

New Castle Presbyterian News

September 2020



In 2020, our vocabulary about worship has changed! Worship services can now be described as livestreaming, pre-recorded, downloadable, and available online. While the setting of worship has changed, what we understand about worship has not. We might include prayers of thanksgiving for our smart devices and internet provider, but our focus is on something higher. Wherever and whenever we gather for worship, we glorify the God who is present and active among us.

As we transition to livestream worship on September 13, we remain distanced for now.

Worship leaders will be present on Sunday mornings in the Meeting House to lead us in prayer, musical praise, and reflection on the Word, but our space won't be open for a congregation to gather just yet. As we take this initial step towards returning, we hope that you will join us in worship via the YouTube livestream on Sundays at 10:30.

In early September, the link will be shared via email, our website, and Facebook, but begin to think now about how you can set a worshipful space at home. Pull out a candle to light, as a reminder of the Holy Spirit. Set out a bowl of water, as a reminder of our baptism. Open up a Bible on the table, to follow along with our Scripture reading. These details will hopefully help you focus not on the device in front of you, but on the One whom we have gathered to praise and petition. Come let us worship God, who speaks through burning bushes and smart devices!

In the joy of Christ,
Pastor Miriam

THANK YOU, THANK YOU!

Many thanks to our videographer, Jordan Hill, who filmed, compiled, and edited our home worship videos from March 22 to August 30! Jordan is a 2020 graduate of Muhlenberg College with majors in theatre and media communications, and the NCPC worship committee offered him his first job out of college. As Miriam's cousin, you'll likely see Jordan around NCPC in the future, so be sure to give him a round of applause!



PICNIC WITH THE PASTOR AND NCPC FRIENDS!

From 6-7 on Wednesdays in September, Pastor Miriam will be hosting picnic dinners for groups of 8 people. To participate in the gatherings, please sign up in advance by contacting Pastor Miriam or through Sign Up Genius

- <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e084aa8af23a4ff2-picnic>

It is a Bring Your Own Everything event (chair, mask, food, drink, etc.), though we'll provide the fellowship together! Learn more about the gatherings through the above link.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY WITH THE PASTOR

This Fall, we'll gather on Wednesdays at 1 p.m. via zoom to explore some of the shorter books of the Bible together, including the books of Jonah, Esther, James and Ruth! We'll begin with Jonah 1 on September 2. Email Pastor Miriam if you'd like to receive the Zoom link!



ZOOM, ZOOM, ZOOM! SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are coming back to Sunday school, but with a slight twist this year! The Sunday school class will be practicing our social distancing skills just a little while longer as we work together to keep each other safe and healthy! Even though we can't meet in person, that doesn't mean the fun stops, we will be gathering together through ZOOM **every other Sunday. For the month of September, we will be meeting on** Sunday, September 13 and 27 from 11:30-12!

We look forward to virtually exploring God's word through lessons, scripture and activities! We will still be collecting donations for the "Gifts of Love" program. The gifts we will be collecting throughout the autumn months are peanut butter and jelly. We will also be collecting underwear for the Undie-Sunday clothing drive! All items can be brought to the Christian Education building.

We are all on this adventure together - virtually or in person- to navigate through the Bible and uncover all of the wonderful lessons that God has in store for us! We are blessed to have such a growing group of young members here at New Castle Presbyterian Church. We miss you all, but in the meantime we are patiently waiting for when we can safely worship together soon!

- Diana Reilly

CHURCH DIRECTORY

The Church Directory is being updated for print. Please review your information and if there is anything that has changed, etc., new email, new phone numbers please contact the office at office@newcastlepreschurch.org or phone 302-328-3279. I will be printing the copies for distribution in October. The Directory is also available on our website at www.newcastlepreschurch.org Thanks!



- Kris Krawczyk

ORDINATION/INSTALLATION OF CHURCH OFFICERS

On Sunday September 6, we will ordain and install those called by God and the voice of this congregation to lead and serve in the following ways:

Elders: Candy Dunson, Janet Spring, Beverly Stoudt, Jo Viola, and Jim Whisman

Deacons: Lindy Ballance* and Kare Smith*

*to be ordained

We will also affirm the leadership of these trustees as they begin their term.

Trustees: Dan Dunson, Mary Fontinha and Gail Seitz

AND WE THANK FOR THEIR SERVICE...

These faithful church officers whose terms of service have concluded:

Elders: Monty Gerhart, Sarah McCann and Diana Reilly

Deacons: Jennifer Dunham and Sandy Wilson

Trustees: Lyn Briggs, Rachel Briggs and Carol Mayhew

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CHOIR LOFT

Beginning September 13, we will be live streaming our worship services. Live streaming offers us the opportunity to include some special music during worship. Special music will include solos, 2-4 persons singing or ringing, and instrumental solos all socially distanced. Although live streaming our worship services certainly is not normal as we have known it, I am excited for this music opportunity during these uncertain times. I continue to hope and pray that all of you remain safe and healthy.



Blessings,

Eileen Larkin, Music Director

NEW CASTLE PRESBYTERY

New Castle Presbytery meets September 22, 4:00pm via Zoom. Elders Jim Whisman and Candy Dunson will attend as our commissioners.

Keep up with Presbytery happenings by subscribing to their newsletter, "Midweek Musings" @ <https://www.ncpresbytery.org/resources/midweekindex/>

PHISHING SCAMS

Please be aware that no one from the church will be emailing, texting or calling you to ask you to purchase gift cards. If it seems fishy it probably is. Also if you are new or even a seasoned Facebook user, do not accept friend requests from individuals until you check their profile. If they only have a few photos and they were just recently added they are probably fake. If they are posing as someone you know report it as a scam.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS

This year is our 20th Annual Spirit of Christmas Celebration! Although we will not be able to welcome people to gather with us to celebrate this milestone, we are working on a way to adapt this tradition 2020 style and continue to support Friendship House.

GIFTS OF LOVE – FOOD DRIVE

Thanks to everyone who donated items for yesterday's Food Drive! We filled up two cars and restocked the shelves at St Peter's Food Pantry.

If you have items you would still like to drop off or would like to make a financial contribution to Gifts of Love, our church office is open each weekday morning.

He put before them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

- Matthew 13



GIFTS OF LOVE – DELMARVA ASSISTANCE

We are still accepting cash donations for our Gifts of Love which goes to assisting individuals with their utility bills.

We regularly offer \$50 gifts of assistance, sharing 6 gifts each month. Through special generosity this summer, we've given 10 gifts each month, being able to assist 50 families since April. Your giving directly helps folks in need at this time!

Annual Friendship House Clothing Drive with a (Covid) Twist:

Due to the Covid-19 virus, Friendship House Clothing Bank is focusing their clothing needs in two directions:

New underwear and school uniforms.

New underwear in all sizes is always needed (but no socks).

They are also in need of *khaki and navy pants; short and long sleeve polo shirts in light blue, navy & white!* Sizes especially needed are 5t to youth 14. New uniforms are currently on sale at **Old Navy!** Donations to purchase new uniforms are also welcome. Many schools are starting out the year virtually but will need new or gently used school clothes for students needing uniforms once in-person classes resume.

During the month of September, we'd like to shift our usual used clothing drive to help Friendship House meet its most urgent needs. So get ready for another Undie Sunday!! On Sunday, September 27, we'll hold another fun drive-by drop off for Friendship House Clothing Bank donations. Modeled after our successful Food Bank drive of late August, members of the Mission and Outreach Committee (along with anyone just wanting to socialize for a day out!) will be in front of the church from 12 noon to 1:00 p.m. Drive by or bring a chair, sit and chat, drop off your donations and enjoy some socially distanced time together.

If you can't make that Sunday, the church office is open every morning to drop donations off. Put on your best undies and join us!!!

Here is How You Can Help Asylum Seekers

JUST TO LET EVERYONE KNOW....MAC (Matthew 25 Action Committee) has been doggedly looking for ways to help asylum seekers who have come to the US fleeing violence in fear for their lives, and consequently they have been confined in detention centers while awaiting immigration hearings.

We are excited now to have partnered with Parish Resource Center in Lancaster PA. PRC has been a tireless advocate for those detainees, arranging bail money for their release and then providing resettlement resources, helping them get to their host families once released from York County Detention Center.

Because asylum seekers leave the prison with no possessions and sometimes have lengthy bus travel to get to their destination, MAC is asking for everyone's **help to provide asylum seekers with travel necessities in backpacks.**

A wish list is available on Amazon (<https://amzn.to/3ii5Dak>). We've linked to Amazon Smile and have designated PRC as the beneficiary. A charitable donation portion of the purchase price goes to PRC along with the items.

Please send your items to:

Parish Resource Center, 2160 Lincoln Hwy East, Suite 18, Lancaster, PA 17602.

Here's an example of the work done by PRC: (pre-Covid) R. was granted asylum and had a church lined up to help resettle him! But his bus didn't leave until the next day and he had nowhere to stay overnight. His lawyer contacted PRC for help. Within two hours, PRC found a host for the night and a driver to provide transportation, as well as providing a Travel Kit. (R. had been released with no money, no phone, no food, and only the warm-weather clothing he was wearing. Now it was winter!) The Travel Kit included a coat for the cold weather, a clean change of clothes, new socks and underwear, and basic hygiene items. It also included a water bottle, snacks, a notebook with emergency phone numbers, and cash to buy meals on his multi-day bus trip.

Travel Kit (all new items):

- 1 backpack (no kids' backpacks)
- 1 toothbrush (in original, single packaging)
- 1 small or travel size toothpaste
- 1 ziplock bag for toothbrush and toothpaste
- 1 small notebook and 1 pen
- 1 small package of pre-moistened wipes (for sink baths)
- Face masks
- Hand sanitizer
- 1 small or travel size deodorant
- 1 comb
- 1 water bottle (new, unopened)
- 1 pair of socks (men's crew socks, medium or large)
- Suggested donation of \$40 per kit to cover additional items



Marti Yates, MAC committee member and writer of this article.

Terry Dykstra - 302-731-1999 (terrydykstra@gmail.com).

Mark Olson 302-897-7166 (molson6982@gmail.com)

September Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mary Cottrell, 9/2
 Candace Dunson, 9/3
 Elizabeth Carpenter, 9/5
 Christine Fagles, 9/5
 Scott Matthews, 9/12
 C. J. Seitz, 9/14
 Connie Reese, 9/17
 Aaron Spock, 9/17



Danika Teller, 9/18
 Mark Powell, 9/23
 Sandra Balance, 9/26
 Madeline Cooney, 9/26
 Susan Witt, 9/27
 Zachary Dobson, 9/29
 Anita Johnson, 9/29



Corky & Jo Viola, 9/11
 Julia & George Spock, 9/21
 Mariellen Boyle-Edinburg & Adam Edinburg, 9/21
 Linda & Douglas Twyford, 9/24



Meals on Wheels

HELP! We need Meals on Wheels delivery people for 2020. 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 31- September 4. 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 31

Jo Viola
 Jude Morrow

Tuesday 1

Joan Smith
 Miranda Matthews

Wednesday 2

Jim & Karen
 Beatson

Thursday 3

Cynthia Robbins
 Nanette Nichol

Friday 4

Susan & Jim
 Flook

Monthly Report

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

Membership:

July	153
August	153

Income thru 08/02/20:

2020 Budget:	\$165,805.00
2020 Actual:.....	\$154,611.00

Expenses thru 08/02/20:

2020 Budget:	\$152,431.00
2020 Actual:.....	\$136,672.00



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

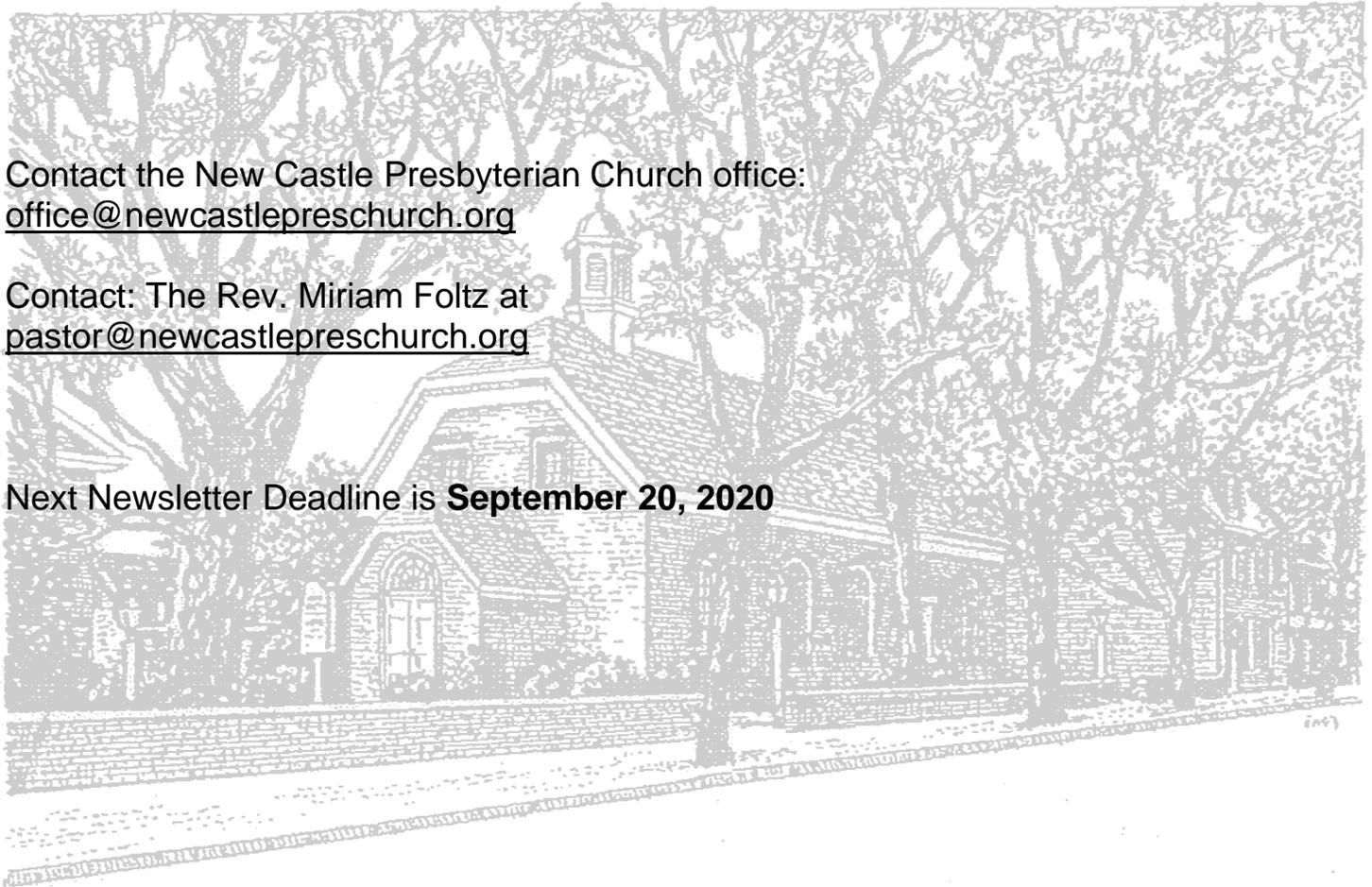


Address Change
Requested

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

Contact: The Rev. Miriam Foltz at
pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org

Next Newsletter Deadline is **September 20, 2020**



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