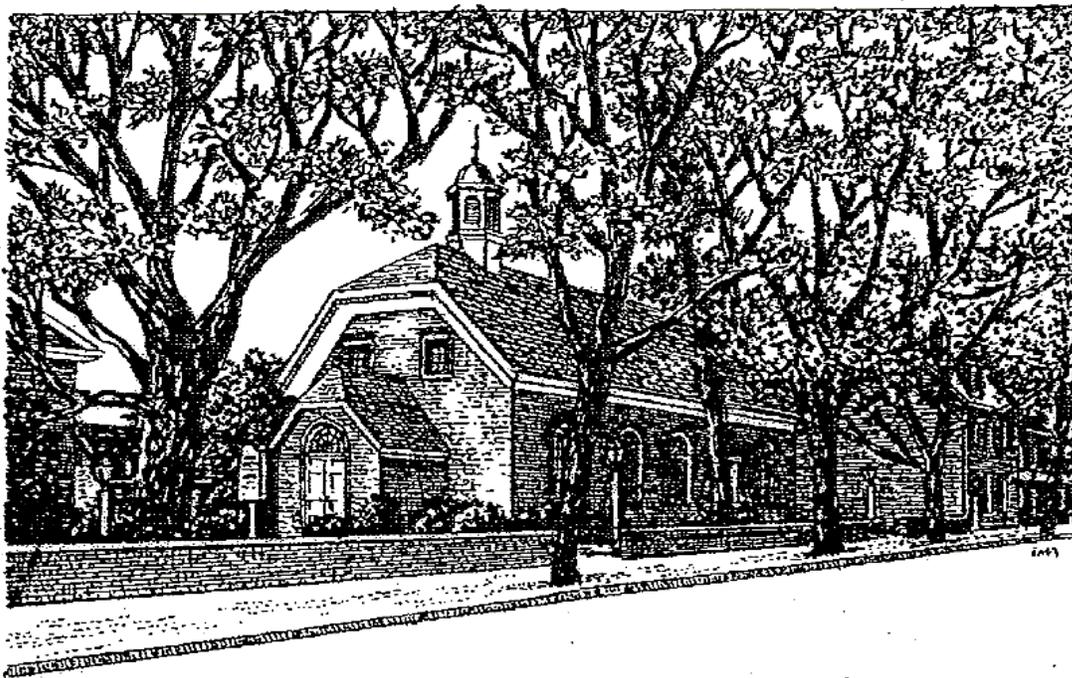


New Castle Presbyterian Church

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 encouraged but not required in the Meeting House and Education building.

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

Children are always welcome in worship! Worship Bags are available for children 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 available in the Fellowship Hall. Nursery and Sunday School will resume on January 8.

At the end of worship, please join us for Coffee Hour in the Fellowship Hall.

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.

**New Castle Presbyterian Church
First Sunday of Christmas**

January 1, 2023

10:30 a.m.

GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten arr. by Michael Larkin
Michael Larkin - Organ

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

Praise God, all you peoples!

With the angels and hosts, we praise you!

With the sun and moon, we praise you!

With the fire and hail, we praise you!

With the frost and snow, we praise you!

With the mountains and valleys, we praise you!

With the skies and the seas, we praise you!

All creation praises you, O God!

***Hymn #152**

What Star Is This, With Beams So Bright

Capo 2: (C) (Am) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G) (C) (F)
 D Bm A D G D A D G

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more
 2 'Tis now ful - filled what God de - creed, "From
 3 While out - ward signs the star dis - plays, an
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im -

(C) (G) (C) (F) (C) (G)
 D A D G D A

love - ly than the noon - day light? 'Tis
 Ja - cob shall a star pro - ceed;" and
 in - ward light the Lord con - veys and
 pels us on to seek your face, let

(Am) (D7) (G) (C) (F) (C) (Dm)
 Bm E7 A D G D Em

sent to an - nounce a new - born king, glad
 lo! the east - ern sa - ges stand to
 urg - es them, with ten - der might, to
 not our sloth - ful hearts re - fuse the

(G) (C) (G) (C) (F) (G) (C)
 A D A D G A D

ti - dings of our God to bring.
 read in heaven the Lord's com - mand.
 seek the giv - er of the light.
 guid - ance of your light to use.

This 18th-century Latin text calls attention to three kinds of light: the light of the star leading the Magi to the Christ-child, the inward light inspiring their journey, and Christ who is the Light of the world. The simple unison melody unites everything in a gentle arc.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Ever-present God, you became our Savior in all our distress.

**In all the ways we hurt and in all the ways we hurt others,
in all the ways we feel neglected and in all the ways we neglect others,
you are with us, comforting us and holding us to account.**

**In your love, redeem us once again. Lift us up, as you have throughout
the generations. In your mercy, grant us new life..**

(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**

Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.

Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Anthem

I Wonder As I Wander arr. by Michael Larkin
Michael Larkin – Soloist
Eileen Larkin - Piano

Prayer for Illumination

Maker of the universe, all creation sings your praise. We come to you this day with our joys and sorrows, our victories and struggles, our minds and souls. Send your Holy Spirit and speak your Living Word, that Christ would be born in our hearts this day. Amen.

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 2:13-23

Page: NT 2

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. ¹⁷ Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled:

¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazarene.”

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

Blessing of Departing Member – Salina Brett & Marshella Hovenier
Blessing

God has blessed you and made you a blessing in our life together. We will miss you but rejoice that we remain part of one body and continue to share in Christ's ministry. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

Scripture Conversation with Children

Sermon *“New Year Ahead - Expect Changes”*

GIVE THANKS TO GOD

Offerings of Tithes and Gifts

Offertory Infant Holy Infant Lowly arr. by Michael Larkin
 Michael Larkin – Organ

***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**

Almighty God, you wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature. We thank you for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ, and for the gift of another new year. May our offerings spread new hope and possibilities to your creation, and may our whole lives be gifts of praise to you, God of love and peace. 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 #137

He Came Down

He came down that we may have love; he
came down that we may have love; he came down that we may
have love; hal-le-lu-jah for-ev-er-more.
Leader: Why did he come?

Additional stanzas:

- ... that we may have light
- ... that we may have peace
- ... that we may have joy

Because this traditional Cameroon piece begins with the refrain, it does not initially reveal that it is cast as a call-and-response song. Assigning the answers to the congregation rather than to the leader is a notable affirmation of the corporate wisdom of God's people.

***Charge and Benediction**

Steeple Bell Postlude

Improvisation On O Come All Ye Faithful arr. by Michael Larkin
Michael Larkin - Organ

*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: Carol Mayhew
Ushers: Gail & C.J. Seitz
Nursery: No Nursery

Counters: Jenn Dunham/Lyn Briggs
Coffee Hour: Connie & Laurie Bell
Sunday School: See you Next Week!

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

Pauline Steele Appleby
1901-1981

Charles Matthews
1919-2002



WELCOME & FAREWELL

Salina Brett is a member of New Castle Presbyterian Church and speaks regularly at Church on Main, in Middletown, DE. She and her fiancée, Marshella Hovenier, currently reside in Laurel, DE with their two dogs, Jasper and Lily, and hedgehog, Rosie. However, they will be moving to Winslow, Maine on Jan 6th. Salina will dearly miss her friends here, but is excited to start her next chapter in life as a writer and speaker. She's grateful and thrilled to have one more time to explore God's word from the pulpit of her home church.

SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING

We are in need of ushers and worship leaders in the coming weeks.

Please sign up today: <https://www.newcastlepreschurch.org/on-line-signups>



NURSERY AND SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATES



Sunday School and Nursery will not be offered today; we will resume during worship on Sunday, January 8.

As we begin a new year, volunteers are needed through the coming months. Please contact:

For Sunday School: Diana Kenis-Reilly – dckr0680@gmail.com

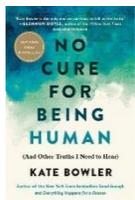
For Nursery: Molly Shaw – mollypaige1@aol.com

GIFTS OF LOVE

Thanks to everyone who gave a Gift of Love this year! Our goal was to provide \$3,600 in emergency financial assistance to our neighbors in need, and we have exceeded that goal for 2022, giving just over \$4000 to St Vincent De Paul at St Peter's Church! We pray that our neighbors' days will be merry and bright this Christmas season.



JANUARY 15 BOOK DISCUSSION



Kate Bowler has a recent book called [*No Cure for Being Human \(and Other Truths I Need to Hear\)*](#). Start reading now and join us after worship on January 15 for a time of conversation and resource sharing as we all acknowledge - there's no cure for being human, but in life and in death, we belong to God!

LGBTQIA+ TASK FORCE



Every June during Pride month we decorate the walkway with the rainbow flags as an outward sign of our support and love for the broader LGBTQIA+ community, but there is still so much more we can do throughout the year! We would love for you to join us in creating new events, reaching out to our friends in the community; and becoming a part of this fun, yet important ministry! *If you are interested in being a part of the LGBTQIA+ Task Force please contact Salina Brett or Diana Reilly.*

SOUPS, STEWS AND STORIES

On Sunday, January 29, during Coffee Hour, we'll gather for a soup-stravaganza and "Word to Word Workshop" with Sharon Moore. Sign up in the Fellowship Hall to bring a crockpot of soup or stew and compete for illustrious prizes as coordinated by Congregational Life. Plan to stay from 12 to 1:15 as storyteller Sharon Moore prompts us to begin writing our own stories.

¡VAMOS A GUATEMALA!

Candy and Amy travel to Guatemala with our Presbytery's delegation in later January. As they meet with our mission partners, learn about the challenges facing our Guatemalan neighbors, and see the impact of our partnership projects, keep up with their travel blog through the partnership's website: <https://ncpguatemala.com/blog/>

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS REJOICING

A resounding thank you to everyone who helped make Spirit of Christmas possible! We rejoice that the day brought joy to all of our visitors and will bring joy to our neighbors at Friendship House, especially as we raised over \$2,500 for their incredible ministry. Keep up with Friendship House throughout the year: www.friendshipousede.org

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 & HC
1900 Lovering Avenue
Wilmington, DE 19806

Barbara Quillen

Cokesbury
HealthCare Rm 2010
726 Loveville Road
Hockessin, DE 19707

Rod Denison

Christiana Care
4755 Ogletown Stanton Rd
Newark, DE 19718

At Home:

Kathy Griffin-Graham

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

Anita Johnson

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

Janet Reed

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

Mary Duncan

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

Doug & Linda Twyford

513 East Roosevelt Ave.
New Castle, DE 19720
(302) 328-6824

Judy Hentkowski

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

Bev Denison

134 Spring Meadow Dr
Smyrna, DE 19977
(302) 389-6919

Robert Lindfors

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

On Assignment with the Coast Guard:

George Spock

1346 Crocker St.
Coos Bay, OR 97420

This Week's Schedule

SUNDAY	01/01		NEW YEAR'S DAY
		10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship
		11:30am	Coffee Hour
Monday	01/02		OFFICE CLOSED
		4:00pm	Spanish Class
Wednesday	01/04	7:30pm	Choir
Thursday	01/05	7:00pm	Celebration Ringers
Saturday	01/07	8:00am	Tai Chi
		9:15am	Emmanuel Dining Room Prep
SUNDAY	01/08	10:30am	In-Person & Live Stream Worship & Communion
		10:50am	Sunday School
		11:30am	Coffee Hour

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New Castle Presbyterian Church

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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

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	Salina Brett	Toni Marley
Liz Parziale	Susan Fogarty	Janet Spring
Conchita Showell	Sandy Wilson	

Deacons meets the 2nd Sunday of the month

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)

