



The Carriage Stone

March 2023

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



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

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Taking up Wonder for Lent

Lent is traditionally a season for “giving up” something. More and more, I find myself wanting to “Take up” something—a discipline in which I add to my spiritual life, not subtract.

This year, I’m taking up the practice of wonder and curiosity. I want to spend time looking closely—really closely—at things I all too often walk past. Early flowers, budding trees, interesting rocks, and maybe a sea glass hunt or two by the river; all these things point to the handiwork of God.

The Psalmist is in awe of how the God who made mountains, stars and oceans also made and love humans. Indeed, we are considered a “little lower than the angels.”

Poets and artists have often taken inspiration from creation. Georgia O’Keefe, the artist famous for her close-up paintings of flowers, wrote:

When you take a flower in your hand and really look at it, it’s your world for the moment. I want to give that world to someone else. Most people in the city rush around so, they have no time to look at a flower. I wanted them to see it whether they want to or not.

And the poet William Blake asked (rhetorically, one imagines)

Tyger Tyger, burning bright,
In the forests of the night;
What immortal hand or eye,
Could frame thy fearful symmetry?

Looking closely at small things has a way of making us pay attention to the larger things in life. May we slow down this Lent to truly wonder at God’s creation.

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



Thank You

From People to People

In addition to the food collected in the Narthex, New Hempstead gave a monetary gift to People to People. They responded:

To our Friends at the New Hempstead Presbyterian Church,

Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Your commitment to the mission of People to People is gratefully appreciated. Without organizations such as New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, People to People cannot do what it does — feed Rockland's hungry.

Your contribution of \$510 helped us put food on the tables of our neighbors in need not only on holidays such as Thanksgiving and Christmas but every day. Hunger never goes on holiday.

Thank you, again and always, for your support.

We are ALL in this TOGETHER.

Wishing you a very wonderful 2023!

With all my heart,

Diane Serratore
CEO



Holy Week Schedule

Sunday April 2	Palm Sunday Worship at 11 AM Potluck luncheon afterwards
Thursday April 6	Maundy Thursday Worship at 8 PM with Eucharist
Friday April 7	Good Friday Worship at Germonds Church at 7:30 PM with combined choir
Sunday April 9	Easter Sunrise service at 8 AM Breakfast to follow Worship at 11 AM



Fellowship Games Day

Has winter got you down? The Fellowship Committee has just the thing to lift your spirits. On Saturday March 18 from 2-5 PM in the afternoon, the Committee is sponsoring a "Game Day" in the Colonial Room. We will have a variety of board games available that folks can choose to play, including some of the Youth Group oldies but goodies. If you have a favorite game (for 2-4 players) at home that you'd like to play, bring it along!

As is customary at any Fellowship event, there will be food, drinks and other treats provided. So join us in the Colonial Room on the 18th for some fun and games!

And here are some pictures from coffee hour

