

New Castle Presbyterian News

November 2017



In the interim.....

The interim time is usually concerned with the middle, the in between. But this month of November has a “Bookend” feel to me, in terms of the worship opportunities coming our way. Bookends – a special service at the start, and another one at the end.

Sunday November 5, is the Sunday following All Saints’ Day (Nov 1). Admittedly, it is funny timing to celebrate “saints” right after celebrating Reformation Sunday, given that one of the many things Protestants left behind was canonizing people into saints, praying to them, and such. But we view saints differently. Our All Saints’ Celebration is really a service of remembrance, calling to mind and heart those whom God has put in our lives, and in the life of our church, and in the life of the larger church throughout the ages. It is an opportunity to look back and remember those who paved the way we now walk, those who gave rise to the things we now take for granted, those upon whose shoulders we stand, those who nurtured faith in us and witnessed to what it meant to be church. In addition to our celebration of the sacrament of communion that day, you will also have the opportunity to come forward, speak the name of a “saint” in your life who is now gone from this life, and light a candle. The light of all those candles will show us how the memory of their lives continues to shine the way for us. So give some prayerful thought about a saint to share with us that day.

Sunday November 26 is Reign of Christ Sunday. It is the last Sunday of the church year, before we turn the page, and start all over again with Advent. We will be marking this ending with a special service of lessons and music – a review of the whole Christian year and life of Jesus. I am looking for 5-6 readers – each for a different lesson. If you are willing and able, email me (even now) at jpwarren@newcastlepreschurch.org. It’s a wonderful service, celebrating the whole of our Christian story, beginning and ending with promise.

Don’t get me wrong – it’s not just about the “bookends” in November. We will also have Stewardship Dedication Sunday November 19 and a Bagels and Blessings breakfast and service Thanksgiving morning. Generosity and gratitude abound. Don’t miss an opportunity to join in, share your saint, your gifts, your blessings – all of it – with your church family.

Grateful to be church with you, *Jenny*

Stewardship 2018

“GET THE PICTURE – GET IN THE PICTURE”

On October 22, we gathered following worship for our Giving Brunch, to celebrate what giving makes possible at our church, and to prayerfully consider what to pledge for the coming year. As we did so, we contemplated a number of ways our “church picture” has changed over the past year. Our congregation has moved on to a new spiritual chapter by welcoming our wonderful interim pastor, Jenny Warren. We are examining our mission and vision for the future. And we have begun the discernment process for seeking our next pastor. God has been great to us over the past year!

The Resource Development Committee of New Castle Presbyterian Church asks that you prayerfully examine what your gifts to the church support. We invite you to picture how God might enable you to help our church and its many ministries. As you do so, ask yourself what the church means to you:

- Service - We extend a hand to the homeless and the hungry with the good news of Christ’s healing love, experienced through shelter, food, and clothing.
- Celebration - We glorify God with vibrant worship and music.
- Stability - We present Presbyterian history as a witness to our faithfulness throughout long generations. We not only preserve physical structures with which we have been blessed since 1707, but make them living vessels of worship and mission today.
- Nurture - We teach our youth the grace of God in Jesus Christ through our Sunday School program and the care of our nursery. Adult faith is nurtured, too, through weekly Bible Study.

Please picture your place in the life and ministry of our church. Truly, our congregational PICTURE won’t be the same without you!

A letter and pledge form (for both financial and time/talent giving) will be sent out shortly.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY COMPLETE IT AND BRING IT WITH YOU TO PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19.

Through our gifts, let us give thanks to the God who has blessed us!

HERE IS HOW YOUR GIVING IS INVESTED IN THE LIFE OF OUR CHURCH:

Worship \$91,568

Your pledge makes possible vibrant worship, faithful preaching, inspiring music, and the upkeep of a 310-year-old Meeting House.

Mission \$66,118

Your pledge supports national and international Presbyterian missions, local ministries such as Emmanuel Dining Room, Urban Promise, and Friendship House, disaster relief efforts, and hands-on mission experiences. It also supports the PC(USA) per capita contribution, funding the workings of the larger church that make our mission possible.

Education \$40,647

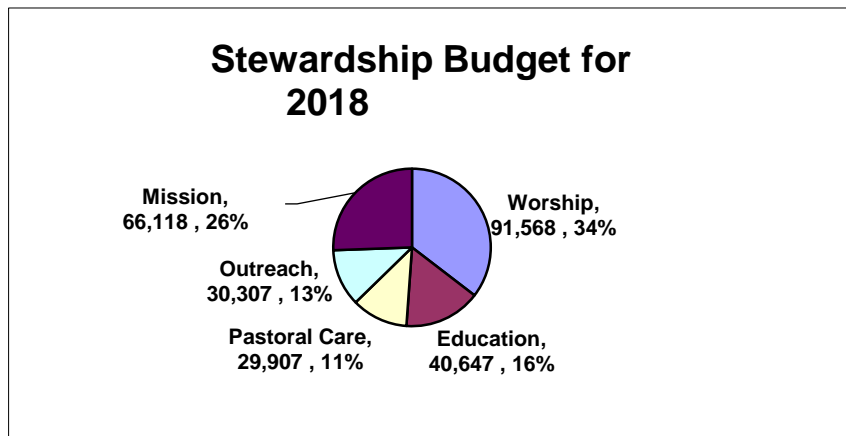
Your pledge supports Christian Education and nurture for children and youth on Sundays, and Adult Bible Study during the week. Your contributions make possible Vacation Bible School, Easter Fair, children/youth/family ministries, camps and conference possibilities, curriculum materials and the coordination of the education program.

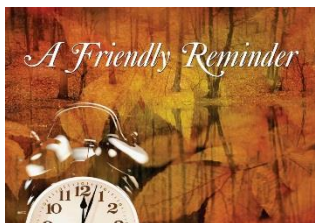
Pastoral and Congregational Care \$29,907

Your pledge provides physical, emotional and spiritual support to the church family and wider community, with spiritual encouragement and the ministry of prayer. You make possible support groups and professional counseling referral. You support the care-giving ministries of our Deacons and the counseling and guidance of our Pastor.

Outreach \$30,307

Your pledge enables us to share good news with the wider community and potential members. You enable our publicity, website, membership materials, and outreach events that bear witness beyond our walls. We are a host to community groups. Because of you, we are God's Good News!





**Daylight Savings begins
Sunday, November 5 at 2:00 a.m.
Don't forget to "Fall Back"**



All Saints

As part of our worship service on November 5, we will honor those who have died to this life, but live on in our memory. You will have the opportunity to come forward, offer a name and light a candle, to celebrate that life here and to give thanks for the life that awaits all of God's saints.

Ushers Needed!

Can you say "Good morning!?" Hand out bulletins? Count to 80? Collect the offering? Then you can be an usher – AND WE NEED YOU! The Worship Committee has a sign up sheet in the CE Building – and it is BLANK starting NEXT SUNDAY, NOV 5. You no longer are expected to commit to a month. Just a single Sunday here and there. Please consider stepping up to help. Instructions – and gratitude - provided!

Table Talks – Nov 5 & 12

As a first step in our Mission Study process, the Mission Study team will be leading Table Talk gatherings around our tables during Fellowship Hour on both Nov 5 & 12. The session will be identical, realizing that personal schedules and church meetings may prevent everyone from attending just one date. (You are welcome to participate twice, of course -and will learn new things by sitting with different people!). Giving our input on a series of questions will help the Mission Study team in its work. And listening well to others do the same will help us be a more receptive congregation. So save the dates, and join us for Table Talk!



1st Sunday Coffee Hour – and you?



We are a congregation that values our time of fellowship and conversation – and, of course, food! Our Coffee Hour schedule calls for volunteers from the congregation to host on the 1st Sunday. Our main purpose is the fellowship – so keeping the snack food simple is more than fine. The kitchen is always stocked with cheese & crackers, cookies, lemonade mix, coffee and creamers. You can be reimbursed for other food you provide. Want help from the Deacons with a kitchen tour or coffee tutorial? Contact Sandy Wilson (544-6578) or Bev Denison (444-4191). A sign up sheet is on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall, and our first opening is February 4th. Find a buddy and host together!



**Spirit of Christmas 2017
Saturday, December 9**



We need you!

You can help in many ways. **We need people to assist with setup on December 8 and sales and events on December 9.** We also need your donations of time and items between now and then to prepare for this annual event. Here is a quick reference list of our opportunities:

Books: Coffee-table quality books and other nearly new volumes are preferred. You may bring books in boxes or sturdy shopping bags clearly labeled for SOC to the church and leave them in the entry area. If you have questions, or if you have a large number of books to donate, please contact **Peter McCurdy** for guidelines.

“Look What \$20 Will Buy” table: Items should be new or of vintage quality, originally worth more than \$30.00. Please contact **Jo Viola** or **Carol Mayhew** for details before bringing donations to the church. There is a need for some **NEW children’s toys and games.** **The deadline for donations is Sunday, November 26, 2017,** so that we can inventory all offerings and plan for the display and set up.

Homemade Soups and Breads: Think about Spirit of Christmas as you plan your Christmas treat-making! Details are below.

Crafts: If you have a homemade craft specialty to offer, contact Ellie Gerhart. If you have created items for Spirit of Christmas in past years, please consider making more to sell this year.

Red and green “Save the date” cards are available in the entry area of the CE building. Please pick up a few and distribute them to your friends and other contacts.

There are many other opportunities for participation before and during the event. Sign-up sheets will be posted in the CE building. Contact **Monty Gerhart**, volunteer coordinator, (302-328-0908), to offer your time and learn how you can help.

Please remember that all proceeds from donations and sales for Spirit of Christmas at New Castle Presbyterian Church are given to Friendship House.



The next Spirit of Christmas planning meeting will take place on Tuesday, November 7, at 7:00 p.m.

BREAD AND SOUP MAKERS FOR SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

December 9, 2017

At the Spirit of Christmas celebration this year, we would like to offer your delicious homemade soups and breads, plus homemade pickles, jams, candy, and jellies. Labels, bread bags and soup containers will be in the kitchen by November 5th. Place the soup labels on the top of the container.

Please place your contributions on the kitchen counter and soups in the refrigerator. You can deliver your soups and breads/cookies/sweets on Friday, December 8th 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. at the C.E. building. You may also bring them on Saturday morning.

Thank you for sharing your gifts at Spirit of Christmas celebration.

Contacts: Susan Townsend 302-562-3647
Ray Snyder, 302-328-1662
Janet Reed, 302-328-6749

Thanksgiving Worship

Join your friends and neighbors in giving thanks to God for many blessings! This year's community worship service will be held at on Tuesday, November 21st at 7:00p.m. at Immanuel Episcopal Church. There will be a reception afterwards.

You are asked to bring a monetary offering for the Society of St. Vincent de Paul's ministries to the poor.

Bagels & Blessings – A Thanksgiving Morning Gathering



Join us on Thanksgiving morning, November 23rd at 8:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall for "Bagels & Blessings". It's a way to start Thanksgiving with thanksgiving, with your church family. Bring that out-of-town family with you, as we share a light breakfast (because we will have LOTS of other food coming that day!) and a brief time of worship, prayers and songs of thanks. Blessings abound – and so will the bagels! Please sign up in Fellowship Hall so we know to count on you and yours!



**Never too early to
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 375 families and senior citizens will receive a week's worth of non-perishable food on Saturday, December 16. Each basket also will be accompanied by a **10—15 lb. 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 **Sun. Dec. 10**. 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

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Kelly Koczak McCurdy, 11/5
 Thomas Truman, 11/5
 Jean Swanson, 11/6
 Amanda Anderson, 11/7
 Dean MacEwen, 11/10
 Robert Spring, 1/11
 Caroline Monzo, 11/13
 Michael Monzo, 11/13
 Brenda Walters, 11/14



Patricia Bird, 11/15
 Mary Pratt, 11/16
 Jonathan Flook, 11/16
 David Taylor, 11/18
 William Wilson, 11/19
 Susan Flook, 11/20
 Judy Hentkowski, 11/23
 Sarah Werkheiser, 11/24
 Griffon Anderson, 11/27

Doug Esham & Laura Gearheart-Esham, 11/2
 Gail & C.J. Seitz, 11/19



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 November 20-24. 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 20

Jude Morrow
 Jo Viola

Tuesday 21

Joan Smith
 Miranda Matthews

Wednesday 23

Carol & Gene
 Mayhew

Thursday 24

No deliveries

Friday 25

No deliveries

Monthly Report

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

Membership:

September	175
October	175



Income thru 09/30/17:

2017 Budget:	\$201,098.00
2017 Actual:	\$183,722.00

Expenses thru 09/30/17:

2017 Budget:	\$196,258.00
2017 Actual:	\$184,223.00

Peace & Global Witness Offering

Thank you to all who responded to this year's PC(USA) Peace & Global Witness Special Offering. The amount received was \$356.00. 25% of that - \$89.00 - will be split between Doctors Without Borders and the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Hurricane Relief account. The remaining \$267.00 will be used by the PC(USA) for its ministries/programs promoting peace.

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOTS

Throughout each of the last few weeks of our Stewardship Season, we have heard a “Stewardship Snapshot” from a church member. Jo Viola, Ray Snyder and Kim Beebe have shared why they are “in the picture” here at New Castle Presbyterian, and have spoken of their gratitude for what this church family gives them, and why they feel called to give to continue this vision for ministry here. Stay tuned to hear Allie Lundgren (11/12) and Peter McCurdy (11/19). And now, in written form, here is a “Stewardship Snapshot” from Ron Studd –

The great part about God's love for us, is that he meets us anywhere we need to worship. My wife Susan and I had been looking for a place to worship, and in our minds we had wanted something special, and as is the way with God, he provided. I'd previously worshiped in a congregation in Western New York that is over a hundred years old, and had seen firsthand the strength that comes from a congregation with roots. Coming to New Castle Presbyterian Church not only reminded me of my congregation growing up, but had made that congregation seem practically new in contrast.

People look at history in a few different ways, but I'd like to share with you all what it means to me. New Castle Presbyterian Church is an active living church because of the hard work and dedication of all of the members alive as well as those who have passed. When a congregation exists for over one hundred years, it has had multiple transitions in leadership, and it has succeeded in weathering whatever storms have come through (both literally and figuratively). Despite all of this, God has seen to it through the dedication and hard work of many that New Castle Presbyterian Church is around today.

That all brings us to today, specifically to stewardship, and the role we will play in the history of our congregation. As a parent and member of this church, I know that right here and now we have something beautiful and great, but it didn't come to us today on accident. The gifts in time and money have made all of this possible. I see the youth in our congregation as a sign of what may be to come, the youth here know the love of Christ and the value of having a congregational family. Even in the few years I've been a member, I've been witness to the re-opening of the nursery, the expansion of the Sunday School program, and have seen excitement and energy in what the future could bring. While what we have today is great, as members we need to ensure that the children and all future generations of our congregation are able to share in the benefits in what it means to be a member of the New Castle Presbyterian Church. The gifts of time and money we provide today are what make this all possible.

Thank you!

THANKS FOR SERVING IN NOVEMBER!

COMMUNION

November 5 – **Andrew Lundgren**, Jennifer Dunham, Diana Reilly,
Steve Martin & Cynthia Robbins

USHERS

November 5 – Gail & C.J. Seitz
November 12 – Gail & C.J. Seitz
November 19 –
November 26 –

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS

November 5 – Ray Snyder/Dean & Lynn MacEwen
November 12 – Heather Raezer/Bev Stoudt
November 19 – Miranda Matthews/Linda Twyford
November 26 – Lyn Briggs

WORSHIP LEADERS

November 5 – Scott Matthews
November 12 – Sally Brett
November 19 – Bev Stoudt
November 26 – Miranda Matthews

NURSERY

November 5 – Bev Stoudt/Heather Raezer
November 12 – Lyn Briggs/Susan Townsend
November 19 – Molly Shaw/Molly Cooney
November 26 – Andrew Lundgren/Bev Stoudt

SUNDAY SCHOOL

November 5 – Ron & Susan Studd
November 12 – Heather Raezer
November 19 – Bev Stoudt
November 26 – Diana Reilly

COUNTERS

November 5 – Jo Viola/Rachel Briggs
November 12 – Jane Fouracre/Bruce Raker
November 19 – Bruce Raker/Jo Viola
November 26 – Jane Fouracre/Carol Mayhew

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM

Steve Martin
Cynthia Robbins
Miranda Matthews

FLOWERS

Brenda Walters

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New Castle, DE 19720
Phone: (302) 328-3279
Fax: (302) 328-5670
E-Mail: office@newcastlepreschurch.org
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

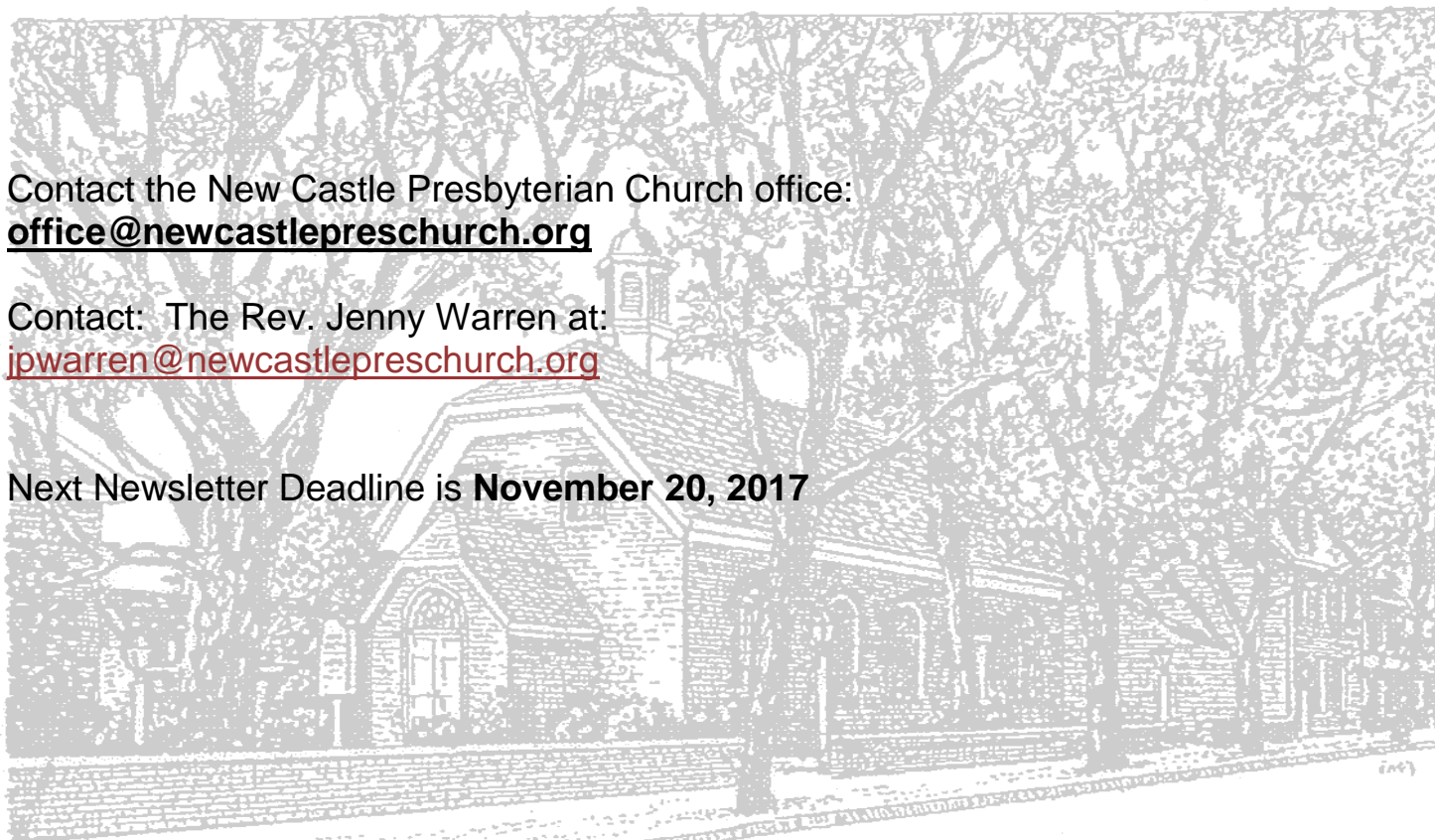


Address Change
Requested

Contact the New Castle Presbyterian Church office:
office@newcastlepreschurch.org

Contact: The Rev. Jenny Warren at:
jpwarren@newcastlepreschurch.org

Next Newsletter Deadline is **November 20, 2017**



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