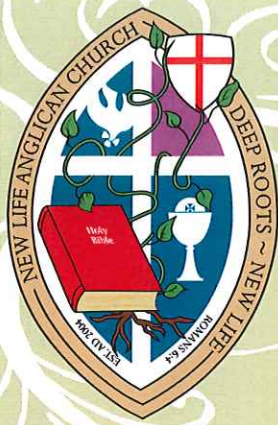


JOYOUS NEWS

November 2021

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

*We will glorify God by deepening the roots of our Anglican faith,
and bringing people to new life in Jesus Christ.*



One trend in the last few years has been for people to get their DNA tested to learn their ancestry. A few years ago, my mother paid to have this done for all her sons and daughters-in-law. We all had fun getting to see what our DNA said about our ethnicities compared to what we believed them to be. For example, my mom's father was from Italy. As far as the family was concerned, he was 100% Italian. However, we all had Greek and Mediterranean DNA, which is likely because the travel between Italy and Greece was common, and thus there was intermarriage that we didn't know about.

Initially, my older brother, Charlie, was told that he had no Italian DNA, despite believing he was about 25% Italian. Charlie was very upset about this because he was most proud about being Italian. He looks Italian more than anything else. Plus, my mom's DNA test showed that she was 30%+ Italian, so how could Charlie have 0%? I don't really understand how all these things work, but eventually, as Ancestry.com continued to analyze DNA, Charlie's was revised to being something like 11% Italian. Needless to say, he was very happy at the news. Even though his DNA results weren't going to change who he is as a person, he was happy to have that vindication that he hadn't been somehow pretending to be Italian his whole life.

DNA is something to think about because it tells us a lot about who we are. With that in mind, we need to spend some time thinking about the DNA of New Life. Who are we? What are our strengths and assets? What are our weaknesses and deficiencies? And based on that DNA, who do we want to be and what are the goals for our church?

Unlike people, whose DNA, as far as I know, remains unchanged, churches and communities change over time. Obviously, when we talk about the DNA of a church or community, we are really just using a metaphor to describe who the church is. From the time I began at New Life until today, much has changed. It would be unreasonable to think that we would stay exactly the same. In fact, it would be bad if there was no change in the community over eleven years, since we are to be growing in Christ every day. I want to look at things that have defined our community over the past decade before looking at where we are today.

When I started here, there were four things that stood out. New Life was a family in a very real sense, inquisitive and highly involved in learning, generous, particularly with finances, and fractured. Let me explain that last one a bit. When I got here there were some factions in the congregation, mostly due to a roughly two-year period without clergy. As they say, leadership abhors a vacuum. That led to some power struggles and other things. I am not going to dwell on this point, because I do think that we dealt with those issues early on, even though they reared their head again later.

As for the other three things, they are obviously all positives. While there was some division in the church, that exists even in biological families, and it wasn't enough to keep New Life from truly feeling like a family that loved one another. It always struck me as awesome that people in the church really loved each other and were also real friends outside of church. That has also been something that has attracted others to New Life over the years. Not all churches are families in the way that they should be, but for most of my time here, New Life has been.

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November 2021 at New Life



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour Toni DuBois	1	2	3 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 11am @ The Davis' 6:00pm Pizza 6:30pm Bible Study	4 Morning Prayer 8:00am Women's Birthday Lunch Noon in Blanz Hall Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	5	6 SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK
7 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Wandries	8	9 November Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	10 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 11am @ The Davis' 6:00pm Pizza 6:30pm Bible Study	11 Morning Prayer 8:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	12	13
14 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Davis' Outreach Committee Meeting	15	16 Men's Ministry Group 5:30pm @ The Bridge Home	17 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 11am @ The Davis' 6:00pm Pizza 6:30pm Bible Study	18 Morning Prayer 8:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	19	20
21 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Luckys	22	23	24 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's	25 Happy Thanksgiving Church Office Closed	26	27
28 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour Brenda & Ginny FIRST ADVENT SUNDAY	29	30 Joyous News Deadline December Issue	1 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 11am @ The Davis' 6:00pm Pizza 6:30pm Bible Study	2 Morning Prayer 8:00am Women's Birthday Lunch Noon in Blanz Hall Women's Bible Study 6:30pm	3	4

WALLY'S GALLERY —

On the 25th of this month many families, hopefully most, will gather together to sit down for the annual holiday meal of Thanksgiving. A tradition that is generally acknowledged to have first occurred in 1621 when the Plymouth colonists and a native Americans tribe shared an autumn harvest feast. Probably many parents will share some of the history of the event to their children; that the colonists were called Pilgrims who sailed from England on the Mayflower and offer various reasons as to why they came.



In truth that is about the extent of what I would have recalled from my early years of education. However, there is much more to the story as I learned some years ago from a very entertaining DVD series put out by Focus on the Family entitled "Drive through History" with Dave Stotts. Other bits of information came from the History Channel web page.

The colonists who landed at Plymouth were comprised of two groups; the Separatists and those who just wanted to settle in America. How they both ended up on the Mayflower is a story in itself.

The Separatists objected to the traditions of the Roman Catholic Church that had been incorporated into the worship services of the Church of England. As it was against the law to hold services in any other manner in England, they moved to Holland in 1608. As the years passed it became evident that this too was not suitable as a permanent home. The language barrier and the inability to maintain their English heritage and still gain full civil rights in Holland certainly was a factor. Another was that they were very concerned about the loose secular culture that was influencing their children. So, they turned their eyes to America.

The Separatists knew that this was going to be a very difficult journey but their faith was far more powerful than their fears. Motivated by the words of Jesus in Matthew 5:14-16; "You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven." Contrary to the Puritans who believed they could reform the Church of England from within, the Separatists felt their calling was to take the Light of the Gospel to a new Hill and let it shine forth. To that end they were willing to suffer through whatever lay ahead.

On July 22, 1620 they boarded a ship named the Speedwell and sailed to Southampton, UK. Then on August 6th with the Separatist on the Speedwell they joined another ship; the Mayflower whose passengers were non Christians colonists seeking wealth in the new land. Both ships then departed for the new world.

Continued on page 4

Twice, however, the Speedwell developed leaks causing both ships to returned to England. Facing no other choice the Separatist sold the Speedwell and joined the passengers already on the over crowded Mayflower. On September 6, 1620 the Mayflower finally departed for America.

For the next 66 days the passengers, housed between decks with no outside visibility or fresh air, suffered as the Mayflower, which was never designed for an ocean crossing, slugged through storms and heavy seas typical of the Atlantic ocean. When they finally reached American they landed on the tip of Cape Cod, far north of their intended destination in Virginia. One month later they crossed Massachusetts Bay and landed at Plymouth were they settled.

Before leaving the Mayflower, the Pilgrims, as they were now called, would author and sign the Mayflower Compact. This they considered a sacred contract in which they stated their reason for coming "...for the glory of God and the advancement of the Christian faith. It began with these word: "In ye name of God, Amen." In the contract they agreed to follow the rules of the government for the sake of their survival. In turn the government would derive its powers from the governed. This short document is considered the cornerstone of the United States Constitution.

John Stott who narrated this story tells us that the pilgrims set out to create a shinning city on a hill. He follows by asking if that is what America is today? He says that they lived out their lives committed to the words in Romans 12:18 - "If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all." To that end, John Stott says they were a shinning light in history.

*New Life's Local Outreach
Community Connection Glove Drive
~ Large Men's Gloves Are Needed ~
(Please add your donations to the box in Blanz Hall.)*

*The Nehemiah Project is a faith-based shelter
serving homeless men, women and children
in our community.*

Thank you for supporting their mission.

*New
Life's*



*Christmas
POTLUCK*

Sunday, December 19th

following the church service

Watch for sign up sheet in Blanz Hall

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY LUNCHESES – meeting at noon on the first Thursday of the month at East Park. Bring your own lunch. Don't miss this opportunity for fellowship!! Please RSVP to Karen Dielman kdielman@charter.net

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – join us for a 7-week DVD study by Priscilla Shirer, "Elijah - Faith and Fire Bible Study" on Thursdays at 6:30pm in the annex lower level classroom.

MEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEN'S BREAKFAST – meets each Wednesdays at 8:30am for food and fellowship at J.W. Filmore's.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Davis's Home @ 902 Howard St., Petoskey

MEN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM – meeting is Thursday, Nov. 16th at the Bridge Home. Our meetings will include fellowship 5:30 – 6:30p.m., dinner 6:30 – 7:30p.m. and a short teaching 7:30 – 8:00 p.m. Bring your own beverage of choice. I hope you will join us.

Continued from page 1

The second point was the inquisitiveness. There was a real longing for learning and discipleship. There were times where our adult Sunday school room was too small for everyone to fit. We seamlessly went from one topic to another, and the conversation was always great. We had classes and bible studies and people couldn't wait to dig into the learning and growth. Sadly, this has been on a steady decline for several years. Our adult Sunday school now usually sits at two or three people. Our Wednesday night studies fluctuate but are still often half or less of what they used to be. This isn't meant to be any kind of accusation. It is just an assessment of where we are currently.

As for generosity, New Life remains one of the most generous churches I have ever seen. If anyone is ever in need and we come to the church for aid, it is met without question. This has been one of the greatest aspects of this community in my time here, to watch the way that people will genuinely show their love for the Lord by loving one another with their time and treasure.

As I mentioned, communities change over time. I am not sure that I would use the same four criteria to describe New Life. Generosity still stands out to me, as I said. I think there has been a change from the commitment to or desire for learning and discipleship over the years. This has been affected by a number of things, including deaths, a change in people's physical health and ability to attend things, and people moving or leaving the community. On the other hand, there has been an increased desire to look outside of our church and care for the needy, which reflects New Life's generosity, and is also a reflection that people have become stronger disciples of Christ.

Somewhere that I believe we have really changed is in the family atmosphere. I do believe that New Life is still a family that loves one another. But I don't think we are the same as we once were. COVID changed so much. Between the fear of the disease, the hostility towards one another over our views of the disease (and all the politics accompanying it), and the restrictions we had in place, which were met with no small amount of displeasure from our congregation, I believe that the DNA has been altered more towards the fractured side of things than people realize.

There are broken relationships, many with people who have left our church. There is gossip. There are undertones of suspicion, distrust, and dissatisfaction. Church attendance is low, even when factoring in people we lost during the height of the COVID crisis. Many churches are going through these things. COVID has brought out the worst in Christians and non-Christians alike. Bishop Mark said that every church in the diocese that he has talked to is experiencing the same thing that I have described that we are facing.

I strongly believe that without COVID, New Life would be in a different, much better place. But COVID did happen, it is still going on, and it is never going to go away, as it is now endemic. It is now up to all churches, and New Life is not exempt from it, to determine who we are and who we want to be going forward. Do we want to be that loving family that once defined the core of New Life's DNA? If so, what are we going to do to make that happen? Beyond that, who are we now? It is ok that our community has changed, some for the better, some not. But who are we, today, right now? Who do we want to become? What are our goals? And how do we accomplish them?

These are questions that our vestry is asking and will continue to ask. It is good for us to get a new DNA test and find out who we are. I believe that we all truly want what's best for New Life; so let's commit ourselves to intentional thought about who we are and want to be; prayer about who God wants us to be and how we get there; and action to accomplish these things.

~ Fr. Mike

November 2021 Service Calendar

If you are unable to fulfill your service duties on the dates listed, please try to rearrange and find your own replacement.

	November 7	November 14	November 21	November 28	December 5
ALTAR GUILD	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Karen Dielman
SOUND/ MUSIC	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes
USHER/ COUNTER/ GREETERS	Randy F./ Don L./ Taylor DuBois	Dan W./ Randy F./ The Bowmans	Don L./ Dan W./ The Flynns	Randy F./ Don L./ Sally Stump	Dan W./ Randy F./ Taylor DuBois
LECTOR	Erika Dielman	Mary Jane Zako	Gretchen Lucky	Karen Dielman	Dan Wandrie
LAY MINISTER	Mary Jane Zako	Mickey Bridge	Karen Dielman	Erika Dielman	Howard Bates
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL		Darlene Wandrie	Taylor DuBois	TBD	TBD
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	The Wandries	The Davis'	The Luckys	Brenda & Ginny	The Bowmans



Thursday
Morning Prayer
8:00am in
Fr. Mike's Office



ALTAR GUILD

Nov..... Liz Ostrander
Dec..... Karen Dielman
Jan..... Ginny Poquette
Feb..... Gretchen Lucky

Birthdays

November



Wedding Anniversaries



April Honeycutt 11/1
Andy Wandrie 11/1
Hayden Flynn 11/11
Mickey Bridge 11/15
Lou Zako 11/25



May the Lord richly bless you on your special day and all year!
Please let us know if we have missed your Birthday or Wedding Anniversary
so that we may celebrate with you and remember you in prayer.

Congregation — We Need You!

To volunteer to serve, please contact the Team Leaders listed below.

Altar Guild:	Karen Dielman..... 231/347-3532
Altar Flowers:	Karen Dielman..... 231/347-3532
Music/Sound:	Ferd Dielman 231/347-3532
Ushers:	
Greeters:	Carol Bowman 231/459-4566
Lectors:	Tracey Jepsen 231/347-3448
Lay Eucharistic Ministers:	Mike Bridge 231/330-0689
Acolytes:	Mike Bridge 231/330-0689
Prayer Team:	Betty Stansbury..... 231/439-0773
Children's Sunday School:	Darlene Wandrie .. 231/347-5871
Youth Sunday School:	Don Lucky 231/622-2058
(middle & high school)	
Adult Sunday School:	Mike Bridge 231/330-0689
	Wally Stansbury ... 231/439-0773
Nursery:	Bonnie Bridge 231/445-1810
Fellowship/Hospitality:	Liz Ostrander 231/348-2802
Prayer Chain:	Ron Davis 517/617-5015
Women's Ministry:	Karen Dielman..... 231/347-3532
Study Leader	Bonnie Bridge..... 231/445-1810
Men's Ministry:	Mike Bridge..... 231/330-0689
Inreach:	Gretchen Lucky 231/622-2057
Outreach:	Lacy Bates231/373-7997
Evangelism:	Betty Stansbury..... 231/439-0773
Missions:	
Building and Grounds:	Don Greenwell..... 231/347-1808
Art and Architecture:	Susan Davis 231/881-3106
Church Historian:	Liz Ostrander 231/348-2802
Communications:	Bonnie Bridge..... 231/445-1810
(newspaper articles, etc.)	
Student Visitor's:	
(Recreational Liaison)	
Treasurer:	Wes Ostrander 231/330-4930
Assistant Treasurer:	Susan Davis 231/881-3106
Assistant Treasurer:	Sally Stump 231/881-2818
Stewardship:	Dan Wandrie..... 231/347-5871

New Life Anglican Church 2021 Vestry

Sr. Warden ... Howard Bates
Jr. Warden ... Dan Wandrie
Treasurer Wes Ostrander
..... Susan Davis
..... Toni DuBois
..... Don Lucky

Our Joyous News Needs You!

Please consider submitting an article or item of interest for the next issue of the Joyous News.

Submission deadline
is November 30th.



SAVE YOUR

OLESON'S RECEIPTS

We appreciate grocery receipts from Oleson's Food Stores. You may leave your receipts in the coffee hour donation basket, in the Outreach shopping cart or on Tracey's desk.

THE SEASON OF ADVENT

We have now entered the season of Advent. Awaiting the coming of the Messiah, Jesus, our Lord and Savior. The color has been changed to purple and will change to white Christmas Eve, His coming. The Advent wreath is standing in the nave. Four candles, three purple and one pink, in the center the Christ candle, all surrounded by evergreens. Each Sunday a candle is lit representing Peace, Love, Joy, and Hope. As we reflect, let us not forget....Jesus is the reason for the season. Our most treasured gift from a Father who loves us. Merry Christmas

LITURGICAL SEASON — by Karen Dielman

New Life

Anglican Church

P.O. Box 481

PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN 49770

office@newlifeanglican.com

We were therefore
buried with Him
through baptism into
death in order that,
just as Christ was
raised from the dead
through the glory of
the Father, we too
may live a *new life*.

Romans 6:4



ANGLICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

JOYOUS NEWS

November 2021

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*Thanksgiving Day,
a time of favors;
a time of life
richly savored.
The food be thanked,
the family too,
as we abide
in God's
most holy rule.*

BES

