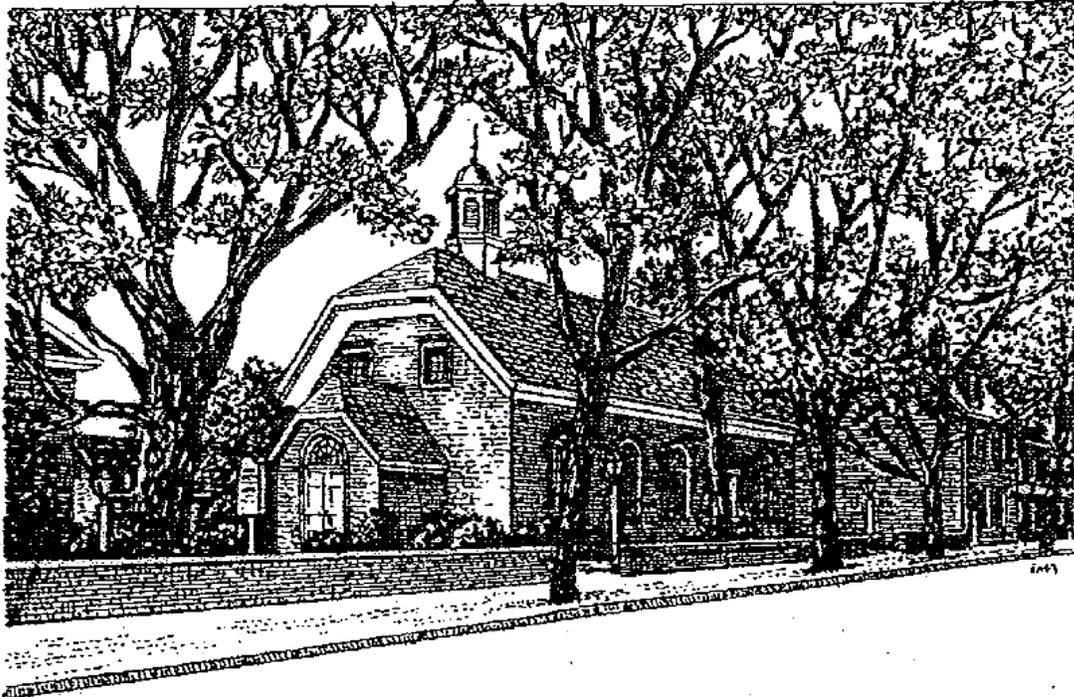


New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

Phone: (302) 328-3279 | Email: office@newcastlepreschurch.org

www.newcastlepreschurch.org



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

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,

Please take basic COVID precautions with us. Masks are required during the whole service, and we ask that you maintain space between yourself and your neighbors.

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

Children are always welcome in worship! If your family needs to step out of the Meeting House for a time, there is a livestream feed available in the Fellowship Hall and a volunteer present to assist you.

Worship Bags are available for children at the back of the Meeting House.

At the end of worship, please exit the building by the Second Street door and gather for fellowship outside.

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

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

Gentle Reminders:

Please turn off all cell phones.

Parking spaces on Second Street in front of the Meeting House are for handicapped parking only.

Please put your bulletins in the basket 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.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, though we are in awe of the dawn of your light in Jesus Christ, we remain self-centered and cling to the sin of the world. We celebrate the birth of our savior, yet we struggle in our commitment to follow him. We are called to pursue justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you; yet we are content to seek our own comfort and conveniently ignore the cries of those in need.

By the light of the Christ child, lead us on a path of goodness and righteousness, as we seek to love all of your bountiful creation...

(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 #155 Raise a Song of Gladness (sung twice)

D G A D G A (*chords continue*)



Raise a song of glad-ness, peo-ples of the earth.
Ju - bi - la - te De - o om - nis ter - ra.



Christ has come, bring-ing peace, joy to ev - ery heart.
Ser - vi - te Do - mi - no in lae - ti - ti - a.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, joy to ev - ery heart!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, in lae - ti - ti - a!

**May be sung as a canon.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Almighty God, source of all light, by your Word you give light to the soul. Pour upon us your spirit of wisdom and understanding, that we may respond to your gracious promises with faithfulness, through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Hymn #144 v. 1 and 4

In the Bleak Midwinter

Scripture Conversation with Children

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2:1-20

Page: NT 58

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ²This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

⁸In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. ¹⁰But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. ¹²This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Hymn #123 v. 1 and 5

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

A Christmas Reflection

Extra Yarn by Barnett/Klassen

Hymn #147 v. 1 and 6

The First Nowell

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Anthem I Wonder As I Wander

arr. by Amy Shimmin and Cheryl Duncan Cunningham

Amy Shimmin – Flute

Eileen Larkin - Piano

***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**

Good and gracious God, into a realm of clerics and kings you sent your child to teach the wise and show the world what power there is in love. As we return these gifts to you for the care of your creation, keep us vigilant to hear the voices of those who speak your truth. In the name of Jesus we pray, 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 #134** Joy to the World

***Charge and Benediction**

Steeple Bell

Postlude

Tambourin

Francois Joseph Gossee

Amy Shimmin - Flute

Eileen Larkin – Piano

Michael Larkin - Guest Organist for the Hymns

Please remain seated through the Postlude. As you exit the 2nd Street door, you may recycle your bulletin in the basket at the door. Join us after worship for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Thank you for serving today:

Worship Leader: Carol Mayhew
Ushers: Jennifer Dunham & Melissa Boris
Counters: Gail Seitz & Lyn Briggs
Fellowship Hour: Gary Graham

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Samuel M. Couper
1804-1886

Morrial G. Thornton, Jr.
1926-1991



SIGN UP TO BE AN USHER OR WORSHIP LEADER

We are in need of ushers and worship leaders starting next Sunday! Please sign up today: <https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups>

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS WRAP-UP

Through our Spirit of Christmas efforts, we raised over \$5900 for Friendship House! Many thanks to everyone for making our 21st Spirit of Christmas a success. In January, Congregational Life will host a zoom conversation to wrap up this year's event and begin planning for December 10, 2022!

THE SEASON OF CHRISTMAS CONTINUES

Christmas is a season in the church calendar! Join us on Sunday, January 2, as we celebrate the Second Sunday of Christmas and welcome Rourke Moore into the pulpit. Pastor Miriam returns to the pulpit on January 9 as we shift gears and celebrate the Baptism of the Lord Sunday with the Sacrament of Communion.

GIFTS OF LOVE COLLECTION – JANUARY 9

On quarterly Communion Sundays in 2022, the Deacons are coordinating collections for Gifts of Love financial assistance. Keep an eye out for the white Gifts of Love donation envelopes in the pews or in your bulletins on Sunday, Jan. 9. Cash or checks (memo line: Gifts of Love) are accepted!

We will direct our collection to the St. Peter's Food Pantry, whose electric assistance program provides additional counseling resources to our neighbors in need. As in past years, our annual goal is to support 72 families with their Delmarva electric bills (totaling \$3600 in assistance gifts)! Make a contribution on or around January 9, and help us warm our neighbors' hearts and homes!

BIBLE STUDY RESUMES – JANUARY 13

We have concluded our Advent Unbound series, and we hope you enjoyed the rich poetic offerings during this season of expectation. We'll resume our zoom study on Thursday, January 13, at 1 p.m. with conversations on the upcoming Sunday's scriptures. Stay tuned for our Lenten devotional theme!

COFFEE HOUR CONVERSATION on Jan 16 + 23: The Lost Art of Dying

If you'd like to do a little homework over the holidays, read *The Lost Art of Dying* by Lydia S. Dugdale. An Episcopalian doctor, her work explores the historical "ars moriendi", but also how our views on modern medicine, dying, and death impact our ability to live well. Her work is an invitation to live with joy, especially as we remember Paul's wisdom from Romans 14 - in life and in death, we belong to God. Both Sundays will be part resource sharing and part conversation. On Jan. 16, we'll focus on how we live with our mortality and prepare for death; on Jan. 23, we'll focus on how we carry our grief in the face of death. "The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit." - Psalm 34:18

FAMILY PAINT NIGHT ON JANUARY 30 FROM 3-5

Families are invited to join Ms. Diana and the CE Committee on Sunday, Jan. 30 from 3-5 in the Fellowship Hall for a family paint night. All ages are welcome. Art supplies will be provided; please RSVP to office@newcastlepreschurch.org by Monday, Jan 24.

MISSION & OUTREACH COMMITTEE NEWS

The end of the year is always a busy one for our committee. Since Thanksgiving, we have donated 30 food baskets to the three elementary schools in our neighborhood, \$400 to the Carrie Downie Adopt-A-Family program, \$300 for the purchase of a cow for the Guatemala Project and \$1000 to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance for help in Kentucky and other areas of the mid-west who have suffered in the recent tornado outbreak. This is your money going to help those in need locally, nationally and internationally. Thank you for the opportunity to further God's mission in our world.

THANK YOU FROM PASTOR MIRIAM

Thank you to all who contributed to the gift for the pastor. In this season of generosity, I'm amazed at all the ways that this congregation loves and supports its pastor and staff! It's a joy to serve Christ alongside each of you, and I look forward to another year of ministry together. Because of the abundance of your gift, I will be making a contribution to the Gifts of Love fund that we may witness together to God's generous gift of Christ! - In Christ's joy, Pastor Miriam

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

Kentmere Rehab & Healthcare
1900 Lovering Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19806

Linda Twyford

Christiana Care Rehab
501 W. 14th Street, Rm 6W24
Wilmington, DE 19801

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham

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

Barbara Quillen

Cokesbury
HealthCare Rm 2010
726 Loveville Road
Hockessin, DE 19707

Anita Johnson

726 Loveville Road,
Apartment 703
Hockessin, DE 19707
(302) 239-5139

Mary Pratt

113 E. Main St., Unit 311
Newark, DE 19711
(302) 328-7273

Doug Twyford

513 East Roosevelt Ave.
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 530-1123

Judy Hentkowski

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

Lisa Raker

15 Blue Jay Drive
Newark, DE 19713
(302) 266-7474

Kay Fry

2105 Point Hamlet Street
Newark, DE 19702
(302) 750-4325

Janet Reed

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

Mary Duncan

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

BEST WISHES TO OUR COAST GUARD RECRUIT

SR Spock, George
Recruit Training Company M201
USCG Training Center
1 Munro Avenue
Cape May, NJ 08204-5083



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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

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells

Shirley Knox, Recording Secretary

Bethany Faiz, Accompanist

SESSION

2022	2023	2024
Kim Beebe	Candy Dunson	Rob Barry
Melissa Boris	Steve Martin	Chris Fagles
Connie Reese	Beverly Stoudt	Greg Fogarty
Ray Snyder	Jim Whisman	Scott Selheimer

Session meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month

DEACONS

2022	2023	2024
Connie Bell	Lindy Ballance	Salina Brett
Jane Fouracre	Liz Parziale	Susan Fogarty
Nanette Nichol	Conchita Showell	Sandy Wilson

Deacons meets the 2nd Sunday of the month

TRUSTEES

2022	2023	2024
Steve Handy	Dan Dunson	Lyn Briggs
Joan Lioi	Mary Fontinha	Gary Graham
Peter McCurdy	Gail Seitz	Barbara Whisman

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