

New Castle Presbyterian News

August 2010



Back-to-School Night **For Parents**

It's almost time for another school year, and with it the usual issues of helping our children for re-entry! New Castle Presbyterian Church is offering a one-night gathering to equip parents for facing the challenges. The event will be held on Sunday, August 8 at 7:00 pm in the church fellowship hall. Some of the topics to be discussed are:

- Helping children without getting in the way
- Empowering children to take responsibility
- Effectively talking and listening with children
- Offering choices and praise
- Dealing with peer pressure
- Coping with homework expectations
- Interacting with the school in a meaningful way
- Getting the most out of Parent/Teacher nights

The evening will be led by a trio of experienced public school educators who are also parents: Gene Mayhew, Amy Selheimer and Janet Spring. The event is designed for parents of children K-8. Free coffee and iced drinks will be available.

Free child care will also be provided. To register for this free event, call 302-328-3279 or email ncpc1651@verizon.net.



Meeting House to Be Air-Conditioned

At its meeting on June 28, the Session voted to proceed with air-conditioning the 1707 Meeting House in which we worship each Sunday. The proposal was presented at request of the Worship Committee and was then researched and given a project recommendation by the Trustees. Advice was received from other congregations who worship in buildings close to the age of ours, as well as from the trustees of other historic properties. The proposal was diligently discussed by the Worship Committee, the Resource Development Committee, the Trustees, and finally the Session. The Session meeting on June 28 included a hearing of the proposal from the recommended contractor, Carl Wolf of Service Unlimited, and feedback from members of the congregation. The reasons for approval of the project were

- The comfort and health and active participation of our members
- The stabilization of summer worship attendance
- The protection of our building and its contents from mildew and mold
- The avoidance of the uncertainty of last-minute worship set-up in the Fellowship Hall on especially hot and humid Sundays
- The availability of the Meeting House for additional summer events, including weddings
- The increased viability of our worship experience in attracting new members

The motion adopted by Session was “to approve Service Unlimited, Inc. as the general contractor for installation of air-conditioning in the sanctuary at a total cost not to exceed \$43,000. Costs exceeding this amount would require separate approval by the Session. Installation shall begin as soon as reasonably practical. Installation costs shall be paid from invested church funds. A capital campaign shall be conducted in early 2011 soliciting pledges to be paid over a three-year period with total repayment by December 31, 2014. The Session will also explore grants and other fundraising for this purpose.”

The next steps in this process will be

- For the Trustees to supervise the contractor in the immediate pursuit of needed permits and approvals.
- For the Resource Development Committee to meet for planning the financial repayment of the project
- For the Treasurer to proceed with the necessary liquidation of invested funds for the short-term payment of our obligations to Service Unlimited.

The Session has already received several \$1000 gifts from members for this purpose. Contributions toward this project may be received at any time. Contributors need not wait until the winter campaign.

The air-conditioning may be operational as early as late this summer.

Questions and Answers from the information session:

Where will the downspout be? Next to chimney on the south side, then around the corner near the ground to the condensers on the river side.

Where will the condensation go? Copper pipes will be installed across attic with minimal soldering (fire risk procedures fully taken). Collection pans to be installed for any leakage.

Will the air-conditioning need to be on without break between May and October? The unit will be programmable according to our needs.

How much in advance of use should the unit be activated? Temperature should drop quickly, since the humidistat will be on. The unit will learn how early to come on before maximum use.

Will there be space issues? The ballast for the florescent lights can be moved somewhat.

What is the maintenance service agreement? \$895 per/yr.

What about the efficiency of our doors and windows? The greater problem is the entry of 200 hot people ("sensible load"). Entry of worshippers should be accommodated within 2 degrees fluctuation. Target temperature is 72 degrees.

Does the historic nature of the building demand constant temperature? Actually, it advises constant humidity control which can be set separately.

What is the schedule for installation? Three weeks total with an aggressive schedule. No evidence of ongoing installation on Sunday mornings.

Is there a discount for off-season installation? No, they are just as busy in the off-season as in the summer.

Is there flexibility on the payment schedule? Yes.

Is there a performance warranty? Mr. Wolf referred us to his references. The jobs most similar to ours are Red Clay Creek and Lower Brandywine Presbyterian Churches, as well as the Hagley "First House".

Will the sound be as evident as it is in the fellowship hall? There should be no sound whatsoever.

What will the finish be on the bell tower returns? They will be 24" x 24" wooden grills with the finish to be approved by us.

How adequate was the survey of our building? Will there be surprises upon installation? Survey of the building was extensive. There will be no increases by Service Unlimited.

What about the conduits? Enclosed, but the cavity can be accessed near the stairwell.

What will the temperature in the balcony be? Within 1-1/2 to 2 degrees of the floor.

Can we over-ride the thermostat on a nice day? Yes, a 3-hour over-ride is standard. The unit can be turned off in the event of a pleasant day.

How complicated is the thermostat? The thermostat will be very basic for easy use.

What will be the increase in the general budget? Up to \$3000 overall.



Seminary Student Program **We Welcome Tom Euston**

The Session has employed Tom Euston as a seminary student intern to work with our congregation beginning September 7, 2010. Tom is an elder at Pencader Presbyterian Church in Glasgow and is currently a second-level student at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Lancaster, PA. He lives at 125 Piano Dr, Harmony Woods, in Newark, with his wife Marie.

Tom will be working with us 10 hours per week for 24 weeks. This work will satisfy field education requirements for his seminary education. At New Castle Presbyterian he will be working on his development of biblical, preaching, and pastoral skills. He will also be responsible for leadership development in the areas of youth/families and new member outreach. This means he will be teaching Bible Study, helping to lead worship each week, preaching every six weeks, visiting members, and meeting with leaders of our youth and outreach programs.

He will be supervised by Pastor Nancy and a lay committee composed of Monty Gerhart, Jim Whisman, Amy Selheimer, Conchita Showell, and Bev Stoudt. It is hoped that Tom's ministry in our midst will stimulate energy and interest for new directions. This new program is being funded by a very generous gift from one of our members. We look forward to this new relationship – please be sure to introduce yourself to Tom when he arrives in our midst in September!



We Welcome New Officers

We celebrate the gifts for ministry on August 8 and 22 as we recognize, ordain and install our newly elected officers. On August 8, newly elected trustees Matthew Kim, Scott Matthews, and Carol Mayhew will be recognized. On August 22, newly elected deacons Juliann Barry, Sarah McCann, and Kaitlyn Raker will be ordained and installed. Newly elected elders Mark Chandler, Jim Flook, Charlotte Mitchell-McDowell, and Barbara Whisman will be ordained and installed and returning elder Nancy Coning will be installed. Many thanks to these officers for their successful completion of officer training in July and their willingness to serve over the next three years.



2010 Vacation Bible School Egypt: Joseph's Journey from Prison to Palace

What an amazing energizing week we had at New Castle Presbyterian Church! Our facilities were transformed by Lyn Briggs and Lisa & Bruce Raker into ancient Egypt, where we learned of the mighty power of God at work in human lives. We discovered that God gives us hope, special abilities, wisdom, forgiveness, and family, as we began to see God everywhere! Our twenty-one children were enthusiastic and delightful! Many thanks to Lyn, Lisa & Bruce, as well as our teaching/serving team:

Classroom PreK: Danika Dobson, Zach Dobson
Classroom K-1: Bev Stoudt
Classroom Gr 2-4: Janet Spring
Crafts: Lisa Raker, Danielle Knox, Ellie Gerhart, Lyn Briggs and Naderra Walker
Music: Minerva Lermond
Games: Bruce Raker
Opening/Closing: Nancy Rowland
Meals: Amy Selheimer, Lyn & Bob Briggs, Connie & Don Reese, Julie Barry, Karen Dobson, Joan Smith, and Jo Viola
Photographer: Bruce Raker
Registration: Shirley Knox
Administration: Shirley Knox

Many thanks as well go to everyone who contributed money, supplies, food, and prayers. God was surely present and powerful!



Vacation Bible School Offering

The Vacation Bible School Offering this year went to the Heifer Foundation. We have provided animals and supplies for developing peoples across the world. Over \$100 was raised during VBS week and the Sunday afterwards. God is powerful!!



Back From Montreat

Early on Saturday, July 24, two youth and two adults travelled to Montreat, North Carolina for the 2010 Youth Conference V. We were challenged and lifted up throughout the week as we learned new songs, heard stirring messages, read the Bible, worshipped together, and celebrated the power of Jesus Christ. Our conference theme was “In These Waters” as we reconsidered our baptismal promises. Our youth will present their experiences with the whole congregation on August 1 in worship.

Attending were Zach Dobson and Kaitlyn Raker along with Pastor Nancy and Sarah McCann. God was surely present and our youth and adults were powerfully blessed by this spiritual adventure.

Youth Triennium



The youth of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) gather once every three years in mid-July at Purdue University in Indiana to celebrate the ties that bind us together and the common call that energizes our faith. This year’s theme was “For Such a Time as This.” Our congregation was represented at this very large, important gathering by Danielle Knox. Our worship on August 1 will include her reflections on this journey of faith.

Mission & Outreach News

Urban Promise Dinner: Sunday Evening, August 1, 2010

Just a reminder that the Urban Promise Dinner will be held on August 1, 2010. 75 young adults who have been working at the 5 Urban Promise summer camps in Wilmington will be in attendance and certainly will enjoy our home cooked food, air conditioned CE Building, and hospitality! We need plenty of side dishes, casseroles and desserts! Please consider helping out. Certain items like snack foods, veggies trays and dip, cans of baked beans, frozen desserts, cookies, and watermelon could be dropped off earlier in the week if you cannot attend church on Sunday, a sign-up sheet has been posted in the CE Building on the bulletin board near the rest rooms. We could also use some volunteers to help out with set up, serving, and cleaning up. Please help us out if you can. This is a wonderful opportunity to see dedicated youth in action. Their stories are very uplifting and motivating!

Urban Promise Art Supplies



We are so grateful for the many donations of art supplies for the Urban Promise Summer camp program. Your generosity is truly appreciated!



School Supplies Backpack Drive

During the month of August we will help our friends at the Salvation Army collect school supplies for needy students in New Castle County. Items needed are: 3 Holed paper packs, pencils, pencil holders, 3x5 white index cards, pens, tissue packs, erasers, glue sticks, and composition books. There will be a backpack located in the front of the CE Building for your donations. Items will need to be collected by August 13th. Thank you for your support.

September Clothing Drive

We will be collecting used clothing in September for the Clothing Bank of Delaware. You can start cleaning out your closets now, but we would ask that you wait until September to bring in your clothing. A sign will be posted to let you know which room will be used upstairs for the collection drop. Any and all used clothing will be accepted. The "torn and tattered" stuff is cut up and sold as rags. Pocketbooks and shoes are also accepted. Tax credit forms will be available.

Spirit of Christmas Craft Items



Summertime is the perfect time to get started on crafting some items for our Spirit of Christmas. Ellie Gerhart has started her mitten workshops so you might want to get involved with that. If you have an idea for an item, please contact Barbara Whisman or Janet Spring and let us know what you will be contributing. If you have an idea that could use some volunteers to help with completion, you might want to consider posting your idea on the bulletin board in the CE Building and set up a date for your "class." This was a great deal of fun last year with the earring ornaments and the jeweled ornaments and a wonderful opportunity for fellowship.

Epiphany House Dinners

Epiphany House is the newest home for women under the direction of Friendship House. On Monday, August 16, Barb Whisman and Janet Spring will be serving dinner to the 5 women who live there. This is a little different from the Breakfast program at St. Matthew and St. Andrew's. The two of us will actually prepare the meal and take it to the women and eat with them. If you are interested in joining us, please give Janet a call and we will make arrangements. Epiphany House is located at 722 N Union Street across the street from Pomodoro's Restaurant.

The Christian Education Committee Announces...

A Day at the "Shore" in Avalon, NJ

Courtesy of Jo and Corky Viola



For: Everybody (young and old!)

Date: Saturday, August 7

Time: come as early as you can and stay as long as you like. You might want to come early to avoid traffic from the renters that check out/in every Saturday. The day will be pretty unstructured but Jo and Corky's house will serve as "home base". Hang out there to read, visit or nap in the hammock, go to the beach or explore Avalon. We'll have dinner together at the house in the mid to late afternoon.

Place: The Viola's House at 148 31st St. in Avalon, NJ

What to bring: your own beach needs, lunch will be on your own, and a dessert or salad to share for dinner.

Corky, Jo and the CE Committee are providing dinner - Pulled Pork BBQ sandwiches, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and drinks.

There will also be an outside shower and a place to change clothes, if needed.

Please sign up on the CE Building Bulletin Board by Sunday, August 1.

Questions? See or call Corky, Jo or Amy Selheimer.



MEALS ON WHEELS

HELP! We need Meals on Wheels delivery people for 2010. Call Susan Flook at 328-7346 if you are interested. Substitutes needed, too. No week-end deliveries. Thanks. Consider this as your call in Christ!

Our next delivery will not be till August 16-20. 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 16

Shirley Knox

Tuesday 17

Lois Barth
Joan Smith

Wednesday 18

Cynthia Robbins
Nanette Nichol

Thursday 19

Vic & Elsie
Clark

Friday 20

Susan Flook
Ruth Moore



Monthly Report

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

Membership:

June.....	178
Addition:	0
Loss	0
July	178

Income thru 6/10:

2010 Budgeted expectation:	\$129,832.00
2010 Actual:.....	\$125,916.00

Expenses thru 6/10:

2010 Budgeted:	\$121,376.00
2010 Actual:.....	\$121,177.00



August Birthdays and Anniversaries

Rod Denison, 8/8
Bob Appleby, 8/14
Juliann Barry, 8/15
Miranda Matthews, 8/16
Christine Knox, 8/18
Shirley Knox, 8/20
Arta Vitolo, 8/20
Jeffrey Neel, 8/24
Robert Swick, 8/26
Dan Knox, 8/27
Sam Duncan, 8/28
Pat Adair, 8/30



Mark & Phyllis Stallard, 8/6
Cynthia Robbins & Steve Martin, 8/7
Chris & Laura Dunham, 8/8
Pat & Dave Taylor, 8/9
Carol & Gene Mayhew, 8/15
Bob & Ruth McCullough, 8/20
Phoebe & Robert Dill, 8/25
Mary & Herb Pratt, 8/27



Mitten Workshop

Ellie Gerhart has a sign-up sheet for making mittens in the CE building. If you are interested in helping to make mittens for the Spirit of Christmas, add your name to the list. Ellie will then let you know the dates for workshop.

New Castle Presbyterian Church
25 E. 2nd Street
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Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

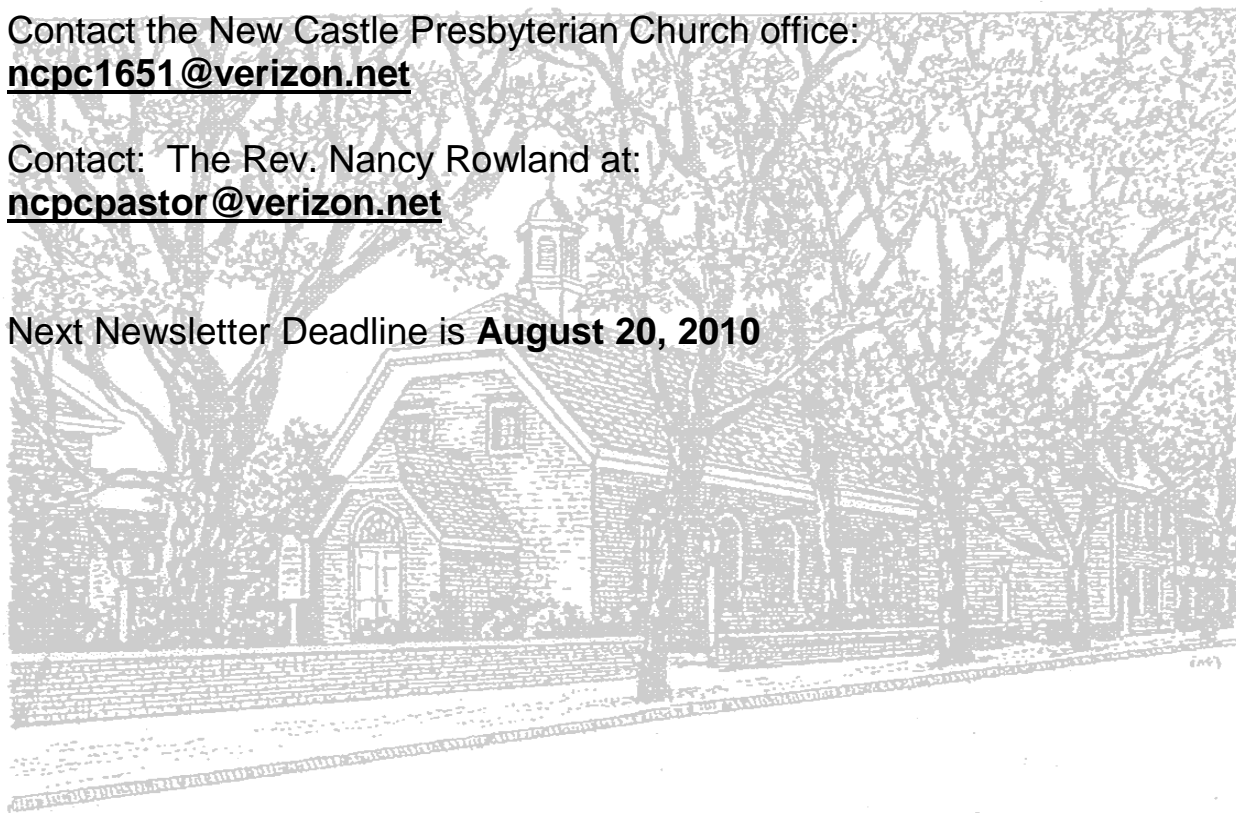
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE
Permit No. 623

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 **August 20, 2010**



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