



The Carriage Stone

November 2021

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



Thanksgiving
Food Baskets



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

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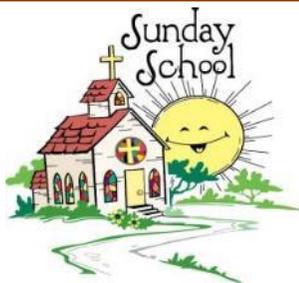


Joining a Church

This piece, posted by Sharad Yadav, came across my Facebook feed recently. It is provocative, and well worth your time to read, think about, and pray about. I have taken out some of the rough language. No copyright infringement intended. Blessings, Lori

1. To join a church is to commit to a social circle you do not get to choose and can therefore show you whether your spirituality is [real] or not.
2. Joining a church is a way of practicing - among a small group of people over a significant period of time - what you'd like the world to be like.
3. To join a church is to live in rebellion against the neoliberal and capitalist forces which are brainwashing you into making your consumer desire the center of the world, reducing all your experiences of the world (including all the people in it) to instruments and resources.
4. Joining a church is to organize your life around a time to confess your limitations, culpability and imperfections together with other people so that you can get used to receiving divine forgiveness and hope in response to your honesty.
5. To join a church is to resist all traditional loyalties to state, party, culture, family or affinity in an act of loyalty to a group that transcends all natural categories
6. Joining a church organizes your financial priorities around supporting an inclusive community for vulnerable people . . . that you actually have to live with.
7. To join a church is to cultivate an environment unlike your home, work or play where your life is not measured according to any other purpose or goal than to discover and enjoy your own humanity.
8. Joining a church is a way of maintaining healthy skepticism about human knowledge and capacities in the language of divine mystery.
9. To join a church is to cultivate an imagination for how your unique talents and creative potential can be offered on purpose for love instead of money
10. Joining a church is a life lesson in how to deal with [all kinds of people, some not so nice] without retaliating, dehumanizing or running away....

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



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*.

Songs and Wise Sayings

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November 21	I Love You, God	156
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Peacemaking Offering

From Mark Zacheis

This year's Peacemaking Offering taken by our church was dedicated to Habitat for Humanity of Rockland County, whose efforts to provide quality, affordable homes for people of limited means is well known. As part of the lead up to Peacemaking Sunday, which is also World Communion Sunday, we had Scott Vanderhoef, the executive director of the Rockland County chapter speak to us about the work that they do. They are about to complete their latest home in Suffern. Thank you to all who responded and supported this mission; we were able to send Scott and the local chapter \$1,800.

Prayer Flag Painting

Join your fellow parishioners at 11 AM, Saturday November 13 in Murchison Hall for a fun, simple, painting project. Rev. Lori will show us how to paint simple and eye-catching "prayer flags". Lori showed us a sample on Sunday, October 24. The flags will be hung on the "great lawn", cuing the passers-by that we are open and active as a church.

Materials will be provided for you, but if you have something in mind, and materials

necessary for it, bring them! Don't wear your "Sunday best" to the event. I probably won't wear a hat, but I may bring a CD player, for quiet background music. And I may bring brownies too!



Tag Sale!

From Pam Fink for the Fundraising Committee

The NHPC 2021 Autumn Tag Sale is now one for the history books! At last tally, the sale generated just over \$3000 for the church.

In the beginning of the week, the weather did not look promising and it seemed that we might have to cancel the sale. But we had a lot of faith, and carried on with our preparations. We had a nearly perfect day for the sale and the rain held off until after the last things left over from the sale were safely stored in the barn. This time, too, the crowds came out in droves.

If not for the great support from our congregation - at least 21 people volunteered to help with the sorting and selling - we wouldn't have been able to carry it off. Many thanks go to everyone who participated by donating goods, baking, cooking, and standing by the tables during the sale. We even had one lady who works at Jawonio donate many items to the sale just because she saw our sign out on the lawn on her way home from work.

As the saying goes, together we can do so much. Good job everyone!

[[A couple more pictures are on a later page]]





Millennial Corner

From Nora Asamoah

Everyday should be gratitude day. No matter what we are going through, we need to take time and thank God for even things that you deem little.

Sometimes I catch

myself taking things for granted and not giving thanks.

Examples: waking up every morning, being healthy, being able to breathe on my own, walking on my two feet, having clothes to wear, food to eat, clean water to drink and cook with, family who I love and loves me back, a job, etc. The list can go on and on. These are things, some people may call it privilege but I call them blessings. There are many people out in our world who are struggling to experience these blessings. When I realize this, I know and feel the love God has for me. So do not forget that!

Happy Thanksgiving!

Thanksgiving Baskets

Thanksgiving Day is fast approaching, and you know what that means; it means that it is time for the Thanksgiving baskets food drive. In a tradition dating back decades, our church family shares the bounty that is theirs with others not quite so fortunate. We intend to put together baskets of food, each of which is sufficient to feed a family a Thanksgiving dinner with all the trimmings. Our goal this year is to provide fifty baskets for local families that otherwise might go without on Thanksgiving Day.

On the next page is the shopping list of what goes into a Thanksgiving basket. We ask that you take the list with you so you will have it during your next visit to the grocery store, pick up everything on the list, put it in one bag (reusable bag is preferred), and bring it with you the next time that you come to church. The final collection day is Sunday, November 14, and you can bring your baskets in sooner if you like; but no later than the church service that day. We will be sending people to the grocery store during that week following November 14 so your contribution must be in by that date.

Do save your turkeys and loaves of bread to bring for the following Sunday, November 21 and please not before. However, if you have room in your freezer, you should purchase the turkey now and keep it frozen in your home until November 21 in case there are shortages.

If you would like to contribute but do not wish to do your own shopping, you may donate the cost of a Thanksgiving basket and we will go shopping for you. We suggest a donation of \$40 for each basket. Mark your check or envelope Thanksgiving Baskets and place it in the collection plate. Alternatively, you can mail a check to the church or use the QR code and donate to the Mission Fund.

If you are unable to provide a full basket then contribute what you can from the list. All contributions are welcome. And if you know of a family that can use a Thanksgiving basket, please contact Mark so that we can get them on our list.

There will be a signup sheet with the greeters each Sunday. Kindly sign up with them so that we can get a sense of the number of baskets we will be receiving and how much shopping we will have to be doing. Or call or e-mail the church office.

Thank you.



Recipe for a Happy Thanksgiving Meal:

- Turkey
- Stuffing mix
- Boxed potatoes
- Gravy
- Canned vegetables
(2-4 cans)
- Canned sweet potatoes/yams
- Corn bread mix
- Cake/brownie mix
- Cake frosting
- Applesauce
- Canned cranberry sauce
- Soup (2 cans)
- Loaf of bread

Be sure to bring your “baskets” to church on Sunday, November 14 so that we can distribute them before Thanksgiving.

THANK YOU!

