

# *New Castle Presbyterian News*

## *December 2007*



### **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT NEW CASTLE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

- December 2 First Sunday of Advent  
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- December 8 Spirit of Christmas (Saturday)  
10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- December 9 Second Sunday of Advent  
Spirit of Christmas items available at fellowship
- December 16 Third Sunday of Advent  
Fellowship at the Manse
- December 21 Christmas Caroling (Friday)  
7:00 p.m. Gather at church  
8:00 p.m. Refreshments - Mayhews (17 E. 5<sup>th</sup>)
- December 23 Fourth Sunday of Advent  
Lessons and Carols  
Congregational Meeting after worship
- December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (Monday)  
5:30 p.m. Children's Service (Meeting House)  
7:30 p.m. Traditional Service (Meeting House)
- December 30 First Sunday after Christmas  
Conclusion of 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
No Sunday School/Jenny McCann Spivey preaching
- December 31 New Year's Eve (Monday)  
Progressive Dinner  
10:00 p.m. Worship

## **Ralph Johnson Memorial Cookie Bake**

This year we would like to continue the outreach that started last year after the funeral of Ralph Johnson, our beloved Pastor Emeritus. At the conclusion of the funeral, there was a reception at First & Central Church and many of you will remember the many tables of cookies that greeted you. There were so many left over cookies that we bagged them up and took them to the Friendship House Breakfast Program the next day and gave a bag to each person who came to breakfast that day. After hearing about this event, Corky Viola suggested that we continue this outreach as a tribute to Ralph. This year we will be serving breakfast on the Sunday of December 23rd, so we would like to distribute the cookies on this date. If you would like to donate a batch of cookies, please bring them to the CE Building kitchen by Friday, December 21st. If you would like to help bag the cookies, we will meet on Saturday morning from 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. in the CE Building. We are hoping to make a hundred bags of cookies for distribution. Look for a sign-up sheet after the Spirit of Christmas celebration.

## **Mission & Outreach Update**

### **NCPC Book Night**

Since the next few months will be busy with 350th Celebration activities and the Spirit of Christmas we have decided to postpone our first book, **American Gospel**, by Jon Meacham until **January 15th**. This is a great read for history buffs interested in how religion shaped the thinking of our founding fathers and presidents throughout history. A fitting book for the conclusion of our year long celebration of our 350th Anniversary since 15 signers of the Declaration of Independence were Presbyterian. This book has been well researched and the footnote pages and acknowledgement pages are as interesting as the book itself. Jon Meacham is an editor for Newsweek magazine and has also written a book about Harry Truman and Winston Churchill.

**Grace, Eventually** by Anne Lamott will be scheduled for March 18th and **Mountains Beyond Mountains** by Tracey Kidder will be scheduled for May 20th.

### **Friendship House Concert**

Many thanks to Eileen Dunham and the members of our choir for their wonderful contribution to Friendship House' concert held on Sunday, October 7 at Trinity Episcopal Church in Wilmington. Your gift of music was greatly appreciated and well sung!

## Shoe Boxes

Shoe boxes make the perfect carrying cartons for our homemade soups for the upcoming Spirit of Christmas sales. Please check your closets and bring any you can spare to the Christian Education Building to be used for that purpose. Put them in the corner of the “all purpose” room near the donated books. **Thank you!**

- Mary Pratt

## Now Hear This

Clean out your bookshelves!

Support our annual Spirit of Christmas book sale!

Bring those books you don't need

To the Christian Education Building

No later than Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.

A large box will be waiting for your contribution.

All proceeds will go to support local and global missions.

**(All books except textbooks or encyclopedias will be welcomed)**

## Spirit of Christmas Craft Table

We would like to encourage our members and friends to contribute home crafted items for sale at our Spirit of Christmas craft table. Please bring your finished items to the church by Sunday, December 2nd and place them in the tubs marked CRAFT TABLE. Please have your items priced. (There will be pricing labels attached to the CRAFT TABLE tubs if you need any.) Your contributions will help support the valuable ministry of Friendship House at their Corner House location at Calvary Presbyterian Church.

## O Christmas Tree

As our year long celebration of our 350th Anniversary draws to a close, we would like to do something special to decorate the Christmas tree in the foyer for our Spirit of Christmas celebration. Since the history of any church includes the history of its membership, we would like each member of our congregation to donate an ornament for our tree. Many of you have a long history with our church and some of you have joined just recently, but all of you are a vital part of who we are as a congregation. We hope you will find an ornament that has a special meaning for you and contribute this ornament to our tree. Our goal is to have a tree decorated with ornaments as unique and special as our members are. Please bring your ornament in some kind of box or container and label it with your name or family names. There will be a collection box for the ornaments in the foyer of the CE Building. All ornaments are due by December 2. Thank you.

## Donate a Frozen Turkey

If you earn credit for a free turkey this fall please consider donating that free turkey to a Christmas Food Basket project being organized by the Newark Area Welfare Committee. Beverly Stoudt is co-chairperson of this large undertaking. Approximately 340 families and senior citizens will receive a week's worth of non-perishable food on Saturday December 22. Each basket also will be accompanied by a frozen turkey for Christmas dinner.

Many grocery stores are offering bargain prices and offers of free turkeys before Thanksgiving. And, some companies give their employees a free turkey for Thanksgiving and/or Christmas. If you have accumulated credit or expect a gift of a turkey and do not want it, please consider giving it to our Christmas Food Basket project.

We will need your donated turkey by **Saturday Dec. 22**. If you plan to have one to donate please call Beverly Stoudt at 368-9354 who will arrange for pick up and storage. We have a facility that will store as many turkeys as we can get. If you would like to bring it along to any Sunday church service that would be wonderful and hopefully easy for your family.

If you want to purchase a turkey and donate it we will be very grateful. Remember the prices are much better **before** Thanksgiving than after.

\_\_\_\_\_ We will pledge a turkey.

\_\_\_\_\_ We will bring our donated turkey to church.

\_\_\_\_\_ We do not have space to store a turkey and will  
need to have our donated turkey picked up.

Please call our family at \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for considering this loving project and taking the time to secure a frozen turkey.

Beverly Stoudt (368-9354)  
Newark Area Welfare Committee  
P.O. Box 951, Newark, DE 19715

## **Meals on Wheels**

Meals on Wheels is December 24-28. 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

## **Direct Giving**

If you would like to have your contributions direct deposited please call Shirley Knox at 322-0225 or call the office (328-3279) for the appropriate form.

## **Manse Hosts Needed**

The church manse will be open for tours during Spirit of Christmas, and hosts are needed to welcome our visitors. Volunteers are very much needed for these shifts: 9:30—11:00; 12:30-2:00; 2:00-3:30; and 3:30-4:00. Please sign up in the fellowship hall.

## **We Say Goodbye**

We are sad to say goodbye to our faithful Administrative Assistant Janet Ventimiglia. She is taking a full-time position with the Children's Advocacy Center. We will have a time of saying farewell Sunday December 2 at worship and fellowship. We will miss you, Janet!

## **Fall Clean-up**

Please join us for our annual fall church/manse yard clean-up on Saturday 12/1/07 at 9:00am until noon. - Brenda Walters

## **Bread & Soup Makers for Spirit of Christmas**

There will be sign-up sheets in the C.E. building next week waiting for your name! We will need your delicious fresh homemade soup and bread to sell on December 8<sup>th</sup>. Containers for your homemade soups are in the church kitchen. Please take whatever you need plus lids and labels. Place the label on the **LID** and bring your soups and breads to the CE building any time on Friday, December 7, or on the morning of December 8<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please call Mary Pratt at 328-7273. **THANK YOU!**

Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Ministry

New Castle Presbytery  
Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Ministry

October 19, 2007



TO: Session Clerks

From: Bob Schminkey, Disaster Preparedness and Recovery Ministry Coordinator

RE: New Castle Presbytery "Hands-On" Mission Trip

I am pleased to inform your congregation that New Castle Presbytery is planning a hands-on mission trip to the gulf coast to help out in the ongoing hurricane recovery efforts. We invite you to publicize the trip and encourage participation from your church. Space is limited to 30 people and preference will be given to members of smaller congregations.

**A New Castle Presbytery Gulf Coast Mission Trip  
January 27 – February 3, 2008**

**Mission Team Leaders:**

Rev. Sara Holben (Chestertown) and Rev. Duke Dixon (Easton)

**What Will the Mission Team Do?** Assist in the ongoing rebuilding and recovery efforts in the aftermath of hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005.

**Who Can Go?** Skilled and unskilled volunteer labor is still badly needed. If you are over 18, YOU can help!

**When is the Team Going?** The Team will arrive in New Orleans on Sunday January 27 and return home on Saturday February 2. Travel will be coordinated and team members may plan to fly or drive to New Orleans.

**Where Will the Team Stay?** Team housing during the mission trip will be at the Olive Tree Volunteer Village (dorm style housing) about 30 minutes from downtown New Orleans. This is one of six "camps" currently run by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA).

**What Will This Trip Cost?** The cost for this trip is \$220. That covers housing and food at Olive Tree Village and ground transport in New Orleans. You are responsible for your travel expenses to and from New Orleans.

# Emmanuel Dining Room Thank you for the leftovers from our 350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Banquet:



Emmanuel  
Dining Room,  
providing  
dining  
facilities  
for the  
hungry,  
is a  
program of  
The  
Ministry  
of  
Caring  
Inc.,  
a non-profit,  
tax-exempt  
corporation.



Emmanuel  
Dining Room  
South  
500 Rogers Road  
New Castle,  
Delaware  
19720-1398  
302-577-2951

Emmanuel  
Dining Room  
East  
226 North  
Walnut Street  
Wilmington,  
Delaware  
19801-3934  
302-652-2577

[www.ministryofcaring.org](http://www.ministryofcaring.org)

## EMMANUEL DINING ROOM

THE MINISTRY OF CARING INC.

November 13, 2007

New Castle Presbyterian  
350<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee  
25 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720

Dear Friends of New Castle Presbyterian:

It is because of the generosity of people like you that the Emmanuel Dining Room is able to continue its ministry to the poor. In 2006 we served over 178,000 meals. Our ministry is able to continue to serve those in need because of kind donations like yours, which was brought to us by Gallagher & Gallagher from your gathering.

On behalf of the hungry who walk through our doors everyday, and our volunteers and staff, thank you!

Be assured of our prayers for you and your loved ones.

Gratefully yours,

*Br. Cory*

Br. Cory Moody, OFM Cap.  
Director

Emmanuel Dining Room West  
121 North Jackson Street • Wilmington, Delaware 19805-3670  
Phone 302-652-3228 • Fax 302-652-2576  
e-mail: [nwml@ministryofcaring.org](mailto:nwml@ministryofcaring.org)

**BITS AND PIECES FROM THE PAST**

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE**

**New Castle Presbyterian Church**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDING MARCH 31ST, 1923**

RECEIPTS		EXPENDITURES	
Cash Balance, March 31, 1922..	\$ 15.80	Salaries .....	\$1,545.00
House Rents .....	632.00	General Assembly Assessment...	16.34
Morning Collections .....	148.23	Coal and Wood .....	206.00
Evening Collections .....	81.15	Insurance .....	106.51
Envelope Collections .....	1,018.37	Gas .....	44.34
Special Collections .....	169.02	Taxes .....	113.86
Interest Received .....	106.08	Water Rent .....	38.00
Interest from Legacies .....	1,055.08	Discounts and stamps on Notes ..	62.12
Balance drawn from Artisan		Manse Repairs .....	57.71
Savings Bank .....	352.33	House Repairs .....	252.00
W. D. Greer Fund, drawn for		Church Repairs .....	34.30
reinvestment .....	79.36	Safe Deposit Box Rent .....	7.50
E. S. Nisbet Cem. Fund drawn		Printing .....	4.00
for reinvestment .....	207.77	Investments .....	1,132.91
L. H. Duncan Mortgage paid....	500.00	Pulpit Supply .....	616.25
		Electricity .....	16.35
		Transferred to Cemetery account	74.28
		Church Envelopes .....	12.53
		Cash Balance March 31, 1923 ...	25.19
	\$4,365.19		\$4,365.19

Cash Balance in Sunday School account .....	\$ 182.46
Cash Balance in Cemetery account .....	239.48

**LIABILITY**

Note discounted by N. C. Trust Co. ....	900.00
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**ASSETS**

Houses Nos. 24 and 26—The Strand .....	3,892.63
Marble Hall .....	2,000.00
Miss S. B. Spotswood Legacy .....	5,000.00
Mrs. E. S. Nisbet Legacy .....	5,000.00
Miss A. R. Spotswood Legacy .....	1,100.00
Miss Hetty Smith Legacy .....	5,000.00
Smith & Proudfit Cemetery Legacy .....	3,250.00
Deposits in N. C. Tr. Savings Department .....	100.00
James Dob Legacy for Cemetery .....	500.00
I. L. Register Legacy .....	500.00
13 Shares of Dupont Debentures .....	981.50
2 Bonds of Dupont 7 2% due 1931 .....	1,629.38
1 Bond of Bell Telephone of Penna. ....	500.14

JAMES S. DUNGAN,  
Treasurer.



### Comments Relating to this Report

Yearly income totaled \$4,365.19. The year-end balance was only \$15.80. Assets (legacies, real estate, stocks, and savings) were valued at \$29,453.65. Interest-income from legacies was slightly more than that of envelope collections, \$1055 vs. \$1018.

The church owned three houses: 24 and 26 The Strand and Marble Hall on Delaware Street near 5th Street. Marble Hall, valued at \$2000.00, had been given to the church by Lucy Spotswood Pierce in 1923. The church soon sold it, established a Pierce Legacy, from which it then borrowed money to make repairs on the manse. (This loan from the Legacy was repaid in 1938. See Treasurer's Report for March 31, 1939.) Also in 1924, Miss Dungan, Miss Nivin and Mrs. Eliason were nominated but not elected to the Board of Trustees. Somehow, I sense the hand of these good women in the following Trustees' Minutes for April 26, 1924.

"At the Manse the back building has been torn down and the newly exposed wall faced with cement. A new tin roof has been placed on parts of the roof and the balance repaired. The entire roof has been painted with two coats of paint. New gutters and spouting have been erected and all outside woodwork painted. Certain fences have been repaired, a private sewer laid and connected with the bathroom and kitchen. The furnace has been repaired, new heat flue run to bathroom which to now has never had heat. Fireplaces have been opened and two new flues built to care for warm air lines previously run in the chimney. In the kitchen new joists and floor were laid and the walls were covered with sheetrock to overcome dampness. A new sink and kitchen plumbing installed. An arch and vestibule were put in the main hall and a french vestibule door was hung. The old doors from living room and dining room into the hall, the big doors between the living and dining rooms and the door from the stairway into the study have all been converted into french doors. A new doorway has been cut from the dining room into the kitchen. Old hardware has been replaced with new. A partition has been erected on the stair landing to the third floor. The entire house has been wired for electricity and new lighting fixtures installed."

Herbert T. Pratt,  
Church Archivist

## **Each Sunday of Advent** **“White Gifts”**

Deacons will continue collecting donations of non-perishable food for the local New Castle food cupboard operated by St. Vincent DePaul Society at St. Peters Catholic Church for hungry people who live in New Castle. This year we will collect food **each of the four Sundays in Advent**, as well as, **Christmas Eve**. Please bring donated breakfast or canned meat and protein items, juice, soup, vegetables, fruit or even dessert items and place them in the marked box in the Narthex.

The term “White Gifts” referred to the white wrapping paper around each donated can or box. *We no longer need to wrap individual items.* However, our celebration of the hope, love, joy, and anticipation of Christ in our lives will wrap each donation with the sparkling glory or God’s working presence in our midst.

Thank you,  
The Deacons

## **Christmas Caroling**

Be sure to mark your calendar for a great evening of Christmas Caroling on Friday night December 21<sup>st</sup>! We will meet at the church at 7:00pm and proceed from there walking around Old New Castle and caroling.

We will end up at Gene and Carol Mayhew’s house (17 E 5<sup>th</sup> Street in New Castle) for refreshments and fellowship (we usually arrive there between 8:00 and 8:30pm).

Please join us at the Mayhew’s even if you are unable to walk around and carol.

# December 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Fellowship 12:15pm-New member gathering 12:30pm-Advent Wreath Workshop	3 7:00pm-Christian Education	4 12:00pm-Noon Circle	5 7:30pm-Choir	6 6:45pm-Bells 7:00pm-Al-Anon 8:00pm-Bells	7 9:00am-3:00pm Spirit of Christmas Set-up	8 10:00am-Spirit of Christmas
9 9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Fellowship	10 7:00pm-Deacons	11	12 6:00pm-Worship Committee 7:30pm-Choir	13 6:45pm-Bells 7:00pm-Al-Anon 8:00pm-Bells	14	15
16 9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Fellowship 1:00pm-Emma Nichol Funeral	17 7:00pm-Session (Manse) 7:00pm-English Country Dancers 7:30pm-Trustees	18	19 7:30pm-Choir	20 6:45pm-Bells 7:00pm-Al-Anon 8:00pm-Bells	21 7:00pm-Carolling 8:00pm-Fellowship @ Mayhews	22
23 9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 12:00pm-Fellowship	24 Meals on Wheels 5:30pm-Family Worship 7:30pm-Trad. Worship OFFICE CLOSED	25 Meals on Wheels OFFICE CLOSED MERRY CHRISTMAS!	26 Meals on Wheels	27 Meals on Wheels 6:45pm-Bells 7:00pm-Al-Anon 8:00pm-Bells	28 Meals on Wheels	29
30 9:30am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship-Jenny McCann Spivey preaching 12:00pm-Fellowship	31 5:30pm-New Year's Eve Progressive Dinner OFFICE CLOSED					

New Castle Presbyterian Church  
25 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720  
Phone: (302) 328-3279  
Fax: (302) 328-5670  
E-Mail: [ncpc1651@verizon.net](mailto: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](mailto:ncpc1651@verizon.net)

**Contact: The Rev. Nancy Rowland at:**  
[ncpcpastor@verizon.net](mailto:ncpcpastor@verizon.net)

Next Newsletter Deadline is **December 18, 2007.**