

JOYOUS NEWS

December 2022

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.*



Many people struggle, unnecessarily, I would argue, with trying to figure out God's will for their lives. I understand that people want to be faithful, and that is a great thing. The reason I say that the struggle is unnecessary is because people have often bought into a false belief that they somehow need to divine the will of God for their lives, as though God keeps his will for you hidden and you have to do a spiritual scavenger hunt to figure everything out.

There is nothing biblical about this view of determining God's will for your life. If God wants something specific, such as going to seminary or taking a certain job, he will tell you. Otherwise, we live in faithfulness to his word and trust that his ultimate will for us is that we be conformed to the image of his son. If you want to know how to live in faithfulness, read the scriptures. They tell us all we need to know about how the Christian ought to live.

Bonnie pointed me to a passage that I think helps greatly in understanding God's will for your life. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 says, "Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." What is God's will for you? To rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances.

Rejoicing always is not easy. I wrote last month about when things don't make sense because we don't understand God's plan, such as why Prop 3 passed. Paul wrote in Philippians to rejoice in the Lord always, and he wrote that from prison. He was able to find a way to rejoice in the harshest of circumstances because the goodness of God is never in question and his plan is never hindered. For Paul, if God wanted him to suffer, then Paul would rejoice in his suffering for the sake of Christ. How can you rejoice in the Lord always, even in the difficult times? And how would that help you to bring him glory?

Praying without ceasing may be a bit misleading of a statement. Paul didn't mean that you should do nothing but pray. Instead, he meant that you should live a life centered on and by prayer. Conversation with God shouldn't be limited to the waning minutes of the day as you fall asleep in bed. Nor should it only take place while drinking your morning coffee. Prayer should be a way of life so that conversation with God is something that happens freely and frequently throughout the day. Interestingly enough, when you live a life of prayer, you will find it much easier to be in the will of God because you are in conversation with him.

People often pray about things until they have peace with the decision they are making, which causes a spiritual paralysis when one can't find peace in a certain decision. We aren't going to be at peace with everything that is happening in our lives or, at least not from a standpoint that we will

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December 2022

at New Life



○ come · ○ come · Emmanuel

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Zakos 	28	29 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's	30 6:00pm Pizza & Salad 6:30pm Book of Acts Bible Study	1 Morning Prayer 8:00am	2	3
4 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Bowmans 	5	6 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's December Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	7 6:00pm Pizza & Salad 6:30pm Book of Acts Bible Study	8 Morning Prayer 8:00am	9	10
11 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Davis' 	12	13 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's	14 6:00pm Pizza & Salad 6:30pm Book of Acts Bible Study	15 Morning Prayer 8:00am Men's Ministry Group 5:30pm @ The Davis'	16	17 CRAFT & FELLOWSHIP 10AM-2PM IN BLANZ HALL
18 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour Fellowship Christmas Party 	19	20 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's	21	22 Morning Prayer 8:00am	23	24 Lessons and Carols Christmas Eve Service 6:30pm 
25 WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS Worship Service 10:00am 	26	27 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ JW Filmore's	28	29 Morning Prayer 8:00am	30	31 

Angel Tree

Please bring your Angel Tree Gifts to the Fellowship Christmas Party on December 18th with the Angel tag attached. If you are unable to attend the party please leave your gifts in Blanz Hall by Monday, December 19th.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD SHOEBOX EVENT

THANKS TO YOU
WE DONATED 35 SHOEBOXES



New Life's Local Outreach

Please donate any winter jackets, snowpants, hats, gloves that you may have so we can do a clothing give away soon.

Leave any items in the clothing closet room.



CRAFT & FELLOWSHIP

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17TH
10AM - 2PM IN BLANZ HALL

BRING YOUR PROJECT
AND A SNACK TO SHARE.



GET OUT AND GET MOVING!

THIS IS THE FUNNEST FELLOWSHIP OPPORTUNITY EVER!

BOWLING, PIZZA, AND LASER TAG TOO!

@ NORTHERN LIGHTS - DEC. (DATE TO BE DECIDED) FROM 6-8PM

WALLY'S GALLERY —

One of my favorite carols during Christmas is The Little Drummer Boy. For me it has a rhythmic beauty and reverent simplicity that touches something deep inside me each Christmas season. A Google search revealed several articles relating to the background of the carol. Probably the best was classicfm.com from which most of this article is based.



The history of drummer boys goes all the way back to the 13 century and Genghis Khan who was the founder of the Mongol Empire which became the largest contiguous empire in history. At its height it spanned more than 1.5 million square miles. Throughout history drummer boys have been at the forefront of military marching troops and also used too provide different forms of drum beats in military camps to communicate specific messages. Because of their position at the front of the troops in battle they had to be incredibly brave.

Not all drummers were young but those who were stood out because their youth made them even more remarkable. One such example who became famous was a young boy named Johnny Clem. In 1861, Johnny, at the age of nine, ran away from home and snuck onto a train filled with soldiers of the 3rd Ohio Union Regiment determined to serve for the Union cause. Accepted by the soldiers Johnny became the youngest person to serve in the American Civil War. There he experienced all the brutalities of war along with hunger, thirst and disease.

The Christmas carol, which I have come to love, was written by American composer Katherine Kennicott Davis in 1941. Initially the carol was called the Carol of the Drum. What inspired Ms. Davis to compose this carol is a bit uncertain. One view is that she based the carol on a Czech melody but this was disputed by US musicologist Clair Fontijn. She maintained the following story: While Ms. Davies was trying to take a nap she was also obsessed with the French song Patapan. (We all know the feeling when a melody comes into our minds that we can't shake.) Anyway for Ms. Davies the title of the French song (Patapan) kept repeating in her mind and slowly took on the rhythmic pa-rum-pum-pum.

The carol was published during one of the world's greatest military conflicts, The Second World War. The catchy rythmitic pa-rum-pum-pum blended with the beautiful story of a little drummer boy's determination and humility to come before the infant Christ child offering all he had seemed fitting for the times. It blended the tune of military conflict (a conflict we all fight every day to ward off the devil) with the a story of humility and the offering of our talents in the service of our LORD.

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We should not miss that the little drummer boy was told early on that others would be coming and offering their finest gifts to this newborn king. This little boy, however, was poor possessing only his drum and his gift of music. Interestingly it was not his drum that he offered but his music; his talent. Had he given his drum he would never have been able to again offer his gift of music in service to the LORD. His drum he could give only once; his talent with music he could give throughout his life.

I suppose there is a lesson to be learned here. In a culture measured by material possessions we should not forget that the LORD "sees not as man sees...but the LORD looks on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7). Others in this carol gave of their possessions and of their finest possessions. Despite his material poverty, this little drummer gave from his heart the gift the LORD of Creation had bestowed on him at birth; music. Regardless of our material status in life we all have been bestowed with spiritual gifts; gifts we are to share with one another and in so doing we honor the Great Gift Giver. (Matthew 25:40)

~ Wally's Gallery

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always be happy with everything or that things will always be easy. We all experience hardship and turmoil at times, and during those moments, we can experience a greater peace because we are in the Lord, but we may not experience peace with the situation. That is ok. That is when we go back to step one and rejoice in the Lord always, even when things don't make sense.

Finally, give thanks in all circumstances. With Thanksgiving having just passed, now is a good time to think about what we are thankful for. I try to live a life of humble gratitude, being thankful for all that God has done in my life. I am most thankful for my wife and kids, and for my loving New Life family. If I am going to rejoice in the Lord always, then I will need to learn to give thanks for those things I don't like but that God has seen fit to give me. Paul said that Christ's strength is greater than Paul's weakness, and thus he rejoiced in the thorn in his flesh (2 Corinthians). Maybe I need to be thankful for my restless leg syndrome. It sounds silly, but having restless leg has led to into more prayer than many things in my life. Thus, it has served a spiritual purpose of deepening my dependence on God. What can or should you be giving thanks for because it has brought you deeper into prayer and closeness with God?

~ Fr. Mike

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WHAT'S UP NEXT – Women's Bible Study, "Biblical Forgiveness", beginning mid January.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP GATHERING – Resumes in January - Thursday evenings at 6:30pm in the annex's lg classroom. Come and join us for a time of fun and fellowship.

MEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY – Wednesdays at 10:30am at the Davis Home

MEN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM – meeting is Thursday, December 15th hosted by Ron Davis at 902 Howard St., Petoskey. 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 beverage of choice. I hope you will join us.

December 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.

	December 4	December 11	December 18	December 24	December 25	January 1
ALTAR GUILD	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman
SOUND/ MUSIC	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes	Ferd & Wes
USHER/ COUNTER/ GREETERS	Dan W./ Don L./ Taylor DuBois	Dylan W./ Don L./ The Bowmans	Don L./ Randy F./ The Flynns	Dan Wandrie/ TBD	Dan W./ Dylan W./ TBD	Dylan W./ Don L./ Sally Stump
LECTOR	Mary Jane Zako	Dylan Williams	Gretchen Lucky	See Sign-Up Sheet	Dan Wandrie	Karen Dielman
LAY MINISTER	Mickey Bridge	Howard Bates	Karen Dielman	Mickey Bridge	Howard Bates	Erika Dielman
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Acolyte: Danny Bridge	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	The Bowmans	The Davis'	Fellowship Christmas Party	N/A	N/A	The DuBois'



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



ALTAR GUILD

Dec.....Karen Dielman
Jan.....Karen Dielman
FebGretchen Lucky

Birthdays

December

Wedding Anniversaries

John Ostrander 12/6
Bonnie Bridge 12/7
Sam 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:	Dan Wandrie	231/347-5871
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	231/330-6355
Women's Ministry:	~ Needed ~	
Men's Ministry:	Mike Bridge.....	231/330-0689
InReach:	Gretchen Lucky	231/622-2057
OutReach:	Lacy Bates	231/373-7997
Christian Ed. Scholarship:	Susan Davis.....	231/330-4821
	Toni DuBois.....	231/330-8626
	~ Needed ~	
Missions:		
Building and Grounds:	Dan Wandrie.....	231/347-5871
	Ron Davis	231/330-6355
Art and Architecture:	Susan Davis.....	231/330-4821
Church Historian:	Liz Ostrander	231/348-2802
Communications:	Bonnie Bridge.....	231/445-1810
(newspaper articles, etc.)		
Student Visitor's Liaison:	~ Needed ~	
Treasurer:	Wes Ostrander	231/330-4930
Assistant Treasurer:	Susan Davis.....	231/330-4821
Assistant Treasurer:	Sally Stump	231/881-2818

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 January 3rd.



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 231.330.6355 or
e-mail at rdsdavismgr@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 ~ November 30, 2022

	November			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	11,839.00	12,667.00	(828.00)	139,409.37	139,337.00	72.37
Other	310.49	818.00	(507.51)	18,960.83	12,022.00	6,938.83
Income	12,149.49	13,485.00	(1,335.51)	158,370.20	151,359.00	7,011.20
General Exp	(12,842.86)	(14,423.00)	1,580.59	(170,883.11)	(159,099.00)	(11,784.11)
Difference	(693.37)	(938.00)	244.63	(12,512.91)	(7,740.00)	(4,772.91)
Assets				\$630,174.22		
		Jan. 1,2022	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Oct.31, 2022
211 Fund		\$177,247.64	-	\$38,987.25	(\$38,987.25)	\$130,814.89
211 Fund In/Out Reach		\$30,500	-	\$7,953.35	(\$7,953.35)	\$22,546.65

New Life Anglican Church

P.O. Box 481

PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN 49770
office@newlifeanglican.net
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

December 2022

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

Parish Notice:
**New Life
Anglican Church**
~ 2023 ~
Annual Meeting
Sunday, January 22nd
following
the service at
NLAC
219 State St.
Petoskey, MI

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

BES

