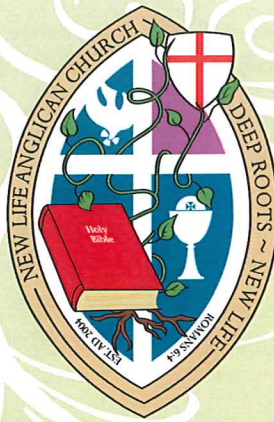


JOYOUS NEWS

February 2025

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.*



We as Christians are what we call monotheists, meaning that we worship and believe in only one God. At the same time, we are Trinitarian, meaning we believe in the three persons within the one godhead- Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. The Father is not the Son or the Spirit, the Son is not the Father or the Spirit, and the Spirit is not the Father or the Son. All three are separate persons with separate functions, but are all part of the Trinity, which is one God, three persons.

When we gather to worship every Sunday, we gather to worship God the Father and we do so in the name of the Son, Jesus. We focus on the Father's benevolence toward us, his love and mercy, and his salvation of us by grace. We talk about Jesus as our savior. He came to earth to live a perfectly righteous life as a substitute for our sinful lives. Then he went to the cross to die in our place, giving us his righteousness, and taking on our sins. He then rose from the dead to destroy death and guarantee us eternal life in heaven, and eventually, in resurrected bodies on the new earth, with God the Father.

Who doesn't get talked about as much is the Holy Spirit. Part of that is by very nature of the Spirit's role. He is the witness to Christ. He testifies to the truth of Christ in our lives. He calls us to Christ. He sanctifies us in Christ. All that the Spirit does is to point us to and empower us in Christ. So, it shouldn't be a surprise that he doesn't get talked about as much as the Father and the Son. However, the Spirit is absolutely vital to our lives as Christians, and the Spirit is what I want to talk briefly about this month.

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity and plays several important roles. Among the important things the Spirit does or has done is that he was part of creation; he anointed specific people, generally prophets and kings, under the old covenant to give them the special blessing of God; and he inspired the holy scriptures, speaking through the apostles and prophets to give us the Bible as God's holy word. These are just a few things that the Spirit has been responsible for. There is so much more that he does for us now that Jesus has ascended to heaven.

When Jesus was on earth, he said that he had to leave so that God could send another helper, the Holy Spirit, to be with them (the apostles), and ultimately the entire Church. Jesus ascended to heaven forty days after his resurrection, and ten days after that came Pentecost. Pentecost was the day when Jews were gathered from all over the empire to celebrate the Jewish feast of Pentecost, but God did a mighty work by pouring out the Holy Spirit mightily on the apostles. For the first time, the Spirit was available to more than just one or two people at a time. He was poured out first on the apostles as a means to inspire their ministry in preaching Christ. But the book of Acts shows us that the Spirit was poured out over a period of time on the whole Church. Every believer receives the Holy Spirit at conversion and is empowered by the same Spirit for a myriad of things.

The Holy Spirit is the one calls us to Christ. He transforms our hearts so that we desire and can receive Christ. He enables us to believe. As Paul says, "No one can say Jesus is Lord but by the Holy Spirit." (1 Corinthians 12:3) He witnesses continually to our hearts to confirm the truth of Christ within us (Romans 8:16). He intercedes on our behalf before the Father, praying for us because we don't know how to pray (Romans 8:26-27).




If that were all the Holy Spirit does in the life of the Christian, that would be plenty. Yet he still does more. He is the sanctifier, enabling us to be conformed to the image of Christ. We aren't left to figure out how to be good and pleasing on our own. We aren't told to figure it out. We aren't told to be perfect without a means of developing perfection in us (a process that won't be complete until we are with Christ). We are



February 2025

at New Life



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Dielmans	27	28 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	29 Pizza & Salad Dinner at 6pm Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm	30 Morning Prayer 8:00am	31 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	1 Women's Fellowship Gathering 9am -11am @ TBD
2 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Greenwells	3	4 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	5 Pizza & Salad Dinner at 6pm Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm	6  6:30pm Morning Prayer 8:00am	7 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	8
9 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Williams	10	11 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods February Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	12 Pizza & Salad Dinner at 6pm Confessing the Faith Study at 6:30pm	13 Morning Prayer 8:00am	14  Men's Bible Study 9:00am	15 Women's Fellowship Gathering 9am -11am @ TBD
16 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Ostrandars	17	18 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	19	20  6:30pm Morning Prayer 8:00am	21 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	22
23 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour Susan Stout & Ron Davis	24 <i>Joyous News March Issue Deadline</i>	25 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	26	27 Men's Ministry Group 5:30pm in Blanz Hall Morning Prayer 8:00am	28 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	1 Women's Fellowship Gathering 9am -11am @ TBD

WALLY'S GALLERY —

Part 2 - In the January Joyous News I referred to Dr. James Kennedy's book, "What If Jesus had Never Been Born." I did so to look at the impact of the life of Jesus on human existence. In that article I touched on The Value of Human Life; Compassion and Mercy, Education for Everyone and Freedom for All." As there was not sufficient space in that one article to cover all the areas that Dr. Kennedy mentioned, this article will address most of the remaining items.



I want to stress again that this and last month's articles are only brief captions to the cultural impacts of Jesus' life cited by Dr. Kennedy. Dr. Kennedy's writings on each subject are far more extensive that I am able to cover in these articles.

Christianity's Impact on Science -

Dr. Kennedy writes that the word "science" comes from a Latin word meaning "knowledge." Its origins can be traced back to the Greek philosophers who were seeking non theological answers to the existence of life and the order of the natural world. But it never developed further. Nor did it develop with the Hebrew people who focused on its wonder rather than seeking answers. Nor did it develop with the Arabs who believed in fatalism, nor the eastern religions that denied the reality of the natural world.

Rather it arose from the teaching of Christianity which acknowledged that there is a rational world governed by the laws of its "Creator." Dr. Kennedy lists thirty different branches of science founded by Bible believing scientist. It was their belief that Jesus was King of all the earth and that mankind was created in the image of God. They also knew that God had given mankind a cultural mandate (Genesis 1:28) to have dominion over His creation and to subdue and manage it for their and their neighbor's well being and for the glory of God.

Christianity's Impact on Economics and the Work Ethic -

In 1828 Noah Webster, a committed Christian, published the American Dictionary of the English Language. In that dictionary he defined "Economy" as; "Primary, the management, regulation and government of a family or the concerns of a household." If I understand Mr. Webster correctly, the family and concerns for the proper care of its resources is the grounds for all further economic activity.

Dr. Kennedy states that the Ten Commandments provide a sound endorsement of private property which he writes is the foundation for all good economics. He mentions two commandments; "You shall not steal" and "You shall not covet your neighbors house....or anything that is your neighbors." He says that, "This is a critical point because private property is the foundation of capitalism, which is often defined as the private ownership of the means of production". He cites the commandment "Thou shall not steal" as a divine guarantee of private property. One can not steal what one does not own.

As mentioned above, in the creation God gave mankind a cultural mandate to manage the earth and its resources. This mandate is highlighted in Jesus' parable of the Talents (Matthew 25:14-30). The note in the ESV Bible says; "...the central point of the parable concerns the importance of being a faithful servant of all that God has entrusted to one's care."

The ethics of our endeavors is up to us: the management of God's creation, entrusted to us, can be either exercised with God's mandate and Jesus' parable in mind or with our earthly desires as fallen individuals.

Continued on page 4

Christianity's Impact on Health and Medicine -

Dr. Kennedy writes: "In the Gospels we read that Jesus Christ went about healing the sick..." He later continues: "Each healing was an eloquent sermon that made the point that He was Lord even over sickness and death. He told us to go and do likewise... In 2,000 years, millions of Christians have gone and done likewise."

Prior to Christ there were just a few places where the sick could be brought. Those locations were squalid, germ infested and often locations just to die. Up until the 19th century these facilities were mostly utilized by the poor as people of means were treated in their homes. "With nineteenth century developments in bacteriology by Louis Pasteur, a Christian, and antiseptic surgery by Joseph Lister, also a Christian, hospitals became much more safe and, therefore, became utilized by the general populous."

Among the many examples given by Dr. Kennedy, one stood out to me and deserves a few words. The Red Cross, one of history's greatest humanitarian movements was founded by Henry Dunant (1828-1910) a Swiss banker, philanthropist, and a member of the Church of the Awakening." While on a business trip in Solferino, Italy in 1859, "Dunant witnessed a ghastly battle in Italy's fight for unification." His concern for the wounded so moved him that he speculated of the possibility of a neutral international organization to help the battle's wounded.

Out of that idea came the formation of the Red Cross which over the years has saved millions of lives. Ironically, "The first Muslim nation (Turkey in 1876) to adopt the idea of the Red Cross felt compelled to change the symbol from Christian one to a Muslim one, hence, the Red Crescent was born as an outgrowth of the Red Cross. Inadvertently the Muslims "recognized the driving force behind one of the greatest movements in history — Jesus Christ."

Christianity's Impact on Morality -

The morality of the ancient pagan world was abysmal with that of the Canaanites probably the lowest. While the Greeks and the Romans contributed many positive things to mankind, a higher view of morality was not one of them. Their gods were to be feared and placated. The idea that they should live by the law of god was incomprehensible to the pagan mind. Their gods were arbitrary as the laws of the pagan world were those made by men, not by their gods.

In contrast the God of Creation gave to the Hebrew people a moral code based on the Ten Commandments. "Jesus Christ took that Jewish base, expanded it, and then sent it out into the whole world... Christ did more than bring a higher standard of right and wrong into the world. He caused it to spread and changed many cultures for the better." Millions have lived their lives with the intent to "please Christ, and by His Spirit they find change in their lives."

Conclusion -

There are a few other areas covered by Dr. Kennedy that, in the interest of space, I have to bypass. I do want, however, to end with a final thought of my own.

Luke in his Gospel tells of two men walking on the road to Emmaus talking about Jesus' recent crucifixion and that he later rose from the dead. As they were talking Jesus joins them but his identity is still not evident to them. Jesus tells them that the Christ had to suffer and then interprets all the Scriptures, from Moses to all the Prophets, and how they are about Jesus. It is with this revelation that they realize who He was.

The entire Bible, every book from Genesis to Revelation, is about Jesus. With that in mind, had Jesus never been born, I don't see how we would even have the Old Testament. We would have a God who, while revealed in His creation, would otherwise be silent. Deism would prevail and we would find ourselves in a strictly materialistic existence living by the subjective laws of men; without hope.

To show that the Old Testament refers to Jesus see Luke 24:13-35. Road to Emmaus.

Continued from page 1

given the Spirit to sanctify us. To change us from the inside. To conform us to Christ and to alter our behavior and nature so that we can reflect Christ in this world.

The Holy Spirit also gives us each gifts (1 Corinthians 12) for the benefit of the body as a whole. He gives the gifts for ministry, such as preaching, teaching, prayer, and things like that. But he also gives us gifts for the good of the body that we might not think are necessary or glamorous. For example, he gives the gift of hospitality to some, so that the Church can be known for good Christian fellowship, and so that Christ can be glorified through that. He gifts some with finances so that they can fund ministry. He gifts some with kindness, mercy, love, or compassion. Every one of you, if you are a Christian, has at least one gift given by the Holy Spirit for the upbuilding of the whole body. You may struggle with figuring out what your gift is, and if that is the case, talk to me or to a Christian brother or sister who can help shed light on what gifts you have. You have gifts. The bible promises it and the Spirit provides it.

What I hope you can see from this brief look at the Holy Spirit is that he is a vital part of the Trinity who, though he doesn't get talked about as often as Jesus, is absolutely essential to the Christian life. If the Spirit isn't present in our worship, then God isn't worshiped. If the Spirit doesn't work in our lives, then we can't know Christ. If the Spirit doesn't gift us for ministry, then we can't faithfully serve the Lord. The Spirit may be the quiet part of the Trinity, but he is no less God than the Father or the Son, and apart from him, we can do nothing. ~ Fr. Mike

THANKS
SO
MUCH

On behalf of the Sudcliffe family, our office would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude for the generous gifts you provided to this Veteran and his family this Christmas season. The churches kindness brought immense joy to them and us! Thank you!! ☺
- Jess + Jeff Emmet County Veteran Services

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

WOMEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP – meets at 9-11am, Saturday, February 1st & 15th, 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.



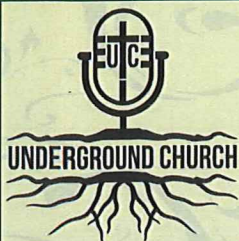
(231) 348-1780
v@emmetcounty.org
(231) 339-8725
3434 M-119, Suite E
Harbor Springs, MI 49740
Jessie Selissen
Veteran Service Officer

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 9:00am the annex study.

MEN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM – Our next meeting is February 27th in Blanz Hall. 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.



THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

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

February 2th & 16th 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.

February 2025 Service Calendar

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

	February 2	February 9	February 16	February 23	March 2	March 9
ALTAR GUILD	Gretchen Lucky	Gretchen Lucky	Gretchen Lucky	Gretchen Lucky	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman
SOUND/MUSIC	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd
USHER/COUNTER/GREETERS	Don L. / Dan W. / The Bowmans	Dan W. / Randy F. / The Flynns	Randy F. / Don L. / Sally Stump	Don L. / Dan W. / Taylor DuBois	Dan W. / Randy F. / Leah Williams	Randy F. / Don L. / The Flynns
LECTOR	Leah Williams	Karen Dielman	Dan Wandrie	Gretchen Lucky	Erika Dielman	Dylan Williams
LAY MINISTER	Erika Dielman	Howard Bates	Karen Dielman	Mickey Bridge	Wally Stansbury	Erika Dielman
PRAYER TEAM	Sharalen & Betty	Sally & Leah	Sharalen & Betty	Sally & Leah	Sharalen & Betty	Sally & Leah
CHILDREN'S NURSERY	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor	Darlene & Taylor
COFFEE HOUR HOSTS	The Greenwells	The Williams	The Ostranders	Susan Stout & Ron Davis	The Greenwells	The Stumps



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



ALTAR GUILD

JanKaren Dielman
Feb.....Gretchen Lucky
March....Karen Dielman
April.....Liz Ostrander



February



Wedding Anniversaries



Our Altar Flowers
on February 2nd
were given

Randy Flynn 2/2
D.W. Lucky 2/11



In Loving Memory of
Bob & Elaine Hameister
by John & Cindy Ross

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:	Dylan Williams	206/295-9816
	Wes Ostrander	231/330-4930
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:	Taylor DuBois	231/340-1748
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:	~ Leader 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 2025 Vestry

Sr. Warden, Erika Dielman
 Jr. Warden, Dylan Williams
 Carol Bowman
 Taylor DuBois
 Randy Flynn
 April Honeycutt
 Liz Ostrander

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 February 27th.



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.

Treasurer's Report ~ December 31, 2024

	December			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	19,631.00	15,141.00	4,490.00	163,181.24	181,736.00	(18,554.76)
Other	(2,422.02)	1,986.00	(4408.02)	39,463.78	23,832.00	15,631.78
Income	17,208.98	17,127.00	81.98	202,645.02	205,568.00	(2,922.98)
Expense	(18,519.16)	(16,367.00)	2,152.16	(217,755.22)	(195,653.00)	(22,102.22)
Difference	(1,310.18)	760.00	(2,070.18)	(15,110.20)	9,915.00	(25,025.20)
Assets				\$582,608.16		
		Jan. 1, 2024	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Dec. 31, '24
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

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.

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



ANGELICAN CHURCH
IN NORTH AMERICA

JOYOUS NEWS

February 2025

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

*Between the night
and its darkness
and the passing of the day
comes the vesper time
of twilight,*

*the time in which we pray
for the blessing of the sun
in its travel
from dawn to falling night,
asking God in all His goodness
to keep us in His sight.*

BES