

New Castle Presbyterian News ***December 2011***



Advent and Christmas *at New Castle Presbyterian Church*

- November 27 First Sunday of Advent Worship @ 11:00am*
- December 4 Second Sunday of Advent Worship @ 11:00am*
The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper
- December 10 Spirit of Christmas (Saturday)*
9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- December 11 Third Sunday of Advent Worship @ 11:00am*
- December 16 Christmas Caroling (Friday)*
7:00 p.m. Gather at church
8:00 p.m. Refreshments – Mayhew's (17 E. 5th)
- December 18 Fourth Sunday of Advent Worship @ 11:00am*
Lessons and Carols
- December 24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (Saturday)*
5:30 p.m. Family Service (Meeting House)
7:30 p.m. Traditional Service (Meeting House)
9:30 p.m. Traditional Service (Meeting House)
- December 25 First Sunday after Christmas Worship @ 11:00am*
No Adult Sunday School

“The Messiah”



On Sunday, December 4th at 4:00pm, the Choir and Friends of New Castle Presbyterian Church will present a performance of “The Messiah” by G. F. Handel.

“The Messiah” is considered to be Handel’s most successful and well known oratorio and was composed in 1741 in 24 days. We will be performing Part One (The Christmas Section) concluding with the ever popular “Hallelujah Chorus” from Part Two.

Soloists for this performance are Lisa Raker, Sarah McCann, Ellie Gerhart, Minerva Lermond, Jay Williams, Bill Anthony and Bruce Raker and will be directed by Eileen Dunham and accompanied by guest organist, Melissa Heieie.

Please come and join us for an exciting musical event on Sunday, December 4th followed by light refreshments. We hope to see you there!

Eileen Dunham
Music Director



Caroling in Old New Castle

Be sure to mark your calendar for a great evening of Christmas Caroling on Friday night December 16th! 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. 5th 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.

CALLING ALL HOMEMADE SOUP & BREAD MAKERS

We need your help again to make those delicious soups and breads for the 2011 Spirit of Christmas celebration. Please bring only fresh soup (no frozen). Sign-up sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the Christian Education building for you to volunteer for this labor of love. These items may be brought to the C.E. building on Friday, December 9th from 8:30-3:00. Or anytime on Saturday, December 10 after 8:30 a.m.

Notice: Containers, lids, and labels for the soup makers are now in the church kitchen for you to take at your convenience. Please place the labels on the lids to be seen from the top.

There are separate sign-up sheets for you to choose a time to help with the sales. If you can donate a couple of hours to help with this pleasant task, please put your name in one of the time slots.

At the Spirit of Christmas celebration this year, we would like to offer not only your delicious homemade soups and bread for sale, but also your homemade pickles, jams, and jellies. If you are so talented, please bring the items in jars, clearly labeled, and leave them in the kitchen any time by December 10th. Bless you for sharing your gifts for our gifts for our Christmas Charities.

- Sue Townsend



Look What \$20 Can Buy

It's time to think about donations for the "Look What \$20 Can Buy". This is one of our most popular and revenue producing tables at Spirit of Christmas, and we have earned the reputation of having quality items. Visitors actually do their Christmas gift buying here, so let's make it a fun place to shop!

Gift certificates for restaurants or donations from your favorite retail store worth \$30 or more are very popular. We also need donations from individuals of new (or like new) items that have a \$30 value or more. Re-gifting is a great way to support our event.

Brochures of Friendship House are available in the church office for your use when soliciting a donation. Any questions about what to donate or arrangements for the storage of items until December 10th, call Joan Appleby 328-4098.

Set for Saturday, December 10, 2011

Spirit of Christmas in Historic New Castle



All events are free to the public.

NEW CASTLE, DE. – Step back into the past during our celebration of the Spirit of Christmas **“Sharing Our Gifts.”** A town-wide celebration presenting private homes and churches decorated for the season in the historic district of Olde New Castle is scheduled to open its doors at 10:00 A.M. **on Saturday, December 10, 2011.** Our 11th **Annual Spirit of Christmas** will feature musical events throughout the day for your enjoyment.

Presented by the New Castle Presbyterian Church and the New Castle Visitor’s Bureau, many historic homes, some dating as far back as the 1700s, including the Lesley Manor Mansion, will be open from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M., followed by the Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony at Market Square on the Center Green, at 5:00 P.M.

Programs for self-guided home tours are available at the New Castle Presbyterian Church’s Christian Education Building at 25 East Second Street, beginning at 9:30 A.M. The Spirit of Christmas 2011 proceeds generated by the New Castle Presbyterian Church will be donated to support Friendship House, Inc.’s homeless shelters.

The 1707 Meeting House will have seasonal music all afternoon, including the N.C.P.C. Colonial Chimers hand bell concert at 1:00 P.M., the N.C.P.C. Celebration Ringers hand bell concert at 1:30 P.M., and the New Ark Chorale at 3:00 P.M. The Meeting House will be open for guided tours from 10:00-11:30 A.M.

Civil War in Historic New Castle will be exhibited at the Old Library Museum along with what Christmas was like during the Civil War years.



The New Castle Visitor’s Bureau is hosting the Cab Calloway School of the Arts’ premier jazz choir, “The JazzChords of Calloway” at 12:00 Noon and their 6th Grade Vocal Majors at 11:30 A.M. at the New Castle Court House Museum.

Other musical events to experience around the town throughout the day include “Nothing But Treble,” an a cappella women’s group, who will be caroling around the town; Delaware’s female vocalist, Caitlin Jane, whose CD “Coming Season” will soon be released, will be singing in front of Old Town Hall from 1:00-4:00 P.M.; and concluding the day, is New Castle’s Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at 5:00 P.M., which will feature the William Penn Chorale and guest speakers.



Special holiday tours at the Amstel and Dutch Houses will be provided by The New Castle Historical Society. The Amstel House is decorated for a holiday celebration at the home of Nicholas Van Dyke with 18th century music being played by Robert Mouland, while the Dutch House will be featuring a celebration of a Dutch holiday tradition. Admission is free. Come visit the Read House and Gardens highlighting a Colonial Revival Christmas from 10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. Admission at the Read House is also free.

The Old Library Museum will exhibit Civil War in Historic New Castle and What Christmas was like during the Civil War. Don't forget to stop by The Velocipede Museum where a Secret Santa Shop is available for children to shop from 10:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and children are invited to visit with Santa from 11:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. There will also be a free ornament-making workshop from 10:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

The 354-year-old New Castle Presbyterian Church is presenting in their Christian Education Building the fine art photography of Carlo Viola a longtime New Castle resident and church member. For many years, he has captured the spirit of this lovely town in simple images that honor the quiet moments and special places that are "waiting to be noticed." Once again for this year's Spirit of Christmas celebration, he has created several sets of blank note cards, which will be available on the day of the event. Each set contains six of his favorite scenes in historic New Castle.



Many of the shops in town will be open, including Almost History (One East Second Street), Amstel House Gift Shop (2 E. 4th St.), Bertie's Bags and Sew-On (200 Delaware St.), Bridgewater Jewelers (318 Delaware St.), Cactus Wren Gallery (406 Delaware St.), Carousel Beads & Gifts (412 Delaware St.), Historic Village Quilts (122 Delaware St.), Lauren Lynch Antiques and Company (5 Shaw Alley), Penn's Place featuring various artists (206 Delaware St.), Read House Museum Gift Shop (42 The Strand), The Book Shop in Old New Castle Oak Knoll Books & Oak Knoll Press (308-310 Delaware St.), and Two Morrow's Stitches That Count (306B Delaware St.).

A special sale of "Look what \$20.00 Can Buy" will feature many gift ideas for \$20.00, or increments of \$20.00. Also featured are handmade crafts and holiday decorations; fresh breads and soups; and used books, CDs, and DVDs. Special craft items include Christmas ornaments, purses, wool mittens, casserole carriers, and other hand-made items.

Don't forget to visit the local eateries Chinese East (River Plaza Shopping Center) Jack's Bistro (222 Delaware St.), Jessop's Tavern (114 Delaware Ave.), Mama Jan's Market (204 Delaware Street), New Castle Diner (625 Delaware St.), Nora Lee's (124 Delaware Street), Porto-Fino Pizza & Restaurant (River Plaza Shopping Center), Shoppe of the Three Crowns (116 Delaware St.), Subway (739 Ferry Cut Off), The Tea Room (One Shaw Alley; Reservations only; call 302-324-8889) and Traders Cove Coffee Shop (206 Delaware St.). Free refreshments will be available at the New Castle Presbyterian Church (25 East Second Street).

For additional information, visitors are encouraged to call the New Castle Presbyterian Church (302) 328-3279 or visit www.newcastlepreschurch.org/spirit/ or <http://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/Spirit-of-Christmas-Sharing-Our-Gifts/388460997323>.



Ralph Johnson Memorial Cookie Bake

I know it seems very early to think about Christmas Cookies! However, we will need to deliver the cookies to the Friendship House Breakfast Program on Sunday, December 18th, which is just one week after the Spirit of Christmas. If you are a baker, you might want to get started early and put your cookies in the freezer. We will also accept store purchased cookies. Since this can be a hectic time of year for everyone, you might also consider a cash donation to Janet Spring who will do your shopping/baking for you. We hope to make up 125 bags of cookies to be delivered to the Friendship House Breakfast Program on Sunday, December 18th. If you would like to help out with bagging up the cookies, please come to the CE Building on Thursday evening, December 15th at 6:00pm. All cookies should be in the CE Building kitchen by Thursday, December 15th. Please label your cookies Ralph Johnson Cookie Bake. Thank you in advance. We have been doing this ministry for a number of years and this small token of love is so greatly appreciated by the clients who go to the breakfast!

Mission and Outreach Committee



SHOE BOXES

Shoe boxes make the perfect carrying cartons for our homemade soup. Please check your closets and bring any boxes you can spare to the Christian Education building to be used for that purpose, beginning November 24th. Put them in the corner of the room near the donated books. Thank you!

- Sue Townsend



Yard Clean-up

Please join us for our church/manse yard clean-up on Saturday, December 3 at 9:00am until noon. Please bring rakes and/or brooms. All are welcome!

- Trustees



Love BEARS All Things



Think to take a bear!!

The Deacons operate a “bear ministry” to brighten the days of those who are healing in body or spirit. The purpose of this ministry is to offer love and support to someone in need through the gift of a teddy bear that has worshipped with us at New Castle Presbyterian Church.

There are two special ways in which you can participate:

1. GIVING A BEAR: Anyone worshipping with us is welcome to take a bear to someone in need of comfort or support in a difficult time. If you know an adult or child who is ill, shut-in, lonely or discouraged, take them a bear on behalf of our church. *Please record the name of the recipient in the log book in the basket.* Each bear has a special tag that has information about NCPC on one side and the following note on the other side:

*This special bear worshipped with us
at New Castle Presbyterian Church.
It has heard our scriptures, prayers, songs,
and sermons. Our congregation has loved
it and now it comes to you with our
blessings. It brings prayers of love,
peace, and joy to you today and always.*

*Love bears all things.
1 Corinthians 13:7*

2. DONATING A BEAR: There is a box in the entryway leading to Fellowship Hall. As these will be special gifts, we are accepting only new bears. They can be all shapes and colors, with or without clothing and accessories, and should be about the size to nest inside a shoebox.

The Deacons will attach tags and ribbons to the bears and move them to the sanctuary.

Please contact Lyn Briggs (322-6610) or Linda Twyford (328-6824) or the church office (302-328-3279; ncpc1651@verizon.net) if you have any questions or would like more information.



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 350 families and senior citizens will receive a week's worth of non-perishable food on Saturday, December 17. 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 **any time** before **Sat., Dec. 17**. If you plan to donate please call Beverly Stoudt, as soon as you get the turkey, at 368-9354 to 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 your donated turkey to any Sunday church service that would be wonderful and hopefully easy for your family. Put it in the kitchen freezer and tell Beverly it is there.

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

Friendship House Breakfast Served on October 30th

I would like to thank everyone for their contributions that helped to make serving breakfast at the Friendship House location at 8th and Shipley a big success. We were able to provide a breakfast for 200 people and it was greatly appreciated. The end of the month is always very busy because for the stipends for many of the Friendship House clients are almost completely gone. Thank you to Jim and Susan Flook for helping to prepare the breakfast quiches on Saturday and to Ray Snyder, Joan Smith, Corky and Jo Viola, Connie Reese, Gene and Carol Mayhew for helping to serve on Sunday. A special thanks also to Nanette Nichol, Connie and Don Reese, Ray Snyder, Bev Stoudt, Amy Selheimer and Bob Appleby for providing food donations. I also received \$65.00 in monetary donations that was used for purchasing coffee, creamer and sugar. God's blessings be with you all during this holiday season as we celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Janet Spring

White Gifts

Every season continues to bring people and their families hunger. During the Season of Advent, we particularly invite you to give generously. Our White Gifts continue to help to put food on the tables of the needy. All of our food contributions are received by the St. Peter's food closet in New Castle. There is a white box in the Meeting House which is waiting to receive your contributions.

Please purchase protein items like:

- Peanut butter- the price of peanut butter is going up in November and we all know this food is a favorite of many children.
- Tuna fish
- Beef stew
- Canned meats of all kinds

Envelopes will be in the bulletin throughout Advent/Christmas for your monetary contributions.

Contact Susan Townsend at home 302-328-553 or cell 302-562-3647 for further information.



Meals on Wheels

HELP! We need Meals on Wheels delivery people for 2012. Call Susan Flook at 328-7346 if you are interested. Substitutes needed, too. No weekend deliveries. Thanks. Consider this as your call in Christ!

The 2012 delivery dates are not finalized but will be posted in the upcoming newsletter and bulletin. If anyone is interested in delivering meals to shut-in Seniors in the New Castle area, please contact the office at 302-328-3279.

Monday

Shirley Knox

Tuesday

Joan Smith

Wednesday

Carol & Gene
Mayhew

Thursday

Cynthia Robbins
Nanette Nichol

Friday

Susan Flook
Ruth Moore



Monthly Report

Look here each month for a statistical report on the life of the congregation:

Membership:

October.....	185
Addition by Reaffirmation of Faith: Martin Burnett.....	1
November.....	186

Income thru 11/ /11:

2011 Budget:	\$205,269.00
2011 Actual:.....	\$205,393.00

Expenses thru 11/ /11:

2011 Budget:	\$205,235.00
2011 Actual:.....	\$199,658.00

Flower Guild Annual Poinsettias



Donations are being taken for poinsettias. Please fill out the attached form and return to the office. Due to the date of the Spirit of Christmas the Sanctuary will be decorated for two weeks. Please do not remove flowers before Christmas Eve. The deadline for orders will be December 16, 2011. The cost is \$12.00. Please make checks payable to the NCPC Flower Guild.

NAME: _____

In Memory/Honor of: _____

How many: _____

December Birthdays and Anniversaries

Lisa Fries, 12/5
Conchita Showell, 12/6
Victor Clark, 12/8
Robert McCullough, 12/8
Daniel Barry, 12/9
Jennifer Kim, 12/9
Ruth Moore, 12/16
Pat Taylor, 12/16
Sharon Graybeal, 12/17
Lyn Briggs, 12/22
Charlotte Mitchell-McDowell, 12/30



Lisa & Bruce Raker, 12/14
Dot & Jason Campbell, 12/26
Irv & Susan Lipp, 12/28
Connie & Don Reese, 12/28
Jim & Susan Flook, 12/30

WORKSHOP FOR LAY WORSHIP LEADERS

Explore the possibility of participating in worship in a leading way. On January 22, 2012, our Pastor Nancy will moderate a workshop for former, future, and potential lay worship leaders. We will meet in the Meeting House toward the end of Coffee Hour with coffee and cookies in hand. You will have a chance to hear about the reasons for lay worship leadership, to try your voice at the microphone, to ask questions, and to learn hints of do's and don'ts from experienced lay leaders as well as from our Pastor. A new Lay Worship Leaders sign-up sheet will be posted in the CE building in January. Everyone, including our young people, is welcome to this workshop. Questions ? call Marcia Quillen (302) 656-5799



Dear Friends,

Thank you for your prayers, cards, food and kind words of sympathy upon the death of my mother, Lillian Mathiesen.

Love,
Eileen Dunham and Family

thank you

**Merry Christmas from your
New Castle Presbyterian Church Staff**

*Nancy Rowland
Kris Krawczyk
Shirley Knox
Daniel Knox
Minerva Lermond
Eileen Dunham
Jay Williams*



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.

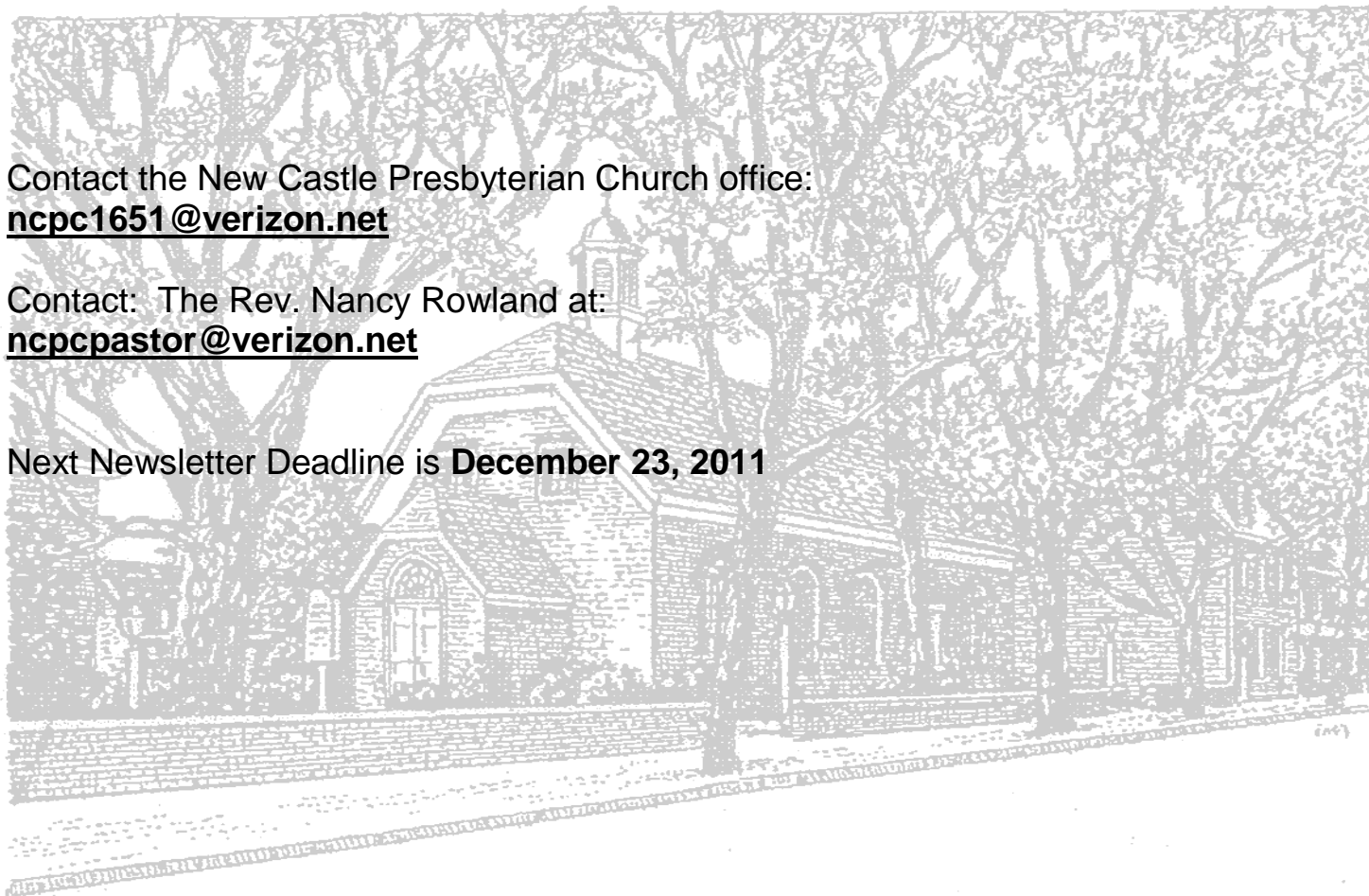


Address Change
Requested

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

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

Next Newsletter Deadline is **December 23, 2011**



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