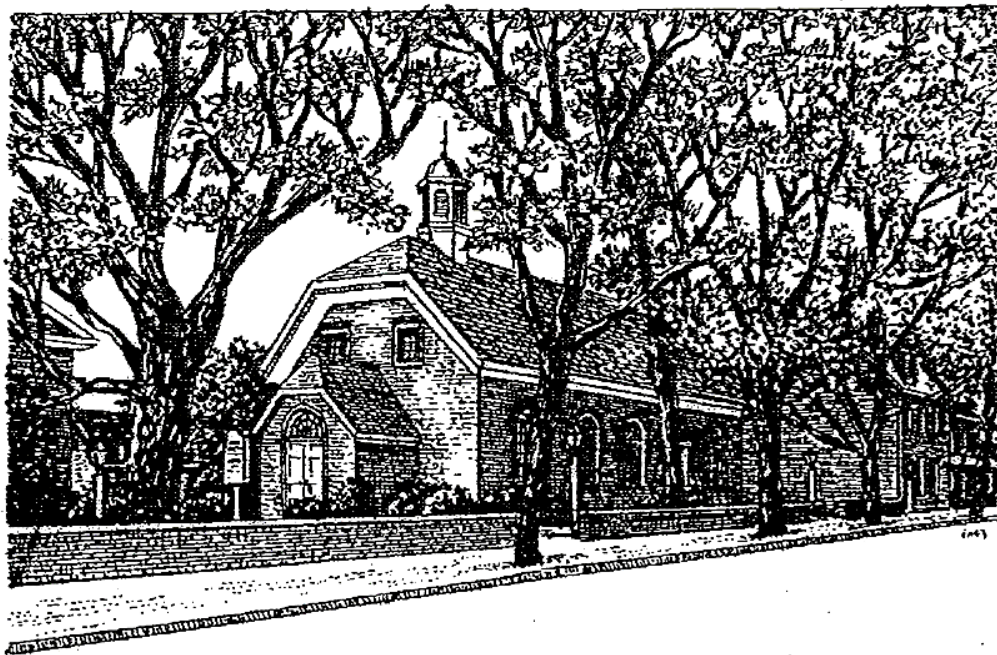


# New Castle Presbyterian Church

25 E 2nd Street, New Castle, DE 19720

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

[www.newcastlepreschurch.org](http://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,**

**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.

**Sunday School and Nursery will be offered today.** Children are invited to begin in worship; worship bags are available at the entrance. Following the Scripture Conversation, babies through four-year-olds may go to nursery; children age Kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade may go to Sunday School. All children must have an information form on file. Please see an usher for a copy of the form or if you have any questions. 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 Coffee Hour in Fellowship Hall.

**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 handicapped parking only.

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.

September 22, 2024

# GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

# Brethren, We Have Met to Worship arr. John Purifoy

# Welcome & Words about The Life and Work of the Church

As Jesus greeted his disciples, so let us greet one another:

## And also with you!

# Steeple Bell

# Call to Worship

When the world around us seems to be shaking,

**God's love is our foothold, which shall not be moved.**

When the life within us is dry and parched,

**God's word is our wellspring, our source of living water.**

Let us worship the One who offers us wisdom

**Let us worship the One who teaches us how to serve.**

# \*Hymn 645

## Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all  
 2 What God's al-might - y power has made God's gra - cious mer -  
 3 The Lord is nev - er far a - way, but, through all grief  
 4 Thus all my toil-some way a - long I sing a - loud

cre - a - tion, the God of power, the God of love,  
 cy keep - eth; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade  
 dis - tress - ing, an ev - er - pres - ent help and stay,  
 thy prais - es, that all may hear the grate - ful song

the God of our sal - va - tion. With  
 God's watch - ful eye ne'er sleep - eth. With -  
 our peace and joy and bless - ing, as  
 my voice un - wea - ried rais - es. Be

heal - ing balm my soul is filled, and ev - ery faith - less  
 in the king - dom of God's might, lo! all is just and  
 with a moth - er's ten - der hand God gent - ly leads the  
 joy - ful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and bod - y,

mur - mur stilled:  
 all is right:  
 cho - sen band: to God all praise and glo - ry!  
 take your part:

The regal divine imagery here will not be new to most singers, but some may not expect the third stanza's image of God as mother. Yet it is part of God's self-description in Isaiah 66:13. This Bohemian Brethren tune resembles both Genevan psalm tunes and French folk songs.

TEXT: Johann Jacob Schütz, 1675; trans. Frances Elizabeth Cox, 1864, alt.  
 MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesang*, 1566; harm. Maurice F. Bell, 1906, alt.

MIT FREUDEN ZART  
 8.7.8.7.8.8.7

## **Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**Let the words of our mouths and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you, O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.**

**You are our rock, and yet we place our faith in sinking sand.**

**You are our redeemer, and yet we are convinced that we must save ourselves. Forgive us for our fickle ways, and free us from our fear of condemnation. Forgive us and show us what it means to live as a forgiven and forgiving people. *(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

**Anthem                      There's a Wideness In God's Mercy    by Maurice Bevan**  
**Bethany Faiz – Piano**

*There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea; there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty. There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven; there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given. For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind; and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind. But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own; and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he will not own. There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head. There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this; there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss. If our love were but more simple, we should take him at his word; and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.*

### **Scripture Conversation with Children**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**O God, you created the world through your Word. Your Word is powerful! And so are our words. They can heal, create a smile, be a declaration of love; but they can also hurt and destroy a sense of self-worth. Give us your wisdom, God of the Word, so that as a church and as individuals, we use our words to build up and not to destroy. Speak your everlasting Word of truth to us now. Amen.**

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. <sup>2</sup> He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. <sup>3</sup> He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." <sup>4</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. <sup>5</sup> Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. <sup>6</sup> I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

<sup>7</sup> So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. <sup>8</sup> I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. <sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." <sup>10</sup> I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

<sup>11</sup> Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' <sup>12</sup> Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. <sup>13</sup> And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. <sup>14</sup> I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord." *This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.*

# GIVE THANKS TO GOD

## \*Hymn #29

## O God, You Search Me

D G A D Bm

1 O God, you search me and you know me. All my  
2 You know my rest - ing and my ris - ing. You dis -  
3 Be - fore a word is on my tongue, Lord, you have  
4 Al - though your Spir - it is up - on me, still I  
5 For you cre - at - ed me and shaped me, gave me

F#m G Bm Asus A

thoughts lie o - pen to your gaze. When I  
cern my pur - pose from a - far, and with  
known its mean - ing through and through. You are  
search for shel - ter from your light. There is  
life with - in my moth - er's womb. For the

Bm G F#m Bm 3

walk or lie down you are be - fore me: ev - er the  
love ev - er - last - ing you be - siege me: in ev - ery  
with me be - yond my un - der - stand - ing: God of my  
no - where on earth I can es - cape you: e - ven the  
won - der of who I am, I praise you: safe in your

Em G A7 D

mak - er and keep - er of my days.  
mo - ment of life or death, you are.  
pres - ent, my past, and fu - ture, too.  
dark - ness is ra - diant in your sight.  
hands, all cre - a - tion is made new.

Psalms 139 is one of the most introspective and most intimate of all the psalms, showing an acute mindfulness of God's presence in all aspects of one's life. Sometimes resisted, this omnipresence ultimately becomes a ground of hope, a promise that we never stray beyond God's care.



## **Ordination and Installation of Officers**

Statement on Ordained Service from I Corinthians 12:4-6

### **\*Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Presentation of Candidates

Questions to Candidates & Congregation

*Do we, the members of the church, accept Julia as Deacon and Sarah as Elder, chosen by God through the voice of this congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? (We do.)*

*Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? (We do.)*

Prayer of Ordination and Installation

Declaration and Welcome

### **Offerings of Tithes and Gifts**

Offertory

**Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

arr. John Carter

Bethany Faiz - 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**

**Unchanging God, receive these gifts that they might magnify your Living Word into all the world. From the beginning through the years to come, you give us the promise of hope, Lord Christ. We thank you and sing your praise in harmony with all of creation. Amen**

### **Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.**

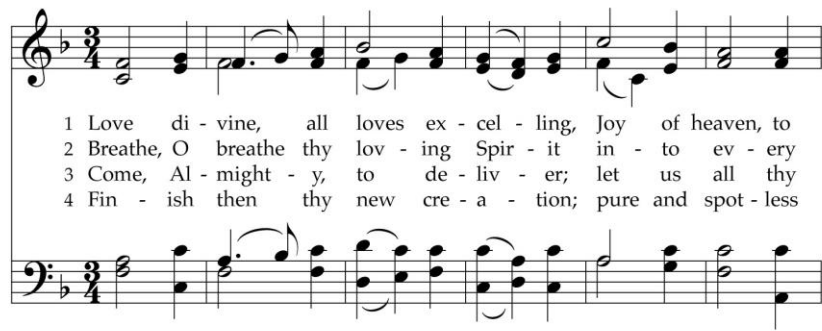
**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**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 #366

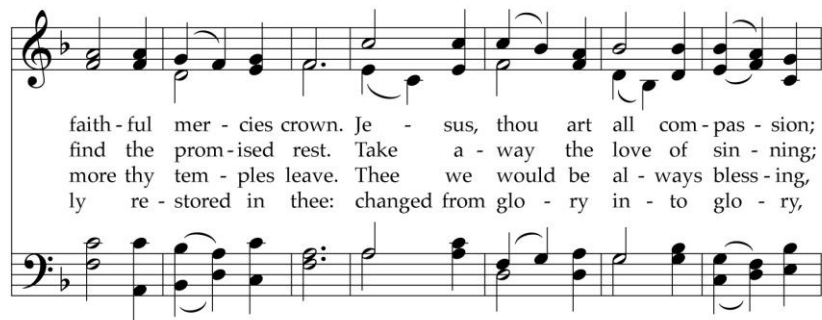
## Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



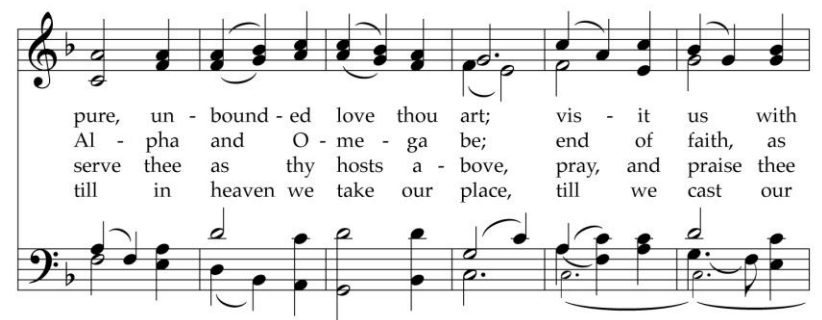
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heaven, to  
2 Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less



earth come down, fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing; all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion;  
find the prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee: changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion; en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

This text and this tune occur in almost all English-language hymnals (though not always together). The transforming power of love motivates the unending praise of the life to come, and this fine Welsh tune (whose name means "delightful") gives us a foretaste of endless song.

## **\*Charge and Benediction**

### **Choral Benediction**

### **Steeple Bell**

### **Postlude**

### **Lead On, O King Eternal**

arr. Mark Hayes

Bethany Faiz - Piano

*Please remain seated through the Postlude. As you exit, 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:* Scott Selheimer

*Counters:* Melissa Boris/Marshall Freund

*Ushers:* Julia & George Spock

*Coffee Hour:* Trustees

*Nursery:* Kim Beebe/Mary Fontinha

*Sunday School:* Mallory Mackie/Jane Fouracre

Today we remember in the Special Gifts Memorial Case:

***Barton T. Hopkins***  
***1895-1951***

***James Harlan Carpenter***  
***1959-1990***



## **WELCOME GUEST PREACHER FATHER SHANNON TL KEARNS**

A former fundamentalist who became the first openly transgender man ordained to the Old Catholic priesthood, Shannon TL Kearns believes in the transformative power of story. As an ordained priest, a playwright, a theologian, and a writer, his work revolves around making meaning through story. He is the co-founder of [QueerTheology.com](http://QueerTheology.com). His first book was *In the Margins: A Transgender Man's Journey With*; he has three books forthcoming. Read more about Father Shannon at <https://www.shannontlkearns.com/>

## **SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER ON A SUNDAY MORNING**

We are in need of ushers and worship leaders in September and October.

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

## **RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**

The Resource Development Committee is looking for one (or more!!) members to join RD as a "member at large." Are you interested in the budget? Policies? The inner workings of the church staff? Resource Development is for you!!! Please reach out to Peter McCurdy if you are interested or have any questions!

## **BIBLE STUDY WITH THE PASTOR**

Gather on Wednesdays at 3 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall with Pastor Miriam. We'll read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's Scripture passages. No need to RSVP.

## **NEW MEMBERS GATHERING TODAY**

Anyone considering joining NCPC or liking what they observe and wanting to learn more is encouraged to join members of the Congregational Life committee upstairs in the Library around 12:15 for an extended coffee hour and conversation. We do hope you'll join us.

## **BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - SEPT 28**

Good Doggie, Kitty, Fishy, Ground Hoggie! On Saturday, September 28 at 4pm, we will have a Blessing of the Animals event outside of the CE Building. Creatures of all shapes and sizes are welcome. If your pet doesn't travel well or play well with others, bring their picture or one of their accessories to be blessed. And feel free to invite one of your pet's friends as everyone would benefit from a blessing!

## **NCPC FALL CAMPFIRE & COOKOUT - SEPT 28**

Join us at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 28 for a campfire and cook-out at Connie Reese's house. Bring a camping chair and join us for an evening of fellowship and fun around the campfire! RSVPs to Connie Reese or Jen Dunham are appreciated, and volunteers are welcome to help with games and activities for the evening.

## **GUATEMALA PARTNERSHIP UPDATE – NEXT SUNDAY**

Join us during Coffee Hour on Sunday, September 29, to hear an update from the partnership leadership, including an opportunity to travel to Guatemala in January 2025!

## **M&O CLOTHING DRIVE IN SEPTEMBER**

September marks our popular annual clothing drive for Friendship House. Refresh your life (and your closets!) by donating your new or gently used, clean clothing and school uniforms to Friendship House. Donations can be brought to the church and left in the second room on the right on the second floor of the CE building, or if that's difficult, in the entryway. We'll collect them all through the month of September. Let's see those bags pile up!

## **YOUNG(ISH) WOMENS THIS FALL**

This fall, we'll start meeting on the first Sunday of each month! Mark your calendars for October 6 from 12-2! This fellowship group is for women between the ages of 20ish and 50ish; let Pastor Miriam know if you need childcare.

## **WORLD COMMUNION SPECIAL OFFERING – OCTOBER 6**

Join us in worship October 6 as we celebrate World Communion Sunday, recognizing our oneness in Christ with our siblings around the world. We will collect our Peace and Global Witness Offering, which encourages the church to cast off anxiety and fear and embrace God's mission of reconciliation to those around the corner and around the world. Learn more about this offering here: <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness/>

## **GIFTS OF LOVE**

Thanks to all of you for the Christian love you've shown for your neighbors-in-need. In August, we donated \$740.00 to the St. Vincent de Paul Society (SVdP) at St. Peters Church. This has been a difficult year for many of our neighbors and for the organizations that help them. Many organizations have seen their treasuries depleted; we too have come very close to being out of funds. We are no longer able to offer rental/mortgage assistance and are limiting utility grants to \$150. The SVdP is very thankful for NCPC support and they are grateful to be part of our community of good neighbors. The food pantry continues to operate with the generous donations from the St. Peter's community, NCPC and others.

## **Prayer List:**

To place a name on the confidential Prayer Chain, contact Susan Flook, 302-328-7346 <mailto:suzieflook@hotmail.com> or Fran Ginger, 302-994-5988 <mailto:silverfran@aol.com>

## ***Continuing Care Homes / Hospitals:***

### ***Rod Denison***

Coral Springs Healthcare Ctr.  
505 Greenbank Rd., Room C7  
Wilmington, DE 19808

### ***Linda Twyford***

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

## ***At Home:***

### ***Kathy Griffin-Graham***

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

### ***Anita Johnson***

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

### ***Robert Lindfors***

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

### ***Mary Duncan***

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

### ***Judy Hentkowski***

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

### ***Shirley Knox***

114 W. 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 322-0225

### ***Sandy Wilson***

53 W. 5<sup>th</sup> Street  
New Castle, DE 19720  
(302) 544-6578

## ***On Assignment with the Coast Guard:***

### ***George Spock***

USCGC Scheuerman  
PSC 851 P.O. Box 11620  
FPO AE, 09834

## ***On Assignment with the Air Force:***

### ***James Boyle***

1150 Bole Street, Unit 54  
JBPHH, HI 96860



## ***This Week's Schedule***

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>09/22</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>In-Person &amp; Live Stream Worship Guest Preacher Shannon Kearns</b>
		<b>11:30am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
		<b>12:15pm</b>	<b>New Member Gathering</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>09/24</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>Staff Meeting</b>
		<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Christian Education Committee</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>09/25</b>	<b>3:00pm</b>	<b>Bible Study</b>
		<b>7:30pm</b>	<b>Choir</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>09/26</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Celebration Ringers</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>09/28</b>	<b>8:00am</b>	<b>Tai Chi</b>
		<b>4:00pm</b>	<b>Blessing of the Animals</b>
		<b>5:00pm</b>	<b>NCPC Campfire @Connie Reese's house</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>09/29</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>In-Person &amp; Live Stream Worship</b>
		<b>11:30am</b>	<b>Coffee Hour</b>
		<b>12:00pm</b>	<b>Guatemala Presentation</b>

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# New Castle Presbyterian Church

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New Castle, DE 19720

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Rev. Miriam Foltz, Pastor - [pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:pastor@newcastlepreschurch.org)

Kris Krawczyk, Admin. Assistant - [office@newcastlepreschurch.org](mailto:office@newcastlepreschurch.org)

Mallory Mackie, Sunday School Coord.

Eileen Larkin, Dir. of Music

Dan Knox, Treasurer

Minerva Lermond, Dir. of Handbells

Shirley Knox, Recording Secretary

Bethany Faiz, Accompanist

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## SESSION

2025	2026	2027
Melissa Boris	Cynthia Beam	Julie Barry
Jennifer Dunham	Peter McCurdy	Sarah McCann
Connie Reese	Joanne Viola	Amy Selheimer

*Session meets the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month*

## DEACONS

2025	2026	2027
Toni Marley	Lindy Ballance	Julia Spock
Janet Spring	Liz Toto	Beverly Stoudt

*Deacons meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the month*

## TRUSTEES

2025	2026	2027
Marshall Freund	Mary Fontinha	Gary Graham
Mike Smith	Gail Seitz	Kelly McCurdy

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

