

Our Mission

New Castle Presbyterian Church offers a nurturing and supportive church community where all are welcomed to join in prayer and song, study and service as all are called to demonstrate understanding, compassion, and acceptance.

By God's Spoken Word and Holy Spirit, we seek to live out the Gospel of the Risen Christ, as we grow spiritually, in strength, and with inclusiveness. We worship God in simplicity and with clarity; we study God's Word to direct our lives; and we nurture the young and the searchers in our midst.

As a congregation and in cooperation with others, we engage in service and outreach with the local community and the world. We work to feed, clothe, and shelter our brothers and sisters while sharing the selfless and forgiving love of Jesus Christ.

As we have been blessed, we seek to use all that we have to bless others with this good news of grace and joy.

Welcome to New Castle Presbyterian Church!

Whether you are worshiping with us in-person or joining via livestream, we gather today as a community of faith, seeking and serving the God we know in Jesus Christ. May this worship service remind you that you are God's own and that together we are called to live out God's way of love, justice and peace.

For folks joining us for in-person worship,

A little help - Please see an usher to receive any assistance, including a personal seat cushion.

Restrooms are located in the Education Building, at the far end of the Fellowship Hall.

Children are always welcome in worship! Worship Bags and children's bulletins are available at the back of the Meeting House. If your family needs to step out of the Meeting House for a time, there is a livestream feed and "pray ground" in the Fellowship Hall.

At the end of worship, please join us for sidewalk Coffee Hour on 2nd Street.

Worship "code": * = please stand if able **bold** = all speak together

Gentle Reminders:

Please turn off all cell phones.

Parking spaces on 2nd Street in front of the Meeting House are for <u>handicapped parking only</u>.

Please put your bulletins in the blue recycle can at the door as you leave – we recycle!

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Pastor Miriam's day of rest is on Mondays.

New Castle Presbyterian Church Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

July 23, 2023

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Praise Him! Praise Him! Bethany Faiz - Piano arr. Cindy Berry

Welcome & Words about The Life and Work of the Church Greeting of Peace

As Jesus greeted his disciples, so let us greet one another: The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Please wave at your neighbors and extend Christ's greeting, "Peace be with you".

Steeple Bell

Call to Worship

The Lord our God is merciful and gracious.

God's welcoming arms are always open.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness.

God's heart draws us into a new way of life together.

The Lord is the God of our salvation.

Let us worship our God whose compassion knows no bounds.

*Hymn Come to the Table (See Insert)

The soloist will sing first through verse 1, then all are welcome to join for verses 1 and 2.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

God of our salvation, you call us to see and welcome each other. Your steadfast love invites us to come to your table and know your way of forgiveness and mercy.

Yet, we struggle to see how your compassion makes a difference in our world. We see the brokenness and pain all around us, and we're overwhelmed by the injustices in this world. We pray for renewed energy and bigger imaginations. Help us to dream new dreams of how to live as your people together.

Have compassion for us, O God. Hear us as we name to you the ways that we have not loved you, our neighbors, or ourselves. Tune our hearts, minds, strength, and souls to your compassion...

(Time for silent prayer.)

Assurance of Pardon

Let us proclaim the Good News together: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Thanks be to God.

*Response #582

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. World without end, without end. Amen. (sing 3x) As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen. *Copyright Paul M. Vasile, used by permission*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

O God, we give thanks to you for bringing us together. Your ancient words still bring joy to our hearts. May your Holy Spirit shape our minds to love you and our neighbors. In Christ's name, Amen.

Scripture Lesson Leviticus 25 From Compassion Camp VBS

The people of Israel journeyed through the vast wilderness for many years. Finally, they arrived at Mt. Sinai where they rested. God gave instructions to their leader, Moses, for their life together in this new land. These were the things God said:



In this land, we will practice sabbath together. This will happen not only on the seventh day but on the seventh year. For six years, we will do our regular work and plant seeds, we'll grow, prune and harvest fruits. But, in the seventh year, we'll let the land rest. Even the land needs peace and quiet. Everyone will be able to harvest and eat whatever the land gives us in that seventh year.

In the fiftieth year, we will celebrate Jubilee together. This will be like the sabbath every seven years, where we'll let the land rest. It will be a fresh start for the whole community: the land and the people, and everyone will go to their own homes and be together in joy. It is a holy time, and we will be fed and nourished by whatever the land gives us.

In this time we will respond with justice by giving fresh starts. This means that we will be fair and honest to one another. We will take care of those who are sick, alone, old, or need help. We will welcome people who are from different countries, and they will be like family. We will work for people's freedom.

We will all work together to help everyone rest and rejoice in God's abundance. I will bless the land during this year so you do not have to work the land. I promise we will all be fed and nourished by the land's gifts.

This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Conversation with Children

Sermon

"Compassion Camp: With the World"

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory

Close to Thee Bethany Faiz - Piano arr. Lloyd Larson

*Response #607 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore. Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

*Prayer of Dedication

Joyful Spirit, your loving hands are always creating freedom, seeking release, and offering fresh starts! Open us to humbly receive your loving care. Help us to care for all living things with gentleness and compassion. Make our hearts smile and our actions sing with your promise of abundance toward the whole word. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

GO IN GOD'S NAME

*Hymn

Compassion Prayer (See Insert)

The soloist will sing through the song first, then all are welcome to join in.

*Charge and Benediction Steeple Bell

Postlude

O Worship the King Bethany Faiz - Piano

arr. Joel Raney

Please remain seated through the Postlude. As you exit, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door.

Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Scott Selheimer Counters: Chris Fagles & Barbara Whisman Ushers: The Shaw Family

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:Arthur A. Menard Sr.Elaine E. Sullivan1920-19731928-2011

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CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Nursery Care and Sunday School are on hiatus over the summer. Children are welcome to remain in the Meeting House during worship. (Worship bags and children's bulletins are available in the Narthex.) If families need to step out during worship, a "pray ground" and livestream are available in the Fellowship Hall.



SUNDAY MORNING LEADERSHIP

We are in need of **ushers** and **worship leaders** in the coming months. Take a moment to sign up today!

COMPASSION CAMP VBS WRAP-UP

Many thanks to all our participants and volunteers for a wonderful VBS last Sunday! We learned, we sang, we played, and we rejoiced together in God's compassion. We raised over \$475 for our compassion project: the Ronald McDonald House of Delaware. There's still time to donate via cash or check to NCPC with a note that it's for the VBS offering. *Come celebrate with us!*

SYMPATHY OF THE CONGREGATION - DENISON

The sympathy of the congregation surrounds the loved ones of Beverly Denison, who died to this life at the age of 80, on June 27. Bev married her husband, Rod, at NCPC in 2011, and she joined our congregation in 2012. Following a 10 a.m. visitation, a Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held on August 5 at 11 a.m. in the Meeting House.

NCPC SUMMER BOOK STUDY

Help us wrap up this past year's theme of storytelling and dive into deeper discussion of what evangelism (sharing of the good news) looks like today! Check out Yaconelli's <u>Between the Listening and the Telling</u>* this summer, and join Pastor Miriam for discussion and lunch at noon on Thursday, August 24, at Connie Reese's house. All are welcome! Please RSVP to Pastor Miriam by August 20. *Copies are available through the library.

LGBTQIA+ TASK FORCE

While June is formally the month of Pride, our call to love all of God's children is year-long! Members of New Castle Presbytery are organizing a "Covenant Conversation" event to support the people and congregations of our presbytery as we seek to become more authentic and creative in our welcome, affirmation and support of LGBTQIA+ people. The date has been set for Saturday, November 11, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at The Presbyterian Church of Dover. If you are interested in being a part of planning for the event or wish to learn more about participating, please contact the <u>office</u>.

FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH - FALL RETREAT 2023

Come enjoy and worship in God's beautiful creation with NCPC at <u>Pecometh Camp</u> from Friday, September 22 through Sunday, September 24. (Join us for part of the time or the whole weekend; read the brochure for more details!) Congregational Life has reserved space for tent camping, a pavilion for group meals, and worship space for Sunday morning. Cabins and nearby hotels are available for personal reservation too! RSVP ASAP by filling out this form: https://forms.gle/ywMXhBo9fqeDnvH97.

SEAMAN'S CENTER – CHRISTMAS IN JULY

For those of us who love a good off-season bargain, it's never too early to be shopping for the Seamen's Center Christmas at Sea! Hats, glove, scarves and socks are always needed and personal items for the ditty boxes like combs, toothbrushes, deodorant, lotion, shaving cream, etc. can be dropped off in the box in the CE entryway any time.

MENTORING THIS FALL – A CHILD NEEDS YOU

Our mentoring program with local schools was put on hold during the pandemic, but we're gearing up to get started again this fall. Creative Mentoring provides the needed training for you to make a difference in a child's life. Mentoring involves only half an hour to an hour once a week with a child who may be in need of only a caring adult to listen, play games, talk to or help with school work or organizational skills. This is not tutoring, it's more of an opportunity for a child to connect with a caring adult. If you are interested in becoming a mentor, email Candy Dunson - ddunson2@aol.com.

JOIN A NCPC COMMITTEE THIS FALL

NCPC's Session has five committees – Christian Education, Congregational Life, Mission and Outreach, Resource Development, and Worship. They consist of Elders and congregational volunteers who oversee much of our church's ministry. Reach out to Clerk of Session Scott Selheimer or Pastor Miriam to learn more and connect with a committee chair!

Prayer List:

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook, 302-328-7346 suzieflook@hotmail.com

Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals:

Joan Smith

Rod Denison Kent General

Room 3512

Kentmere Rehab & HC 1900 Lovering Avenue Wilmington, DE 19806

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham 323 Oregon Avenue New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 324-9944

Mary Duncan

1323 Richard's Alley Wilmington, DE 19806 (302) 888-0282

Robert Lindfors

202 Brylgon Ave. New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-5369

On Assignment with the Coast Guard: George Spock (Deployed to Bahrain, address coming soon) On Assignment with the Air Force: James Boyle 1150 Bole Street, Unit 54 JBPHH, HI 96860

Anita Johnson

640 S. State Street Dover, DE 19901

Cokesbury HealthCare Rm 2006 726 Loveville Road, Hockessin, DE 19707

Linda Twyford New Castle Nursing & Rehab 32 Buena Vista Dr, New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-2580

Janet Reed

106 Colesbery Drive New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-6749

Judy Hentkowski

128 E. 2nd Street New Castle, DE 19720 (302) 328-8266

This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	07/23	10:30am 11:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship Sidewalk Coffee Hour
Saturday	07/29	8:00am	Tai Chi
SUNDAY	07/30	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship Guest Preacher Bill Hathaway
		11:30am	Sidewalk Coffee Hour

Pastor Miriam will be on vacation Monday, July 24 – July 31. If in need of pastoral care, contact the Church Office or Deacon Moderator Sandy Wilson.

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Rew Castle Presbyterian Church 25 E. 2nd Street New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279

Fax: (302) 328-5670

E-mail: office@newcastlepreschurch.org Pastor E-mail: pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org

Website: www.newcastlepreschurch.org

Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor

Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music **Dan Knox, Treasurer** Shirley Knox, Recording Secretary

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells **Bethany Faiz, Accompanist**

SESSION

2023	2024	2025			
Candy Dunson	Rob Barry	Melissa Boris			
Steve Martin	Chris Fagles	Jennifer Dunham			
Beverly Stoudt	Greg Fogarty	Connie Reese			
Jim Whisman	Scott Selheimer				

Session meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

DEACONS

2023	2024	2025			
Lindy Ballance	Susan Fogarty	Toni Marley			
Liz Toto	Julia Spock	Janet Spring			
Conchita Showell	Sandy Wilson				

Deacons meet the 2^{nd} Sunday of the month (except in April it will be April 2)

TRUSTEES					
2023	2024	2025			
Dan Dunson	Lyn Briggs	Marshall Freund			
Mary Fontinha	Gary Graham	Mike Smith			
Gail Seitz	Barbara Whisman				

Trustees meet the 3rd Monday every other month (Sept/Nov/Jan/Mar/May)





