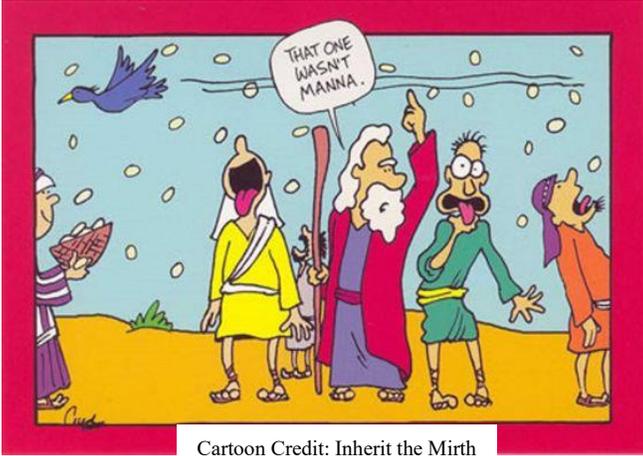


New Castle Presbyterian News

November 2020



Cartoon Credit: Inherit the Mirth

Throughout the month of November, we have many opportunities to cherish the ways that God's everyday blessings (and surprises!) bring us closer into beloved community. As we give thanks for our daily bread, for God's gifts of manna in the wilderness, I invite you to join us for these virtual and in-person gathering this month:

Join us for **All Saints Sunday on November 1**. Tune into our livestream

worship as we speak the names of those who have come before us in faith and celebrate the resurrection hope that we know in Christ. In life and in death, we belong to God!

Join us for **Pledge Sunday on November 8**. Fill out your 2021 pledge cards and s'more prayers, and after livestream worship, gather with us outside from 12 to 1 for a campfire celebration on the church grounds.

Join us for a **Thanksgiving morning coffee and walk on November 26**. As many of our traditions are cancelled or greatly altered this year, we're also shifting the way that we gather on this holiday of thanks and praise. Let's go down to the river to pray together!

Join us for **livestream Advent worship services, beginning on November 29**. Begin preparing your at-home Advent Wreath with helpful hints from the Worship Committee.

For all these NCPC happenings as well as other November mission opportunities, keep reading this newsletter for more details. Whether you mark your calendar for one or all events, I look forward to creatively gathering with you in Christ's name!

In the joy of Christ,
Pastor Miriam



***Daylight Savings begins
Sunday, November 1 at 2:00 a.m.
Don't forget to "Fall Back"***

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY CELEBRATION – NOVEMBER 1

On Sunday, November 1, we'll celebrate All Saints Sunday. As we remember the saints of God who have died to this life in the past year, we will speak aloud the names that are known to us, including members of this church and our broader community. If there are loved ones who passed in this last year whom you'd like us to name in worship, please submit their names to Pastor Miriam by Friday, October 30. In particular, we lift up to God the New Castle Presbyterian Church members who died in 2020: Vic Clark, Phoebe Dill, and Kare Smith.

2020 PLEDGE REMINDER:

Those pledges you made last fall became the basis for our 2020 budget. We remain hopeful that all will fulfill their pledges, and catch up, if need be, before year end. If you are uncertain about where you stand with your 2020 pledge, please reach out to Shirley Knox at Shirley.Knox@comcast.net or 322-0225. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

Our Stewardship Season has officially started, and we are in the middle of exploring the wilderness of God's blessings. By now, you should've received a paper campfire in the mail to use to prepare your s'more prayers as well as your 2021 pledge card.



Additional copies of the s'more prayers and pledge cards are available at the office. Join us for our virtual Stewardship Coffee Hour on November 1. Following our livestream worship, we'll gather on Zoom from 11:30am to 12pm to share information about our hopes for ministry in 2021.

On Pledge Sunday, November 8, between 12 and 1 p.m., you're invited to gather with the Resource Development Committee around a campfire outside on the church campus. Bring your pledge cards and s'more prayers, and join us for some celebratory hot chocolate or coffee while being safe and socially distanced in this wilderness season.

If you are not able to make it on November 8, you are more than welcome to return your pledge card and s'more prayers via mail.

THANK YOU

A very large thank you from the entire Krawczyk family. I was so humbled to have received your thoughtful words of sympathy after the loss of my mother-in-law Barbara Krawczyk. Along with the flowers and calls. Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!

- Kris Krawczyk

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY

Our new directory is up to date and available online through our website! Contact the office for the password. If you'd appreciate a paper copy, please contact Kris in the office to coordinate its collection.

PUMPKIN PARTY

The CE Committee is hosting a smaller but just-as-much-fun pumpkin party for church families on Saturday, October 30, from 10-11 in the church yard. Many thanks to all who will participate and help put on this event. Keep an eye out for pictures in future church communications!



SUNDAY SCHOOL

When you plant a seed in the ground, you take care of it and nurture it with the hope that it will grow some good fruit! Last month the Sunday school class learned about the Fruit of the Spirit, and how the way we live our lives can produce good fruit for all to see! The Fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, and self-control. This year may have been challenging for us, and some of these spiritual fruits may have been at the bottom of the salad bowl; but it's never too late to start planting the seeds to produce good fruit! Even though we are still not able to meet and greet in person, through creativity, patience, and the ingenious technology of Zoom; the Sunday school has been able to virtually enjoy our fellowship and go on our adventure together through God's word! The class will continue to meet every 2 weeks via Zoom until we are able to safely get back together. The Sunday school dates for the rest of the 2020 year are November 8th and 22nd, December 6th and 20th. If you know anyone who might be interested in joining the Sunday school class through Zoom, please contact Diana Reilly or the CE committee for the Zoom link.



BROWNIE BAKE-OFF EACH MONTH

Mmmm ... doesn't the aroma of warm brownies filling the kitchen fill your heart with joy this time of year? Why not bake a batch or two for the Emmanuel Dining Room? You'll get the wonderful smells on the day and wonderful "feels" for giving them away. It's a two-for-one blessing.

The brownies are just inside the door to the CE building. Bake a batch and put them in the freezer before November 6th. Thanks so much! - Salina and Zarina



THANK YOU! From “Tidy Whites” to rainbow colors, we saw it all on last month's successful “Undie Sunday” drive for Friendship House. Due to the pandemic, we switched gears this year from collecting used clothing to providing new underwear, which is always a big need. A grateful Friendship House staff sends the congregation a huge thank you for the donations we delivered in September, which are deeply appreciated. Thank you to all who contributed to make this a successful event!

SEAMEN'S CENTER DITTY BOXES Here's a new option to get the whole family involved this year -you can fill shoe boxes at home for our annual Christmas at Sea program, providing seafarers with small, essential gifts. While we're happy to accept donations at the church up until Nov. 15, **you can also fill your shoe boxes at home** with a variety of the following items, then drop the filled boxes off in the entry way of the CE Building:

Knitted hats and scarves, Toothpaste and Toothbrushes, Combs, Razors, Deodorant, Shampoo, Playing Cards, Chapstick, Cough Drops, Hand Lotion, Sewing kits, Hard Candy (no chocolate), Soap, Stationary, Pens, Warm Socks, Winter Gloves

They also need gently used warm men's clothing.

We'll collect things until Sunday, Nov. 15. That week, a small, socially distanced group of us will fill the remaining boxes and deliver them to the Seamen's Center.

PRESBYTERY MEETING

The next Presbytery meeting will be held on Saturday, November 14 at 10am via Zoom.

THANKSGIVING WALK WITH FELLOWSHIP

Join us November 26th, Thanksgiving morning, for prayer and fellowship with socially distant coffee and donuts. For those inclined, there is a leisurely walk along the Delaware River. Choose your own pace.



Particulars:

when- November 26th, 8:00 am, coffee, donuts and a prayer. 8:30 am, head out for walking or home to put the turkey in the oven.

where- meet at the tennis court parking lot. 305 South St, Battery Park, New Castle.

Please bring your own masks. We will be handing out coffee and donuts as safely as possible. To keep everyone as safe as we can, bring your own empty travel mug! Cream and sugar will be provided. And stirrers!

RSVP by November 19th to Miranda Matthews, 302-521-3140, call or text. Email thecatmagnet@yahoo.com.

RAINBOW NOTES

November 20th is Transgender Day of Remembrance, a day to honor people who were murdered because they were transgender. Honestly, it's not a day I particularly like. Perhaps this is because it forces me to recognize that others like me are killed because they are like me. It also forces me to acknowledge that most of those killed are trans women who are black or Hispanic.

In June, I raised over \$3000 biking in honor of Pride Month for four different charities: The NAACP Legal Defense Fund (Black Lives Matter), Planned Parenthood, The Trevor Project, and The Environmental Defense Fund. Over the summer, I've vocally protested the burning of Church on Main's LGBTQ+ and Black Lives Matter flags. In September, I carried the casket of Gwen Hall, a dear black friend, to her grave. In October, our LGBTQIA+ Task Force listened to Mark Olson (Pastor Jenny's husband and More Light board member) speak to us about going forward as a More Light Church. He emphasized partnering with other churches, such as Community Presbyterian. Finally, I have been sparring in the editorial section of The New Castle Weekly over various minority rights.



My point is this - the lives of my Rainbow Radiant community, particularly those who are people of color ... matter. To a fire department, all houses in their neighborhood matter, but it's the one on fire they go to. Black Lives Matter is not an organization, per se, nor is the LGBTQ+ community; they are descriptions of minority people groups. Though there are rogue elements within these groups, there are vastly more innocent homes burning to the ground.

This November, as we give God thanks for our abundant blessings in life, let us also recall those who are not so blessed. As we do, let us picture them with a spectrum of skin color, gender, and sexuality.

- Salina Brett

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS 2020

Please remember that all proceeds from donations and sales for Spirit of Christmas at New Castle Presbyterian Church are given to Friendship House mission for the homeless in New Castle County.



This year will be the 20th anniversary of the NCPC Spirit of Christmas celebration! Because of pandemic restrictions and concerns, our celebration will look different. We do plan to have a large Nativity scene displayed in the church yard. We are also planning a number of online approaches to recognizing the significance of our presence in the greater community and to enabling contributions to Friendship House to continue during this time of great need.

Instead of selling soup, bread, baked goods, and giving away cookies, we would like to create a small booklet of the recipes from our cooks and bakers and sell it for a reasonable price. If you would like to contribute a favorite Spirit of Christmas-type recipe for this purpose, please email your contribution to Beverly Stoudt at bmstoudt@aol.com or send a typed or handwritten recipe to the church office at 25 E. Second Street, New Castle, DE 19720.



A new directory of church members and friends is being created now, and soon each Deacon and Session member will be given a page of members to contact at least once a month.

Additional Updates from Congregational Life

Our prayer wall outside the CE building has lots of prayer activity on it. Stop by to share a prayer and lift up another neighbor's prayer! We will continue to lift up prayer requests altogether in worship on the first Sunday of each month.

Thanks to everyone who attended midweek picnics in the church yard! We hope to resume them when warmer weather returns in the Spring.

In addition to rethinking our traditional Thanksgiving gathering, we are also rethinking Advent activities this year. Watch for more information during the coming weeks.

We plan to continue organizing and implementing educational/informational programs as well as fellowship opportunities for our congregation and neighbors. If you would like to share ideas or be included in our Congregational Life/Membership meetings (about once a month on Zoom), please contact Beverly Stoudt at bmstoudt@aol.com.

ADVENT WREATHS – BRINGING CHRIST INTO OUR HOME AND HEARTS

Sunday, November 29 begins the start of the church's new calendar year. NCPC's Worship Committee encourages each family and household to construct and use an Advent Wreath as the centerpiece of daily worship as we prepare for the coming of Jesus. Plan where you place the wreath and begin to gather materials. The circle shape, with no beginning and no end, represents the complete and endless love Jesus has for us and his gift of eternal life. The circle can be outlined by cutting greens from your yard or by ordering a simple green wreath from a craft store.



Four candles are spaced equally around the circle, and a fifth candle is placed in the center of the circle. The candles can all be white or you can choose to use the traditional three purple and one rose candles. One candle is lit each of the four Sundays in Advent and the white Christ candle is lit Christmas Eve or Christmas day. There is meaning given to each candle. The first week's purple stands for Hope, the second purple candle represents Love, while the third week's rose (or pink) candle is for Joy, and the last purple candle heralds Peace. You can also use battery powered candles of any color. You can order candles and stand through Cokesbury - shorturl.at/hkqwT - or through many craft suppliers.

Consider how lighting each candle can deepen your family's relationship with God. Plan to have a short conversation about the meaning of each candle as they are lit. You can find order a print Advent Devotional through Presbyterians Today or the Presbyterian Outlook. Or, you can access online readings through <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/devotions/> or by downloading the PCUSA Daily Prayer App. As we journey through this season, may Christ brightly shine his hope, love, joy, and peace into our homes and hearts. Amen!

YARD CLEANUP

The Trustees have set our next grounds clean-up day for Saturday, December 5 from 9am to noon. This is a great opportunity to spend some socially distance time outside on the church campus! Bring your rakes, gloves, and muscles to care for the church yard. The Trustees will provide coffee and donuts, as well as yard waste bags. If you have any hesitations about your physical ability or Covid concerns, please do not attend, but we do welcome all ages who have some extra elbow grease to care for the church grounds!



**Please join us for a Virtual Baby Shower for the
Mom and Dad to Bee**

Pastor Miriam and Steven!



When: Sunday, December 13th at 1:00PM

Where: Zoom link will be emailed to congregation when it gets closer

Registry: <https://www.babylist.com/welcome-baby-foltz>

Gifts can be dropped off at the church office during office hours (please call ahead)

We will also be having a gift drop off weekend date - TBD

For any questions, please reach out to Salina Brett, Jen Dunham, Melissa Boris, or Eileen Larkin

November Birthdays and Anniversaries

Kelly Koczak McCurdy, 11/5
 Amanda Anderson, 11/7
 Dean MacEwen, 11/10
 Robert Spring, 11/11
 Brenda Walters, 11/14
 Mary Pratt, 11/16
 David Taylor, 11/18



Makenzie Boris, 11/19
 Susan Flook, 11/20
 Ramita Sowden, 11/22
 Judy Hentkowski, 11/23
 Griffon Anderson, 11/27
 David Lioi, 11/30

Doug Esham & Laura Gearheart-Esham, 11/2
 Gail & C.J. Seitz, 11/19



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 November 9-13. 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 9

Jo Viola

Tuesday 10

Joan Smith
 Miranda Matthews

Wednesday 11

Karen & Jim
 Beatson

Thursday 12

Cynthia Robbins
 Nanette Nichol

Friday 13

Susan & Jim
 Flook

Monthly Report

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

Membership:

September 152

Death of Member Kare F. Smith (#1179) 09/29/20 -1

Removed from rolls to Inactive Membership:

T. J. Gillespie (#1172), Megan Graham (#1170),
 Andrew Lundgren (#1125), Mark Powell (#1090),
 Laurie Powell (#1089), Denise Van Durme (#1173),
 Celia Viola (#1159), Brian Werkheiser (#1103),
 and Lauren Werkheiser (#1134)..... - 9

October 142

Income thru 10/04/20:

2020 Budget: \$195,345.00

2020 Actual: \$177,823.00

Expenses thru 10/04/20:

2020 Budget: \$193,109.00

2020 Actual: \$175,088.00



THANKS FOR SERVING IN NOVEMBER!

WORSHIP LEADERS

November 1 – Melissa Boris

November 8 – Jane Fouracre

November 15 – Minerva Lermond

November 22 – Salina Brett

November 29 – Candy Dunson

EMMANUEL DINING ROOM

Steve Martin

Cynthia Robbins

Miranda Matthews



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New Castle, DE 19720
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Fax: (302) 328-5670
E-Mail: office@newcastlepreschurch.org
Office Hours: 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

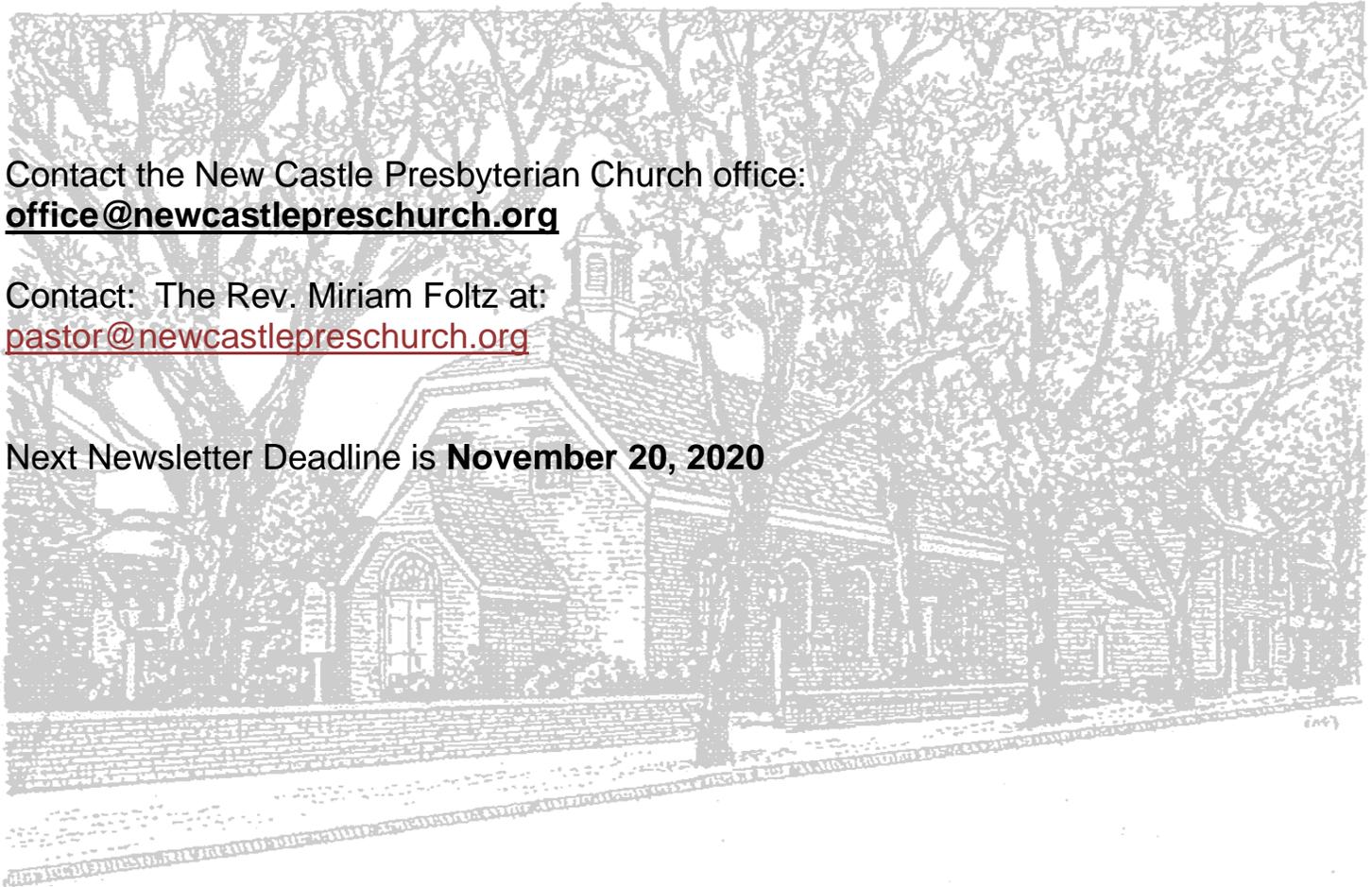


Address Change
Requested

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

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

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



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