



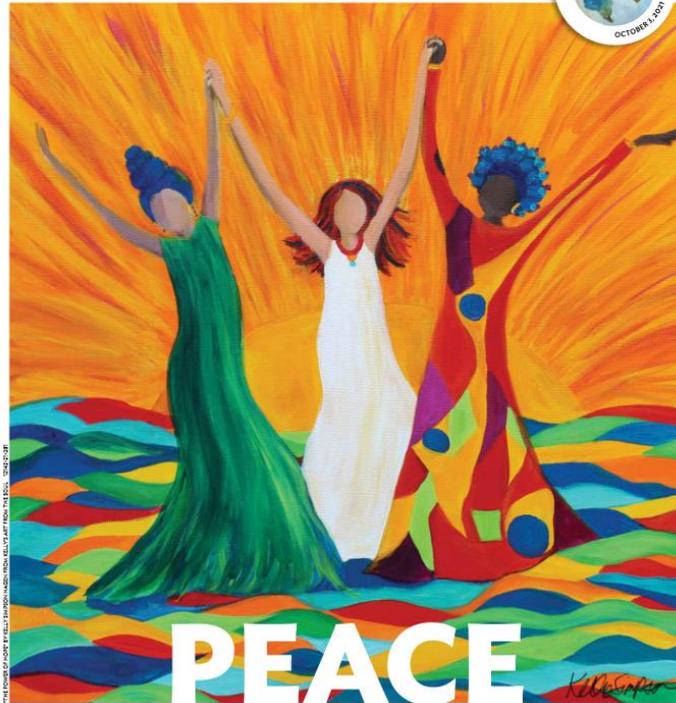
# The Carriage Stone

September 2021

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, New City, NY.

*The English Church*

 PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS  
SPECIAL OFFERINGS  
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



at all times in all ways.

— 2 THESSALONIANS 3:16

 Text PCUSAPEACE to 41444 to give to Peace & Global Witness or visit [pcusa.org/peace-global](http://pcusa.org/peace-global) for more information.



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

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Sunday, September 26

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I was asked by Kenn Godshall of Hudson River Presbytery to write a piece detailing what we have been doing as a Matthew 25 Church. The following column is what I sent.

From the PC, USA Website:

### What is a Matthew 25 church?

Matthew 25:31–46 calls all of us to actively engage in the world around us, so our faith comes alive and we wake up to new possibilities. Convicted by this passage, both the 222nd and 223rd General Assemblies (2016 and 2018) exhorted the PC(USA) to act boldly and compassionately to serve people who are hungry, oppressed, imprisoned or poor.

In 2019, New Hempstead Presbyterian Church was received into the PC, USA Matthew 25 initiative. The decision was an easy one for our Session—we had already been doing some of the work!

- We chose as our focus eradicating systemic racism. In 2015, we began a book discussion group around racial issues that has continued throughout the pandemic, pivoting to Zoom last summer. Among the titles we have read and discussed: *The New Jim Crow*, by Michelle Alexander; *Caste*, by Isabelle Wilkerson; and *Why I am No Longer Talking To White People about Race*, by Reni Eddo Lodge.
- Our conversations have led some of our members to become more active in non-violent anti-racism activities, such as the drive for outside oversight of the East Ramapo School district.
- Since transitioning our book group to Zoom, we have picked up several members from PC,USA churches in North Carolina and South Carolina for this discussion. It's great to connect with other churches doing some of the same work!
- The Smarty Pants Day Care Center, which targets children of color, nests in our fellowship hall.
- For many years, we have partnered with the Martin Luther King, Jr, Multi-Purpose Center, supporting them financially and with our time. We have several members who volunteer with them, assisting with their food pantry and other programs.

Are we, still a predominantly white congregation, “Woke”? No. We have a long way to go. But we have, with God’s grace, begun that journey.





## Millennial Corner

From Nora Asamoah

Forgiveness. What does it mean to you? We have all been in a situation with a loved one/ friend/ co-worker/ neighbor etc. who has offended us and we are faced with the decision to forgive or not to forgive?

I am a work in progress in this act. When I was younger, when someone did something to me, my go to was not talk to them again and move on. I would pout, get mad and want to repay them in the same act. As I grow in the word, I am reminded time and time again that if my Heavenly Father can forgive me and erase my sins and love me for who I am, how much more can I not forgive my brothers and sisters.

**Luke 6:37 — Forgive and you will be forgiven**

**Matthew 6:14-15 — If you forgive those who sin against you, your heavenly Father will forgive you.15 But if you refuse to forgive others, your Father will not forgive your sins**

**Colossians 3:13 — Make allowance for each other's faults and forgive anyone who offends you.**

In today's world, there is so much division in our families, friendships, workplace etc. Nonetheless, we have to do our best to forgive and shower those who hurt us with love. As humans, this is hard, it takes practice, but we need to remember that forgiveness is not for those who hurt us, but it is for us: it gives us the peace to live our life to the fullest. As Christians, we have to remember, the Lord forgave you so

you must forgive others. Take it one day at a time, don't forget to pray and let God guide you through the forgiveness to achieve peace.

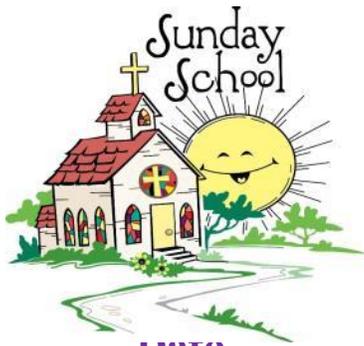
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Hello everyone! To welcome the fall, I wanted the October column for Millennial Corner to be about gratitude. If you can, please send me a snippet of what you are grateful to my email [adomaah@optonline.net](mailto:adomaah@optonline.net). It can be a word, a phrase, etc. With the world in disarray, I know we are all grateful for something. Thank you 😊



## From the Mission Committee

With the advent of virtual church services our food bank collection stopped. This is a shame because the need is still there, now stronger than ever during this time when so many people are out of work. Your Mission Committee wants to start this program up again and we're asking for donations of non-perishable food. Right now, the need for canned soup is particularly strong. Any donation is gratefully accepted of course, including monetary ones, which can be made by check or electronically by QR-code (mission fund). Please be generous in your support. You can donate your items in church on Saturday or Sunday mornings. Thank you for your gifts.



Just a reminder, Sunday School is back! We will be on the lawn outside when weather permits. But just in case you cannot join us, below is a table of the stories we will be doing each week! This can be found in the book given to all the children: *Growing in God's Love*.

## Listening to Jesus

Date	Topic	Pages
September 5	Salt and Light for our World	336
	The Lord's Prayer	338
September 12	Jesus Blesses the Children	340
September 19	Don't Worry	342
September 26	Remember to Love	344

## Endings and Beginnings

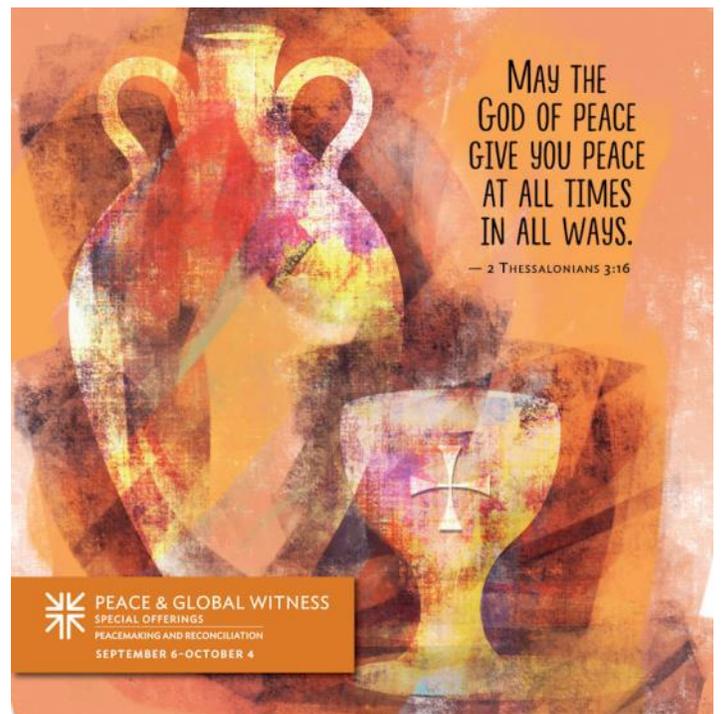
October 3	Jesus Visits Jerusalem	270
October 10	Women at the Tomb	276
October 17	Thomas Wants to See	278
October 24	Memory and Surprise	280
October 31	Mary Finds her Friend	282

### Special Offering

From the Mission Committee

Our third special offering, the Peace and Global Witness offering will be between September 6 and October 4, 2021. This offering allows the church to “confront hopelessness, thwarting division”. Be the peacemaker you want to be. This year Habitat for Humanity of Rockland will be the recipient of this offering.

On the next page is an update from Habitat for Humanity of Rockland on their summer build with the help of some in our congregation.





August 2021  
NEWSLETTER



# Hillburn Build Update



*As summer comes to end...so does the building of our new home in Hillburn!*

Whew...did we have a HOT summer! But, that didn't slow-down our volunteers from putting in countless hours to work towards the completion of Hillburn Village home.

Appliances are now going in and our interior painting has begun. Soon, with the cooler weather coming, we will finish up with the landscaping and get ready to hand over the keys to our Partner Family in time for them to enjoy trick-or-treating in their new neighborhood! We invite everyone to join us at the key ceremony in October to wish the Aguillard's the best wishes in their new home. Information of date and time to come.

**We can't thank our wonderful volunteers enough!**

Please check out our progress at the web site [HabitatRockland.org](http://HabitatRockland.org).



## Enjoy Your Summer's End!

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT: [HABITATROCKLAND.ORG](http://HABITATROCKLAND.ORG)

## Fellowship Event

From Nancy Jacobs

There was perfect weather for our August Fellowship event. After the Sunday worship service on August 15, we gathered with our lunches, and headed out to Overpeck Creek Park. While Lona and Sylvia lounged on the shore, Kristen, Syenni & Rambo, Pam and I (Nancy) took a leisurely paddle south from the boat launch. We enjoyed a day of gentle breezes, gentle sky, flowers on the shore, pleasant conversation, and good company. That is what “fellowship” is about.

