

New Covenant Connection

New Covenant Presbyterian Church

“A Church Family – A Church Home”



September 2019 Volume 45

New Covenant Church

Ministers

The Congregation

Assistant to the Ministers

Pastor - Rev. Dr. Carol C. Fisher

Accompanist: Jenny Hugh

Music Director: Ken Hudson

Session

Skip Leeson,	215-870-9315	Clerk
Barbara Montazella	845-893-1374	Worship
Susan Pedersen	378-0902	Evangelism
Carol A. McBride	378-5359	Christian Ed.
Sandy Boyce	378-2902	Personnel
Nancy Carol Willis	378-7274	Mission
Ben Urban	376-1397	Stewardship
John Hetterly	383-9263	Cong. Life

Deacons

Ken Hudson	2022	376-0294
Melissa Padgett	2020	610-554-4488
Laura Pedersen	2021	378-0902
Don Bauer	2022	378-2317
Landa Lindgren	2020	378-0914
Kathy Henry	2021	832-5510

Trustees

Alan Pedersen	2021	378-0902
Tom Kimble	2020	376-1770
Al Grimminger	2022	378-2252

Church Information

Church Phone 378-4446

Pastor Phone 303-888-0706

CCLI license 649817

Treasurer, Cyndi Daniels 299-5373

Newsletter Editor: Alice Megonigal

Worship - 10 a.m.; Children's Christian Education -

During worship following the Children's Message

www.newcov-church.org



“Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob.” Psalms 81:1

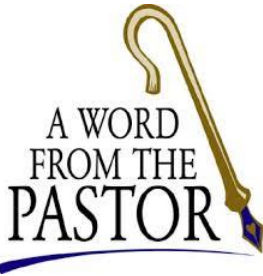
SEPTEMBER 8TH – 2:00 P.M.
INSTALLATION OF THE REV. DR.
CAROL C. FISHER AS PASTOR
OF NEW COVENANT
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



Everyone is cordially invited to attend the installation of Rev Dr. Carol C. Fisher as Pastor of New Covenant Presbyterian Church on Sunday, September 8th at 2:00 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres will be served directly after the service, followed by our Annual Steak Fry.

Please R.S.V.P. if you plan to attend so that we can plan accordingly. Contact the church at 302-378-4446 or sign up in the sanctuary.





A WORD FROM THE PASTOR

Dear friends,

Again, let me say how glad I am to be here with you as your pastor at New Covenant Presbyterian Church! Already, I have seen many things for which to be thankful, and Jay and I have been the recipient of many kindnesses. As I reflect upon the events of the summer, I am thankful that we are feeling settled into the Delawarean lifestyle, and especially grateful for the proximity I now have to dear family and friends. This has allowed me to attend a funeral in NC and visit church members of a former church I served, and to visit a high school from VA. So, thank you for the privilege of partnering with you in service.

We are at a time of year when the season is about to change, and with it comes cooler weather and spectacular colors. I would suggest that we are also in a season of change at church. We are getting to know each other and finding new ways to answer God's call to thrive in ministry. Of course, with any changes, comes a period of adjustment and you can feel out of kilter at first. But have no doubt that I am always open to listen to your thoughts and feelings and I will try to explain my rationale for the changes I suggest. And, I will not make any changes without working with the appropriate committee or board so that we can all move forward in trust and faith.

Let me share a modern parable with you which I have found helpful:

Long ago, when the world was very new...there was a certain lobster who determined that the Creator had made a mistake. So, he set up an appointment to discuss the matter.

"With all due respect," said the lobster, "I wish to complain about the way you designed my shell. You see, I just get used to one outer casing, when I've got to shed it for another. Very inconvenient and rather a waste of time."

To which the Creator replied, "I see. But do you realize that it is the giving up of one shell that allows you to grow into another?"

"But I like myself just the way I am," the lobster said.

"Your mind's made up?" the Creator asked.

"Indeed!" the lobster stated firmly.

"Very well," smiled the Creator. "From now on, you shell will not change...and you may go about your business just as you are right now."

"That's very kind of you," said the lobster, and he left. At first, the lobster was very content wearing the same old shell. But as time passed, he found that his once light and comfortable shell was becoming quite heavy and tight. After a while, in fact, the shell became so cumbersome that the lobster couldn't feel anything at all outside himself. And, as a result, he was constantly bumping into others. Finally, it got to the point where he could hardly even breathe. So, with great effort, he went back to see the Creator.

"With all due respect," the lobster sighed, "contrary to what you promised, my shell has not remained the same. It keeps shrinking!"

"Not at all," smiled the Creator. "Your shell may have gotten a little thicker with age, but it has remained the same size. What's happened is that you have changed – inside, beneath your shell. You see, everything changes continuously. No one remains the same. That's the way I've designed things. And the wisest choice is to shed your old shell as you grow."

"I see," said the lobster, "but you must admit it is occasionally inconvenient, and a bit uncomfortable."

"Yes," said the Creator, "but remember, all growth carries with it both the possibility of discomfort, and the potential for great joy, as you discover new parts of yourself. After all, you can't have one without the other. When you let go of your shell and choose to grow, you build new strength within yourself. And, in that strength, you'll find new capacity to love yourself – to love those around you – and to love life itself. That is my plan for each of you."



My friends, we may be called to let of our "shell" and grow in ways we never envisioned. And as uncomfortable as the growth may be, it will only make us stronger if we rely on God and one another to accomplish God's purpose for us. Will you join me in being a servant of God in this community as we risk all that growth entails? I sure hope you will because I am looking forward to being partners on this exciting journey!

Your pastor and partner in ministry,

Carol

September 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**SPECIAL
DATES**

- * September 2, 2019 Labor Day
- * September 8, 2019 Installation and Steak Fry
- * September 11, 2019 Patriot Day
- * September 23, 2019 Autumn Begins



**CONGREGATIONAL
LIFE TEAM**

Sunday, September 8th will be a busy day at New Covenant

Church. First, will be our regular morning worship at 10:00 a.m., then at 2:00 p.m. will be the installation of our new pastor Dr. Rev. Carol C. Fisher, followed by some hors d'oeuvres.

Our annual Steak Fry will follow at 4:00 p.m. The menu includes a salad bar, London Broil, potatoes, mixed veggies, rolls and butter. All are invited to attend so don't forget to sign up in the sanctuary.

We are considering starting a new type of fellowship at NCP. Would you be interested in joining some fellow church friends around the dinner table? We



SUPPER CLUB

are hoping to begin Supper Club gatherings in our homes. One person/couple would host and provide the main dish. A few others would join in, bringing side dishes, appetizers and/or dessert. We believe this would allow us to get to know each other better, thus strengthening the bonds of Christian fellowship. Signup in the back of the sanctuary and we'll give you a call.



Fellowship

*Submitted by John Hetterly,
Congregational Life Elder*



NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

The September donation schedule is for canned fruits, snacks, spaghetti sauce with meat, peanut butter and jelly.

Please drop off your donations in the big container marked "Neighborhood House" by the sanctuary coat rack.



**Restock the
SHELVES**

Thank you to everyone for your continued support of this community mission for Neighborhood House.

*Submitted by Jane Adams,
Neighborhood House coordinator*



WORSHIP TEAM

We have been enjoying the Special Music to Praise God each Sunday while the choir takes a break for the summer. Thank you to all who have participated. Ken Welcomes anyone who would like to help glorify God by singing or playing an instrument.

The Praise Band rehearses on Monday evenings at 7 pm. Thank you to the entire band for bringing joyous music to our services.

There will be a special service of installation for Dr. Carol C. Fisher as the new pastor of New Covenant on Sept. 8 at 2:00 PM. All are invited. Following the service, we will have hors d'oeuvres, and then our annual Steak Fry.



The Lectionary Readings for the month of September are:

- 9/1: 12th Sun. after Pentecost - Jer. 2: 4-13; Ps. 81: 1, 10-16; Heb. 13:1-8, 15-16; Lk. 14: 1, 7-14
- 9/8: 13th Sun. after Pentecost - Jer. 18: 1-11; Ps. 139: 1-6, 13-18; Phil. 1: 1-21; Lk. 14: 25-33
- 9/15: 14th Sun. after Pentecost - Jer. 4: 11-12, 22-28; Ps. 14; 1 Tim. 1: 12-17; Lk. 15: 1-10
- 9/22: 15th Sun. after Pentecost - Jer. 8: 18-9:1; Ps. 79: 1-9; 1 Tim. 2: 1-7; Lk. 16: 1-13
- 9/29: 16th Sun. after Pentecost - Jer. 32: 1-3a, 6-15; Ps. 91: 1-6, 14-16; 1 Tim. 6: 6-19; Lk. 16: 19-31

*Submitted by Barbara Montazella,
Worship Team Elder*



Back to School Humor

What kind of school do you go to if you're...?

- an ice cream man? Sundae School
- a giant? High school
- a surfer? Boarding school
- King Arthur? Knight school

Teacher: What's the chemical formula for water?

Student: H-I-J-K-L-M-N-O

Teacher: What are you talking about?

Student: Yesterday you said H to O.

Math Teacher: A person from LA drove toward New York at 250 miles per hour as a person from New York drove towards LA at 150 miles per hour. Where did they meet?

Student: In jail!



The Deacons continue to pray for everyone on the prayer list. Please let a Deacon know of anyone that needs special prayers, meals, transportation, or a home visit.

*Submitted by Landa Lindgren,
Moderator of the Deacons*



9/7	Janet Glaser
9/9	Bob Megonigal
9/10	Pat Deverell
9/20	Karen Wright
9/20	Donna Casey
9/21	Scott Rawding
9/23	Cheryl Shields
9/26	Paul Willbanks
9/30	Pam Kidd
	Drew Burkley



9/12	Betty Lou and Craig Schafer
9/15	Carol and Jay Fisher
9/22	Donna and James F. Casey

NEW COVENANT CHURCH NEWS FROM THE PEWS

Good news! Both **Landa Lindgren** and **Laura Pedersen** have started their new jobs. Congratulations to both of them!

Ruth Keiderling will be using a wheelchair at home now. Please keep her and Ron, her husband, in your prayers.

Ian Stewart, Giovanni Odum-Ewuakey and John Easter all went on a family camping trip in Maine at the Nova Scotia National Park to celebrate Ian's birthday! Liz and Rob Stewart managed the trip, and all returned home safely.

Brenden Kirk's Junior Blue Hens Ice Hockey Team won 2nd place. Congratulations Brenden!

Youth Group Peach Festival Parade included John and Jacalynn Easter, Ian Stewart, and Giovanni Odum-Ewuakey representing the youth. Michael Easter, Carol Lynn McBride and Carol A. McBride represented the adult team. They handed out brochures for the church during the parade. Thank you all for making New Covenant a visible church and in our active community.

Bright Beginnings Preschool is a non-profit Christian preschool at New Covenant Church. The 3 and 4 year old classes are now at full capacity. Call 302-376-8001 to be added to the waiting list. On Thursday mornings, there is a new play group for 2 year olds. Please call for more information.

Lois Houston was visiting in Delaware and made sure she attended a service at New Covenant. She misses her family and friends in Delaware, and is making a new support group in her Virginia home.

Mark Urban has been deployed in SW Asia - where there is sand and oil. Please watch your correspondence - it may be read. If you wish to send him a letter of cheer, his postal address is:

SPC Urban, Mark A
Charlie Company 198 ESB
APO, AE 09330

Jacalynn Easter was also in the Peach Festival Parade as part of the Dancing Lights Studio. She was busy running between each group that day!

Rev. Carol Fisher is expecting some of her family and friends to attend her installation on Sunday, September 8th. Welcome to Delaware!

Cory Tasker was in a bad car accident in Virginia and will have surgery on her wrist. Please keep her in your prayers, and consider sending her a card at: 2530 Crest Hollow Ct, Goochland, VA 23063-3254.



No Christian would ever dispute the claim that Jesus Christ was the most perfect steward the world has ever seen. If stewardship means dedicating one's life to the service of God, no one surpassed Jesus. If stewardship means using one's time, talents, and resources for the sake of the kingdom of God, Jesus was the perfect example of one who did just that.

Could Jesus' stewardship be encapsulated in a few words? Hardly. Yet St. Peter's statement to a group of Gentiles certainly helps us understand what the first Christians proclaimed about Jesus' style of stewardship. Peter said, "God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; ... he went about doing good and healing... for God Was with him. We are witnesses to all he did..." (Acts 10:38-39),

"He went about doing good..." That really is the essence of being a good steward. It involves more than giving our money to the work of the church, although that is of great importance. It also has to do with giving of ourselves, telling others about God, being Good Samaritans, using our talents for the glory of God, and looking out for the poor, the afflicted, the sorrowing, and the helpless.

A dedicated Christian of a generation ago, E.C. Blake, wrote: "The mark of any truly Christian church is its overflowing goodness to people. Callousness, hardness of heart, selfishness, personal ambition, meanness...these are the sure revelation that something is radically wrong with a church."

Stewardship is not about large giving, but gifts in small ways. A child's gift, although small, gives glory to the Lord in many ways. Stewardship does not have to be in monetary ways. A gift of time to an elderly shut-in serves the Lord, too.

A gift of a loaf of bread to a homeless family could mean the difference between going to bed hungry or going to bed satisfied. (Parish Publishing)

UPDATE: We have received \$7,440 of the \$10,000 needed to move our pastor to DE. We still need \$2,560 to completely cover this expense. Any and all contributions are appreciated!



At this point, we have no plans to teach the Bethel Bible Study this year. September 15th is the start of the new season for Sunday school and Bible Study Programs. Carol has recommended that we **ALL read and discuss** the book, "**Canoeing the Mountains, Christian Leadership in Uncharted Territory**". She will lead a discussion of the book on **TUESDAY mornings at 9:30 am**. For those who cannot attend during a weekday, there will be a class on **Sunday mornings at 8:45 am**. This book will be very helpful in enabling us to reimagine what effective leadership looks like in our rapidly changing world. We would encourage everyone to purchase a book and read it, even if you are unable to attend a class. Books are available at church (through the presbytery) for \$10 each. Just let us know if you are interested.

Youth Group: August 16th- Novus Escape Room Event. We had 6 kids and 5 adults attend. Everyone had a good time. One group escaped on time. The other group escaped in overtime.

Peach Festival: Thanks to the 4 kids, John, Ian, Giovanni and Jacalynn who represented our New Covenant Church Youth Group in the Peach Festival Parade. The adults also helping were Carol A., Carol L. McBride and Michael Easter. The kids handed out New Covenant Church brochures to the crowd.

September 20th - Putters Paradise miniature golf from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, located at 130 Commerce Drive, Middletown, DE (across from Westown Movie). Sign-up sheet in back of church, or contact Carol A. McBride 267-994- 1623 cell.

Children's Sunday School: 10:15 a.m. for Children's Sunday School program (following the Children's Message in worship).

Nursery: Sundays, 10:00 a.m. - We still need volunteers for Childcare on an as need basis.

Growing Together in Faith

Submitted by: Carol A. McBride,
Christian Education Elder

MAIL & COMMUNICATIONS

Some new things are happening around the church. What kind of things? Well, here are a couple of them which should make communicating more effective:



We no longer are using a mailbox at the Post Office. Send all mail to our physical address: 1125 Jamison Corner Road, Middletown, DE 19709. We are sharing a mailbox with Bright Beginnings, and this frees up Melanie's time from picking up mail in town.

All staff, officers and key leaders have mailboxes in the church office. If you need to share some information with them, drop it off in the office.



Our Daily Bread Lunch



New Covenant Church will provide lunch on Friday, September 6th at Our Daily Bread. If you would like to volunteer please contact Nancy Carol Willis. There are also flyers in the sanctuary with more details.

Operation Christmas Child

Through our Operation Christmas Child project, God has given us unparalleled opportunities to touch the lives of millions of boys and girls in over 150 countries. Many of these children have never received a gift and never heard the true meaning of Christmas - until they open shoeboxes filled with gifts from people like you. Some of these gifts are packed by young children or people on fixed incomes who simply cannot afford to include the \$9 we request for international shipping and related costs. When you adopt a shoebox, you are



partnering with them to deliver their gifts and show God's love to a precious child. Operation Christmas Child's National Collection Week is November 18-25, 2019.

*Submitted by Nancy Carol Willis,
Missions Elder*

EVANGELISM TEAM



Website: www.newcov-church.org
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/
New-Covenant-Presbyterian-Church-
USA-Middletown-Delaware](https://www.facebook.com/New-Covenant-Presbyterian-Church-USA-Middletown-Delaware)

Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2019 Middletown Peach Festival whether in the Parade or manning the booth on Main Street. Our "Survival Kits" were a big hit!

*Submitted by Susan Pedersen,
Evangelism Elder*



BIBLE QUIZ

What number fits in all the blanks to reveal God's instructions about the city of Jericho?

Israelite warriors, led by ___ priests blowing ___ ram's horn trumpets for ___ days would march around the city, once around the city, except for the last day, when they would march around it for ___ times; then the walls of Jericho would fall.

- A. 1
- B. 3
- C. 5
- D. 7

Answer from August: **B and C**
See Isaiah 6: 1-8



Are you a friendly person who deeply cares about making people feel welcome in our church? If so, maybe you can help us. We

have instituted a new practice on Sunday mornings. We have 2 people whose goal is to welcome folks and make them feel at home. We do 3 things: (1) Welcome people and invite each person to wear their name tag so we can get to know one another better (and we keep track of people who need name tags; (2) Take attendance; and (3) Ensure that first time visitors receive a Welcome Gift Bag.

Our goal is to help everyone feel like they matter to us, and we are glad they are there. We also invite them to fill out a visitor card, so that our pastor can send them a welcome letter, and eventually visit them. In addition, taking attendance allows us to occasionally look over our attendance book and see if anyone has missed several weeks, thus encouraging us to check on them to see if they need some help. In case you haven't figured it out, the Body of Christ is designed to support each other. This ranges from helpfulness to visits or just giving someone a smile or hug. Have no doubt that NCPC is a family who cares!

**How
Alive
Are
You?**



Throw a rock, and it soon stops moving. But put a seed in the ground and something happens. To be spiritually ALIVE means to receive power from God to have a positive impact on the world."

- John Ortberg

Breathing, pulse rate and bodily movements are signs that a person is NOT dead. Zest, enthusiasm, and a good measure of spunk are signs that a person is alive. In Genesis, life began with God's breath (spirit) blowing over the waters of the deep. With something of God's own life mixed into the pot, exciting or zestful things began to happen. And don't forget that God is still there stirring the pot.

Enthusiasm is an emotion, plus more. The root meaning comes from 2 Greek words – **Theos**, which means *God*, and **En**, which simply means *in*. Get it? So, when we witness some enthusiasm in someone, we might correctly conclude that God's Spirit is also what we are experiencing.

Perhaps you are familiar with the following piece of spiritual advice which is attributed to St. Ignatius Loyola, the founder of the Jesuits. He was very intent on finding the presence of God in everything. His advice was this: **Pray as if everything depended on God. Then, live as if everything depended on yourself.**

Good religious language is often filled with paradox, and these words of St. Ignatius are no exception. Pentecost is when the Holy Spirit came upon the people of God.

And yet, that is not the only season during which we need to pray to have the same experience. We need to pray for boldness in our faith so that we will not be content with the status quo in our lives. May we invoke God's Spirit to **be alive** and working among us as we seek God's will for us. Friends, **be enthusiastic! Be filled with God's Spirit!**



We are changing at New Covenant Church!! The New Covenant Connection newsletter has a different format this month; our church service format has changed; and we are slowly moving in other areas. Keep your hearts and minds open to change as we move towards a vibrant future.

Alice Megonigal, Editor

A Merry Heart Doeth Good Like a Medicine Proverbs 17:22

A mathematician, an engineer and a computer scientist were vacationing together. They were riding in a car, enjoying the countryside when the engine stopped.

The mathematician said, "We drove past a gas station a few minutes ago. Someone should go back and ask for help."

The engineer replied, "I should have a look at the engine. Perhaps I can fix it."

The computer scientist offered, "Why don't we just open the doors, slam them shut and see if everything works again?"

I always thought my neighbors were good people. Then - they went and put a password on their WI-FI.



Flirtation: Wishful winking.

Q. Why do we tell actors to "break a leg?"

A. Because every play has a cast.

Guest to the waiter: "Can you bring me what the lady at the next table is having?"

Waiter: "Sorry, sir, but I'm pretty sure she wants to eat it herself."

Did you hear about the explosion at a cheese factory? All that was left was de brie.

Lord, I have bills to pay today. Please gently coach me to make sure I put the correct checks in the appropriate envelopes this time.



Q: Why did the math textbook visit the guidance counselor?

A: It needed help figuring out its problems.

Bart: What do you drop when you use it and take back when you don't?

Reggie: Can't guess.

Bart: An anchor.

Afternoon snack: The pause that refreshes.

Q: What do you call a train carrying chewing gum?

A: A chew-chew train.

Helen: What contains more feet in winter than in summer?

Ellen: Who knows?

Helen: A skating rink

God knew what he was doing when He made it so hard for us to pat ourselves on the back.

A good laugh heals a lot of hurts.

A smile is a curve that sets everything straight.

Heavenly Father, lead me in the way I need to go when it comes to hearing the pain and hurt in another person's life. Give me the wisdom and patience to listen instead of barreling ahead with my woes.

Q: Where is the first math homework problem mentioned in the Bible?

A: When God told Adam and Eve to go out and multiply.

When was the first tennis match in the Bible?
Joseph served in Pharaoh's court.