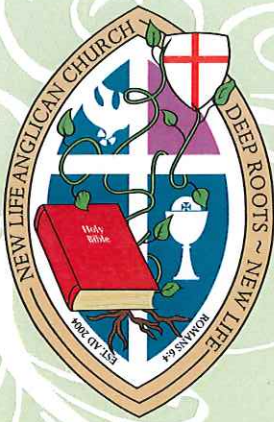


219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

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



“Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.” Philippians 4:4

Being a dad is among my favorite things in the world. I also love being a husband, but being a dad is amazing. I get so much joy out of being with my boys. Mickey and I hang out all the time and do just about everything together. Josh and I enjoy watching movies together. Danny wants to be with me all the time, even if it is just sitting on the couch. And Sam’s favorite thing in the world is playing imaginary games like him being monsters and me pretending to shoot him. There is never a moment in my house where one of my boys doesn’t want to be with me.

And then there is Fiona. God finally answered my prayers for a daughter, and the one he gave me is just incredible. I love her sweet face and her joyful smile. I love how much she loves her brothers and how much they love her. I love how she likes to sit on my lap and watch *Teletubbies*. And I love how much she loves her mother.

We all hoped that things would be back to some semblance of normal by now. It isn’t. Instead of being past the pandemic, many of us have had to adjust our Thanksgiving plans and the same may be true of Christmas. We currently have the highest infection rate in Northern Michigan that we have had since this all began, and the hospitals are bracing for things to get even worse.

Many people, including myself, are struggling with depression, or, at the very least, the blues because of lockdowns and stay at home orders. I would like to say that we have to find a way to be happy in these dark days, but that is easier said than done. But while forcing ourselves to be happy might be difficult, we can choose which things we focus on. That is why I opened this by talking about the joy of my kids. In order to stop focusing on the difficult things, I have taken extra time to focus on what brings joy into my life.

The Apostle Paul says to rejoice in the Lord always. This was his advice to the church when they were struggling. He was able to say this to them while writing from prison. We may not always be able to be happy. But we can always choose joy over the struggles that Satan throws in our paths. Choosing joy is hard, though. It takes effort. And that isn’t made easier by having to cancel so many church activities and having to worry about COVID exposure during Sunday worship.

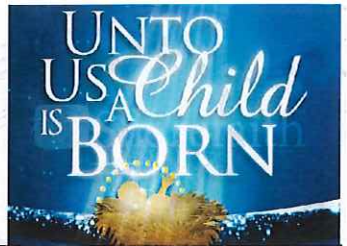
We have to make the effort to keep Christ at the center of our lives. If we can’t make it to church, then watch it online or listen to sermons from somewhere. If you can’t do a bible study, then read some good Christian books that will encourage, inspire, and uplift. Don’t let

A D V E N T



# December 2020

## at New Life



☉ come • ☉ come • Emmanuel

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Worship Service 10:00am <i>hope</i>	30	1	2 Book of Exodus Study viz Zoom 6:30pm	3 Morning Prayer 8:00am via YouTube	4	5
6 Worship Service 10:00am <i>love</i>	7	8 December Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	9 Book of Exodus Study viz Zoom 6:30pm	10 Morning Prayer 8:00am via YouTube	11	12
13 Worship Service 10:00am <i>joy</i>	14	15	16 Book of Exodus Study viz Zoom 6:30pm	17 Morning Prayer 8:00am via YouTube	18	19
20 Worship Service 10:00am <i>peace</i>	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE LESSONS & CAROLS 7PM Church Office Closed	25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26
27 Worship Service 10:00am	28 Joyous News Deadline January Issue	29	30 Book of Exodus Study viz Zoom 6:30pm	31 Morning Prayer 8:00am via YouTube	1 2 WELCOME 2021	

## *The Gospel of Luke 2:1-14*

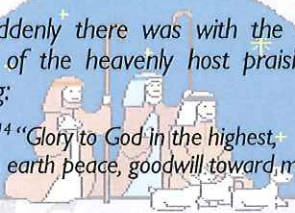
<sup>1</sup>And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. <sup>3</sup>So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

<sup>4</sup>Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup>to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. <sup>6</sup>So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. <sup>7</sup>And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup>Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup>For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup>And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger."

<sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

<sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!"



Join Us For Our  
*Christmas Eve*  
Lessons & Carols Service  
*Dec. 24th @7:00pm*

## *New Life's Local Outreach*

*This year we will be putting together  
10 Christmas Food Baskets  
for families in our community.*

*There will be a sign-up sheet  
and donation box in the Cry Room.*

*We are accepting donations of any kind  
but especially; canned green beans,  
mushroom soup, stove top stuffing,  
potatoes, cranberry sauce, rice, egg noodles,  
pumpkin pie and cool whip. Any extra  
"treats" are also more than welcome.*

*For more information please contact  
Gretchen Lucky at (231)622-2057*

*Deadline for donations is  
Sunday, December 20th*

## **LITURGICAL SEASON – 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

## WALLY'S GALLERY –

Several months ago Ligonier Ministries began a discussion of the Book of Revelation their monthly devotional magazine, *Tabletalk*. It struck me then, as it still does now, that what they discussed was appropriate to this time in the church calendar as we look to the birth of Jesus. (The quotes that follow come from that issue unless otherwise noted.)



To start, we often refer to the last book of the Bible as the Book of Revelation, but as the author of the book, the apostle John, wrote in his opening words it is really “The revelation of Jesus Christ..” (Rev. 1:1) In the first chapter of that book, John then tells the reader of some key truths about our Savior: that he triumphed over death; is the ruler over all, and has freed us from our sins. (Rev. 1:5) All this is wonderful news but it holds little credibility without an understanding of who Jesus is. That understanding about Jesus, John makes perfectly clear a few verses later.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega, “says the Lord God,” who was and who is to come, the Almighty.” (Revelation 1:8) *Tabletalk* magazine points out that the words the “Lord God,” or Yahweh Elohim, appears hundreds of times in the Old Testament as a designation for the God of Israel (Gen. 2:4; Ex. 23:17; Ps. 59:5; Amos 3:7...). Yahweh being the particular name of God for the Jewish people, while Elohim is the more generic name for God. John in this opening chapter of Revelation applies this Greek translation of Yahweh Elohim to Jesus as the one speaking to him. This was not just a liberty taken by John as an expression of his own belief. Jesus in His own words also left no doubt as to who he was.

John tells us that the one speaking to him said, “I am the Alpha and the Omega” (the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet). “This echoes the words of the Lord God in Isaiah 44:6 and elsewhere, where He calls Himself the first and the last, declaring that besides Him there is no God. Jesus is God and “because he is the one true God, He is, and was, and is to come (Rev. 1:8). Like the Father and the Holy Spirit, the Son of God is before all things and after all things. All of creation finds its origin and sustenance in Him.” (*Tabletalk*; September 2020)

There are times at night when I can not sleep that I think about God and Jesus as God. It is then, as it is now as I type these words, that I am left speechless; unable to put to words

Continued from page 1

your prayer life falter. Spend time in the word. Talk with your family about the scriptures. Do your own or family devotions.

Then, find those things that bring you joy and spend time on them. If you aren't able to get out of the house much, find ways to enjoy being with your family. Catch up on the movies or tv shows you have been wanting to see. Read a book out loud to or with your family. Dust off those old board games. Take extra time to make phone calls to people you don't usually have time to catch up with. There are so many things we can do. But it will take a change in perspective.

Rejoice in the Lord. Rejoice that he has given you this extra time for family, friends, or hobbies. Rejoice that this new season gives a new opportunity for growth and sanctification. Rejoice that life can slow down a bit and be willing to accept that things don't always have to be hectic and super busy. Hug your spouse, play with the kids, call the grandkids, cuddle the dog, strengthen relationships that you haven't had the time to nurture when things were more normal.

It is up to us. We can wallow in the struggles, or we can look for the good things the Lord is doing. We can complain, or we can rejoice. I want to rejoice. I choose rejoicing. I hope you will too.

~ Fr. Mike



*Joyful hearts rejoice  
in the babe's sweet blessed light  
scattering, thus, all darkness,  
giving sore eyes new sight.*

*BES*

**HOPE**  
HAS COME



Continued from page 4


something that is beyond my comprehension. How is it that an Almighty Being, so awesome that out of nothing He created everything, would take on human flesh and dwell among such fallen creatures? It is a concept beyond my ability to fully absorb and explain. Christmas for me surfaces all these thoughts; thoughts that leave me humbled. All I can do at such times is let it sink in and accept what I believe to be true without fully comprehending; humbled in its mystery.

“Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,  
He is the Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,  
Of all the things that are, that have been, and the future years shall see,  
ever more and ever more!” (Christmas hymn “Of the Father's Love Begotten”)

# December 2020 Service Calendar

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

	December 6	December 13	December 20	Christmas Eve Service	December 27	January 3
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman
<b>SOUND/MUSIC</b>	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Scott	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes
<b>USHER/COUNTER/GREETERS</b>	Don L / Ron D / The Bowmans	Ron D / Dan W / Sally Stump	Dan W / Don L / The Bowmans	Volunteers Needed	D.W. / Scott R / The Flynns	Scott R / D.W. / The Bowmans
<b>LECTOR</b>	Ferd Dielman	Dan Wandrie	Gretchen Lucky		Karen Dielman	Ferd Dielman
<b>LAY MINISTER</b>	Karen Dielman	Kim Redman	Karen Dielman		Wally Stansbury	Kim Redman
<b>COFFEE HOUR HOSTS</b>						




Thursday  
Morning Prayer  
8:00am  
on YouTube




## ALTAR GUILD

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






## Birthdays

# December



## Wedding Anniversaries



John Ostrander	12/6		
Bonnie Bridge	12/7		
Samuel Bridge	12/17		

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:	Scott Redman ..... 616/439-9454
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
employee(s):	
Fellowship/Hospitality:	Shelly Kumfer ..... 231/348-2878
Prayer Chain:	Ron Davis ..... 517/617-5015
Women's Ministry:	Karen Dielman..... 231/838-5376
Study Leader	Karen Dielman..... 231/838-5376
Study Leader	Bonnie Bridge..... 231/445-1810
Study Leader	Kim Redman ..... 616/648-8911
Study Leader	Catherine Carey .... 231/348-3775
Men's Ministry:	Mike Bridge..... 231/330-0689
Inreach:	Gretchen Lucky .... 231/622-2057
<b>Outreach:</b>	<b>~ LEADER NEEDED ~</b>
Evangelism:	Betty Stansbury..... 231/439-0773
Missions:	Kim Redman ..... 616/648-8911
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.)	Lou Zako ..... 231/526-5095
Student Visitor's:	
(Recreational Liaison)	Scott Redman ..... 616/439-9454
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 2020 Vestry

Sr. Warden .... Howard Bates  
Jr. Warden..... Dan Wandrie  
Treasurer..... Wes Ostrander  
..... Toni DuBois  
..... Don Lucky  
..... Scott Redman

## 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 December 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.



Stop by read, leave comments, engage in our discussions.  
Church BlogSpot is: [blog.newlifeanglican.com](http://blog.newlifeanglican.com)  
Visit our Church Website at: [www.newlifeanglican.com](http://www.newlifeanglican.com)



# New Life

Anglican Church

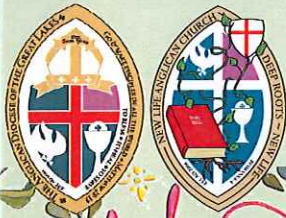
P.O. Box 481

PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN 49770

[office@newlifeanglican.com](mailto: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*.

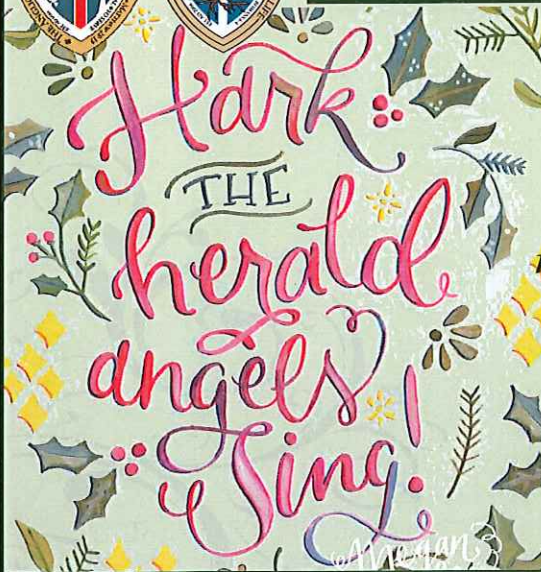
Romans 6:4



## JOYOUS NEWS

December 2020

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448



*The meaning of  
Christmas  
wraps us  
in its own packaging:  
no marked down prices here,  
the crèche set forth,  
centered, to view  
the promised gift  
from God.*

BES

