cages instead of one.

3. Since HiTor has no laundry facility (no room for laundry machines; no funds for power, water, and staff to do laundry), they depend on volunteers to launder used linens, and the amount of used linens can be cut by more than 50% if sheets are used more efficiently to outfit cages. So, fewer laundry loads are needed.

In the Fall and Winter, the cats benefit additionally from having cushy materials in their cages (soft comforting, warm materials) as well. These materials need to be cut down from donated afghans and wraps in order to suit cat cages. Our sheet-slitting sessions may incorporate some kitty cushy cutting beginning in September. I will attempt to video some of the HiTor kitties as they enjoy their cushies. If I can figure out the Murchison Hall media system, you'll see how much the kitty cats like them (much purring and kneading).

For the information of future volunteers to the sheet-slitting sessions, the sheets we cut are already laundered and clean. I supply sharp shears for those who don't own/bring their favorite set. I also supply a bit of refreshment. (I've had good reviews on these products) People work singly or in pairs working on the materials. Even an hour spent on this project while gabbing with other folks will benefit the kitty cats.

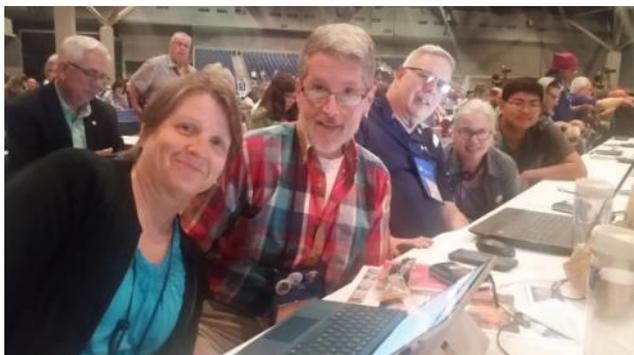
## **Welcome Back Picnic**

Our annual picnic will be Sunday, September 23 after worship. The Deacons are organizing the festivities. A signup sheet and details will be forthcoming. Contact Lona Asher or any other member of the Deacons for more information.



## A few Pictures from General Assembly

<https://hrpga223.wordpress.com/page/1/>  
via Laura Bidon



1 Urging divestment from Fossil Fuels

