

# *New Castle Presbyterian News*

## *June 2017*

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In the Interim....

Greetings, New Castle Presbyterian Church! I am Jenny Warren, and I am grateful for the opportunity to step in and join you on your interim journey. It's been my privilege, and God's call, to serve 5 other congregations in pastoral transition in New Castle Presbytery: Dover, West, Calvary, Concord, and Church of the Covenant. Each was a different ministry setting, with its own particular opportunities and challenges. I look forward to learning what it is that makes New Castle a unique setting for ministry, and what may be most called for in imagining God's leading into your next chapter.

I will learn this best by asking questions, wondering aloud with you about who you are and why you do things as you do. These wonderings come with no judgment attached - but they are the way to challenge you to consider what you as a congregation value, and own, and hope for as you look to your future, and to a new pastor who will join you in it.

But first -- a party! My first Sunday with you will be June 4, which this year is Pentecost Sunday. It is the day we celebrate God's gift of the Holy Spirit to the disciples. It was a day of great change, and confusion, and chaos. It was a day when people did some understandable wondering, and asked more than a few questions. And it is known ever after as the "birthday of the church", as disciples knew a God-given power and were pointed in a new direction, living out the way of Jesus, even after he was no longer with them.

I look forward to worshiping with you on Pentecost Sunday June 4. We will celebrate with the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. And we will celebrate the Spirit's gifts and calling to those whom you'll elect to serve as elders, deacons and trustees at the Annual Congregational Meeting following worship. It's a big day (and a bit of a baptism by fire for me!)

I look forward to getting to know you all. Please help me by repeating your name to me on more than our first meeting. Having collected so many churches in my 30 years of ministry, my brain is full of church people names! Yours is important to me, but I confess needing a bit more help now than 30 years ago!

Thank you again for this holy privilege to join you on your interim journey. As others churches I have served can tell you, my mantra for these days is "Change is hard. And change is hope."

One change, with no doubt both anticipated and yet to be discovered implications, is the fact that I am not living in the church manse. I live in North Wilmington, with my husband Mark Olson. Mark is an attorney in Wilmington, an elder on the Session at First & Central Presbyterian Church and serves as Chair of the Council of New Castle Presbytery. Together, we are family to 5 children (the youngest just graduated from college May 15!) and to 4 grandchildren. Life in the family, as with the church family, bears out the "change is hard, change is hope" theme!

Thank you again - and may God bless our new beginning!

Jenny (you can find me at [jpwarren@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:jpwarren@newcastlepreschurch.org) - and I hope you will!)

## Nominating Committee Report 2017

The congregation of New Castle Presbyterian Church meets June 4 after worship for its annual meeting. We will consider the following report from the Nominating Committee. Nominations will also be received from the floor. Other business will also be entertained at the will of the congregation. After the congregational meeting, the annual meeting of the corporation will be held, with nominations presented for its five members for 2017-18.

### SESSION Class of 2018:

**James A. Whisman, Jr.:** Jim is self-employed providing tax and financial services through Colonial Financial and Tax Services, LLC. He is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA) and Certified Financial Planner (CFP®). Also, he has professional accreditations as an Accredited Estate Planner (AEP) and a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU®). He is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, Society of Financial Service Professionals, and several other professional organizations.

Also, Jim is an Independent Investment Advisor with Cetera Advisors Networks LLC providing a range of services related to investment needs and goals, such as selecting a diversified portfolio and monitoring its performance.

Over the course of his career, he has been involved with numerous professional, community, and civic organizations as a volunteer. He and his wife Barbara live in New Castle, Delaware, where he is active in historical reenactment programs for the Historical New Castle Court House Museum.

### SESSION Class of 2020:

**Patti Isaacs-Hansen:** Patti grew up in Huntington, WV and completed a bachelor degree in chemistry at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana. After her husband, Allen Hansen, completed his PhD. in chemical engineering at the U of I, they moved to Glassboro, NJ in 1990 for his career at Mobil Oil. Her family moved to New Castle in 1998 when she was working at Zeneca Pharmaceuticals in clinical drug supply management. Currently she is president and CEO of a company founded by her and Allen in 2004. Patti is the mother of 2 adult children: Neil Isaac Dingman of St Louis Park, Minnesota and Amy Michelle Armstrong of Bear, DE. She is the grandmother of Michael Armstrong and Lucy Armstrong. Patti joined the church in 2013 because of the love and warmth of the congregation. She feels NCPC is an excellent place for her grandchildren to learn about the Christian religion and community.

Patti loves animals and since 2004 has been involved in various aspects of dog rescue, including transports from a high kill dog pound using a gas chamber to euthanize animals in Lee County VA to new homes in the Delaware region, walking dogs at the area SPCAs and rescues, fostering dogs while they look for a new family and recuperate from medical issues.

Patti served as deacon from Sept 2014 thru Aug 2017.

**Bev Stoudt:** I have been a member of New Castle Presbyterian church a long time, beginning with Sunday School and officially joining when a teenager. I have worshiped, prayed, decorated, sung, and meditated in our sanctuary. I have served the congregation as a Sunday school teacher, Deacon, choral and bell choir member, Elder, and various positions with the Women's Association.

My husband, Jim, and I live in Newark and find the drive to New Castle relaxing and expansive, if not convenient. Three of our four grown children live out of state, while our daughter Cris and her family live within walking distance in our neighborhood. Both Jim and I are retired—Jim from General Motors and I from Engineered Systems and Designs where I did general office work. After graduating from UD I taught elementary school in Elsmere, DE for two years before starting a family.

My Christian faith began at home with Alice and David McCallion and was nurtured in Sunday schools in Ocean City, NJ (Methodist), Holloway Terrace (Baptist), and here in New Castle (first in the arsenal, then in our CE building). I have benefited from the loving labors of teachers and youth group advisors, and talented music directors, as well as, effective and brilliant pastors. Christ has been my constant companion through all stages of my life and I am totally at home among our committed congregation and in our Christian witness here in New Castle.

**Monty Gerhart:** Monty and Ellie joined NCPC in 1967, just 50 short years ago. They raised two daughters in the church and feel that the church has been a significant part of every stage of their marriage.

Monty has been a Deacon, Superintendent of the Church School (when that position existed), a church school teacher, and recently joined the choir. Monty and Ellie were also members of the Young Couples Club in the 60s and 70s...along with the Mayhews! This will be Monty's 6<sup>th</sup> term on Session. He served in his 20s, 30s, 40, 50s, 60s and now in his 70s. He is retired from the Colonial School District with 39 years of state service as a teacher and administrator, and on June 30, he will retire from Wilmington University with 8 and 1/2 years of service as Chair of the M.Ed. School Leadership Degree. If you add two years that he worked with the Wilmington YMCA, he has worked for 50 years and is proud of it!

**Sarah McCann:** Sarah was born in North Carolina and raised in St. Louis, MO. She is a 2008 graduate of the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA, majoring in American Studies and Women's Studies. She is currently employed with Capital One and lives in Old New Castle. She has been a member of this congregation since 2006.

Sarah has served as an ordained elder in St. Louis, and is a member of the Choir at New Castle Presbyterian, having also volunteered with Vacation Bible School and Montreat. She enjoys reading, going to the shore, and shopping at Goodwill!

### **DEACONS Class of 2020:**

**Jennifer Dunham:** Jennifer was born in South Jersey and moved to Delaware while in the fourth grade. She joined New Castle Presbyterian Church in September 1990 and participated in Sunday School, youth group, bible study, choir, childcare during church, and choir practice, and served as an usher. Jen earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Finance from the University of Delaware in 2002. She has spent the last 12 years working for the Federal government as a Financial Management Analyst with the U.S. General Services Administration in Philadelphia. She has recently re-joined the choir and enjoys participating in church activities. In her free time, Jennifer enjoys reading, walking, watching movies, and spending time with family. She lives in Newark with her dog Remington "Remmie."

**Sandy Wilson:** Sandy and her husband Bill moved to New Castle in July of 2012. New Castle is Bill's hometown and provided such an attractive place to come to for their retirement years. They joined New Castle Presbyterian Church in October of 2013. They have appreciated the friendliness and welcoming spirit, excellent preaching, worship and an emphasis on service. Sandy's childhood church was an American Baptist church in Plainville, Connecticut. She attended Eastern University from which she has an A.B. degree in Anthropology and Sociology. She also has a B.S. degree in Medical Technology from Hood College. Her working days were spent mainly in social work and later clinical laboratory work. Bill's vocation as a Mennonite pastor meant that she was a pastor's wife for many years. Sandy's activities at New Castle Presbyterian have included one term as a Deacon, 2015 to 2017, helping out at Spirit of Christmas, and being a teacher's helper for Vacation Bible School. Her interests include knitting, Tai Chi, reading novels, reading history, and enjoying walks along the river.

**Conchita Showell:** I was born, raised and educated in Philadelphia, PA. I worked at IBM Corporation for 23 years, 6 divisions, 5 states, and 10 jobs in staff and management positions before retirement. After a very long absence from church membership, I joined the Heritage Fellowship United Church of Christ in Reston, VA where I ultimately served as a trustee. I also served on the Board of Directors for Reston Interfaith, an organization somewhat like Friendship House providing

temporary shelter, transitioning housing and other services for the homeless. I moved to Delaware at the end of 2004 to be closer to my mother. I have been pleased to have found a warm church family that has allowed me to be active in the service of helping others. (Conchita has just completed 2 three-year terms on the Session and has previously served as an NCPC Deacon.)

## **TRUSTEES OF THE CONGREGATION**

### **Class of 2020:**

**Lyn Briggs:** I am happy to continue to serve on the board of Trustees. We've accomplished a lot in the last three years. We always seem to have a project in the works, as we strive to maintain our facilities in good working order. I have formerly served as deacon, volunteer for nursery, VBS, and the Spirit of Christmas Committee. I enjoy ringing with the Colonial Chimers hand bell choir and attending worship and social events with fellow members who are a constant source of comfort, strength and joy!

**Carol Mayhew:** Carol and her husband Gene joined the New Castle Presbyterian Church in December of 1964. Carol has, over the years, served on the Session, on the Board of Trustees, as Sunday School and Bible School Superintendent, President of the Women's Association and on various other committees of the church and of the Presbytery. She was chair of the 350th Anniversary Celebration Committee and has served as leadership for Spirit of Christmas. She has served on the Board of Trustees off and on from 2007 to 2017, five of those years as President. Carol is retired, after working in public education for over 35 years, 30 of which were with the State Department of Education in Dover. Gene and Carol's only child Stacy, lives in Swarthmore, PA with her husband J.W. and their four children, Logan, 24, Hart, 22, Luke, 20, and Hunter, 17. Now that Carol is retired, she and Gene, who is also retired, are free to spend many happy hours watching their grandchildren participate in their numerous and varied activities. They also enjoy travelling and reading. Both Carol and Gene are graduates of the University of Delaware and enjoy going to Delaware football games both at home and away.

**Rachel Briggs:** Rachel was born and raised in Historic New Castle and is a life member of the New Castle Presbyterian Church. She has participated in both the Colonial Chimers and the Celebration Ringers bell choirs since the age of 10. She also participates in the Choir. Rachel has been drawing and painting her whole life and continues to pursue her talents through many outlets. She graduated from Maryland Institute College of Art in 2014 with a Bachelors in Fine Arts. She will begin attending Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in the Fall of 2017 to pursue a Master in the Fine Arts. Rachel has many fond memories of growing up within the church community who she likes to consider as her extended family. She currently lives with her mother Carolyn Briggs and Shark (the cat).

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**  
**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE, 2017-18**

(nominations from the floor - cannot be a current officer)

**1. Mark Rappold**

**2. Ray Snyder**

**3. Zarina Stone**

**TRUSTEES OF THE CORPORATION Class of 2018:**

In 2014, the Session and Trustees revived the terms of the 1813 Church Charter of Incorporation, which requires five Trustees of the Corporation. The new terms stipulate that these five persons be current members of the Trustees of the Congregation. They serve one year renewable terms.

**C.J. Seitz:** C.J. is a native Delawarean who with his wife Gail became keenly interested in moving to the City when their children – Danielle, Brandon, and Meredith - went off to college. When they learned fourteen years ago that Lynn and Henry Herndon, a fellow attorney, were selling their house on The Strand, they moved to our community.

C.J. serves as a Delaware Supreme Court Justice. Previously he was a founding partner of the Seitz Ross Aronstam & Moritz law firm in Wilmington, best known for his work in the United States Supreme Court case *New Jersey v. Delaware*, where Delaware prevailed in its ownership claims to the Delaware River within the twelve mile circle. He and Gail joined the Church in 2011 because of the welcoming congregation, our acceptance of the Presbyterian views of Christianity, and the thoughtful sermons and stewardship by its Pastor, Nancy Rowland.

**Lyn Briggs:** (see biography above)

**Carol Mayhew:** (see biography above)

**Peter McCurdy:** Peter was raised on Long Island New York and attended Oyster Bay Presbyterian Church as a child. After attending boarding school in New England he attended Gettysburg College where he met Kelly freshman year. They were married by Pastor Nancy in 2011. Peter moved to Delaware in 2012 after attending law school and working in Washington DC for over 10 years, and currently works for CSC, thankfully here in Delaware. He and Kelly joined the Church in November 2012. He has also served on the Spirit of Christmas team.

**Bruce Raker:** My wife, Lisa and I became members of NCPC in 1997 while David Joynt was the Minister. The prior year we had been recruited to sing in the church choir as additional singers by Eileen Dunham. Lisa and I enjoyed adding our voices to the group, and have continued to do so. During my first year as a member, Rev Joynt asked me to be a trustee. I currently serve as a trustee in the class of 2019 and served previously from 1998-2004. I served two terms on the session from 2006-2011, have been a member of the nominating committee and a current member of the worship committee. I am a member of choir, a founding member of the bell choir, have served as the church's webmaster and have been active in VBS since 2003.

Outside of church, I have been singing with the New Ark Chorale since 1982. I work for the University of Delaware in the MIS department as the IT Director of MIS with 32 years of service. I grew up in Newark and have lived in Delaware all my life. When Lisa and I married in December of 1985, we moved to New Castle, where we lived for 18 years. In 2003, we moved back to Newark and now live in Arbour Park. Our daughter Kaitlyn, is a graduate of the University of Delaware and our son, Christopher is finishing 11th grade at Newark High School.

## **Spirit of Christmas – Planning Meeting**

There will be a planning meeting for 2017 Spirit of Christmas on Wednesday, June 14 at 7pm in room 206. All are welcome!



## **Church Picnic - Sunday, June 11**

Our annual picnic will take place on June 11 immediately following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. Please join us for this wonderful event focused on food and fellowship!

Church officers will provide hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, buns, condiments and drinks. Beyond that, we ask that you please contribute a salad, side dish or dessert to share. There will also be activities for children.

Elders and Deacons will be calling for a count of who will attend, or you may sign up on the list in the CE building, so that we can get an accurate count for food, etc. We hope you will join us!

## **Graduates**



Aaron Spock son of Julia & George will be graduating from Brandywine High School in June. He plans to attend the University of Delaware and major in Electrical Engineering.

Kelly Elizabeth Szczecinski, granddaughter of Joan Smith & Charles Smith graduated in December 2016 from University of Delaware with a Bachelor of Science Degree, majoring in Exercise Physiology.

Peter Casper, grandson of Ellie and Monty Gerhart will graduate from Concord High School. Peter will begin basic training in the U.S. Marine Corp this July. Please include him and his family in your prayers.

Kaitlyn Raker, daughter of Bruce and Lisa Raker graduated from UD on May 27th with a Bachelor's in Art Conservation and a minor in Art. She is currently doing an internship at the Center for Historic Architecture and Design at the University of Delaware and hopes to continue studies in Historic Preservation

Haley Fagles Carey, granddaughter of Chris and Richard Fagles, is graduating from Cape Henlopen High School June 6th. She will be attending the University of Delaware majoring in Exercise Science in the Fall.

Katlyn Burr, granddaughter of Jim and Beverly Stoudt, has graduated from Wilmington University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Medical Administration.



## REQUEST FOR HELP FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Continuing through the remainder of 2017 we all need to step up our responsibilities in the oversight of our buildings and our property.

It will be important that we are all aware of the following: Please remember to do the following:

- Unlock CE Bldg and the Meeting House Doors before all events and turn on lights.
- Lock CE Bldg and the Meeting House Doors after all events and turn off all lights.
- Collect lost items and place any items in the office.
- Return everything to the same place where you found it following a meeting/event.
- Clean up the space that you used if you are responsible for an event or meeting.
- Supervise the building users for which you are responsible.
- Schedule all meetings of any kind with the church office so they will not interfere with other activities at the church.
- Schedule all vendors/contractors work of any kind with the church office so it will not interfere with other activities at the church.

### New Addresses

Sarah McCann  
112 Delaware Street, Apt. 5  
New Castle, DE 19720



Miranda and Scott Matthews  
24 Sebastian Drive  
Newark, DE 19711

### June Birthdays and Anniversaries

Minerva Lermond, 6/6  
Kyle Selheimer, 6/8  
Douglas Twyford, 6/8  
Allie Lundgren, 6/9  
Diana Reilly, 6/12  
Molly Shaw, 6/13  
Nancy Kersey, 6/13  
Janet Reed, 6/16  
Charles Ward, 6/18  
Steve Handy, 6/19



Jason Campbell, 6/20  
Danielle Knox, 6/21  
Robert Lindfors, 6/22  
Annie Sotomayor, 6/22  
Jim Flook, 6/23  
Evangeline Studd, 6/23  
Gisele Vonrhein, 6/25  
Sarah McCann, 6/26  
Corey Fagles, 6/28

Janet & Bob Spring, 6/5  
Ellie & Monty Gerhart, 6/18  
Lindy & Sandy Ballance, 6/19  
Brenda & William Walters, 6/21  
Christine & Richard Fagles, 6/21



Julie & Rob Barry, 6/25  
Brian & Lauren Werkheiser, 6/27  
Susan & Jim Werkheiser, 6/28  
Bruce & Kay Gordon, 6/30  
Molly & Matt Cooney, 6/30

## Meals on Wheels

**HELP! We need Meals on Wheels delivery people for 2017. Call Susan Flook at 328-7346 if you are interested. Substitutes needed, too. No weekend deliveries. Thanks. Consider this as your call in Christ!**

Our next delivery will be May 30-June 2. 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 29

No service  
Memorial Day

### Tuesday 30

Jo Viola  
Joan Smith

### Wednesday 31

Carol & Gene  
Mayhew

### Thursday 1

Cynthia Robbins  
Nanette Nichol

### Friday 2

Susan & Jim  
Flook

## Monthly Report



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

Membership:

April ..... 175  
May ..... 175

Income thru 04/29/17:

2017 Budget: ..... \$113,949.00  
2017 Actual: ..... \$110,886.00

Expenses thru 04/29/17:

2017 Budget: ..... \$93,574.00  
2017 Actual: ..... \$93,967.00



## Pentecost Sunday June 4 - GET YOUR RED ON!

This Sunday, we'll celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to the disciples long ago with a rush of wind, and a flame of fire on each of them.

To show that we believe that the Spirit still comes to guide us and fuel us to be the church, let's wear "fire colors" on Sunday. The liturgical color for the day is red. So let's GET OUR RED ON! (or our orange, yellow, etc.)



## Pentecost Offering

When you give to the Pentecost Offering, you are helping to provide opportunities for young people to grow and share their faith in Christ.

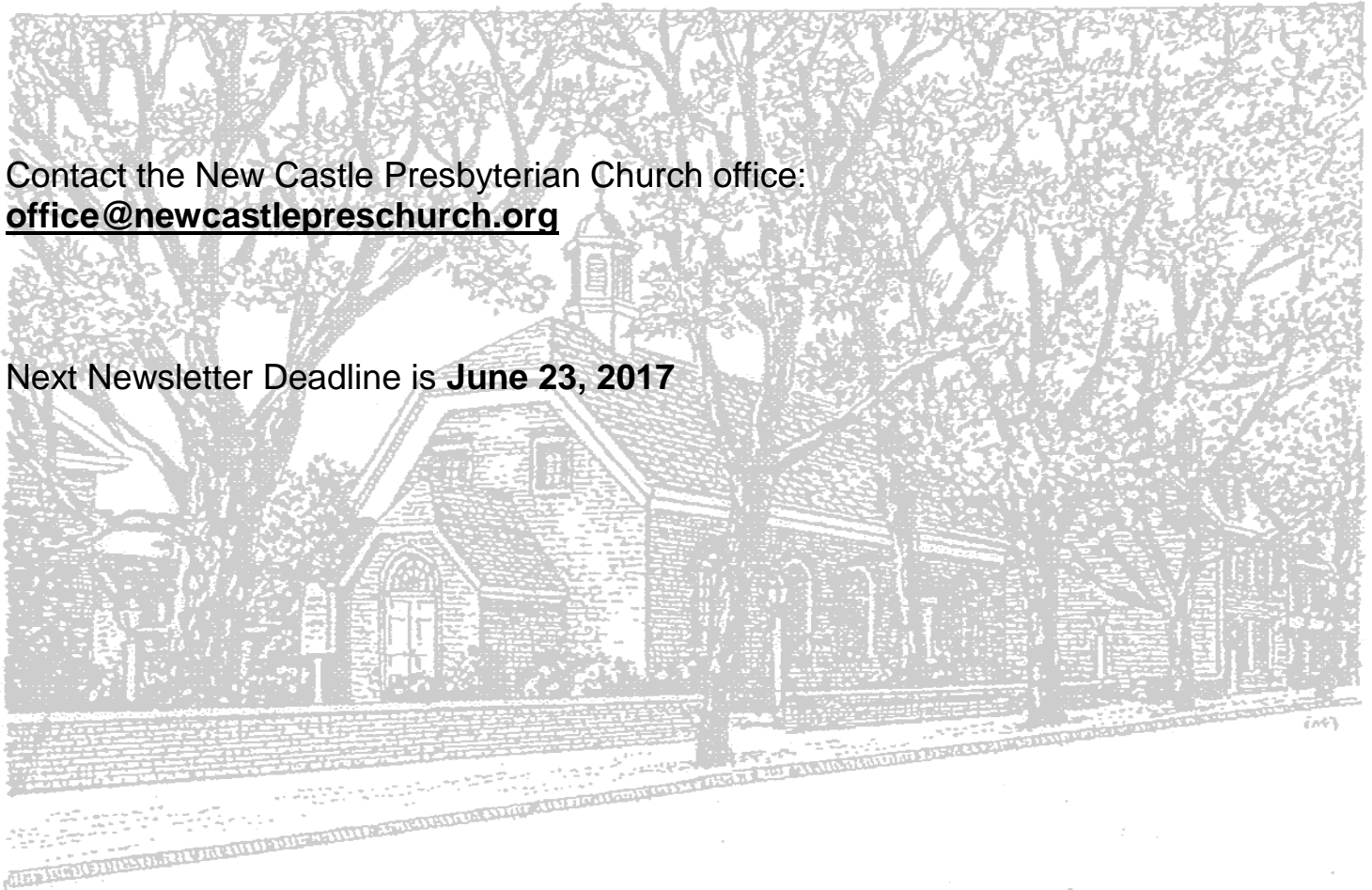
New Castle Presbyterian Church  
25 E. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720  
Phone: (302) 328-3279  
Fax: (302) 328-5670  
E-Mail: [office@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:office@newcastlepreschurch.org)  
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.



Address Change  
Requested

Contact the New Castle Presbyterian Church office:  
[office@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:office@newcastlepreschurch.org)

Next Newsletter Deadline is **June 23, 2017**



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