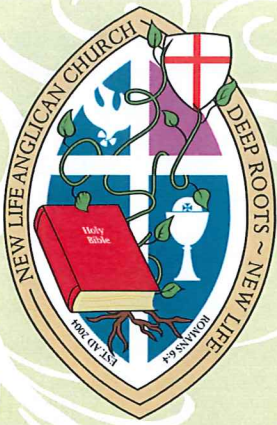


JOYOUS NEWS

January 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.*



As Bonnie and I wrapped Christmas presents this year, we generally did so with Richard Marx's Christmas Spirit album playing. I wrote a Joyous News article about the album back in 2021, so I won't do it again here. I did, however, want to talk about what one of the songs got me thinking about. The song is Let There Be Peace on Earth. The words go like this:

*Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me
Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be!
With God as our Father, brothers all are we
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony*

*Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now
With ev'ry breath I take, let this be my solemn vow
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally!
Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me!*

*To take each moment and live each moment
In peace eternally
Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me*

Many of us want to see peace on earth. Not just on earth, but in our communities, our families, and our own lives. But what do we do to make it happen? I believe that this song catches the essence of Romans 12:8 perfectly: If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all.

It isn't just about hoping for peace, praying for peace, or even giving up on peace. It is on us to live peaceably with all, so far as it depends on us. I can't make someone else feel peace toward me. I can, however, strive to live in peace with everyone as much as possible. "Let there be peace on Earth and let it begin with me." I am not putting it on others to accomplish. I am recognizing that I need to be the peace that I want to see in the world.

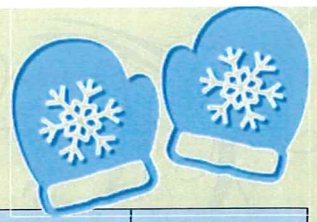
"Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be." This is a profound understanding of the world, as we weren't meant to live in enmity with others or with God. We were created to be in community with one another and in communion with God. Thus, the call to let there be peace as it was meant to be is a call to return things to the created order.

Again, though, what strikes me from the song is the focus on me as the agent of peace. "Let peace begin with me. Let this be the moment now. With every breath I take, let this be my solemn vow." The song is a prayer, but it is a prayer that God does something in me to make a difference in the world. We can use more prayers like that- that God changes me to change the world. If each of us focused on bringing peace to the world, peace in Christ, the Prince of Peace, imagine how much peace there would be.



January 2025

at New Life



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

WALLY'S GALLERY —

January 5th is the last day of this year's Christmas season and is followed on the 6th by the season of Epiphany. Epiphany is the time in which Jesus is revealed to the gentile world, initially through the Magi. That singular encounter of the Magi began a world-wide transformation of the soul of mankind. It was transformation that is only revealed if we look back through history and



venture to speculate on what might have been if Jesus had never been born.

The information for this article comes from the book "What if Jesus had Never Been Born?" by D. James Kennedy and Jerry Newcombe. Quotes come from that book. Other sources are so indicated. It is very important to understand that this article can only take a very brief look at the subjects covered in the book by Dr. Kennedy and can not do justice to all the areas that Dr. Kennedy addressed..

In the Image of God - The Value of Human Life -

Life in the ancient world life was exceedingly cheap. Abortion, abandonment, infanticide, suicide were all common in Rome and Greece. "Only about half of the children born lived beyond the adage of eight, in part because of widespread infanticide, with famine and illness also being a factor." Life was cheap and for many not worth living.

But then Jesus came, conceived in a virgin's womb and since then Christians have cherished life. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them." (Matt. 19:14a) His words bestowed dignity on the most vulnerable. "And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." (John 1:14) Jesus came to us in human flesh and with that the status of all human life for women, the elderly, slaves, the destitute over time took on a renewed value and meaning.

Compassion and Mercy -

The Gospel of Luke records Jesus responding to a lawyer who asks how he can inherit eternal life. Jesus answers with the parable of the Good Samaritan who provides for an individual attacked by robbers when a priest and a Levite would not. (Luke 10:25-37) The Gospel of Matthew tells of Jesus' attitude toward those who help the poor, thirsty and sick. "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me." (Matthew 25:40)

Dr. Kennedy writes that these parables had a great impact on Western civilization. As Dr. Harriet Martineau researched through the history of antiquity, she found that there was "no trace of any organized charitable giving." Giving was done only with the expectation of equal treatment by individuals of similar wealth and status and hospitality was strictly done as a mutual convenience. When Jesus came, however, motivations changed. Individuals now gave out of their love for Christ "who was rich [In His eternal status] but became poor [in the humility of His incarnation] for our sakes, so that we might become rich [in our salvation]." (2 Corinthians 8:9)

Education for Everyone -

Prior to Jesus, education in the pagan world, was reserved for the elite only. However, God had issued different instructions to Moses which Moses then passed on to the Hebrews; "And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of

them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.” (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)

After Jesus' resurrection, His final word to His disciples confirmed God's desire that all people should be educated in the gospel: “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit teaching them observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)

To carry out this command, Dr. Kennedy writes that “Christianity gave rise to the concept of education for everyone. Furthermore, the phenomenon of the university has its roots in the Christian faith...the greatest universities worldwide were started by Christians for Christian purposes.” Such was the cause of the founding of Oxford, Cambridge, Harvard, Yale, Princeton...” Unfortunately since then they have fallen away from the faith.

Freedom for All -

“Now yet Lord is the Spirit, and where the Sprit of the Lord is, there is liberty.” (2 Corinthians 3:17)

Dr. Kennedy writes, “If you went to Saudi Arabia you'd never hear a talk show discussing whether Muhammad was really the prophet of Allah. Muslim converts to Christianity are summarily executed in Muslim lands...If you went to Israel, you wouldn't hear a broadcast discussing whether Jesus was the Christ (Messiah)...If you were in India, you would'd hear an open discussion on whether sacred cows should be eaten...If you where in China you wouldn't hear a discussion on whether citizens should be allowed to leave or return to China at will.”

In contrast historian Dr. Charles Hull Wolf wrote, “...Christ showed men how to be free by being governed by Him from within instead of being tyrannized by men from without.”

If mankind refuses to live by God's moral laws, implanted in our consciousness, then they will be enslaved by the powerful under arbitrary laws written by fallen, sinful individuals. Rather, the apostle Peter wrote that we should: “Live as people who are free, not using your freedom as a cover-up for evil, but living as servants of God.” (1 Peter 2:16)

(It is at this point that I have to end this article as there is much more to be said. I will continue next month with more from Dr. Kennedy on this same subject - What If Jesus Had Never Been Born.)

“Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” (John 18:37)

~ Wally's Gallery

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 January 23rd 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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



WOMEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP – meets at 9-11am, Saturday, January 4th & 18th, 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.

FR. MIKE'S OFFICE HOURS Tuesday & Wednesday 1 – 5pm Thursdays & Fridays 9am – 1pm

New Life's Christmas Outreach Projects



Thank You to all
who donated to our
Angel Tree & Food Boxes

This year we sponsored 3 Families from
Lincoln Elementary School.



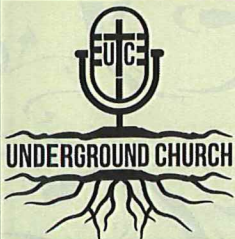
This year we sponsored a local Marine Corps Veteran, Joshua, his fiancé Ashley, and their kids, Cameron (16) and Serenity (9).

Cameron has a liver condition and has been in and out of the hospital.

The final tally on our Marine Veteran Outreach was a car load of gifts and \$1100 in cash and gift cards.

A \$200 gift card was from Margie Krussell's VFW.

A big thank you to all our very generous church members and to Margie.



THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

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

January 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.

January 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.

	January 5	January 12	January 19	January 26	February 2	February 9
ALTAR GUILD	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Gretchen Lucky	Gretchen Lucky
SOUND/MUSIC	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd
USHER/COUNTER/GREETERS	Randy F. / Don L. / The Bowmans	Don L. / Dan W. / The Flynns	Dan W. / Randy F. / Sally Stump	Randy F. / Don L. / Taylor DuBois	Don L. / Dan W. / The Bowmans	Dan W. / Randy F. / The Flynns
LECTOR	Karen Dielman	Gretchen Lucky	Erika Dielman	Dylan Williams	Leah Williams	Dan Wandrie
LAY MINISTER	Howard Bates	Karen Dielman	Mickey Bridge	Wally Stansbury	Erika Dielman	Howard Bates
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	April Honeycutt	Annual Meeting	The Bates	The Wandries	The Greenwells



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



ALTAR GUILD

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



January



Wedding Anniversaries



Brenda Flynn 1/4
Linda Knapp 1/14
Mark DuBois 1/19
Connie Woods 1/21



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:	~ 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 January 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.

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 ~ November 30, 2024

	October			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	11,322.00	15,145.00	(3,823.00)	143,550.24	166,595.00	(23,044.76)
Other	755.00	1,986.00	(1,231.00)	41,885.80	21,860.00	20,025.80
Income	12,077.00	17,131.00	(5,054.00)	185,436.04	188,441.00	(3,004.96)
Expense	(21,742.13)	(16,202.00)	5,540.13	(199,236.06)	(179,286.00)	(19,950.06)
Difference	(9,665.13)	929.00	(10,594.13)	(13,800.02)	9,155.00	(22,955.02)
Assets				\$572,262.11		
		Jan. 1, 2024	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Sept. 30, '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

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

January 2025

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

*The past is past.
Reluctance says its so,
as wisdom advises: Let it go.
The present is the presence
in our midst,
but ignoring this,
we make future pleasure
our heartfelt wishful bliss.
That future is our present
when it comes,
sometimes with wishes looked for
on the road we run,*

*It tells us the present
is the truth of time,
this looked for future
now present
that is yours and mine.
So live in the present
in blessed grace,
fully in touch
with time's own pace.
See, the sun is rising
in the sky,
its day, like ours,
goes all too quickly by.*

BES

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