

New Castle Methodist Church

Monthly Newsletter

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A Note From Brother Jason

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8 NIV)



"But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light" (Ephesians 5:13 NIV)

You may be asking why is time spent doing a newsletter for the church. There are a few of reasons a newsletter is put out on a regular basis. First, not everybody who has an interest in New Castle Methodist is able to attend church regularly. So, the newsletters keep them plugged into the life of the church as much as possible, until they are able to attend.

Second, the newsletter is a place where information can be found, should you need it. "What time does that meal start?" "What is the contact information for that meeting?" "What is going on in the Wednesday night Bible study, just

Love offerings, Special Offerings and Regular Offerings Information

New Castle UMC
c/o Jim Thompson
P. O. Box 151
New Castle, Alabama 35119

Online Giving

<https://giving.servantkeeper.com/new-castle-al>

or





Church Council Meeting

There will be a hybrid Church Council Meeting on Sunday, August 17th, at 5:00 p.m. The initial agenda includes a review of the revised accessible toilet room plans and the security cameras for the church. If you have other items that you would like to add to the agenda, contact Jim Thompson. The connection information is at the end of the newsletter.

Worship Committee Meeting

There will be a virtual Worship Committee meeting on Tuesday, August 19th, at 6:00 p.m. We will be looking at the September worship calendar during the meeting. The connection information is at the end of the newsletter.

Note from Brother Jason (Continued from Page 1)

in case I want to join them?" The newsletter is a repository of information for the people of the church, to encourage engagement.

Finally, and this is the most important part to me, it shines a light on what the church is doing? I believe that the church needs to be transparent, if it is to be a light in our faith community, as well as outside the community of faith.

The newsletters provides a way for the church to be transparent. The financial information of the church (general finances and Love Offering Committee) are provided regularly. If you want to see how the church members are being faithful to the life of the church, look at the giving report. If you want to see how the church is spending the resources, read the articles about the ministries of the church.

The newsletters give insights into the ministry emphases of the church. If we consistently report on the goings on of the Love Offering Committee, the content of the Bible studies and Sunday School classes, and the fellowship opportunities of the church, maybe it will encourage somebody outside of our church to join us. If there is something a person in the church doesn't see being done, which he or she wants to see done, then maybe we need to add another focused ministry in our church.

Bible Study Content

The Wednesday night Bible study is continuing its look at Paul's prison epistles and the book of Philippians. We are using the the N. T. Wright "Philippians Bible Study Guides for Everyone" series as our resources for the study. The meetings are

Combined Youth and Children's Ministries Bowling

We will be having a joint Youth and Children's bowling outing on Saturday, August 23rd. Save the date on your calendar. Additional information will be provided soon.

Inaugural Men's Breakfast

The inaugural Men's breakfast will be held on Saturday, August 30th. The scheduled speaker is Jeff Lee, Director of Men on Mission – Trussville First Baptist Church. For more information contact Kenneth Childers or Steve Wickert. Their contact information is provided at the end of the newsletter.

Fifth Sunday Singing

Join us on Sunday, August 31st, for the Fifth Sunday Singing. This will be an evening of fellowship and

Bible Study Content (Continued from Page 2)

hybrid, in-person and virtual. The calendar and the virtual connection information are provided at the end of the bulletin.

The Adult Sunday School Class is currently doing a study of Paul's teaching in the book of 1 Corinthians with a focus on spiritual gifts, love and Paul's teachings regarding the resurrection. The readings for the month of August will be 1 Corinthians 12:1-11 (August 10th), 1 Corinthians 13 (August 17th), 1 Corinthians 15:1-28 (August 24th) and 1 Corinthians 15:35-58 (August 31st).

Starting in September we will begin the Fall lessons which will have the theme of the Adult class will be "Struggle, perseverance and hope." September will begin with a look at the women of the book of Genesis. On September 7th, we will be looking at Sarah using Genesis 18:1-15. On September 14th, we will be looking at Hagar's legacy using Genesis 21:8-21. On September 21st, we will be studying Rebekah using Genesis 24:20-27, 50-56. Then on September 27th, Rachel and Leah will be our focus using Genesis 29:31-30:24.

The youth Sunday School will end the Summer lessons will finish with lessons on character. The readings for the character lessons are Philippians 2:1-11 (August 10th), Philippians 4:1-20 (August 17th), 2 Corinthians 8:1-9 (August 24th) and 1 Peter 3:8-17 (August 31st).

The Childrens Sunday school class will be looking at the stories of Joseph. The children will hear the story of Joseph and his brothers, Joseph and his time in Egypt, Joseph saving

worship. We will begin with a time of fellowship with lite refreshments provided by the church at 5:00 p.m. We will start the singing around 5:30 p.m. Children's Minutes Training

Children's Minutes Training

There will be a hybrid Children's Minutes training session on Tuesday, September 2nd, at 6:00 p.m. The contact information is at the end of the newsletter. All Children's Minutes presenters are asked to attend the training. A recording of the August training session is available for anyone who wasn't able to attend. Contact Brother Jason for your homework assignment prior to the meeting, so that you will be prepared to fully participate.

the day through the Lord and then Joseph reuniting with his brother.

Love Offering Committee Meeting Report

During the July 29th meeting the Love Offering Committee approved a total of \$750 to be designated to help an individual with the purchase of a car. The money is earmarked until the individual is ready to purchase a vehicle. During the same meeting the committee approved \$500 for Food for Our Journey. The third approval from the July 29th meeting was a matching proposal of up to \$500 for the Eurasia Churches Love Offering, which was going to be collected on August 3rd.

In the five years since the committee's first approved fund on April 9, 2020, not including the Eurasia Churches matching, the committee has approved the distribution of \$106,150 to individuals, families and ministries who needed help. The Love Offering Committee fund had \$1,235 in deposits and \$499 in expenses during the month of July and a balance of \$1,808 at the end of the month.

If you would like to support the work of your church, through a love offering, you may send a check or submit an online giving. The information is at the front of the newsletter. If you see a need in the community that you feel the committee should consider, contact one of the committee members to present the proposal. The members of the committee are the church treasurers, finance committees, trustees and at large members approved by the committee. If you would like a list of the members, contact brother Jason. Finally, there are open at large seats Love Offering Committee seats for any church members who would like to participate in this ministry.

Love Offering Committee Meeting Information

The Love Offering Committee has a standing meeting for every Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. Proposals must be received by the committee chair no later than 9:00 p.m. the Monday evening before the Tuesday meeting. The agenda for each meeting will be sent to members the evening before the meeting or the meeting will be cancelled if there are no proposals to consider. The connection information is provided at the end of the newsletter.

July Financial Information

In the month of July the church had deposits of \$3,619. There were \$3,071 in regular expenses. There was a balance of \$44,412 in the checking account and \$60,018 in the annuity at the end of the month. The balance in the Building Maintenance and Improvements fund was \$5,374. The deposits for the previous three months (April, May and June) were \$3,940, \$3,242 and \$4,022. The regular expenses over the same time period were \$2,455, \$2,975 and \$2,535. At the end of July the Children's Fund (money from the small church) had \$747.

It should be noted that the checking account balance, the monthly church income and expenses listed in this report do not include the Love Offering Committee balance, income and expenses. The Love Offering Committee balance, income and expenses are provided in the Love Offering Committee report in this newsletter.

Prayers for Sister Churches

At the conclusion of Annual Conference our church committed to praying for Fulton Springs Methodist and Clearbranch Methodist churches. Two stones have been placed on the altar to remind us of the two churches that we should pray for daily.

Continuing Prayer List Reset

The Continuing Prayer List will be reset on Sunday, September 7th. If you would like to add or keep a prayer

request on the continuing list contact Jennifer Wickert by 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, September 3rd. Her contact information is at the end of the newsletter.



August 2025 (Paul's Prison Epistles)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6 Philippians 2:5-18	7	8	9
10	11	12	13 Philippians 2:19-30	14	15	16
17	18	19	20 Philippians 3:1-16	21	22	23
24	25	26	27 Philippians 3:17-4:9	28	29	30
31						

September 2025 (Paul's Prison Epistles)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 Philippians 4:10-23	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Colossians 1:1-14	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Colossians 1:15-29	18	19	20
21	22	23	24 Colossians 2:1-7	25	26	27
28	29	30				

October 2025 (Paul's Prison Epistles)

October 2025 (Paul's Prison Epistles)						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Colossians 2:8-3:4	2	3	4
5	6	7	8 Colossians 3:5-17	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Colossians 3:18-4:1	16	17	18
19	20	21	22 Colossians 4:2-18	23	24	25
26	27	28	29 Philemon	30	31	