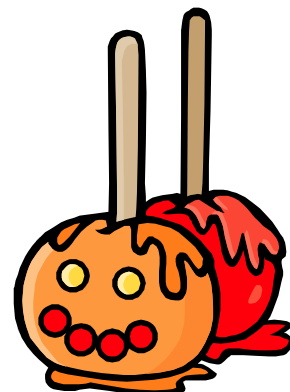


New Castle Presbyterian News

October 2007



Book Night at NCPC

If you want to get an early start on the book selections for the upcoming season of Book Night at NCPC, the books are listed below. No firm dates have been established yet, but they will probably be sometime in October, February and April.

October Selection: **American Gospel** by Jon Meacham

February Selection: **Mountains Beyond Mountains** by Tracey Kidder

April Selection: **Grace (Eventually)** by Anne Lamott

Harvest Bazaar

Harvest Bazaar 2007 at the New Castle Senior Center on Saturday, October 20th from 9 until 3pm. Please visit our newly expanded facility at 400 South Street across from the Good Will fire Co. Call 326-4209 for info.

Cemetery Tour

The 350th Anniversary committee would like to announce a change in the date for our October event. Due to the scheduling of the CROP Walk event on October 21st, the Cemetery Tour originally scheduled for Sunday October 21st following the Church Service has been changed to Sunday October 28th following the Church Service. We hope you will all make this change to your calendar and join us in discovering our historic cemetery with the guidance of Trustee Earl Reed.

A SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The annual Spirit of Christmas celebration is Saturday, December 8, 2007. This is the 7th annual event and is a special occasion, since the church will conclude its 350th celebration with the 2007 Spirit of Christmas.

Mark your calendar and make plans to support and participate in this celebration that funds local missions of the New Castle Presbyterian Church. Last year's Spirit of Christmas gave more than \$4,000 to Friendship House.

The New Castle Presbyterian Church and the New Castle Visitor's Bureau jointly present the Spirit of Christmas from 10: a.m. to 5:30 a.m. Events will take place throughout the town of New Castle and in the New Castle Presbyterian Church sanctuary and Christian Education Building. Church events include handbell concerts and choral concerts by the New Ark Chorale.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

The Spirit of Christmas is successful because of the wonderful support from every member of the church. We need volunteers to help setup, greet and host the hundreds of visitors that come each year.

We also need homemade crafts and Christmas ornaments, seasonal home decorations, cooks for homemade soup and breads, all your favorite books, and cookie makers for the free refreshment stand.

We hope you can help once again this year. If you can provide one of the needs, please give either of us a call, send us an e-mail or simply sign up on one of the volunteer pages in the Christian Education Building.

Let us know how you can help make The Spirit of Christmas in 2007.

If you would like to chair one of committees, please let us know. Thank you for supporting the Spirit of Christmas,

Susan and Irv Lipp,
Co-Chairs of the Spirit of Christmas
(302) 652 5712

irvapr@comcast.net

smksml@comcast.net

Meeting Ground Workday, September 8th

Many, many thanks to all the volunteers who worked so diligently at the Meeting Ground Workday on September 8th despite a 93 degree day. The following members participated: Rev. Nancy Rowland, Cynthia Robbins, Katie Martin, Steve Martin, Ellie Gerhart, Monty Gerhart, Bob Appleby, Conchita Showell, Nanette Nichol, Bev Stoudt, Jim Neel, and Linda Neel.

The tasks performed included: hosing of the entire pavilion, cleaning chairs and toys, mowing the lawn, cleaning the walk-in refrigerator, weeding flower beds, preparing the lunch, and having an art session with the kids. We performed these tasks on our own while hunting down the equipment or supplies we needed by ourselves.

Many members in the church generously donated art supplies, books, games, toys, and puzzles. Others donated money to help defray the cost of the luncheon or to buy additional art supplies. Our members filled an entire trunk of the car with donations for Meeting Ground children.

As always, this congregation steps forward and donates generously to those who have less or are in need. Our committee is always overwhelmed by the members' participation in our church's mission projects. We thank you very much for your continued support..

Linda Neel
Mission and Outreach Committee Member

Visiting Preacher

On October 21, we are pleased to welcome an old friend to the leadership of worship at New Castle Presbyterian Church during Pastor Nancy's vacation. Former Interim Pastor Kit Schooley will be preaching for us that day. Come and join us in worship!

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels is the week of October 1st. If anyone is interested in delivering meals to shut-in Seniors in the New Castle area, please contact Ellen Matthews at 302-777-1133.

Monday

Susan Flook
Ruth Moore

Tuesday

Jean Swanson

Wednesday

Dot & Jason
Campbell

Thursday

Cynthia Robbins
Nanette Nichol

Friday

Shirley Knox

Prayer Chain

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that our church has had a Prayer Chain since February 2004?

Did you know that all requests to the chain are confidential?

Did you know it's as simple as a telephone call or an email to one of the coordinators to ask for prayer?

Do you know:

A family member or close friend that has a life threatening illness?

A neighbor that is facing surgery?

Someone who's been in a terrible automobile accident?

A friend struggling with addiction?

A neighbor who just lost their job?

Someone who has lost a loved one?

A family member suffering from mental illness?

Your prayer chain has prayed faithfully for requests like this. Please don't hesitate to contact us, we are waiting to pray for you.

You can reach us by calling or email.

"God is the Father who full of mercy and comfort. He comforts us every time we have trouble, so when others have trouble, we can comfort them with the same comfort God gives us."

2 Corinthians 1,3-4.

Fran Gingher, Coordinator

302 994-5988

[Silverfran@aol](mailto:Silverfran@aol.com). Com

Susan Flook, Co-Coordinator

302 328-7346

suzieflook@hotmail.com



**GENERAL ASSEMBLY COUNCIL
PEACE AND JUSTICE
PRESBYTERIAN PEACEMAKING PROGRAM**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (U.S.A.)

August 20, 2007

Dear Presbyterian Peacemakers,

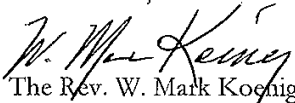
May the peace of Christ be with you! Thank you for your generous gift to the Peacemaking Offering in 2006. Your contribution strengthens peacemaking ministries across the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and to the far corners of the world. In the past year, the Presbyterian Peacemaking Program used its portion of the offering to:

- create prayers and worship resources on peace and justice issues;
- work with other General Assembly Council programs to help Presbyterians respond to acts of violence;
- itinerate 13 International Peacemakers—international church leaders who share their ministries of peacemaking with Presbyterians across the church;
- host seminars for groups from congregations, presbyteries, seminaries, and colleges at the Presbyterian United Nations Office;
- help support the Covenant Presbyterian Urban Ministry Institute in New Orleans as it strengthens the community seeking to rebuild in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina;
- hold an intergenerational conference—*Jesus: Proclaiming Peace*;
- publish a Spanish language version of *Presbyterians and Military Service*, a resource to help followers of Jesus consider options related to service in the armed forces;
- produce a pocket-size version of *Seeking to Be Faithful Together: Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement* in English and Spanish;
- oversee the creation of *PC(USA) Mission and Witness in the Middle East*, a CD resource that provides an overview of PC(USA) ministry in seven countries in the Middle East;
- assist a cottage industry in Liberia that transforms bullet casings into crosses and provides former soldiers and their families with a source of income; and
- support congregations, presbyteries, and synods in their peacemaking ministries through the presence of Peacemaking Program staff.

We give thanks for your peacemaking ministries and for your financial gifts that make the denominational peacemaking efforts a reality. You are part of an incredible team of Presbyterians who work to heal brokenness throughout God's creation. Your support inspires us to look toward the future with hope as we continue to respond to the call of Jesus to be peacemakers.

Hopefully your plans for receiving this year's Peacemaking Offering are well underway. Find additional resources to promote the offering, including a downloadable PowerPoint presentation, at www.pcusa.org/peacemakingoffering.

In Gratitude,



The Rev. W. Mark Koehnig

Coordinator, Presbyterian Peacemaking Program

HOW DOES THE PRESBYTERIAN PEACEMAKING PROGRAM PLAN TO USE ITS SHARE (50%) OF THE PEACEMAKING OFFERING IN 2007?

Guided by *Peacemaking: The Believers' Calling*, General Assembly mandates, and the 2007–08 General Assembly Council Mission Work Plan, the Peacemaking Program provides resources, events, and programs to assist the church as it responds to the gospel call to “seek peace and pursue it.” In 2006, the General Assembly’s share of the Peacemaking Offering (50%) was \$1,108,098. Your generous gifts to the Peacemaking Offering will be used by the Peacemaking Program in 2007 to:

EVANGELISM AND WITNESS

\$220,104

- Facilitate the International Peacemakers Program, which brings church leaders with experience in addressing violence from other countries to the United States to share the peacemaking concerns of their churches. \$173,929
- Help plan and implement the Mission Challenge '07 program. \$21,006
- Create Spanish- and Korean-language pocket-size translations of *Guidelines for Presbyterians During Times of Disagreement*. \$9,760
- Publish a Spanish translation of *Presbyterians and Military Service*, a resource for pastors, chaplains, and people discerning, as followers of Jesus, whether to serve in the armed forces. \$15,409

2007 Peacemaking Offering

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 7

“And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations”

(Revelation 22:2)

JUSTICE AND COMPASSION

\$241,697

- Provide and identify resources that address the situation in the Sudan, the Philippines, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Colombia, Israel and Palestine, Iraq, Iran, and other places in need of peace and justice around the world. \$20,000
- Help Presbyterians address issues related to nuclear weapons, just immigration policies, restoring creation and more. \$3,300
- Identify resources and programs that equip congregations to explore and engage in ministries of nonviolence. \$30,000
- Itinerate a workshop leader on the Christian roots of nonviolence and begin to develop models for nonviolence training workshops. \$47,783
- Support a cottage industry in Liberia that transforms bullet casings into crosses. \$11,700
- Create a simulation game resource on issues around travel in Israel and Palestine. \$2,500
- Identify resources for Torture Awareness Month. Support No2Torture, a grass-roots advocacy program working to end the practice of torture by government agencies. Participate in the National Religious Campaign Against Torture. \$17,143
- Enable the Presbyterian United Nations Office to provide seminars and other educational events for Presbyterians and participate in the U.N. community of non-governmental organizations. \$21,515
- Cosponsor a Presbyterian gathering after the Christian Witness for Peace in Iraq. \$4,500
- Plan a 2008 travel study seminar to South Africa and Malawi that emphasizes responses to the HIV/AIDS pandemic and a 2008 travel study seminar to Ghana and Ethiopia. \$81,256
- Help build the capacity of the Covenant Presbyterian Urban Ministry Institute in New Orleans to engage with the community seeking to rebuild in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. \$2,000

SPIRITUALITY AND DISCIPLESHIP

\$154,985

- Publish one-session studies: *What Is Peacemaking?*; *Peacemaking among the Early Followers of Jesus*; *The Leaves of the Tree* (a study of Revelation 22:1–5 using the Community Bible Study Process); and *Maps for the Journey of Faith and Peacemaking*. \$47,937
- Provide worship resources for days that address peace and justice concerns, including a worship service for Hiroshima Day. \$9,500
- Identify worship and Bible study resources for use in situations when violence occurs. \$6,100
- Assist with the reentry event for Young Adult Volunteers returning from a year of service. \$36,818
- Begin the celebration of the 25th anniversary of the *Commitment to Peacemaking*. Provide resources to congregations that have adopted the *Commitment*. \$12,500
- Support the Interfaith Listening Project, which brings interfaith leaders from other countries to share models for interfaith dialogue and understanding. \$42,130



LEADERSHIP AND VOCATION

\$263,178

- Hold the 2007 Intergenerational Peacemaking Conference—*Jesus: Proclaiming Peace*. \$109,348
- Provide training, networking, and support for presbytery chair/enablers, including an event at the 2007 Peacemaking conference. \$32,500
- Offer leadership for the Week for Peace, Global Justice, and Creation at Ghost Ranch. \$2,200
- Lead workshops at APCE, Ecumenical Advocacy Days, the Communicator's Network Conference, and Presbyterians for Restoring Creation Conference. \$9,265
- Provide leadership at the Youth Triennium, the Presbyterian Camps and Conference Centers Association Conference, the Conservation Eco-Stewards training, and the Asian American Discipleship for Vocational Empowerment, Nurture and Transformation Conference. \$9,265
- Plan the 2008 Intergenerational Peacemaking Conference—a partnership event that will address the root causes of poverty and explore ways to live faithfully and creatively within God's economy of grace. \$100,600

PEACEMAKING OFFERING

\$228,134

- Develop resources, artwork, bulleting inserts and other materials to assist congregations and middle governing bodies as they promote the Peacemaking Offering that provides financial support for their peacemaking ministries. \$172,726
- Shared Mission Support \$55,408



Presbyterian Peacemaking Program
A Ministry of the General Assembly Council
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



Presbyterian Peacemaking Program, 100 Witherspoon Street, Louisville, KY 40202
888-728-7228, ext. 5788 • www.pcusa.org/peacemaking.org

Our Financial Stewardship

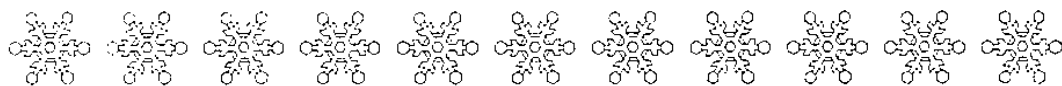
Fall is the season when we reveal our true colors, and they are golden! In the weeks to come, you will be hearing faith stories from members as to why they are part of this congregation and why they give of themselves to its work. Hear how God is alive in our midst! We will then gather at a Stewardship Brunch after worship on November 4 to hear more good news about the effectiveness of our ministries at New Castle Presbyterian Church. Consider how God has blessed us throughout the generations and how you can continue to respond in the name of Jesus Christ.

Seamen's Center Project

The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to remind everyone that we will again be supporting the Seamen's Center's "Christmas at Sea" program next December. Last year the congregation provided 30 ditty boxes, which included various items such as shampoo, toothpaste, toothbrushes, candy, etc. We were also able to include 30 hand knitted scarves, 10 hand knitted hats and some purchased hats that were given to the seamen as part of the 1300 ditty boxes given to the arriving ships in the month of December. This is a wonderful opportunity for our congregation to be part of the bigger world as we share in celebrating Christmas and sharing our time and resources.

If anyone has any questions about the program please call Ellie Gerhart (302-328-0908). Ellie will be available to teach or help with any knitting questions. As always, patterns and some yarn are readily handy in the basket in the Fellowship Hall...we hope we will be able to repeat last year's generosity. The deadline for these items is November 4th.

- Ellie Gerhart



Christmas At Sea
Seamen's Center of Wilmington
Port of Wilmington, Delaware
302-575-1300

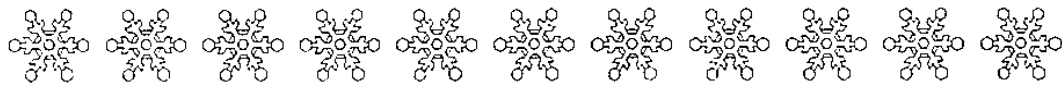


The goal of the Christmas At Sea Program is to give a Ditty Box, a shoe box filled with gifts, to every seafarer arriving in the First State during December. Last year the Seamen's Center provided gifts to 1,200 mariners. The Boxes are filled with essentials like toothpaste, razors and soap, a knitted cap and a few goodies. You can participate by filling a box or simply donating some of the wish list items listed below.

- Toothbrush**
- Comb**
- Knitted hat/scarf**
- Razors**
- Playing Cards**
- Cough Drops**
- Pens**
- Sewing Kit**

- Toothpaste**
- Deodorant**
- Shampoo**
- Chap Stick**
- Hand Lotion**
- Candy**
- Stationery**
- Soap**

SCW Volunteers begin delivering the boxes on December 1st; it would be helpful to have contributions prior to that date.



A Special Message from the 350th Anniversary Committee

We hope everyone had a great summer. We want to remind you of the upcoming 350th Anniversary events for this fall. We hope everyone enjoyed our June Seminar with Bill Quillen, our wonderful float in the Separation Day Parade, our 350th Birthday Party and Picnic, Rev. Nancy's July 1st service conducted as it may have occurred in 1776 and our participation in numerous mission events.

Now, get ready for fall and mark your calendar for these special events and join us for:

Sunday Morning October 14th 11:00 a.m. A special Worship Service led by Rev. Nancy. Enjoy a step back in time to a service and the music as it would have taken place in the 1800's.

Sunday Morning October 21st 11:00 a.m. A combination service and visit to our historical cemetery located behind the Gambacorta car dealership on Route 9 with a tour conducted by Earl Reed.

Sunday Evening November 11th at 5:00 p.m. Our gala dinner and program at Wilmington College located on Route 13 to celebrate our 350th Anniversary with members and friends from the past and present. Tickets will be \$35.00 each. We hope that this special gathering will be filled with fun, memories and a renewing of old friendships as well as a celebration of our "350 Years Witnessing For Christ". **(Be sure to let the church office know if you have friends and or family that you want us to put on the invitation list)**

Thursday Morning November 22 at 8:00 a.m. Our Special Thanksgiving Breakfast (it will be catered) with the first showing of the DVD of Rev. Ralph Johnson's inspirational Thanksgiving slide show that was a tradition each Thanksgiving during his ministry at the New Castle Presbyterian Church. Start your Thanksgiving Day off with this special event and we will have you out and on to the rest of your Thanksgiving Day activities by 9:00 a.m. Copies of the DVD will be available for a nominal price.

Saturday December 8th the "Spirit of Christmas" Again this year the Church along with the merchants in the community will sponsor this special day as a mission fund raiser. House tours, craft items, a silent auction, musical concerts and many other events will fill the day.

Sunday Morning December 30th at 11:00 a.m. A special service concluding our 350th Anniversary Celebration remembering the past and celebrating the future of the New Castle Presbyterian Church with our Anniversary Anthem and Hymn.

Monday Evening December 31st at 5:30 a.m. A New year's Eve Progressive Dinner followed by a church service closing out our year of Celebration.

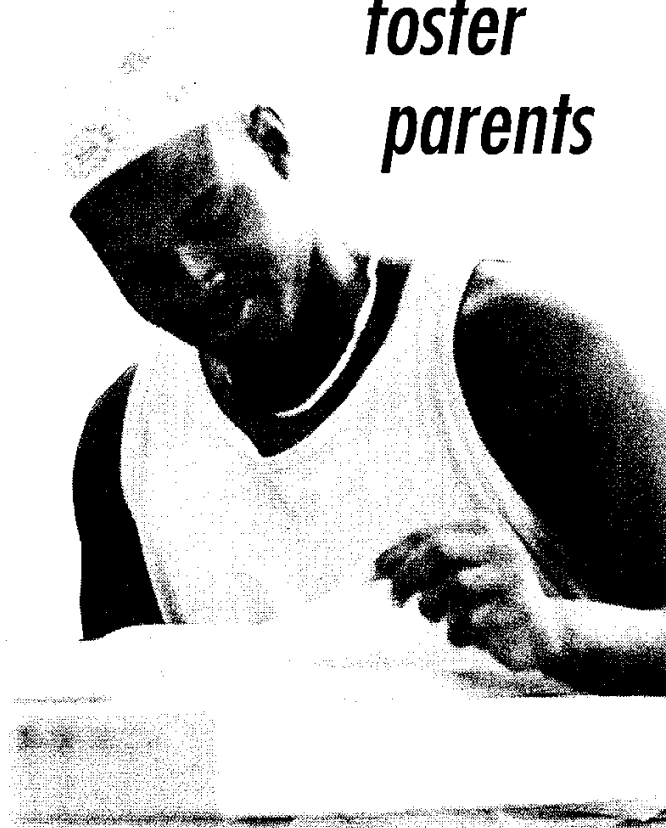
- Carol Mayhew



A FUTURE WITH HOPE

*Teens need
foster
parents*

*Think
of the
Child
First*



DIVISION OF FAMILY SERVICES
DELAWARE CHILDREN'S DEPARTMENT

Want to learn more? Call the Delaware HelpLine at: **1-800-464-HELP**

BITS AND PIECES OF THE PAST

THE RISE and DECLINE OF PSALM SINGING in PUBLIC WORSHIP ca.1500-1980 A.D.

One of the oldest concepts in human thought is that of giving praise to a God. Indeed, many of the Psalms of the Old Testament, some of which date to as early as 1000 B.C., are also designated as "songs." One of the best known of these entreat us to "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" and to "come into His presence with singing." The first Christians continued this practice of praise through song, inheriting the songs of their ancestors. From its very beginning, the Christian religion has evoked the emotion of well being among its followers even in times of persecution. The apostle Paul and his colleague Silas sang praises to God even when in jail. It was also Paul who urged the young church in Colossae to "Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly as you admonish one another and as you sing Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God."

Now fast forwarding to the 16th century, we find there was a ground-swell of religious sentiment toward the return to simple Christianity marked by modification or even total rejection of Roman Catholic doctrines and practices. This Reformation ultimately led to the establishment of Protestant churches led by sixteenth and seventeenth century stalwarts such as Martin Luther, Ulrich Zwingli, John Calvin, and John Knox. These independent break-away churches were often marked by a variety of vehemently-held overlapping beliefs, many of which related to worship practices, particularly in regard to music.

Before ca. 1600, Protestant church leadership allowed only the Psalms from the Old Testament to be sung. Instrumental music of any sort was also forbidden. John Calvin (1509-1562), the noted leader of Presbyterianism, was highly opposed to the use of musical instruments in the worship of God. Because very few people could read and because musical instruments were forbidden, the Psalms were sung a cappella from memory. In Scotland in the early 1600s, the hymn leader, officially called the precentor (also called "clerk" or "Psalm leader" or "uptaker"), would sing the first line of the Psalm, then the congregation would repeat it, and so on until all lines of all verses had been sung.

Churches in some remote areas of this country still "line out." The average Old Testament Psalm has, perhaps, 20 verses. In Psalm books, very lengthy Psalms were, for doctrinal correctness, divided into several interludes to allow the precentor and the singers to catch their breath. In some Psalm books the term "PAUSE" or "REST" or "PART" was printed in the book so as to slow-down a zealous precentor. Heaven must have helped him with the 119th Psalm which has 176 verses divided into 21 sections. It is no wonder that Judge Samuel Sewell, who was the precentor at Old South Church in Boston, resigned in 1718 after 24 years because his voice was "much enfeebled."

In some New England Puritan congregations, as congregants became older, their ability to sing declined gradually to the detriment of quality of singing. In 1682, the Plymouth, Massachusetts, Church went on record that the Psalms were too difficult to sing. Precentors were virtually powerless. "Everyone sang as best pleased himself." One pastor lamented, "The tunes are so miserably tortured, and twisted, and quavered in some churches into a horrid medley of confused and Disorderly voices." No two churches sang alike; no two men in the

congregation “quavered together.” (Apparently, in this congregation the women did not sing.)

Early on, the Psalms were sung in the vernacular of the King James Bible of 1611 regardless of the rhythm, but by the late 1700s, precentors had begun to follow the spirit of the Psalm rather than its exact wording. These were called “versified” Psalms.

Miles Coverdale (d. 1569) had published the first book on the Psalms of David in English in 1538 under the title “Goostly Psalms . . .”, or in modern English, “Spiritual Psalms.” This was only about a century after Gutenberg (1390-1468), developed the first printing press using movable type in 1452. It was almost a hundred years later that John Calvin produced his version of the Psalms in 1539. Other versions followed rapidly, perhaps as many as 125 in all. Three of these books are classics: Sternhold and Hopkins, the Bay Psalm Book, and Brady and Tate.

Little is known about the personal lives of the authors of the first of these three books. Thomas Sternhold died in 1549; John Hopkins, in 1570. Their metrical version of the Psalms was first attached to the Prayer book, and between 1549 and 1693, went through nine editions (8 English, 1 colonial).

The Bay Psalm Book, a nickname, was the first book to be printed in British North America. Its actual title being “The Whole Booke of Psalms Faithfully Translated into English Metre” This new translation of the Psalms had been started in 1636 by the Puritan divines Richard Mather, John Eliot and Thomas Weld, whose purpose was to follow the Biblical Texts more closely than the King James Version had done and at the same time to provide a translation suited to being sung in the meeting houses of the Massachusetts Bay Colony. In Mathers’ words the Bay Psalm Book, had “Conscience rather than elegance, fidelity rather than poetry” It was first printed in Cambridge in 1640, and between 1670 and 1762, went through 48 editions (27 Colonial, 15 English, and 6 Scottish).

Nicholas Brady (1659-1726) was educated at Oxford University, was ordained as an Anglican priest and worked with Nahum Tate in producing a new version of the English Psalms in 1696. Tate (1652-1715), was educated at Trinity College, Dublin, and had a varied career as a writer, poet, and historiographer, but is principally known for his work with Brady. Between 1696 and 1813, Brady and Tate was sold in 47 editions (2 London, 3 New York, 1 Philadelphia, 38 Boston and 1 Worcester).

It is interesting to compare how much the wording differed in the various versions of the versified Psalms. For example, compare the first verse of Psalm 95 in each version. Scholars long before had given up on trying to fit music to the exact wording of the King James Version of the Bible. In time though, they began to see that it was not the exact wording, but the thought that counted.

1559 Sternhold and Hopkins,
O, Come let us lift up our voice
and sing unto the Lord
In him our rock of health rejoice
Let us with one accord.

1640 The Bay Psalm Book
O Come, let us unto the Lord
shout loud with singing voycé
to the rock of our saving health
let us make joyfull noyse.

1696 Tate and Brady
O Come, loud anthems let us sing,
Loud thanks to our Almighty King
For we our voices high should raise
When our Salvation's Rock we praise.

The controversy over singing by note ("regular way") or by rote ("usual way") kept congregations in turmoil for years. The reformation which led to the establishment of the first singing schools in the late 1700s also marks the beginning of conscious musical culture.

As the old order changed, so did the singing. For example, in the Presbyterian Church U.S.A., the 1821 *Directory* held that it was not only the "duty of Christians to praise God by singing Psalms or hymns," but to do so "in the spirit and understanding." It also held that it was proper to "cultivate some knowledge of the rules of music, that we may praise God in a becoming manner with our voices as well as with our hearts." The *Directory* also asked that more time be allowed for singing "than is usual in most churches. . . . The whole congregation should be furnished with [Psalm] books, and ought to join in this part of worship. It is proper to sing without parceling out the Psalm, line by line. The practice of reading the Psalm line by line was introduced in times of ignorance, when many in the congregation could not read. Therefore, it is recommended that it be laid aside, as far as convenient."

By the 1850s, publishers increasingly began to omit the longer, less popular Psalms from the song books and replace them with the newfangled and highly popular hymns. Modern-day Presbyterian hymnals contain very few Psalms. A Presbyterian church I visited in 1941 used hymnals that did not have musical notation, but had an organ, which seemed quite strange to me. Today Eastern Orthodox churches and some Reformed and other Protestant groups do not use instrumental music in worship.

Two books clearly show the transition in the mid-1800s from the use of only the Psalms in worship to the use of both Psalms and hymns. The 1843 edition of "Psalms and Hymns adapted to Social, Private, and Public Worship in the Presbyterian Church in the United States of America" was published in 1843 by the Presbyterian Board of Publications in Philadelphia. The 150 Psalms of the Old Testament come first. Each Psalm is published in one or more wordings such that the thought content of longer Psalms can be reduced in length. Three years later the 175 verses of the 119th Psalm were published in eighteen "Parts" with appropriate verses selected around a particular theme, for example, "Afflictions leading to God and His word."

Psalm books of the late 1700s had very few tunes. As late as 1827, Isaac Watts' "The Psalms of David" used only four meters: "common, short, long, and particular." A new book (1995), "Psalms to Sing" by Clarence R. Johnson, has a metrical index which lists 21 different metres, but three (short, common, and long) comprise only 14% of the total. By contrast, in a collection of 522 tunes published in 1901, 362 (61%) are written in one of

only three metres: 29% common metre, 22 % long metre; and 10% short metre.

With any change in worship, more than likely there will be people who are totally opposed, while others are fully supportive. A book published in 1859 by the Rev. Hugh Born, Pastor of the United Presbyterian Church in East Salem, New York, devotes 64 pages of fine print to two subjects: first, that only the Psalms found in scripture be used in praising God, and second, that instrumental music must not be used in public worship. Born called the use of instrumental music "against the covenant and recognized standard of the Presbyterian church."

In that same vein, a book published in 1871 by J. B. Johnson, Pastor of the United Presbyterian Church in St. Clairsville, Ohio, spent 172 pages exhorting against uninspired songs in worship, in other words, songs written by mortal men, but does not mention the use of instrumental music at all. Times had changed. Probably, instrumental music had been accepted in his congregation.

Hymns for Christian Worship, published in 1890 by the Association of Nonsubscribing Irish Presbyterians, is devoid of any mention of the 150 Psalms from the Old Testament. The closest thing to it is an untitled paraphrase of Psalm 23 by Francis Rous, an English Puritan, published in 1644 as the well known hymn "The Lord's My Shepherd, I'll Not Want." This book contains 430 hymns by an eclectic group of authors, such as: Watts, Doddridge, Wesley, Newton, Cowper, Tate and Brady, Zinzendorf, Longfellow, and even gospel song writer Ira Sankey (1840-1908). The oldest hymn (no.128) dates from 1130. Within its spectrum of religious persuasions are Baptist, Presbyterian, Methodist, Moravian, Anglican, Puritan, and Unitarian. It is truly ecumenical!

The Hymnal of the Presbyterian Church, USA, as revised in 1911, published only excerpts of most of the 150 Psalms, even including 24 verses of the 119th Psalm's 175 verses. These are published in very small type at the end of the book, which indicates to me their importance to the compilers had waned. Moreover, the Psalms were to be read aloud, not sung.

The Hymnbook [Presbyterian], published in 1955, contains excerpts from only 35 Psalms at the back of the book, which are included as Scriptures that are to be read either in unison or responsively. At this juncture, it appeared to me that the end of Psalm singing in our church was drawing nigh.

But the issue is not dead! In 1980, The Presbyterian Hymnal, Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs, which we use weekly, reinstated about 100 of the Psalms. The typeface used for these Psalms is the same as that of the hymns. Though highly versified and replete with musical notation, they hold a place of honor in the second quarter of this new book. Moreover, the Psalm's messages still shine through. Now that this book is fifteen years old, I wonder which way the pendulum for a new revision will swing next.

Herbert T. Pratt
Church Archivist

NOTE: Most of the resource material for this study was garnered from my personal collection of psalms, hymns, spiritual songs and related reference works.

Session Committees 2007-2008

Resource Development Committee: Karen Dobson, Lindy Ballance, Phoebe Dill

Worship Committee: Bob Briggs, Lindy Ballance, Marcia Quillen, Bruce Raker

Christian Education Committee: Pat Bird, Connie Reese

Mission and Outreach Committee: Janet Spring, Cynthia Robbins

Congregational Life\Membership: Rob Barry, Nancy Coning

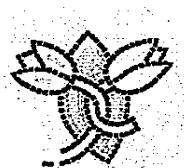
Clerk of Session: Phoebe Dill, **Assistant Clerk:** Connie Reese

Trustee Assignments 2007-2008

CE Building:	Jim Flook, Scott Selheimer
Cemetery:	Earl Reed
Contracts:	Chandler Gebhart
Grounds:	Brenda Walters
Manse:	Carol Mayhew
Memorial Garden:	Chandler Gebhart
President:	Bill Anthony
Sanctuary:	Steve Handy
Secretary:	Judy Hentkowski

Deacon Assignments 2007-2008

Moderator – Molly Dunson
Vice-Moderator – Jean Swanson
Secretary – Mark Powell
Treasurer – Shirley Knox
Greeting Cards – Chris Fagles
Kitchen Supplies – Sue Townsend
Picture Album – Zach Dobson, Jean Swanson, Mark Powell
Prayer Chain – Fran Gingham
Weddings – Molly Dunson, Shirley Knox
Coffee Hour Coordinator – Mary Pratt
Emmanuel Dining Room – Tom McDowell
Shut-In Visits Coordinator – Mary Pratt
Pastoral Needs Liaison – Mary Pratt
Nominating Committee – Jean Swanson
Grief Coordinator – Mary Pratt, Mark Powell
Serve Communion to Shut-Ins – Shirley Knox



Arasapha Garden Club Autumn Sale Spring Bulbs Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ E-Mail: _____

<u>Bulb Choices</u>	<u>No. of Bags</u>	<u>Price/Bag</u>	<u>Amount Due</u>
1. Glorious All White Garden	_____	\$25	_____
2. Anemone Blanda Mixture	_____	\$8	_____
3. Muscari-Blue & White Hyacinth	_____	\$10	_____
4. Lily Tulips—"Mona Lisa"	_____	\$12	_____
5. Tangerine/Pink Tulip Garden	_____	\$15	_____
6. Rock Garden Narcissi	_____	\$10	_____
7. Wood Hyacinths	_____	\$10	_____
8. Dutch Iris-Blue Magic	_____	\$8	_____
		Total Purchase \$	_____

Donation to Garden Angel program to buy bulbs for the historic gardens _____

Total Enclosed \$ _____

Please make checks payable to Arasapha Garden Club. Pre-order deadline is October 5, 2007. Mail check with order form to:

Shirley Davis
19 East Second Street
New Castle, DE 19720
Attn: Autumn Bulb Sale

For best selection, pre-order bulbs and pick up at Autumn Sale.

Autumn Sale
More Bulbs, Garden Ware, & Local Plants
Saturday October 13th
9:30am-4pm
Market Square on Delaware Street

Spring bulbs sale to benefit the gardens of the New Castle Historical Society at the Amstel and Dutch Houses.

A Night of Family Fun!

Quigley's Hay Ride

Friday, October 26th

7:00 - 9:00 PM



CE Committee will supply the sodas, hot dogs, and the fixings for S'mores.

Please bring roasting sticks and a snack to share!

Cost: \$5.00 per family

Sign up on the bulletin board in the CE entryway.

Deadline for sign-ups is Sunday, October 7

Please sign up early!!

Questions?? Please see Amy Selheimer

October 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>1</p> <p>9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship-The Lord's Supper 12:00pm-Fellowship Hour 12:30pm-Youth Fellowship 12:30pm-Mission & Outreach 3:00pm Friendship House Concert</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Meals on Wheels Clothing Bank Van</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Week of Oct 1 12pm-Noon Circle 7:30pm-Choir</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00pm-Arasapha 6:45pm-Colonial Chimers 7:00pm-AI-Anon 8:00pm-Celeb. Ringers</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Emmanuel Dining Room</p>	
<p>7</p> <p>9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship-The Lord's Supper 12:00pm-Fellowship Hour 12:30pm-Youth Fellowship 12:30pm-Mission & Outreach 3:00pm Friendship House Concert</p>	<p>8</p> <p>7pm-Deacons</p>	<p>9</p> <p>10</p> <p>7:30pm-Choir</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:45pm-Colonial Chimers 7:00pm-AI-Anon 8:00pm-Celeb. Ringers</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Presbytery Vessel Event</p>	
<p>14</p> <p>9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship/Baptism Meeting House 1800's 12pm-Fellowship Hour 12:15pm-Communion Workshop</p>	<p>15</p> <p>7pm-English Country Dancers 7:30pm-Trustees</p>	<p>16</p> <p>17</p> <p>7:30pm-Choir</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:45pm-Colonial Chimers 7:00pm-AI-Anon 8:00pm-Celeb. Ringers</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	
<p>21</p> <p>9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Fellowship Hour 1:00pm-Crop Walk</p>	<p>22</p> <p>7pm-Session</p>	<p>23</p> <p>24</p> <p>7:30pm-Choir</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:45pm-Colonial Chimers 7:00pm-AI-Anon 8:00pm-Celeb. Ringers</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00pm-Family Hayride</p>	<p>27</p>	
<p>28</p> <p>9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship Tour of Historic Cemetery 12:00pm-Fellowship Hour</p>	<p>29</p> <p>7:30pm-350th Committee Mtg.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>31</p> <p>1:00pm-Arasapha Garden Club 7:30pm-Choir</p>				

New Castle Presbyterian Church
25 E. 2nd Street
New Castle, DE 19720
Phone: (302) 328-3279
Fax:(302) 328-5670
E-Mail: ncpc1651@verizon.net
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE
Permit No. 36

Address Change
Requested

Contact the New Castle Presbyterian Church office:
ncpc1651@verizon.net

Contact: The Rev. Nancy Rowland at:
ncpcpastor@verizon.net

Next Newsletter Deadline is **October 22, 2007**.