

# *New Castle Presbyterian News*

## *August 2017*

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### **In the interim...**

They say that “Timing is everything”. I don’t know about everything, but it certainly matters. The “when” can influence the “what”. And that appears to be a truth here and now, in considering the “what” of the interim time at New Castle Presbyterian Church.

I have started interim positions at all different times in the church year, and each has its advantages and challenges. But here at New Castle, I’ve been presented with a double whammy. Not only have I started serving in the summer, when it is really tough to get a good read of who a congregation is. But I have come to serve a congregation who transitions its leadership in September! And, inasmuch as it is the Session who oversees the Mission Study (the assessment/discernment first step of your pastoral search) and given the fact that an entire new class of elders plus 1 is coming on board – well, like I said, timing is everything. The reality of this “when” will influence the timing of the “what”. Which is to say that starting up the Mission Study process before Fall doesn’t make a lot of sense for New Castle Presbyterian Church.

I did lead a Mission Study Orientation with Session folk – both current and incoming – on July 25. The hope was to get everyone on board with the process, and its expectations around gathering of information about the church and community, creating opportunities for congregational input, and assessing and compiling it all. While this is a Session-owned undertaking, they will empower a Mission Study team to coordinate and lead it. People who know their congregation well and have gifts for organization and planning and communication.....maybe someone you know? Maybe you?

“Timing is everything” is also a call to sense the moment, and know what is called for. It is time to sense that this moment, this season of your life together, needs to be about this Mission Study/Pastoral Search process. Which means there may need to be trade-offs. Because, unless you are a congregation of non-humans, you can’t do everything. If you want to insure your next pastor is a good and called-for fit, you need to invest prayerful energy and time into the Mission Study/Pastoral Search process.

So, if you are wondering when things will get started, think Fall. And think about how you may take part in this transition time at New Castle Presbyterian Church!

On the journey with you –

## **CHURCH OFFICER TRAINING**

Current and incoming elders, deacons and trustees will gather for Church Officer Training on Sunday August 27 (after church- 2 pm) and Monday August 28 (6:30-8:30 pm) The Monday night gathering will include a Session meeting to officially approve all elected incoming officers.

We are so grateful for those willing to serve, and for those whose service has concluded. It is through the gifts and leadership of such willing folk that the church is empowered for ministry.

## **JENNY WARREN ON STUDY LEAVE**

Jenny Warren will be away on study leave August 7 through 13. Arrangements will be made for any emergency pastoral care needs. Rev. Nona Holy, from the Lumos Campus Ministry at UD, will lead worship on August 13.



## **National Night Out**

On Tuesday, August 1, 2017, the City of New Castle and the New Castle Police Department will celebrate National Night Out (NNO). National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. The theme is "Red and White Drug Free."

The event will take place at the end of Delaware Street in Battery Park from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Paul Freebery will emcee the event and play music for listening and dancing, the Goodwill Fire Company and the New Castle Police Department will have a variety of demonstrations and apparatus on display, child ID kits have been provided by the Trustees of the New Castle Commons, the New Castle Lions and the New Castle Methodist Church will be cooking up hot dogs and organizing games, and more fun activities are in the works.

Our church will also be involved and we are looking for volunteers. You can help by either bringing in healthy snacks or watermelon, setting up, cleaning up or helping with a game. There is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall.

If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Koczak McCurdy at (302) 750-6030



## **A Big VBS Thank You!**

To all of you - and perhaps even more --who brought this year's VBS "Digging for Treasure: Parables Revealed" to life -- my heartfelt THANK YOU!

You took a box full of curriculum and turned it into an experience for children in this community that planted all kinds of seeds of faith. Not only were the parables revealed -- but you revealed yourselves to be a congregation that rises to occasions and rallies to make things happen. Even my absence the week before - and the first night - couldn't deter you!

And, in spite your insistence that "Nancy was in charge of VBS", you showed yourselves to be empowered and in charge of yourselves. From dinners, to teaching, to leading games, crafts and music, you were both prepared and flexible, which is the combination that is needed to make a VBS work.

I witnessed your great kindness and care for the children who joined us - and for one another, as you willingly took on things when others couldn't.

Thanks for digging with me, and for bringing such creativity and commitment. As I said, it revealed a lot about who you are as a congregation. And made me proud and grateful to be serving among you, squirrel socks and all!

I hope that the week blessed you with the good news of Jesus' parables -- as it happens, the lectionary gospel readings for the 3 post VBS Sundays are parables from Matthew! So come to worship and hear more about them!

With gratitude,

Jenny

## **Mission and Outreach News**

July was a very busy month for mission and outreach. Although many of us see summer as a time to relax and take a break from our hectic schedules, the work of the church continues. On July 2, we served dinner to the 50 summer interns and staff of Urban Promise. They thoroughly enjoyed our pot luck supper and were very appreciative of the six large bags of candy we donated for their "end of summer camp" get-together. Thank you to all our members who donated food and served at the supper. The following weekend was our turn to serve breakfast at the Friendship House Ministry to the Homeless Breakfast Program. We would like to thank everyone who donated food and to those who got up early to serve at the 7 a.m. breakfast. We also served dinner at the Emmanuel Dining room. Thanks to Steve Martin and Cynthia Robbins for coordinating this every month and for those volunteers who help cook the dinner and make the brownies.

And, finally, a special note of appreciation to the boys and girls from Vacation Bible School. Their nightly donations made it possible for our church to donate \$223.00 to the Urban Bike Project.

The Mission and Outreach Committee

### **Spirit of Christmas—December 9, 2017**

We need the support of many people and many helping hands to make this year's Spirit of Christmas a success. In order to send a generous donation to Friendship House to help the homeless, we need to be willing to designate some of our own time to make life easier for our less fortunate neighbors.

Right now we are in need of people to coordinate our crafts table and the "Look What \$20 Will Buy" table. We already have a collection of items to sell, and will have more by the time December 9 arrives. If you can direct setup and selling on December 8 and 9 for either of these areas, please contact Miranda, Kelly, or Pat ASAP!

Please keep the \$20 table in mind as you enjoy your summer travels. We need new items worth \$30 or more to offer for sale. Crafters, if you have patterns or instructions for projects that you could pass on to others, get in touch with Miranda.

We will have our next planning meeting September 19 at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend. We value your input and look forward to your participation!

Thank you!

Pat Taylor, Miranda Matthews, Kelly Koczak McCurdy

## Refugee Resettlement Update & Request

In early June two refugee families arrived from Ethiopia. The first family, three Eritrean young adult siblings, living in an Ethiopian refugee camp. The second family, a young Ethiopian couple with 1 yr. old and 5 yr. old daughters. They are living in apartments in Wilmington. They settled into their new surrounds and 4 of the adults began working at a mushroom farm last week. They have started learning English and adjusting to life in the US.

Thank you to the NCPC congregation and the New Castle community for providing furniture, household items, food, and financial support for the families. The refugee resettlement group within JFS (Jewish Family Services) organization will give them guidance and assistance for their first 90 days. After the 90 days, the Émigré group at JFS will provide a caseworker to assist them.

Volunteers are needed to socialize and educate them about the way of life in America.

### Donation Needs List of items (nice to have):

used laptop computer(s)

used electronic games for kindergarten and younger, like LeapFrog® items.

basic tools (screw driver, small hammer, pliers, etc.)

Right now, we have an item of priority:

- \* Volunteer help with watching the girls on an ongoing basis for Firy's ESL lessons

Literacy Delaware has done a wonderful job scheduling tutors for ESL lessons for each of the new adults, but now that Abel is working during the day, in order to go forward with Firy's lessons, we'll need help with childcare. The older daughter, Rahwa (they call her Ditana) will also be getting tutored two mornings a week, so we are looking for a volunteer to help watch both girls two mornings a week, and two mornings a week just the younger daughter. Right now the plan is to have the classes at Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church on Broom Street, very close to their home. The volunteer could be in the same room with Firy, just playing with the girls who are both extremely well behaved.

If you are interested in helping with the childcare, please let me know! Four mornings a week is a lot to ask, so if multiple volunteers could help share the load that would help things run more smoothly.

Please contact Patti Isaacs Hansen with any questions at 302-377-2501.



## Brownie Mixes Needed!

Please remember to put brownie mix on your grocery list! The Deacons supervise a ministry which provides brownies as part of our monthly Emmanuel Dining Room meal. When you see brownie mix at a good price, please purchase and bring to the church kitchen. Leave your donation on the counter to the left of the refrigerators. They will be handed out for volunteer bakers to prepare once a month. We are especially low on brownie mix, so buy some now! Thanks!

- Joan Smith



I would like to say thank you to all those that sent cards and well wishes during my surgery and time of recovery. It was very much appreciated.

- Carol Mayhew

## Urban Promise - Thank you

Janet & New Castle Pres.

Thank you for your hospitality and the way you welcomed me and the group. Every year we are so blessed by our time.

Thanks for your partnership and giving up your Sunday to serve us.  
With love,

Salima & The UP Staff



## **THANKS FOR SERVING IN AUGUST!**

### COMMUNION

August 6 – Scott Matthews

### USHERS

August 6 – Lindy & Sandy Ballance

August 13 – Monty Gerhart & Ray Snyder

August 20 – Monty Gerhart

August 27 – Monty Gerhart & Ray Snyder

### COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

August 6 – Patti Isaacs-Hansen

August 13 – Andrew Lundgren & girls

August 20 – Jennifer Dunham & Linda Twyford

August 27 – Carol Mayhew

### WORSHIP LEADERS

August 6 – Conchita Showell

August 13 – Gail Seitz

August 20 – Carol Mayhew

August 27 -                     

### NURSERY

August 6 – Molly Cooney & Jane Fouracre

August 13 – Andrew Lundgren & Bev Stoudt

August 20 – Melissa Boris & Heather Raezer

August 27 - Melissa Boris & Heather Raezer

### COUNTERS

August 6 – Jane Fouracre & Carol Mayhew

August 13 –                     

August 20 – Rob Barry & Jane Fouracre

August 27 - Jane Fouracre & Carol Mayhew

### EMMANUEL DINING ROOM

Miranda Matthews

### FLOWERS

Brenda Walters



## **Baby Congratulations**

Welcome to the world, Skylar Reign Teller, daughter of Danika and Rhett Teller, niece of Zach Dobson and granddaughter of Karen Dobson. She was born on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 7 lbs 9 oz. 21".

Welcome to the world, William Rowland Spivey, born July 11! And congrats to his proud Nana, Nancy Rowland!

Welcome to the world, William Thomas Taylor was born July 15 in Houston, TX. He is the son of Joe and April Taylor and grandson of Pat and Dave Taylor.

God is good!

## **August Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Patti Isaacs-Hansen, 8/1  
Tony Reilly, 8/4  
George Spock, 8/4  
Doug Esham, 8/6  
Alex Barry, 8/7  
Rod Denison, 8/8  
Leo Sotomayor, 8/10  
Zoe Sotomayor, 8/10  
Finn Duncan, 8/11  
Megan Witt, 8/12  
Bob Appleby, 8/14



Christine Collins, 8/18  
Shirley Knox, 8/20  
Arta Vitolo, 8/20  
Ray Snyder, 8/23  
Gail Seitz, 8/24  
Robert Swick, 8/26  
Daniel Knox, 8/27  
Michael Armstrong, 8/28  
Sam Duncan, 8/28  
Ron Studd, 8/28  
Pat Adair, 8/30

Mark & Phyllis Stallard, 8/6  
Ron & Susan Studd, 8/6  
Kelly Koczak-McCurdy & Peter McCurdy, 8/6  
Cynthia Robbins & Steve Martin, 8/7  
Pat & Dave Taylor, 8/9  
Patti Isaacs-Hansen & Allen Hansen, 8/11  
Carol & Gene Mayhew, 8/15  
Phoebe & Robert Dill, 8/25  
Molly & David Shaw, 8/31







## 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 August 7-11. 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 7

Susan & Jim  
Flook

### Tuesday 8

Lois Barth  
Joan Smith

### Wednesday 9

### Thursday 10

Carol & Gene  
Mayhew

### Friday 11

Ray & Lynn  
Snyder

## Monthly Report



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

### Membership:

June.....	175
July.....	175

### Income thru 07/01/17:

2017 Budget:.....	\$145,699.00
2017 Actual: .....	\$135,847.00

### Expenses thru 07/01/17:

2017 Budget:.....	\$135,949.00
2017 Actual: .....	\$126,092.00



## Prayer Requests

We welcome your prayer requests, and will gladly include them in our prayers during worship. We regret that some have become hidden in the offering bags. To ensure that they reach the pastor, please give your prayer request form directly to an usher at the offering time.



July, 2017

New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 East Second Street

New Castle, DE 19720

GRIEFSHARE SEMINAR/SUPPORT GROUP

BEGINS September 11, 2017

Enclosed are brochures highlighting our upcoming GriefShare grief recovery sessions and support groups.

Please feel free to share this material with someone who might benefit from the program. We have additional brochures available if you need them.

Griefshare is a video seminar series that features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective.

The video sessions are combined with support group discussion on the materials presented during the video.

Please feel free to call me at 302-328-5649, Ext 315 if you have any questions or would like more information about the GriefShare sessions.

Sincerely,

Pastor Tracy Mooney

Asbury United Methodist Church

**(There are brochures hanging on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.)**

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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

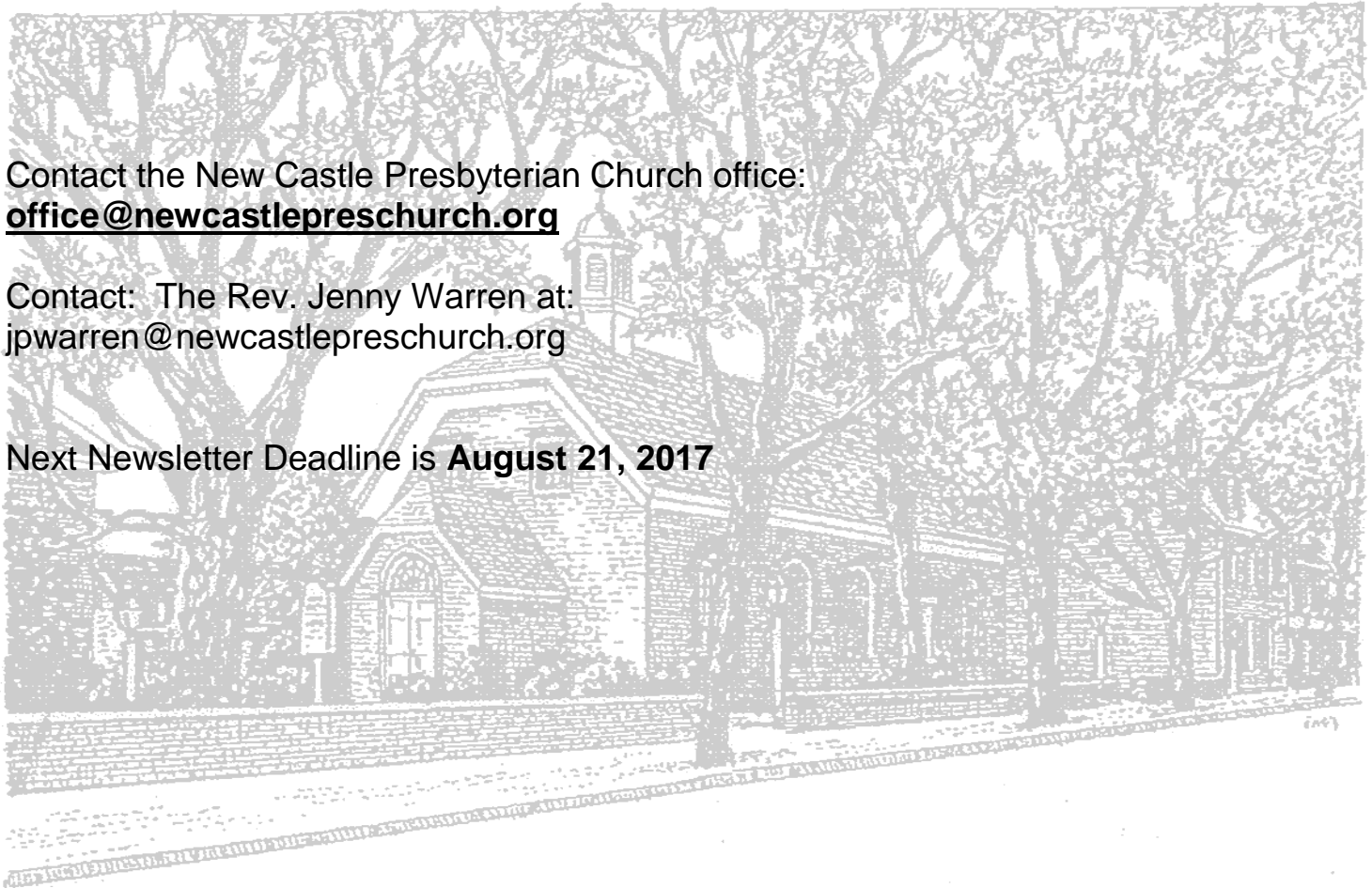


Address Change  
Requested

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

Contact: The Rev. Jenny Warren at:  
[jpwarren@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:jpwarren@newcastlepreschurch.org)

Next Newsletter Deadline is **August 21, 2017**



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