



The Carriage Stone

June 2023

New Hempstead Presbyterian Church, New City, N.Y. *The English Church*



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

484 New Hempstead Road, New City, NY 10956

The Reverend Doctor Lori Knight-Whitehouse, Pastor

Office: (845) 354-2372

E-mail: office@nhpchurch.org

Web: nhpchurch.org

Look for us on Facebook!

Administrative Assistant: Kristen Rabeler

Newsletter Editor:

Robert Philhower

Next Deadline:

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Submissions: in my mailbox
or e-mail to

carriagestone@nhpchurch.org

I am so excited about the Session approving New Hempstead Presbyterian Church having a table at the [Nyack Pride Parade](#) on June 11! But wait, Pastor, that's a Sunday. What about worship?

Worship will be celebrated in the New Hempstead Sanctuary with a service of Morning Prayer led by Pastor Lori at 11 AM (just as usual). It will be a shorter service, after which anyone who wishes can join us at the Parade.

I know that the Mission Committee will need some help setting us, so if you can help with this, please contact the chair of the Mission Committee, Lois Simmons.

visitnyack.org says this about the event:

24th Annual Rockland Pride Sunday

Join us for a fun-filled day...Pride Parade, all-day entertainment, kids' activities, and more!

Sunday, June 11, 2023 | 11 PM – 5 PM

Downtown Nyack will be full of Pride for this FREE, family-friendly event featuring music of Frankie D and The Boys, David Budway and special guest performers, local drag artists, the Crowning of Mx. Rockland County Pride 2023, outdoor dining, shopping, and vendors!

Parade steps off at 11:30 AM SHARP.

Free children's activities include bounce house, face painting, and an arts and crafts tent.

Youth Pride Celebration held from 1 PM – 5 PM held for middle and high school ages. Safe, supervised, free fun!

When I lived in Toronto, I had to walk through [Well Church](#), or the "Gayborhood" to get to my best friend's house. I never felt safer or more welcome—never got catcalled, always was greeted with a friendly smile and a "Hello, how are you?"

Our congregation has long been clear that we believe God loves diversity, and everybody is invited into fellowship with Jesus Christ. Now, we are "putting our money where our mouth is" and going into a community that is known for its inclusive welcome.

Let us show our LBGQTQ siblings who WE believe Jesus to be—the Lord of Love, and the Lord of Life.



Keep Rockland Beautiful

From Mark Zacheis

We had a perfect day for doing outdoor work on May 6.

Twenty-one of us, twelve of our own and nine community members spent three hours picking up roadside trash on New Hempstead Road between Route 45 and the Palisades Parkway, and on Old Schoolhouse Road.

Thirty-five bags of trash and piles of debris were picked up on this short section of roadway. Treasures found of note included a bottle of olives, a bicycle, a mess of construction materials, a streetlight, and a bag of coins that included a 1922 dime worth \$33. See, it pays to show up for these things! Many thanks to you all who participated.



Spring Clean Up Day

From Mark Zacheis

On April 22, the church held a Spring Cleaning Day. Members of both the church and the AA group that uses Murchison Hall spent a cloudy, cool morning cleaning up the property for the spring. Tasks included watching the church windows inside and out, cleaning the pews and sanctuary woodwork, raking up pinecones from the lawns, weeding and mulching, cleaning up the dumpster area, and cleaning up behind the shed. In addition, the rock border around the pine tree next to the driveway (which was cut down last fall) was pulled up and removed in anticipation of the start to installing the new memorial patio. Many thanks to Susan, Bill, Syenni, Karen, Miss Sue, Pam, Nancy, Barbara, Mark for their time and their hard work. And many thanks to the gentlemen of the AA group for their hard work and support.

Pentecost

Pentecost Sunday is May 28. It is the day we celebrate the descent of the Holy Spirit. Please remember to wear red.

On that Sunday, we will be taking a special Pentecost offering to support the MLK multi-purpose center in Spring Valley. They and the community they support need our help, so please give as generously as you can.

Tag Sale

From Fund Raising Committee

Our Annual Spring Tag Sale will once again be held on June 3 from 9 AM to 2 PM on the Great Lawn. We will have everything from household to clothing to furniture to jewelry and more. We will work on pricing/ setup/ preparation on Thursday and Friday, June 1 & 2 from 9 AM to 1 PM. Any questions please see Syenni Lucas.

Donations can be brought on June 1 or 2 or the Saturday before between 10:30 and noon. We need volunteers on June 1-3.

Please sign up in the Colonial Room to help make this fundraising and fellowship event a success.



Note...we go to our Summer Worship schedule with service at 10 AM on June 18.

Sunday Coffee Hours

From the Fellowship Committee

On most Sundays, the Fellowship Committee prepares a Coffee Hour after Service offering an assortment of snacks, cold drinks, coffee and tea. But as we all know, Presbyterians love to eat! So, at least once a month, the Fellowship Committee, with help from the Deacons, will schedule an “expanded” Coffee Hour having additional food selections like fruit, salads, soups, baked goods, etc., and especially cake.

If you would like to contribute something for one of the expanded Coffee Hours, please contact Nancy Jacobs to see when the next one is. Also, if you have a special occasion and want to bring a cake to celebrate (birthdays, anniversaries, graduations, etc.), please let Nancy Jacobs or Pam Fink know beforehand so that we can have the serving utensils and plates ready. We ask that if you do bring something to Coffee Hour, please make sure that you take home any leftovers and/or containers by the end of Coffee Hour.



A Walk through Stonecrop Gardens

On May 17, a stalwart group of nine set out from the church to visit the public garden at Stonecrop, which is near Cold Spring. As we made the 40-minute drive to the site, there was plenty of time to chat and to appreciate the beautiful scenery of the Hudson River Valley.

We could not have had a better day to visit the garden – not too hot, not too cold, a slight breeze and plenty of sunshine. Our tour guide, Julie, led us through the different areas of Stonecrop, which included alpine, woodland, and native plant gardens. She was very knowledgeable about the plantings, answered our questions, and gave us plenty of time to explore each area. The diversity of plants was fascinating, and the springtime flowers were beautiful. The gardens also had several man-made ponds, which were home to turtles, bullfrogs, salamanders, and snakes (!).

When we finished the tour, we assembled at an outdoor patio seating area for lunch. As we sat in the sunshine, we shared conversation and food. It was so relaxing to just sit, listen to the birds, and watch the high clouds roll by. After lunch, half of the group decided to visit the plant sale area, but the other half opted for a visit to an ice cream parlor in Cold Spring. The trip to Stonecrop Gardens was a wonderful experience, and it may be worth revisiting in the late summer to see different blooming plants.



