

New Castle Presbyterian News

May 2008



Dedicatory Organ Recital

The Worship Committee invites you to the official dedication of our new Meeting House organ on Sunday, May 18 at 7:00 p.m. The Custom Allen electronic organ features two manuals and 33 stops, and provides a rich sound to lead us in prayer and congregational song many years into the future.

Our recitalist will be William F. Clisham, who for 43 years has served churches in Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and New Jersey, directing and administering programs of multiple choirs and handbell ensembles and playing the organ for worship services. He earned his degrees, Bachelor of Music and

Master of Music in Church Music, from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. He has served as choir director/organist at churches in Maryland, Virginia, and New Jersey.

Mr. Clisham will perform selections by Buxtehude, Bach, Boyce, Scheidt, Handel, Pachelbel, and 20th century composers Langlais, Locklair, and Hailstork. The concert will include several congregational hymns related to the organ pieces and will culminate with a formal dedication of the organ to the glory of God. We are so grateful for the generous gifts of so many contributors to this instrument of God's praise! The evening will be concluded with a reception in the fellowship hall. Please join us in giving thanks to God.

Friendship House Needs Your Help!

How you can help: You can easily help Friendship House address the needs of homeless people by bringing a box or roll of **45-gallon black garbage bags** to church any Sunday during May. "Wow," you may think, "how would a garbage bag be helpful?"

Well, when a homeless person comes to the men's or women's day centers to begin the turnaround from homelessness, he or she is first offered hospitality: coffee or tea, sometimes something to eat. When you realize that upwards of 180 men and 60 women visit the day centers on any given day, you begin to see that lots of trash is generated--so Friendship House uses lots of 45-gallon black garbage bags.

When you support this ministry with your gift of garbage bags, you free up operating funds for other direct services to the men and women who need help. So your gift of garbage bags is a simple and practical way of meeting a daily need, and everyone involved with Friendship House thanks you.

Please bring **45 gallon Black Garbage bags** and place them in the CE Lobby.

Parking Issues Report

Our church's survey concerning schedule changes included a question about parking issues. Our members have been very creative in suggesting ways to cope with the reality of a downtown church with no off-street parking! The Session is following up on a number of them.

Question: Have you had any trouble finding parking before church or Sunday School?

6 - Yes, 10 - No , 4 - I Walk. We're usually here early enough that we don't have a problem...No problem other than the squeeze at the East end of the cobblestone street and getting through... sometimes it is difficult... Episcopalians could park on 3rd St. and Harmony Sts. - Third is usually

empty. Neighbors could park toward DE St instead of in front of the church...only if there is a special event in New Castle – not very often... not all the time... We realize it is a large problem once in a while... I'm early (9:30) and park on The Strand.

Question: What solutions do you suggest for our parking problems?

Car pools? Would a 10 am start time help?...it is not a problem we can solve. If the impetus is there to come to church, people will find a place to park...no clue – have “church parking only” on certain section of Del. St. - not sure if that would be legal. (We are running out of parking on Second St in general. We all want to park close and not walk too far.)

Parking problem is the only reason I can think of to change worship time to same as Immanuel...ask Episcopal church to park on Harmony St. and 3rd St...If you want a nice stroll – there is ample parking on 3rd St...Use lot behind bank – it's really a short walk; provide special parking in front of church for those who cannot walk from bank lot; stickers for windows? ...parking is limited but available on Sunday am on Strand – walk up path to church...there really isn't anything we can change...no clue...car pools?...those parking on the cobblestones at the Harmony St entrance (to Market) park too close to corner and too far from curb...park in rear of bank for those able to walk and leave Second St for older or disabled...we have been trying to think of an answer, but cannot...Request that the Episcopal church not park X yards from the corner. Many of our members could park on the cobblestone street if we could get up the street. The street is wider at our end...there's no solution that I can see other than what we have...I have no problem...earlier church...no suggestions...none due to the layout of Old New Castle...can't think of any – other than a shuttle bus or car!! Not a real solution...Perhaps the city could be asked to consider reversing the traffic direction on the cobblestone street to West to East because the street is much wider at the West end. The cobblestone street is certainly not a thoroughfare; Head-in parking on Second St instead of parallel parking (or diagonal)...shuttle buses from rented satellite parking lots (senior center, middle school, post office, Baptist church, Bellanca airfield, Quigley farm, Farmers Market, NCPC cemetery, Eliason's, etc.)...worship at a totally different time than Immanuel (at 9:00am, 1:00pm, 7:00pm?)... rotate use of best spaces and further-out spaces ...park on the green space between manse and Meeting House (Petey says “Yike!”).



God's Big Backyard

It's not too early to be thinking about Vacation Bible School! This year we gather in God's Big Backyard and celebrate all the ways we can serve one another in Christ! But we need you to make it great! Sign up in the fellowship hall to help out with crafts, games, music, teaching, staging, light supper preparation, or administrative details. The week is July 6-10 (Sunday through Thursday evenings). This is one of the best weeks of the church year for those who lead and for those who come. Learn the Bible, serve Christ, and have a whole lot of fun, all at the same time!



Spring Is Heading Our Way!

With an early Easter and a mild winter, spring flowers will soon be among our blessings. You are invited to share those floral blessings with the women who live in Friendship House transitional housing through the Mother's Day Garden project. This is a simple way of honoring your own mother or another person who offers nurture and support while contributing to the beauty and peacefulness of transitional housing.

Your contribution to Friendship House (marked Mother's Day Garden) will be used to enhance gardens and yards at Friendship House facilities, and the person you decide to honor will receive a beautiful floral card for Mother's Day. You will be listed as the donor, but the amount of your contribution does not appear on the card; a gift of any amount is honored.

Please see the poster in the CE Building for more information, or see Janet Spring or Linda Neel to pick up a donor card. Thank you for honoring important people in your life with a gift that helps once-homeless women find the joy of sharing and gardening.

Mission & Outreach Committee

Mission & Outreach Committee is planning sewing/craft projects for the Spirit of Christmas. There will be Sunday afternoon sewing workshops this summer to make mittens, water bottle holders, pins, aprons, etc. In the mean time, if you have any old 100% wool sweaters, please consider donating them to Mission & Outreach. The sweaters will be cut up, so only holey garments will be considered. Please give your donations to Ellie Gerhart.

Save the Date!

Family Day in Avalon will be August 2nd. Many thanks to Corky and Jo for hosting this wonderful event!

Sympathy

The Sympathy of the congregation is extended toward:

Bev Stoudt and family, upon the death of her mother-in-law Helen Valiant, who died March 13 and whose services were held on March 22 in Newark.

Janet Reed and family, upon the death of her mother Anna May Tibbitt, who died April 14 and whose services were held on April 18 in New Castle.

Barb Quillen, Bill and Marcia Quillen, and all the family and friends of Jim Quillen, who died April 25, and whose services were held in our Meeting House April 29.

Thanks be to God who gives us the victory in our Lord Jesus Christ!

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to offer tours of the Meeting House on May 17 during Day in Old New Castle. Volunteers are also needed to accompany our float during the Separation Day Parade on June 14 and during its display at Battery Park.

See the fellowship hall sign-up sheet for either of these opportunities.

Graduates

If you have a graduating student in your family, please contact the church office with their name, school, degree, and future plans, that we might honor them in June.

New Castle Presbyterian Church.

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Contact the New Castle Presbyterian Church office:
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Contact: The Rev. Nancy Rowland at:
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Next Newsletter Deadline is **May 26, 2008.**