



# The Carriage Stone

February 2023

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



**CREATE IN ME  
A CLEAN HEART,  
O GOD, AND PUT  
A NEW AND RIGHT  
SPIRIT WITHIN ME.**

**Psalm 51.10**



“The Carriage Stone” is the Newsletter of

**The New Hempstead Presbyterian Church**

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## **It's not about the Sabbatical!**

As I said in my January 22 sermon, I'll be retiring at the end of this calendar year. I want to be very clear with everyone—this is not because I took a sabbatical! My decision had been made before then, and part of the purpose of the sabbatical was to make sure my discernment process, and what I was considering, was within the will of God. I believe it is.

I cannot say enough about how wonderful it was to have 2 months to do not much but read, visit with friends and family, and be with God (not necessarily in that order). I came back refreshed, and certain that after 30+ years of various forms of ordained ministry, it's time for me to find other ways to be of service to Our Lord and the world God loves so dearly.

In Hudson River Presbytery, a full-time pastor is entitled to a sabbatical after every 6 years of service. Family considerations and then COVID kept me from being able to take one (or 2!) during my time with you. Never be afraid to let your pastor take a sabbatical—you were all SO supportive of me, and I know if I could have gone earlier, I would have come back ready to get back to work.

Speaking of work, we have lots to do over this year—and it will pass quickly I am sure. I'm not gone yet, and I'm ready for the tasks of the coming year. Let's go!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lori" with a flourish underneath.

## Per Capita

From Mark Zacheis, Treasurer

Per Capita is the money that our church pays to help support the greater Presbyterian Church in the US. Our funds go to support our Hudson River Presbytery, our Synod of the Northeast, and the General Assembly. Similar to our individual pledging to NHPC, per capita is the way that our church pledges to the Presbyterian Church. It is our way of saying, “We’re in, we’re part of this denomination and we intend to support it.”

In turn, these agencies are dedicated to the support of all of the local churches. As an example, our Presbytery employs an IT/ Communications Facilitator whom we have used as a resource to help us with our You Tube streaming process. And Presbytery has offered grants to support the purchase of equipment.

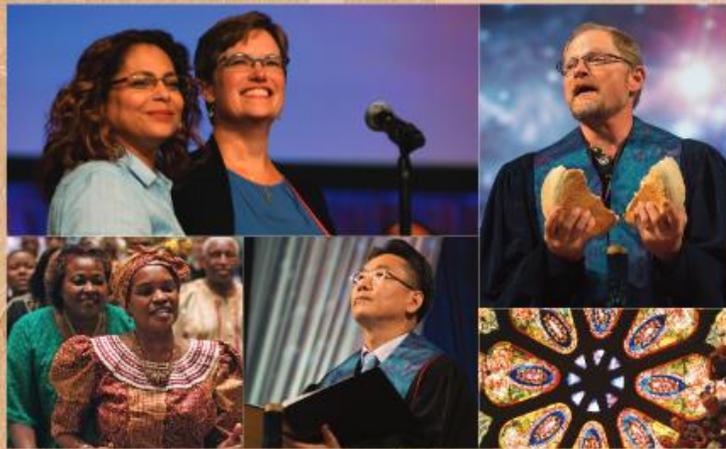
The first envelope in your box is the blue one, marked Per Capita. We encourage you to submit **\$39.70** for each church member in your family.

God, our creator,  
you have given us work to do  
and call us to use our talents  
for the good of all.

Guide us as we work, and teach us to live  
in the Spirit who made us your children,  
in the love that made us one body,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

— Midday Prayer for Monday (Book of Common Worship p. 906)



## Per Capita

Providing the means to strengthen the connections of our work, and build lasting relationships to help all Presbyterians share God's love through mission and ministry.





## Fellowship Events

From Howard Whitehouse

The Fellowship committee event for January was a showing of Emilio Estevez' 2011 movie, *The Way*, a story about a father's journey along the Camino de Santiago in memory of his son. Played by Estevez' own father, Martin Sheen, we follow a man's pilgrimage as he carries his son's ashes across Spain to the Cathedral at Santiago de Compostela. This well-attended event was followed by questions and answers led by the Reverend Doctor Lori. Also featured were ice cream sundaes assembled by the eager participants.

The Fellowship committee event for February is a combined late Valentine's Day / Happy President's Day shindig at our regular coffee hour on the 19th. We will have cake to celebrate our love of (checks notes) McKinley and William Henry Harrison, and one another. There will be balloons and food other than cake. But mostly there's cake. A Karen Martin production.



It is annual meeting time! The annual meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of the New Hempstead Presbyterian church has been called for Sunday, February 19, 2023 immediately following Worship. All members are encouraged to attend and vote.



Wednesday, February 22 marks the beginning of Lent. Please join us at 8:00 PM in the Sanctuary for a Worship Service with the Imposition of Ashes. All are welcome here, as we begin our Lenten journey.

## Streaming Services

If you cannot be with us in person for Worship, remember that we continue to stream every service. For past services, look here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@NHPCHURCH/streams>

And for church bulletins, visit:

[https://nhpchurch.org/info/?page\\_id=2650](https://nhpchurch.org/info/?page_id=2650)

If you wish to raise up a prayer request while watching the stream live, add it to the comments section using first names only. Add your comment early in the service as the broadcast is delayed from the live service.