



The Carriage Stone

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

September 2023

Together
we promote the peace of Christ
by addressing systems of conflict
and injustice around the world
and here at home.

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SEPTEMBER 3-OCTOBER 1, 2023

 **PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS**
SPECIAL OFFERINGS
PEACEMAKING AND RECONCILIATION



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

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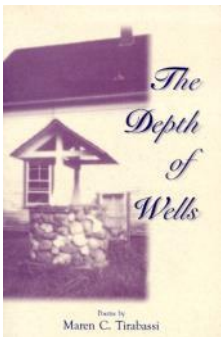
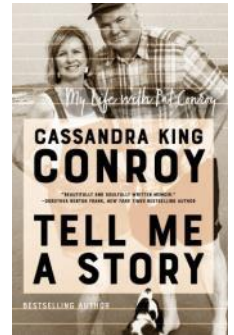
Sunday, September 17

Submissions: in my mailbox
or e-mail to

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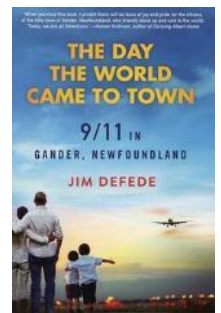
So here, for the last time, is a list of several of my favorite books from last year. In no particular order:

[Tell Me a Story](#), by [Cassandra King Conroy](#). A memoir by the wife of Southern novelist Pat Conroy, who died in 2016, written by his wife. She writes lively tales of Conroy’s friendships, and the enemies he was able to make friends out of. As he himself wrote, “My wound is geography. It is also my anchorage, my port of call.” I know the feeling, Pat. I know the feeling.



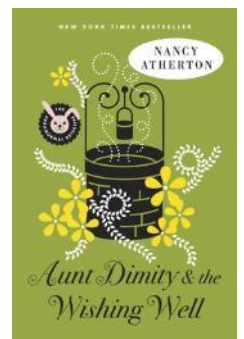
[The Depth of Wells](#), by [Maren Tirabassi](#). Tirabassi is a United Church of Christ pastor in New Hampshire. Her poetry deeply moves me. “*Sylvia in the Writing Class*” recounts the story of an elderly woman “who sleeps in her living room/by the pretty lights/of the Christmas Tree.” So poignant.

[The Day the World Came to Town](#), by [Jim deFede](#). Mark Z. recommended this one to me. It tells of the town of Gander, Newfoundland, on 9/11. They took in planes that were unable to land, put the passengers up in their homes, and generally behaved like Beloved Community on a hideously bad day.



[Things Hidden: Scripture as Spirituality](#), by [Richard Rohr](#). I’m still reading this one, along with the guidebook that goes with it. As much as I love studying the Bible, I am enjoying reading it from a different perspective, that of a plain, garden-variety Christian with no classes to teach or sermons to write!

[Any of Nancy Atherton’s Aunt Dimity novels](#). These are probably way too sweet and wholesome for hard-core, must-read-the-latest-thriller readers. They feature a lead character (named Lori!) who is an American living and raising her family in the Cotswolds, in England. A very idealized portrait of village life, and a wonderful escape to a world where the worst problems are along the lines of how to incorporate a homeless man into the community. (I also love that the Church is the cornerstone of the village, so perhaps it falls into the category of fantasy...)



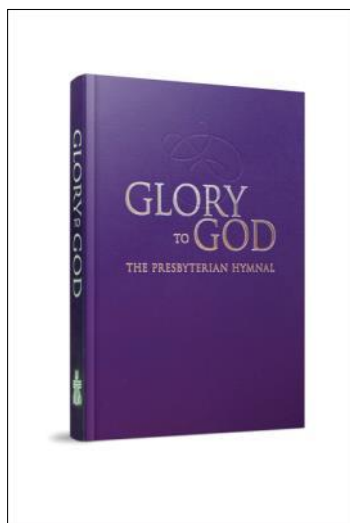
Happy summer and happy reading.



We have new Hymnals!

From Barbara Zacheis, chair
Worship, Music and the Arts

Your Worship, Music and the Arts committee has decided it was time for us to move on to the newer version of the PC(USA) hymnal, called



Glory to God. This hymnal is the Purple Pew Edition, Presbyterian version, and we are hopeful to find a number of new favorites to go along with our old favorites from the previous hymnal, which are in the new one.

We are offering Dedication Plates we are placing in the front cover of our

Hymnals to help defray the cost to the church. You can dedicate a Hymnal in Memory of or Honor of a loved one or To the Glory of God. Send an email to newhempsteadpresbyterianchurch@gmail.com Name of Memory or Honor person(s), or To the Glory of God and name of person(s) giving dedication, along with \$30 per hymnal to NHPC by check or using the QR code in the bulletin/website with memo: Hymnal.

If you are interested in having a copy of this hymnal at your home, you can get a digital version from Kindle (which has an app on iPhone and iPad, so you don't have to own a Kindle device). It's only \$10! Here's a link to that: [Glory to God](#) (Purple Pew Edition, Presbyterian). They also sell the Hardcover version.

There are app versions in the iPad App store and the Android version can be found in the Google Play store. The free version only includes the Public Domain Hymns, so be aware that you

would have to buy the Pew edition to get all of the Hymns (\$20!).

[Hymnals for home use or a large print version (without music) is available through the PCUSA [website](#). In addition, iPad users can obtain multiple versions through the Apple store including bassoon and tuba transpositions as well as the pew edition.]

Worship Time Change

Note...we go to our regular Worship schedule with service at 11 AM on Sunday, September 10. Choir rehearsals will begin on Thursday, September 7.



Welcome Back Luncheon

If it is time for the fall time change, then it is time for the annual Welcome Back luncheon on the lawn (weather permitting).

Bring your favorite food to share;
Bring your family and friends;
Bring your vacation photos.

Recognition for Lori

As Pastor Lori's last year with us rushes into the fall, please circle November 14 on your calendar. That is the date of the Presbytery meeting to honor her service. All are invited.

<https://www.hudrivpres.org/dates-and-locations>



Pub Quiz

From Nancy Jacobs

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church will be offering a trivia contest in the mold of the traditional British “pub quiz“

Teams,
Endless rounds of questions on selected topics,
Refreshments,
Not too serious

On Saturday, September 23 from 2-4 in the Colonial Room. Prizes are likely to be of the most minor value, and not always for correct answers.

Join us! Plan to bring friends and family.

Be certain to SIGN UP (see Nancy Jacobs in church or leave a message with your name and contact number so Nancy can phone you).

Thank You from Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Dear Friends:

I am writing this letter of gratitude on the day after Pentecost, the season in which we celebrate the birth of the Church and witness the extraordinary acts of the Holy Spirit, who rested on each of the faithful disciples, and through them, spoke in many languages to those who were thirsty for good news, so that each who listened-no matter where they were from, what language they spoke, and who they were-received the gift of the gospel and the promise of

the transforming love of Jesus. Through your generous gift to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, you have spoken the language of love in a tangible, impactful way, offering a gift that helps to bring renewed hope and joy to those individuals and communities suffering from disaster and its aftermath.

The book of Acts, which chronicles the outcome of Pentecost, offers story after story of the healing love of Christ, mediated through the acts of the apostles. It tells of broken lives transformed, communities recreated and renewed by the generous attention of siblings both near and far off. For those of us who bear witness to the catastrophic losses endured by communities stricken by disaster-those in Syria and Turkey working to recover from the earthquakes, refugees and displaced persons fleeing conflict in Sudan and Ukraine and the swath of communities picking up their lives after tornadoes, wars and floods in this active spring, I rejoice in the PC(USA)'s partnership with disciples like you, who, along with our ancestors in the early church, gave when asked and served with compassion and faithfulness.

So, through your donation of \$1,350 on 611,512023 to DR999999 Disaster Relief-International Disasters & Emergencies, your act of open-hearted giving blesses those who walk the hard road toward recovery, letting them know they are not alone, helping them to find hope in the midst of chaos, and making tangible the promise of Pentecost-a life filled with the Spirit, who is both our Comforter and our Teacher in the way of Christ.

It is a privilege to serve together in a Church that takes seriously the mandate of Jesus-that whatever you have done to the least of these, you have done for me.

In Christ's Peace,

The Rev. Edwin Gonzalez-Castillo
Director, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance

Thank You from Soup Angels

dining. Our guests receive a welcoming greeting and are served a freshly prepared meal in an atmosphere of dignity and caring.

Thank you for making access to healthy meals and groceries a little easier for people in our Nyack and surrounding area.

Sincerely,
Katharine Rife & Kathleen Berry
for Soup Angels

Mission Accomplished

From Laura Bidon and the Mission Committee

Our “**School Supply Drive**” was a great success! Thanks to your generous donations, members of the Mission Committee recently delivered over 60 backpacks and hundreds of school supplies to Summit Park Elementary School on Route 45...just in time for the school’s New Family Orientation on September 5!

Mrs. Marissa Cavellero, the interim principal of Summit Park, was on hand to welcome us. She is very excited to welcome students back for the new school year, and stressed the importance of community involvement in support of East Ramapo public schools. She will ensure that our donations go directly to families in need at Summit Park.

July 5, 2023

To the members of the New Hempstead Presbyterian Church,

Soup Angels is deeply grateful for your recent generous donation to our soup kitchen and food pantry.

In the past year, with your assistance, we have offered 500 meals per week. Your gift is being used to purchase food to offer nutritious meals and fund needed health kits to many families, food insecure people, senior citizens, individuals living in where they cannot cook for themselves and unhoused people.

We are very pleased that as well as offering takeout meals, we also serve many who choose indoor

We hope this is just the first step in an ongoing partnership with Summit Park—our neighborhood school. Stay tuned for future news...whether it be mentoring, gardening, or sprucing up the playground, there are many ways we can support Summit Park.

Thanks again for all your generous donations!

