

New Castle Methodist Church

Monthly Newsletter

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A Note From Brother Jason

“After Jesus and his disciples arrived in Capernaum, the collectors of the two-drachma temple tax came to Peter and asked, ‘Doesn’t your teacher pay the temple tax?’

‘Yes, he does,’ he replied.

When Peter came into the house, Jesus was the first to speak. ‘What do you think, Simon?’ he asked. ‘From whom do the kings of the earth collect duty and taxes—from their own children or from others?’

‘From others,’ Peter answered.

‘Then the children are exempt,’ Jesus said to him. ‘But so that we may not cause offense, go to the lake and throw out your line. Take the first fish you catch; open its mouth and you will find a four-drachma coin. Take it and give it to them for my tax and yours.’” (Matthew 17:24-27)

The story above is about the temple tax, and Jesus’ exemption from the tax as the Son of God. Although he was exempt from the tax, he was willing to pay it so as not to distract from his message about the kingdom of God. He



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

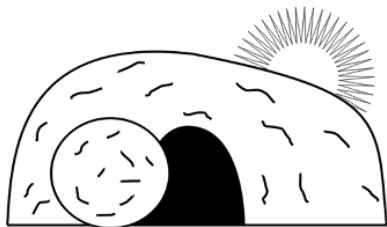
<https://giving.servantkeeper.com/new-castle-al>

or



Witnessing Training Session

We will have a witnessing training session Sunday, April 12th, at 4:00 p.m. Everyone is encouraged to attend. No experience is necessary. All that is needed for this session is a desire to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Attendees will be blessed with the good news, shared by other members of the church, and they will also be given an opportunity to share their own faith story. This time of sharing and discussing our personal stories (witness) with others who also want to share their stories (witness) is a safe and encouraging environment to grow as witnesses of the good news of Jesus Christ. Please come



wanted as many people who heard his message to hear his eventual offer of the forgiveness of sins and eternal life through his suffering, death and resurrection. He wasn't going to let the fact that he didn't need to pay the tax distract others from the message he was sharing.

There is a lesson for us to take from Jesus' example. As children of the king and coheirs with Jesus Christ, we have a relationship with our God that should make us wary of saying and doing things that would distract from the good news that we are called to share in the world.

We have become accustomed to sharing so much more in our world today than we ever did in the past. It wasn't that long ago that we had to send a letter or a postcard if we wanted our family and friends who lived far away to get an update on our lives. Sure, we could have called them, but that was an expensive option that was used only for special occasions. Today, sharing is as simple as snapping a picture and posting it on social media. It is instantaneous, and it doesn't burden our wallets.

The problem for Christians today is that it is just as simple to post all of our thoughts and ideas for the world to see. We post our thoughts about our favorite teams, our favorite politicians and anything else that we believe the world needs to hear should be loved. In the same way we can post about our most hated teams, our most despised politicians and anything else that we believe the world needs to hear should be hated.

*Witnessing Training (Cont.)**A Note From Brother Jason (Cont.)*

and join us as we all grow in our awareness of the opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ and grow in our abilities to share it. The witnessing sessions are in person only.

Fifth Sunday Singing

The next Fifth Sunday Singing is scheduled for May 31st. We will meet in the fellowship hall at 5:00 p.m. for a time of refreshments, lite snacks and fellowship. Then we will head upstairs to the sanctuary for a time of worship. The church will provide the refreshments and snacks.



As Christians who believe that Jesus Christ died, rose from the dead and ascended into heaven, we are tasked by the Lord to share this good news because the world needs to hear that God loves us, despite our faults and sins. He loved everyone so much that he offered his Son's life as a sacrifice so that we could be forgiven of our sin and gain eternal life. This is the news the world needs to hear. Maybe that should make us pause for a moment to consider the implications of our posts on social media and our audience when we are discussing things that can distract from the good news we share.

**Bible Study Content**

The **Wednesday night Bible study** of 1 Corinthians will finish on Wednesday, April 15th. We will finish the study with communion.

The calendar for the 2 Corinthians bible study, which will start on April 22nd, is provided at the end of the newsletter. It provides the text that we will be using for each Wednesday night study. Participants are asked to read the assigned text before the study. You are still encouraged to attend if you haven't read the reading for the day. For those who would like to meet remotely, the connection information is provided at the end of the newsletter.



On April 12th the **Adult Sunday School Class** will begin a series of studies on selected psalms. The reading for April 12th will be Psalm 34:1-6,

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.



15-22. The reading for April 19th will be Psalm 35:1-14, 22-28. The reading on April 26th will be Psalm 78:1-8. The reading on May 3rd will be Psalm 85:1-13. The reading on May 10th will be Psalm 89:1-4, 15-28, 38-41 and 49.

The last 3 Sundays of May will focus on events surrounding the beginning of the church with the presence of the Holy Spirit. The May 17th reading will be Acts 1:1-26. The reading on May 24th, Pentecost Sunday, will focus on Acts 2:1-13. The May 31st reading will be Acts 2:29-41.

The **Youth Sunday School Class** will continue



looking at the issues of faith in our journey in the month of April. The lessons will consider how we handle and view doubts, grace and mission as they relate to our faith. On April 12th the youth will consider the question, “How should we handle doubts in our lives?” The text will be John 20:19-31. On April 19th the text will be John 21:4-12, 15-19 and the youth will consider the question, “What truths can we hold on to when we make mistakes?” On April 26th the text Acts 1:1-11 and the question will be, “What does it look like to live faithfully and make a lasting kingdom impact?”

Starting in May, the classes will focus on our witness. The lessons will consider how we take the good news

everywhere, how we are all called to be missionaries, how good works affect our witness, how everything belongs to the Lord and how we witness in every situation. On May 3rd the question that will be considered is, “Who did Jesus come for?” The text will be Acts 2:1-41. On May 10th we will ask, “Is every believer a missionary.” The text will be Acts 13:1-15. On May 17th the question will be, “How does the Holy Spirit lead us in his good works?” The text will be Acts 15:36-16:12. On May 26th we will ask, “What evidence exists that helps us see God?” The text will be Acts 17:16-34. On May 31st the question that will be considered is, “What truths do we need to remember when sharing Jesus is difficult?” The text for the last Sunday in May is Acts 21:30-36, 22:1-16.



The **Children’s Sunday School Class** will be looking at the stories of the early church in April and May. They will hear about Paul’s change, his missions and some of the friends he met along the way.

The mission of New Castle Methodist Church is to **MAKE** disciples of Jesus Christ through our **LOVE, WORSHIP, STUDY** and **SERVICE**.

April 2026

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

May 2026

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

June 2026

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

July 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 2 Corinthians 12:19-13:14	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	31	