

# *New Castle Presbyterian News*

## *March 2009*

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### **Mission Opportunities for March**

#### **Emmanuel Dining Hall**

Each month we need volunteers to help the Martin-Robbins family prepare the meal for Emmanuel Dining Hall. Many of you are already baking and sending in the much appreciated brownies, but we also need your help in the kitchen getting the main meal prepared. Our day for food delivery is the 8th, but meal preparation may vary because of Cynthia's teaching schedule. We will have a sign-up sheet posted each month on the easel in the CE building and you can check the date and time for the meal prep and see if you can be of service to this valuable outreach program.

#### **Friendship House Hospitality Center at West Presbyterian Church**

On February 15th, I went to West Presbyterian Church to help Bill Perkins with the winter hospitality center being held at West Church. The hospitality centers are held at various churches in Wilmington throughout the winter months from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. They provide a warm place for homeless men and women to stay until the shelters open. I brought some snack items with me and spent the two hours talking with some of the people who were there. A student from Salesianum School was there with his dad and they were playing chess with some the visitors. We have another opportunity to volunteer for this mission activity on March 15th. If you are interested in helping, please see Janet Spring or sign up on the "Hospitality Center" Volunteer sheet. Snack food and magazine donations would be greatly appreciated. If any high school students need credit for volunteering, Bill Perkins will be there to sign any papers you may need signed.

- Janet Spring



### **Friendship House Breakfast Date**

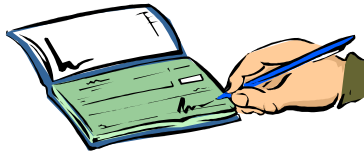
We will be preparing and serving breakfast at Friendship House on **March 28th and 29th**. Meal prep will be Saturday at 3:00 p.m. and serving will be Sunday at 7:00 a.m. There will be a sign up sheet for food donations and volunteers posted on the easel in the CE building.



### **MARCH INTO SPRING-Mission Awareness Month**

The Mission and Outreach committee will be developing a brochure that will outline all of our mission work. These brochures will be made available to members of our congregation, visitors to our church, and will also be posted on our website. Janet Spring and Alecia Swasy will be working on this brochure starting on February 21st. Until we get the brochure completed, we will post information about our mission and outreach opportunities in the Sunday bulletins during the month of March. We believe this brochure will help everyone become more aware of volunteer opportunities and better explain how each program helps our immediate and global communities.

Janet Spring  
Mission and Outreach Committee



## **Special Gift Donation--Honduras**

No electricity, no indoor plumbing, sleeping on the ground, one source of water from a hose and trekking up and down a mountainside every day. No, this not a reminder of how our pioneer ancestors lived, this is how our deacon, Annie Sotomayor, lived for one week in a mountaintop village in Honduras! She was acting as a translator for doctors and others who traveled to the Honduras offering medical care to the men, women and children of villages in this area.

We would like to extend a very special thank you to Annie Sotomayor for her inspirational and heartwarming stories and pictures from her mission trip to Honduras at our annual Valentine's Brunch. Annie went to Honduras as part of a delegation from an authorized mission program from Presbyterian Church USA known as Community Development/Delegation And Mission Education Coordination, Honduras. Gloria and Tim Wheeler have been under appointment by Presbyterian Church USA since 1990 and have served this program since then. Tim serves as a regional director for the Heifer Project and Gloria coordinates study tours and mission team visits from the US. Some teams work in an urban setting, others work with one of the 20 local Heifer partners and others travel to Western Honduras to help Chorti-Mayan people build homes.

As we learned from Annie's presentation, much worthwhile work is being done in this area. If you would like to make a donation to this valuable mission program, please find a "decorated" envelope in your pew and make your donation. We will accept both cash and checks. Please make your check payable to New Castle Presbyterian Church and put E200423 on the memo line. (This is the ID number for this mission at PC USA).

We would also like to thank the members of the congregation for bringing all the wonderful food that we were able to share and for all the help with setting up and cleaning up. "Many hands make light the work."

## **Habitat Happenings** **Women's Build 2009 Event Kick-Off**

This year's kick-off event for Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County's annual Women's Build Day has just been announced. **"Red, White and Brew: A Wine & Beer Tasting and Silent Auction"** to benefit Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County Women Build projects will be held at Brantwyn Mansion at the DuPont Country Club, 600 Rockland Road, Wilmington, DE 19803, on Wednesday, May 6, 2009 from 5:30-8:30 pm. Tickets are \$50.00 in advance or \$55.00 at the door. This year's Women's Build Days are May 5th-9th; May 12th-16th.

### **Help Build It! – Volunteer Update**

Habitat for Humanity NCC Raises A Wall Against Poverty Housing. On Friday, February 13, 2009, Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County raised one more wall against poverty housing. That morning we held a Kick-Off and Wall Raising Ceremony to celebrate the construction of another 10 affordable townhouses for hardworking, low-income families in need of decent housing known as Greenbridge II (1130 Thatcher St., Wilmington, DE).

#### **Miller's Row**

We are making great progress at this site! Since the groundbreaking the roof has been put up and the framing is complete. Brickface and siding have been added to the exterior.

Tasks to be completed for the month of January include:

- \* Insulation
- \* Drywall

**Habitat ReStores** help keep unwanted household goods out of landfills while also helping to build homes. The Habitat ReStore is a non-profit business venture supporting the community through the resale of new and used home improvement and renovation supplies. The Habitat ReStore specializes in the resale of overstocked/discontinued new and gently used merchandise, donated by manufacturers, stores, contractors and individuals. These items are sold to the public at a discount of 50%-90% off of retail prices. We are also looking for volunteers!

To sign up call or email Joe Robertson, 302-652-5181.

Nice car.



Donate your vehicle to help build homes.



Habitat  
for Humanity®

Cars for  
Homes™

877-277-4344  
carsforhomes.org

Done with your car? Looking for a new one? Instead of trading it in, why not make a tax-deductible donation to Habitat for Humanity? Note that you want the proceeds from your donation to go to Habitat for Humanity of New Castle County, and you'll be helping your community in the process!



## MEALS ON WHEELS

Our next delivery will be March 30 - April 3. 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 30

Shirley Knox

### Tuesday 31

Lois Barth  
Joan Smith

### Wednesday 1

Cynthia Robbins  
Nanette Nichol

### Thursday 2

Dot & Jason  
Campbell

### Friday 3

Susan Flook  
Ruth Moore



## To the Congregation:

What a great job you are doing! You have been seen greeting newcomers who are seated near you, inviting them to join you at coffee hour, engaging them in conversation, introducing them to other members. You are seeking out our visitors at coffee hour and letting them know we are glad they chose to visit. These are the things each one of us should do. In fact, you are being the welcoming, friendly church that Jesus admonishes us to be. Thank you.

Hospitality Committee



## **Mission & Outreach Activities with Read Aloud Delaware**

Read Aloud Delaware is a non-profit organization that promotes reading aloud to children – especially preschoolers – in hopes that they will develop a love of books and reading. Read Aloud volunteers read to one child at a time for 5-15 minutes per child each week. Reading takes place, primarily, in child care centers that service low to moderate income families. Last April, NCPC volunteers staffed a ‘Day of Caring’ with several volunteers spending a morning at Rosehill Community Center reading to 4 and 5 year olds in a Headstart program there. Shirley Knox continues to volunteer at Rosehill as a reader to the Red Room children.

‘Read-In, Read-Out’ is a collaborative project with the Delaware Center for Justice and Read Aloud Delaware. This program provides parent education about reading to children of all ages at two prisons in Delaware and provides the participants with an opportunity to record stories onto audio tapes and send the tapes along with the story books to their children. This program not only encourages the joy of reading but also supports a vital connection between parent and child in times of prolonged separation. Conchita Showell volunteers with this program at the Baylor Women’s Correctional Institute in New Castle.

In addition to volunteer hours, NCPC has also donated books and money to Read Aloud in support of their mission. As with many non-profits, Read Aloud has felt the effects of the declining economy, so, the need for volunteers and for financial support is even more critical this year. Feel free to contact Shirley Knox or Conchita Showell if you would like more information about these innovative programs and how you can help them continue to make a difference in our community. These programs require little time but give so much to the volunteers as well as the participants.



## **SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS RESULTS '08**

What wonderful news to report. Thanks to the efforts of so many a check for \$6,500.00 will be going to Friendship House. This is the most ever received at our annual event. Everyone, be proud! Now, even though it is February it is time to look ahead. The date for the 2009 Spirit of Christmas is December 12. Mark your calendars now. Two specific requests already – we need someone to chair the CRAFTS segment of the event and overall we need many, many more volunteers. Give prayerful thought to how you might help and, over the next months, talk to one of us.

Carol, Ellie and Nanette



## **We Welcome New Members**

We are filled with joy to welcome the following new members:

By Transfer of Church Letter:

Alecia Swasy

United Ch. of Christ, Pass-a-Grille, FL

*Address:*

One Amstel Drive, #11

New Castle, DE 19720

*Phone (cell): 727-642-1197*

Diana Reilly (March 15)

by baptism and profession of faith

sons: Mason & Dylan

47 Glen Avenue

New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: 302-661-0865

God is good to enrich our fellowship with these followers of Jesus Christ!

## International Supper

Travel around the world and never leave the New Castle Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall! The Youth of our congregation invite you to join them on March 29 at 5:30 pm as our fellowship hall is transformed into an international bistro for the evening. Each course of the meal served will be from a different part of the world. Everything will be provided and you will be served by members of the Youth Fellowship. You are asked to donate the price of a comparable restaurant meal. All proceeds will help our youth attend the Montreat Youth Conference this July. Enjoy a nice evening out in fellowship with church members, and support our youth program, all at the same time. Reservations can be made at the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall or by calling the church office: 328-3279.



## The Deacons' Bench

**White Gifts:** Did you know that our church operates a fund for needy families in the New Castle area? The annual budget contributes \$650 to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund and our December White Gift collection contributed \$1941. These contributions are then distributed on a monthly basis to people in need who contact our church office. These are often folk who have "fallen through the cracks" of other agencies. We give \$50 in the form of utility assistance or rent or food vouchers. No funds are passed directly to the needy, but sent to utility companies, verified landlords, etc. These funds are also allocated in larger amounts to members of our congregation who are facing hard times. We have many more requests every month than we can fulfill. If you want to give to this account at any time, please make a check to the church with the memo: "White Gifts".

**Brownie Buying:** We need members to keep a sharp eye out for brownie bargains! Next time you see brownie mix on sale, buy several boxes and donate them to the church kitchen for Emmanuel Dining Room. These brownie mixes are then distributed on Sunday mornings for members to bake up and return before the 6<sup>th</sup> of each month. Won't you help us restock our shelves on a regular basis? Just leave any purchased brownie mix boxes in the kitchen. Thank you!



**Prayer Chain:** We are currently carrying 6 requests and have now prayed for 287 requests since our inception. With one exception all of our requests fall into the usual two week pattern. We are carrying that one indefinitely, as the family involved has an ongoing situation and needs our steady prayer.

February 2009 marks the 5th year that the Prayer Chain has served our church members, friends and total strangers. In that time we have prayed for people affected by life threatening illnesses, for job losses, for recovery from surgery, for people suffering from addictions, for people feeling distance from God, for broken relationships, for people mourning the loss of a loved one, in other words for every condition and situation that can affect a life. We started out with 11 volunteers and now have 8 faithful pray-ers. Of that 8, seven have been with the Prayer Chain for the entire 5 years. I am awed by their faithfulness in this ministry. Please keep these dedicated servants of the Lord in your prayers as they serve our church and the larger community

If you know anyone who would be interested in joining in this service please have them contact me ([SilverFran@aol.com](mailto:SilverFran@aol.com) or 994-5988) and I will be happy to explain how the Prayer Chain works.

***"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:4

Please, please be open to our church members, your friends, relatives, co-workers and neighbors for prayer requests that you can pass on to your Chain. As I have said before, some times people prefer that their requests be confidential and not shared with the whole church community, all requests to the Prayer Chain are held in confidence. – Fran Gingher



### **Super Sale**

Most prices are rising these days. But here at New Castle Presbyterian Church we are lowering our prices. Ralph's photos which were \$35 each are now reduced to \$20. We do have all three prints available. The Cats Meow® price has been cut in half to \$10. Corky's note cards are always available. There are many different packets and they can be purchased for \$10. See Dot Campbell after church or she can be reached by phone at 322-9324.

# Presbyterian Men

2009 Fellowship & Conference

July 17, 18 & 19, 2009

Massanetta Springs Conference Center

Harrisonburg, Virginia



## “Passing it On”

...Telling to the generations to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength and his wonderful works that he has done.” Psalm 78:4

### Sponsored by

Synod of Mid-Atlantic Men’s Council

PCUSA



## Limestone Men’s Ministry Wilmington, DE

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Communion Breakfast**

**Saturday, March 28, 2009**

Guest Presenter: Rev. Carl Mazza

Event Leader: Neeshard Ahamad

Limestone Presbyterian Church

3201 Limestone Road

Wilmington, DE 19808

302-994-5646

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

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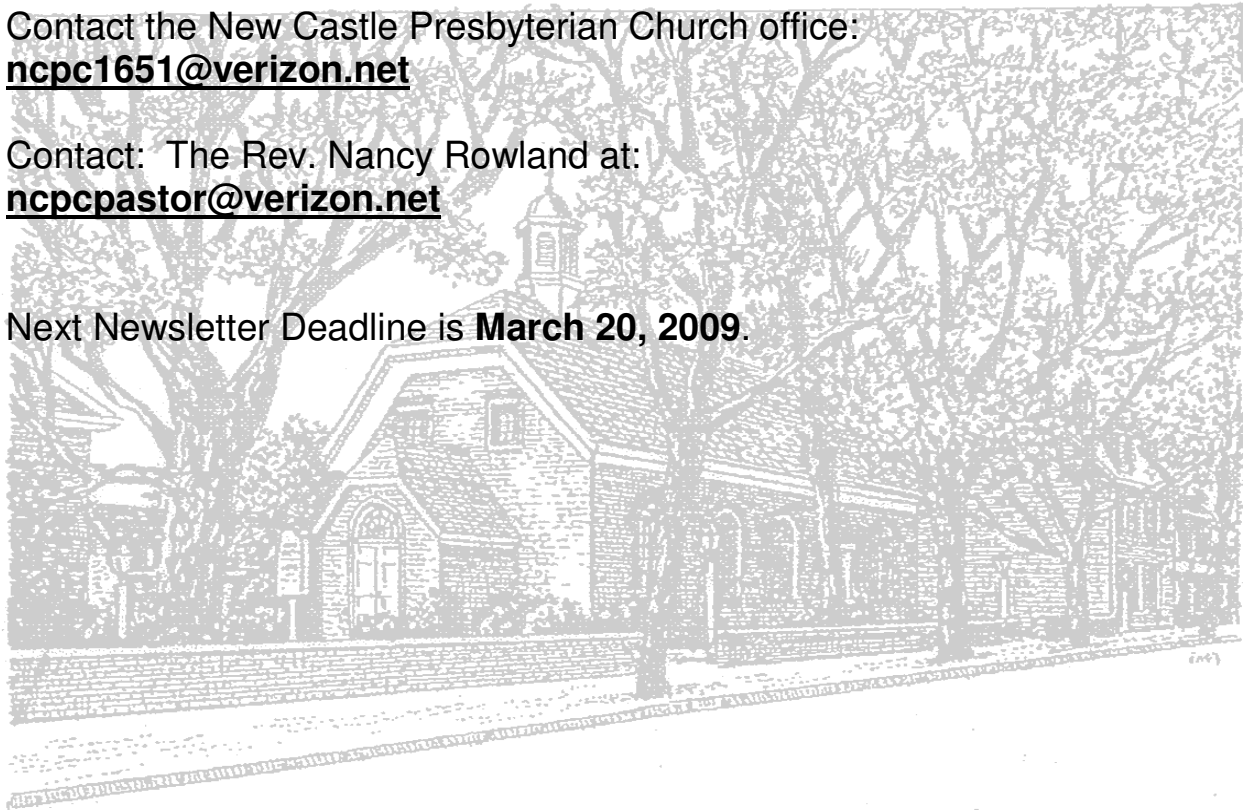
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Contact the New Castle Presbyterian Church office:  
[ncpc1651@verizon.net](mailto:ncpc1651@verizon.net)

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

Next Newsletter Deadline is **March 20, 2009.**



*New Castle Presbyterian Church ~ Built 1707 ~ New Castle, Delaware*