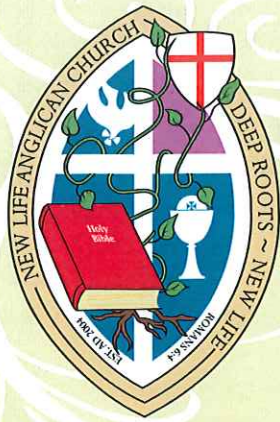


# JOYOUS NEWS

November 2024

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 talk a lot about being able to defend your faith against challenges and difficulties to the Christian faith. I thought what I would do this month is offer a couple challenges and give answers to them to help you think through the issues. The challenges I will address are the claim that there was no literal Adam and the denial of the virgin birth. I will take each and show how to answer them and what is at stake if any of these points were true.

First, we will look at the denial of a literal Adam. Evolutionists would deny that Adam really existed because they say that man evolved from another hominid species. But there are even some Christians, such as apologist William Lane Craig, who deny that there was a literal first man named Adam. While we may want to defend our views against atheists, it is especially important that we not let people who bear the name of Christ do damage to the Christian faith.

There is much at stake if we deny a literal Adam. Without Adam in the Garden of Eden, there is no covenant made between God and man forbidding man from eating of the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Without this covenant, there is no transgressing of the covenant. Meaning, there is no fall, no original sin. If there is no original sin, then there is no need for the atoning work of Christ. Without original sin, we aren't sinners from birth. We are simply victims of our behavior. And if this is the case, then it would be possible to live with the right behaviors and have no need for a savior. This makes the sacrifice of Christ unnecessary.

Yet the bible teaches that Adam was real, he really sinned, the fall is real, and we are all born with the stain of Adam's sin. We can easily look to Genesis 1-3 to see that the bible tells us about Adam and the fall. But the New Testament talks about Adam as well. Romans 5:12-21 is all about the comparison between Adam's sin and Christ's righteousness. Here are just two verses of that discussion: "<sup>18</sup>Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. <sup>19</sup>For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous."

It seems clear that Paul is arguing from a position of a literal Adam who literally sinned, and that Jesus is a type of that Adam, only his righteousness reigns over man now instead of Adam's sin. Likewise, Paul talks about this in I Corinthians 15:22, "For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive." If there is no Adam, then we don't all die in Adam and Paul's argument means nothing. But the bible, both testaments, treats Adam as a real person who existed, and whose sin had tremendous impact on the world. Christ came to undo the sin of Adam.

Next, let's talk about the virgin birth. We affirm the virgin birth of Jesus, meaning that Jesus was




*Continued on page 5*





# November 2024 at New Life



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>27</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 9am</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00am</p> <p>Coffee Hour The Zakos</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Pizza &amp; Salad Dinner at 6pm</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm</p>	<p>31</p> <p>Morning Prayer 8:00am</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 9:00am</p>	<p>2</p> <p><i>Fall Back</i> <small>Daylight Saving Time</small></p> <p>Women's Coffee Fellowship Gathering 9am -11am in Blanz Hall</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 9am</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00am</p> <p>Coffee Hour The Bowmans</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Pizza &amp; Salad Dinner at 6pm</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Morning Prayer 8:00am</p> <p> 6:30pm</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 9:00am</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 9am</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00am</p> <p>Coffee Hour The Wandries</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods</p> <p>November Vestry Meeting 6:00pm</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Pizza &amp; Salad Dinner at 6pm</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Morning Prayer 8:00am</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 9:00am</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Women's Fellowship Gathering 9am -11am @ TBD</p>
<p>17</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 9am</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00am</p> <p><b>Harvest Potluck</b></p>	<p>18</p> <p><b>Joyous News December Issue Deadline</b></p>	<p>19</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Pizza &amp; Salad Dinner at 6pm</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Morning Prayer 8:00am</p> <p> 6:30pm</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Men's Bible Study 9:00am</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 9am</p> <p>Worship Service 10:00am</p> <p>Coffee Hour Toni DuBois</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Pizza &amp; Salad Dinner at 6pm</p> <p>Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm</p>	<p>28</p> <p></p>	<p>29</p> <p><b>HAPPY Thanksgiving</b></p>	<p>30</p>



## WALLY'S GALLERY —

This month many families will gather for a meal in celebration of Thanksgiving. Usually before the meal begins each person will express those things that they are grateful for. My hope for this article is that it might cause us to recall something we should not forget to be grateful for.

Several months ago I read a book by Paul Copan entitled "Is God a Moral



Monster; Making Sense of the Old Testament God." It is a book of answers to criticisms, drawn from the Old Testament, that have been leveled against the character of God by atheists. They include such things as God is arrogant and jealous; God punishes people too harshly; God is guilty of ethnic cleansing; God oppresses women; God endorses slavery...

Suffice it to say that I learned a lot from this book about the true character of God. The God who sought to separate a people for himself from the surrounding brutal cultures of that time is the same God who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our redemption.

God had a plan from the beginning and selected a group of people living thousands of years ago in an environment dramatically different from our own. He led those people to a promised land and directed them to cleanse the land of the Canaanites who lived there at the time. We may judge the methods God gave to the Hebrews to accomplish that task but we do so centuries apart from those times. Further without a careful reading and study of the Old Testament text, as Paul Copan reveals in his book, we can easily lack a true understanding of the brutality of the ancient Near East culture and what actually happened.

In return for bringing the Hebrews out of Egyptian slavery, God established a formal agreement with Israel called the Mosaic covenant which specified rules they were to live by. Rules that were dramatically different from anything else in the ancient Near East. Rules that separated the Hebrews from the surrounding culture of death. Rules that were grounded in life and purity. Paul Copan writes that the Mosaic covenant established Israel as "the one and only genuine theocracy ever to exist..."

The author further states that the Mosaic covenant wasn't intended to be permanent. In Genesis God promised Abram if he would leave his father's house and go to a land that God would show him then..."I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." (Genesis 12:1-3) And there is also another promise, the one that God gave to Isaac if he would obey the LORD to remain in the land: "...and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because Abraham obeyed me and did everything I required of him, keeping my commands, my decrees and my instructions."

*Continued on page 4*



## NEW LIFE HARVEST POTLUCK DINNER

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CHURCH

**HAM WILL BE PROVIDED BY THE CHURCH**

**PLEASE SIGN-UP TO BRING A HARVEST THEMED DISH TO SHARE**

Please contact Liz Ostrander for more information.



### THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

Join us here at New Life, the first and third Thursdays of each month.

November 7th & 21st at 6:30pm until 8:00pm.

Come read the Bible and share testimonies of what Jesus has done for you and others with D. W. Lucky III and Fr. Mike Bridge. We working through Matthew and take our time with an open question and answer event.

Adults 18+ are welcome to join us.

### MEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** – meets each Tuesdays at 8:30am for food and fellowship at Southwood's Restaurant

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** – meets Fridays at 9am the annex study.

**MEN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM** – Our next meeting is TBD. Led by TBD. 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. I hope you will join us. Bring your own beverage of choice and a friend.

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



**WOMEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP** – meets at 9-11am, Saturday, November 2nd & 16th, host and location TBD. Join us on the first and third Saturdays of the month. Sign-up sheet to host in Blanz Hall. All women are encouraged to come and bring a friend.

*Wally's Gallery – Continued from page 3*

God's plan from the beginning was to prepare a people for a transformation that would eventually lead to the revelation of Jesus of Nazareth when the fullness of time came. Paul Copan writes: "The ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus and the gift of the Spirit would lead to the creation of a new interethnic community - the true Israel... (1 Peter 2:9). The Old Testament theocracy gave way to a new covenant community from every nation and language - the church (see Matt. 8:11-12; 21:43). The fall of Jerusalem in AD 70 marked the finality of this transition, signaling the demise of national/ethnic Israel as the people of God."

The Hebrew people were not chosen because of their righteousness (Deuteronomy 9:5) or because they were more in number than any other people, but because he loved them and because of the promise he had given to their fathers. (Deuteronomy 7:7-8). That promise still remains today in the chosen people that make up the faithful church; the new Israel. Like the ancient Hebrews, this blessing is not due to our merit but only the faithfulness of God and His grace. For that we should be most thankful.

"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast." (Ephesians 2:8-9)

~ Wally's Gallery



born to a mother who was a virgin, every Sunday in the Nicene Creed. Again, this point of doctrine is denied by non-Christians, but also comes under fire by many who bear the name of Christ. Liberal main-line denominations have discounted the virgin birth for decades. What is at stake here? One of the reasons this point is discounted is because it reeks of the supernatural. Virgins don't conceive and give birth. Those who want to discount the supernatural have to get rid of things like the virgin birth.

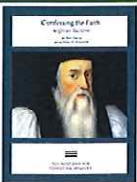
But the virgin birth is essential doctrine, and that is why it is codified in the Nicene Creed. The virgin birth explains how Christ could be both God and man, how He was without sin, and that the entire work of salvation is God's gracious act. If Jesus was not born of a virgin, He had a human father. We must believe in the virgin birth or we don't have a sinless God-man savior, which is a central belief of the Christian faith. Also, to reject the virgin birth is to reject the authority of the scriptures that teach the doctrine.

Much like the literal Adam, to defend this view, we are simply going to turn to the scriptures. They teach that Jesus was born of a virgin. We believe what the scriptures teach, so we believe in the virgin birth. Matthew 1:18 says, "Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit." Matthew connects this to Isaiah 7:14 which predicts the virgin birth. Again, we are seeing both the Old and New Testaments testifying to our point of doctrine. Luke says in verse 1:35, "And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God.'"

Luke's gospel gives us the true significance of the virgin birth- the child will be called holy- the Son of God. Mary, in the virgin birth, was giving birth to God's one and only Son. To reject this is to reject the incarnation itself, and thereby all the supernatural work of Christ throughout the rest of the scriptures.

For the sake of scriptural integrity, and for the sake of the doctrine which flows from each point, we must hold on to a literal Adam and a virgin birth. We lose too much if we let these points go, and the scriptures teach us clearly that each is true and to be believed.

~ Fr. Mike



### Confessing the Faith Anglican Doctrine

Our 12-wk Study meets on Wednesday each week for Pizza & Salad Dinner at 6pm followed by the study at 6:30pm in Blanz Hall and

Sundays we meet each week at 9am in the annex study downstairs.

Please contact Fr. Mike if you would like to join either class and to purchase your book.

IF YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR AN ARTICLE OR EVENT YOU'D LIKE TO SHARE IN A FUTURE JOYOUS NEWS

PLEASE CONTACT TRACEY AT

[OFFICE@NEWLIFEANGLICAN.NET](mailto:OFFICE@NEWLIFEANGLICAN.NET)

OR 231.347.3448



### FR. MIKE'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Wednesday 1 – 5pm

Thursdays & Fridays 9am – 1pm



# November 2024 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 3	November 10	November 17	November 24	December 1	December 8
ALTAR GUILD	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman
SOUND/ MUSIC	Ferd, Wes & Dylan	Ferd, Wes & Dylan	Ferd, Wes & Dylan	Ferd, Wes & Dylan	Ferd, Wes & Dylan	Ferd, Wes & Dylan
USHER/ COUNTER/ GREETERS	Dan W./ Don L./ The Flynns	Evan W. / Dan W. / The Bowmans	Don L. / Randy F./ Sally Stump	Randy F./ Don L. / Taylor DuBois	Evan W. / Dan W. / The Bowmans	Dan W./ Randy F./ The Flynns
LECTOR	Dylan Williams	Leah Williams	Dan Wandrie	Mary Jane Zako	Karen Dielman	Gretchen Lucky
LAY MINISTER	Wally Stansbury	Mickey Bridge	Erika Dielman	Howard Bates	Mary Jane Zako	Karen Dielman
PRAYER TEAM	Sally & Leah	Sharalen & Betty	Sally & Leah	Sharalen & Betty	Sally & Leah	Sharalen & Betty
CHILDREN'S NURSERY	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	The Bowmans	The Wandries	<b>Harvest Potluck</b>	Toni DuBois	The Greenwells	Brenda F. & Ginny P.



Thursday  
Morning Prayer  
8:30am in  
Fr. Mike's Office



## ALTAR GUILD

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



## November Birthdays



## 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:	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:	~ Volunteer 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
Missions:	D. W. Lucky	231/330-6559
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:	Lacy Bates	231/373-7997
Treasurer:	Wes Ostrander	231/330-4930
Assistant Treasurer:	Susan Davis	231/330-4821
Assistant Treasurer:	Sally Stump	231/881-2818
Assistant Treasurer:	Dan Wandrie	231/347-5871
Stewardship:	Dan Wandrie	231/347-5871

## New Life Anglican Church 2024 Vestry

Sr. Warden. Erika Dielman  
 Jr. Warden. Dylan Williams  
 ..... Carol Bowman  
 ..... Susan Davis  
 ..... Taylor DuBois  
 ..... Randy Flynn  
 ..... April Honeycutt

## 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 18th.



## 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 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 ~ September 30, 2024

	September			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	19,276.25	15,145.00	4,131.25	118,994.74	136,305.00	(17,310.26)
Other	3,013.00	1,986.00	68.25	38,759.45	17,874.00	20,885.45
Income	22,289.25	17,131.00	5,158.25	157,754.19	154,179.00	3,575.19
Expense	(17,606.58)	(16,018.00)	(1,588.58)	(159,254.86)	(147,129.00)	(12,125.86)
Difference	4,682.67	1,113.00	3569.67	(1,500.67)	7,050.00	(8,550.67)
Assets				\$578,031.92		
		Jan. 1, 2024	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Sept. 30,
211 Fund		124,445.27	-	11,390.33	11,390.33	113,390.33
211 Fund In/Out Reach		21,119.94	-	908.00	-	20,211.94
		Operating	211 Fund	211 In/Out	Deposit	Interest
Interest Bearing Accts.		-50,000.00	-110,000.00	-15,000.00	175,000.00	6,004.41
St. Francis CD			Deposit		175,000.00	181,004.10



# 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

November 2024

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448



*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**

Parish Notice:  
New Life  
Anglican Church  
~ 2025 ~  
Annual Meeting  
Sunday, January 19th  
following  
the service at  
NLAC  
219 State St.  
Petoskey, MI