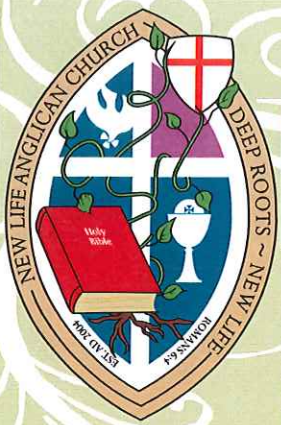


219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

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



I have been reading a lot of fiction lately. One of the issues that has come up in multiple of the books is forgiveness. The most recent book in particular, *Fall of Radiance*, had a scene in it where one of the leaders of a local militia was on trial because he had accepted bribes from the enemy. As the verdict was read, he begged for his life, saying that he was sorry and that he had made a mistake.

The magistrate pronounced him guilty of treason and then said, "Your actions are unforgivable, and for that, you must die." Then he was immediately executed.

This got to me in a surprising way. It was just a scene in a novel, and the man deserved his punishment. What affected me was the statement that his actions were unforgivable. There seemed to be a conflation in the scene between forgivable and worthy of punishment. Certainly, his actions were worthy of punishment. However, that doesn't make them unforgivable. Which got me to thinking about how wrongly people think about forgiveness. The magistrate saw two diametrically opposed options: forgiveness or punishment. But those aren't the only options. He could very well have forgiven the criminal and still punished him; still executed him, in fact.

This issue shows itself in real life as well. So many who oppose the death penalty think that if someone has admitted their guilt, found faith, reconciled with the family of the victims, or something like that, then they shouldn't be executed. Why? Forgiveness isn't the opposite of punishment. Forgiveness doesn't change consequences.

In many cases, I think this view is why we can struggle to forgive. We think that if we forgive someone then we are letting them off the hook. But just because we forgive someone doesn't necessarily mean there aren't any consequences. Forgiveness doesn't take the action away, so it doesn't necessitate taking away the consequences. If someone stole thousands of dollars from me and I forgave them, that doesn't mean I don't want paid back. Or that they don't need to be held accountable by the civil authorities.

What forgiveness does do is cause us to let go of our perceived right to remain angry, offended, or unfairly judgmental to another person. We don't let them off the hook for their actions, we let them off the hook from our ire. We free ourselves and them from the hostility we otherwise direct toward them. And, of course, there is a much bigger part of forgiveness that comes from God himself: the forgiveness of sins. If God can forgive someone, how can we not forgive them? Or, if God has forgiven us, how can we not forgive others?

When we think about the kinds of things that are unforgivable, we may think of murder, rape, adultery, or treason. I can't imagine forgiving someone who hurt one of my children or forgiving my spouse for infidelity. However, what did Jesus list as the only unforgivable sin? It wasn't any of these things. Note, when he spoke of the unforgivable sin, he didn't say that murders should be set free because their sins

# May 2022

## at New Life

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Sarasins	2	3	4 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 10:30am Fr. Mike's Office	5 Morning Prayer 8:00am	6	7
8 Worship Service 10:00am <i>happy Mothers Day</i> No Coffee Hour	9	10 May Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	11 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 10:30am Fr. Mike's Office	12 Morning Prayer 8:00am	13	14
15 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Zakos	16	17	18 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 10:30am Fr. Mike's Office	19 Morning Prayer 8:00am	20	21
22 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Ostrandars	23	24	25 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 10:30am Fr. Mike's Office	26 Morning Prayer 8:00am Men's Ministry Group 5:30pm @ NLAC	27	28
29 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Bowmans	30 <b>Memorial Day</b>	31 <i>Joyous News Deadline June Issue</i>	1 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's Men's Bible Study 10:30am Fr. Mike's Office	2 Morning Prayer 8:00am	3	4

## WALLY'S GALLERY –

In February I wrote about the impact Jesus had on literature and in March about Jesus' influence on education. For both articles I referenced J. Warner Wallace's book "Person of Interest." This month I again will refer to J. Warner Wallace's writing as well as, but not exclusively, Dr. James Kennedy's book entitled "What if the Bible had Never been Written" to show the influence Jesus had on science.



Mr. Wallace writes that for the 2,000 years before Christ, scientific developments occurred very slowly as only the basic foundations for mathematics and natural science were laid. This was not the case for the next 2,000 years, however, as Mr. Wallace shows in a graph of scientific advancements. Some 300 years after Jesus, the graph's slope begins to change with the signing of two Edicts. The first was the Edict of Milan in 313 AD which ended the persecution of Christians. The second was the Edict of Thessalonica in 380 AD which made Christianity the official religion of the Roman empire. Now the stage was set for the unhindered discovery of truths in the natural world.

After the proclamation of these two edicts, initial advancements were slow but none the less present. During the Middle ages, from the 5th to 15th centuries, Muslim thinkers added to the achievements but that ended around the 16th century due to their theological view of Allah. In Islam Allah is completely transcendent and thereby divorced from his creation. Consequently, he acts impersonally making every event already determined regardless of what mankind does. In a fatalistic world such as this, the search for truths about the natural world by observation and experimentation would be pointless.

In the 16th century much changed with significant advancements in the sciences ushering in a period called the Scientific Revolution.

Who were the major contributors to this historic advancement? They were Christians such as Johannes Kepler (celestial mechanics); Galileo Galilei (physics and astronomy); Isaac Newton (mathematics, astronomy, physics); Carl Von Linnaeus (natural sciences); Charles Babbage and Blaise Pascal (computer science); Mathew Fontaine Maury (physical oceanography, hydrology) and the list goes on, and on... J. Warner Wallace in his book writes "Christians are the fathers and founders of..." he then lists 230 scientific disciplines! He ends the list by writing "Jesus' followers didn't simply contribute to the sciences, they founded and led the sciences.

The great advancements in science were made mostly by Christians because they held to a Christian worldview. Rodney Stark (Distinguished Professor of the Social Sciences at Baylor University)

are forgivable. He didn't conflate consequences/justice with forgiveness. The unforgivable sin was blasphemy of the Holy Spirit. It was, literally, attributing evil to the Spirit of God. There is no other sin that stands in the way of being forgiven by Jesus.

Yes, in that regard we are talking about eternal forgiveness. We are talking about reconciliation to the Father. But when we consider that our sins, our crimes, are all against our Father, and that our sins led to the death of his holy, perfect, eternal Son, then we should be able to see that all sins, all offenses matter. And that if God can forgive all sin, so we can we.

Getting back, then, to the book I mentioned at the beginning, I think what bothered me about the scene was that the criminal was treated as having committed an unforgivable sin (he was told he had) and then immediately executed, so there was never any chance at forgiveness or reconciliation on a personal or on a metaphysical level. This is just how our current cancel culture functions. Someone makes a mistake or commits a cultural "sin", and they are immediately executed in the public square with no chance for forgiveness.

We, the Church, have something better to offer. Even when someone must face a just penalty for their acts, we offer forgiveness. We offer reconciliation with God. We offer hope. We have received these things through the shed blood of Christ, and now our responsibility is to pass them on to the rest of the world through that same shed blood. There is only one unforgivable sin, and it isn't the one you or I are holding onto in our hearts after being harmed by our neighbor. I pray that we will all find the strength, through Christ, to forgive like Christ.

~ Fr. Mike

## **WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON** – meeting at noon on the first Thursday of the month in Blanz Hall. Bring your own lunch. Don't miss this opportunity for fellowship!!

## **MEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – Wednesdays at 10:30am in Fr. Milke's Office and remotely via conference call

**MEN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM** – meeting is Thursday, May 26th at NLAC in Blanz Hall. 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.

## **LITURGICAL SEASONS** — *by Karen Dielman*

### **ASCENSION DAY** — June 2

Today we are celebrating Ascension Day, which fell on Thursday, May 30. Ascension Day is celebrated on the closet Sunday it falls. In Luke, chapter 24, verses 36 through 49, Jesus appears to his disciples. He ate and he opened their minds to the scriptures and told that the promise of God was yet to come and to wait. He then led them out to Bethany where he lifted his hands and blessed them.....While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Luke 24:51 You may have noticed in the sanctuary, a large white candle that has been lit since Easter Sunday, the paschal candle. It is lit before anyone enters the church and is extinguished when everyone has left. It represents Christ's presence here on earth until Ascension Day and is extinguished after the gospel on the Sunday his ascension is celebrated.

Continued from page 3

describes the Christian worldview in this way: that God is a "rational, dependable, omnipotent being and the universe, as his personal creation, is a rational, lawful, stable structure awaiting human comprehension." (Evidence That Demands a Verdict)

This worldview is not some esoteric, philosophical, imagined, or fatalistic belief. Rather it is a belief grounded in the knowledge that the universe is orderly, governed by laws which the Supreme Law Giver intended for mankind to discover. It is a belief that through the discovery of these laws mankind is drawn closer to God.

"The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork. Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge. There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard. Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world." (Psalm 19:1-5)

"For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse." (Romans 1:19-20)

~ Wally's Gallery

Our Guests for  
the Summer...



CAMPUS  
OUTREACH  
COLUMBUS

## MISSION CONNECT SIGN-UP SHEET

LIKE.... BICYCLING, COOKOUTS, BOATING, CAMPFIRES, NATURE  
HIKES, LOCAL EVENTS, BEACH COMBING AND SIGHT SEEING.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT  
AND SIGN UP IN BLANZ  
HALL TO HOST OUR  
GUEST STUDENTS  
MAY 26 - JULY 28  
TO JOIN YOU IN YOUR  
SUMMER ACTIVITIES

### NEW LIFE'S CHURCH EMAIL ADDRESSES ARE:

Office@newlifeanglican.net; Tracey@newlifeanglican.net and NLACPetoskey@gmail.com

### NEW LIFE HAS A NEW WEBSITE

Take a minute and check it out at [newlifeanglicanchurch.org](http://newlifeanglicanchurch.org)

### HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

We began our journey into Holy Week with Jesus entry in to Jerusalem. As we progress on his walk we hear of the last supper and foot washing with the disciples on Maundy Thursday. Good Friday.....the goodness of our sins paid with the death of our Lord and Savior. Easter...the rising of the Son! As Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. She runs and cries, "they have taken him and we don't know where he is." The disciples go, see, and believe. Scriptures fulfilled. On the third day the temple will be rebuilt. Alleluia! The Lord has risen. He has risen indeed. Alleluia!

# May 2022 Service Calendar

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

	May 1	May 8	May 15	May 22	May 29	June 5
ALTAR GUILD	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Gretchen Lucky
SOUND/ MUSIC	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes
USHER/ COUNTER/ GREETERS	Dan W./ Randy F./ Taylor DuBois	Don L./ Dan W./ The Bowmans	Randy F./ Don L./ The Flynns	TBD./ Randy F./ The Bowmans	Don L./ Dan W./ Sally Stump	Randy F./ Don L./ Taylor DuBois
LECTOR	Wally Stansbury	Gretchen Lucky	Erika Dielman	Dylan Williams	Dan Wandrie	Karen Dielman
LAY MINISTER	Karen Dielman	Wally Stansbury	Mickey Bridge	Mary Jane Zako	Howard Bates	Erika Dielman
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL	Darlene Wandrie	Darlene Wandrie	Darlene Wandrie	TBD	Darlene Wandrie	Darlene Wandrie
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	The Sarisins	Happy Mother's Day	The Zakos	The Ostranders	The Bowmans	The DuBois



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



## ALTAR GUILD

May ..... Karen Dielman  
June ..... Gretchen Lucky  
July ..... Liz Ostrander



## Birthdays

## May



## Wedding Anniversaries



Betty Stansbury 5/3  
Howard Bates 5/4  
Sally Stump 5/26  
Bill Knapp 5/30



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
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
Nursery:	Bonnie Bridge .....	231/445-1810
Fellowship/Hospitality:	Liz Ostrander .....	231/348-2802
Prayer Chain:	Ron Davis .....	517/617-5015
Women's Ministry:		
Study Leader		
Men's Ministry:	Mike Bridge.....	231/330-0689
Inreach:	Gretchen Lucky ...	231/622-2057
Outreach:	Lacy Bates .....	231/373-7997
Evangelism:		
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 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

### 2022 Vestry

Sr. Warden ...	Howard Bates
Jr. Warden ...	Dan Wandrie
Treasurer .....	Wes Ostrander
.....	Susan Davis
.....	Erika Dielman
.....	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 May 31st.



### 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.

## PRAYER CHAIN



To activate the chain call:  
Ron Davis at 517.617.5015 or  
e-mail at rsdavismgr@gmail.com

### To Help Keep You Informed

You may contact Tracey Jepsen our Administrative Assistant at 231.347.3448 for copies of Vestry Approved: Financial Statements and Vestry Meeting Minutes.

### Treasurer's Report ~ March 31, 2022

	March			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	10,745.72	12,667.00	(1,921.28)	35,023.49	38,001.00	(2,977.51)
Other	137.39	1,188.00	(1,050.61)	8,502.68	3,174.00	5,328.68
Income	10,883.11	13,855.00	(2,971.89)	44,163.56	42,363.00	1,800.56
General Exp	(21,012.69)	(14,748.00)	(6,264.69)	(52,331.03)	(43,750.00)	(8,581.03)
Difference	(10,129.58)	(893.00)	(9,236.58)	(8,167.47)	(1,387.00)	(6,780.47)
Assets				\$647,870.67		
		Jan. 1, 2022	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Mar. 31, 2022
211 Fund		\$177,247.64	-	\$24,096.25	(\$24,096.25)	\$153,151.39
211 Fund In/Out Reach		\$30,500	-	\$7,273.18	(\$7,273.18)	\$23,226.82

# New Life Anglican Church

P.O. BOX 481

PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN 49770

[office@newlifeanglican.net](mailto:office@newlifeanglican.net)

[newlifeanglicanchurch.org](http://newlifeanglicanchurch.org)

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

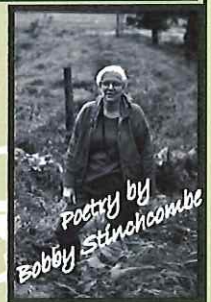
May 2022

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

April  
SHOWERS  
BRING  
May  
FLOWERS

*Soon spring's gate  
will open into warm  
and sun-filled days,  
so let our prayers  
be risen  
in thanks to God  
with praise.*

BES



Poetry by  
Bobby Stinchcombe