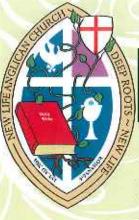
# JOYOUS NEWS

October 2023



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 am writing to you from the Liberty Pastor's Conference in Plymouth, MI. This is the first non-diocesan conference I have attended in nineteen years, and it has been well worth it. The conference is Monday evening through Thursday at noon. In that time, we have a jam-packed schedule full of about fifteen sessions of lectures. The entire conference is meant to be a boot

camp for pastors about what our first amendment rights are and what our role in politics should be. It has been very much like drinking from a fire hose, but I wanted to write to share just a couple of things that I have learned since I have been here.

The first thing we learned is about the myth of separation of Church and state. I have always known that it was a myth, but seeing it laid out with so much historical context is eye opening. As many of you probably know, the idea of separation of Church and state came from a letter written by Thomas Jefferson to a Baptist minister who was concerned over a rumor that there was about to be an appointed official state denomination of Christianity. In answer to that, Jefferson used the phrase separation of Church and state as a means of showing that the government couldn't interfere with the Church and wouldn't pronounce a state church. This statement has been taken and turned upside down to suggest that the founders established a separation of Church and state that keeps religion from interfering with government; but it is the other way around. The government can't interfere with religion.

And when it comes to religion, the founders were very clear that it was the Christian religion to which they referred. Ninety-eight percent of America was Protestant and two percent was Jewish and Catholic. Numerous of the founders are quoted as saying that a religious and moral people are the only people that could handle a republican form of government, and that apart from a religious and moral people, the whole thing will fall apart.

This leads to the next thing I learned- that churches have always been tax exempt since the founding of America. Our tax-exempt status was never a gift that was bestowed on the Church by the government. It has always existed because the founders believed that the Church was a sovereign entity, and that sovereign entities can't tax one another. They viewed taxing the Church the same as a state trying to tax another state or the federal government. It simply couldn't be done. A big reason for this is they expressed that the power to tax something is the power to destroy it. If the government wants to destroy something, they can just tax it out of existence. The founders never wanted the federal or state government to have that kind of power, so they made churches immune to taxation from the very beginning.



# October 2022

# at New Life



| Sandag  | Monday | Tagsdag   | Wødnøædag   | Thursdag   | Friday | Saturday  |
|---|--------|---|---|--|--------|-----------|
| Worship Service<br>1000am<br>Canffee Hour<br>The Bates                          | 2      | Men's<br>Breakfast 8:30am<br>@ Southwoods   | Mon's Ministry<br>Group 10:00am<br>is the access sudy<br>6:00pan<br>Pizza<br>6:30pm<br>Bible Study<br>I Timethy | Morning Prayer<br>8:00aro<br>Women's<br>Bible Study<br>6:30pm  | 6      | 7         |
| 8 Worship Service 10:00m Coffee Hour The Wandries                               |        | Men's Breakfast 8:30am Southwoods October Vestry Meeting 6:00pm   | Men's Ministry<br>Group 10:00am<br>in the annex study<br>6:00pm<br>Pizza<br>6:30pm<br>Bible Study<br>I Timothy  | Morning Prayer<br>8:00ant<br>Women's<br>Bible Study<br>6:30pm  | 13     | 14        |
| Worship Service<br>10x0am<br>Coffee Hour<br>The Williams                        | 16     | I 7<br>Men's<br>Breakfast 8,30am<br>@ Southwoods  | Men's Ministry<br>Group 10:00am<br>in the annex study<br>6:00pm<br>Pizza<br>6:30pm<br>Bible Study<br>I Timothy  | Morning Prayer<br>8:00am<br>Men's Ministry<br>Group 5:30pm<br>Blanz Hall<br>Women's<br>Bible Study<br>6:30pm | 20     | 21        |
| Worship Service<br>10:03am<br>Coffee Hour<br>The DuBois                         | 23     | Men's<br>Breakfast 8,30am<br>@ Southwoods   | Men's Ministry<br>Group 10:00am<br>in the annex study<br>6:00pm<br>Pizza<br>6:30pm<br>Bible Study<br>1 Timothy  | Morning Prayer 8:00 July President of Pecasiery  | 27     | 28        |
| Worship Nervice<br>10:00m<br>Coffee Hour<br>Brenda Flynn<br>& Ginny<br>Poquette | 30     | Men's Breakfast 8:30am Southwoods Southwoods  loyous News  loyous News  loyous News  loyous News  peadine | Men's Ministry<br>Group 10:00am<br>Jarhe acces study<br>6:00pm<br>Pizza<br>6:30pm<br>Bible Study<br>1 Timothy   | Aloming Prayer<br>8:00am<br>Women's<br>Bifile Study<br>6:30pm  | 3      | Fall Back |

By this time each year college football is in full swing with teams competing to be in the NCAA playoffs at the end of the season. When I was in college teams were members different conferences based on geographical location. For instance the Big Ten Conference.



Western Intercollegiate Conference, consisted of the Universities of Chicago, Illinois, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, Purdue and Northwestern. In 1899 Iowa and Indiana were added and in 1912 Ohio State joined the conference. Chicago eventually withdrew from the conference and in 1949 Michigan State was added comprising the original ten teams. Ten teams all located in a similar geographical location which lent itself to lasting rivalries.

But all that was about to change. In 1990 two more teams were added to the Big Ten and in 2014 the Big Ten added Maryland, Rutgers and the State University of New Jersey. But the conference is still called the Big Ten. And now, I understand that Oregon and Washington are headed to (you guessed it) the Big Ten. This however, is not the only conference undergoing bazaar changes. (If interested one can find the others on the internet.)

So what's the point of this? Why am I spending time and words on this subject? In my thinking, as these conferences change in number and geographical identity while retaining their name, they sacrifice meaning and reality. The name no longer represents who they really are. But is this so different from our present culture?

In California a person can legally change their gender in two months and as crime has become so rampart that stealing is no longer stealing if the value is less than \$950.00. When words no longer conform to reality, meaning and purpose are sacrificed. In schools children are taught that they evolved and are an accidental result of mindless, natural occurrences. They have no more significance than any other creature; no purpose or special value. They just are, and nothing more; they simply evolved without intent or design. Is it any wonder then, that the news has reported that suicide rates are rising to historic levels and that there is a need for counselors to combat depression in our society? Those that suggest that they can change their gender or steal without stealing, or create their own

meaning and significance are playing a dangerous a game. When I was very young I pretended to be Roy Rogers or some other cowboy who would save the West. It was fun but in my heart I knew it was all pretend. As I grew older those dreams faded away. ("When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways."(I Corinthians 13:11) Not so in our culture today. Now you can create your own reality, significance and value. In other words, for those that try, intrinsic value is really a make believe game that's accepted as truth. Continued from page 3

It's delusion.

Some years ago in reading an article by R. C. Sproul I came upon the following quote by Shakespeare which speaks exactly to the above view of reality: "Life's but a walking shadow; a poor player, that struts and frets his hour upon the stage, and then is heard no more: it is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury,

Compare the above view of reality with the following:

"Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness...So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them." (Genesis 1:26; 27)

"For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made." (Psalm 139:13-14)

"Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? And not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. But even the hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not, therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows." (Matthew 10:29-31)

"For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal." (2 Corinthians 4:17-18)

October is a month of visual change as the leaves intensive their colors and eventually fall to the ground. So too can cultures as foundations on which they rested for decades, even centuries, are abandoned in the name of progress. The apostle Paul wrote to Timothy to warn him what was to come and his words are as reverent today. "For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths." (2 Timothy 4:3-6)

A few years before Paul wrote his firs letter to Timothy which he ended with these words - also a charge to us: "O Timothy, guard what has been entrusted to you, avoiding worldly and empty chatter and the opposing arguments of what is falsely called "knowledge"— which some have professed and thus gone astray from the faith. Grace be with you." (ITimothy 6: 20-21)

~ Wally's Gallery

## COMING SOON: SAINTS & MARTYRS OF UNSHAKABLE HOPE & FAITH

NLAC has given our members a lovely gift - our annual calendar - Church Year Guide. It includes the names of saints and martyrs - men and women of unshakable hope and faith who were God's instruments for Church reformation and keeping it alive and true to God's Word. I have started to look up a few of these precious saints. Talked to Fr. Mike who told me who his favorite is! Explore with me as we are encouraged by the life of Christ in them. May we be strengthened for the days ahead as we see God's faithfulness with us, and our Lord Jesus living in us through His Holy Spirit's guidance. We too, are His saints!

In the love of Christ, Linda Knapp



us 👸

This leads to the next point, which is that we have been told for so long that it isn't legal for churches to be political that most believe it. Churches worry that if their pastors say political things from the pulpit, that they will potentially lose their tax-exempt status. In the history of our country, a church has never lost its tax-exempt status, it wasn't even until the 1960s and later that churches began registering as 501(c)(3)s. Churches didn't need to register for tax-exempt status, it was automatic. The primary reason churches began registering as corporations was for protection against lawsuits such as if someone was injured in the church. There was a fear that without corporation status, if the church was sued, the members would be held liable for damages. Even when the infamous "Johnson Amendment" was introduced in 1954 to keep 501(c) (3)s from getting involved in politics, it was introduced against conservative think tanks that were attacking Lyndon Johnson. Churches weren't 501(c)(3)s in those days and so the Johnson Amendment wouldn't have applied to them.

The plain and simple facts are that churches are allowed to be political. They are allowed to invite candidates to speak in church. They are even allowed to endorse candidates and specific laws, without any risk to their tax-exempt status. The Alliance Defending Freedom has even held events where pastors, most recently 1600 at one time, wrote sermons endorsing specific candidates and then they sent letters to the IRS including the transcripts trying to goad the IRS into suing (for the purpose of challenging the Johnson Amendment in court) and the IRS has never so much as sent a letter back to one of the churches.

This is just some of the abundance of information I have picked up since being at this conference. It has been well worth it, and I thank you for letting me attend. I look forward to being back with you and sharing more of what I have learned.

- Fr. Mike

#### WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE FALL WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Thursdays at 6:30pm in Blanz Hall. We hope you will join us as we work through the book of Hebrews. This is a 10-week study using the Jen Wilkin's "Better" study. The Bible study book plus streaming access is \$24.99. Please see Suzanne Schulte or Bonnie Bridge to reserve a copy. There are a number of free books available if you need a complimentary copy.

### 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 - Wednesdays at 10:30am at the Davis Home

MEN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM - meeting is Thursday, October 19th in Blanz Hall, Lead by Don Lucky.

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.

#### FR. MIKE'S OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 1:00 - 5:00pm, Thursdays 9:00am - 1:00pm

October 2023 Service Calendar

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

|            | October    | October     | October     | October       | October        | November   |
|------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------------|------------|
|            | 1          | 8           | 15          | 22            | 29             | 5          |
| ALTAR      | Gretchen   | Gretchen    | Gretchen    | Gretchen      | Gretchen       | Liz        |
| GUILD      | Lucky      | Lucky       | Lucky       | Lucky         | Lucky          | Ostrander  |
| SOUND/     | Ferd, Wes  | Ferd, Wes   | Ferd, Wes   | Ferd, Wes     | Ferd, Wes      | Ferd, Wes  |
| MUSIC      | & Dylan    | & Dylan     | & Dylan     | & Dylan       | & Dylan        | & Dylan    |
| USHER/     | Don L./    | Dylan W./   | Dan W./     | Mark D./      | Randy F. /     | Don L./    |
| COUNTER/   | Dylan W./  | Don L./     | Mark D./    | Dan W./       | Don L./        | Randy F. / |
| GREETERS   | The Flynns | Sally Stump | The Bowmans | Taylor DuBois | The Bowmans    | The Flynns |
| LECTOR     | Mary Jane  | Leah        | Erika       | Ferd          | Gretchen       | Dan        |
|            | Zako       | Williams    | Dielman     | Dielman       | Lucky          | Wandrie    |
| LAY        | Mickey     | Mary Jane   | Wally       | Erika         | Karen          | Mary Jane  |
| MINISTER   | Bridge     | Zako        | Stansbury   | Dielman       | Dielman        | Zako       |
| PRAYER     | Sally      | Sharalen    | Sally       | Sharalen      | Sally          | Sharalen   |
| TEAM       | & Leah     | & Betty     | & Leah      | & Betty       | & Leah         | & Betty    |
| CHILDREN'S | Darlene    | Darlene     | Darlene     | Darlene       | Darlene        | Darlene    |
| NURSERY    | & Taylor   | & Taylor    | & Taylor    | & Taylor      | & Taylor       | & Taylor   |
| COFFEE     | The        | The         | The         | The           | Brenda Flynn & | The        |
| HOUR HOSTS | Bates      | Wandries    | Williams    | DuBois        | Ginny Poquette | Davis'     |



## Thursday Morning Prayer 8:00am in

Fr. Mike's Office



## ALTAR GUILD

Oct......Gretchen Lucky Nov .....Liz Ostrander

Dec...... Karen Dielman

Jan ...... Karen Dielman



# October



## Wedding Anniversaries



Mary Jane Zako 10/02

Dan Wandrie 10/07

10/20 Carol Bowman

10/22 Dave Woods



Rundy & Brenda Flynn Oct. 4th

Lou & Mary Jane Zako

Oct 6th

Howard & Lacy Bates Oct. 6th

> Wes & Liz Ostrander Oct. 29th

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 Antiversory se 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: Ford Dielman 231/347-3532 Dan Wandrie 231/347-5871

Ushers: Carol Bowman 231/459-4566 Greeters: Lectors: Tracey Jepsen 231/347-3448

Lay Eucharistic Ministers: Mike Bridge 231/330-0689

Mike Bridge 231/330-0689 Acolytes: Children's Sunday School: Darlene Wandric

231/347-5871 231/622-2058 Youth Sunday School: Don Lucky

(middle & high school) 231/330-0689 Adult Sunday School: Mike Bridge

Bonnie Bridge 231/445-1810 Nursery: Fellowship/Hospitality: Liz Ostrander 231/348-2802 Ron Davis 231/330-6355 Prayer Chain: Suzanne Schulte 517/899-1946 Women's Ministry:

231/330-0689 Mike Bridge Men's Ministry: 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 D. W. Lucky 231/330-6559 Missions: 231/347-5871 Dan Wandrie Building and Grounds:

Ron Davis 231/330-6355 231/330-4821 Art and Architecture: Susan Davis Liz Ostrander Church Historian: 231/348-2802

Communications: 231/445-1810 Bonnie Bridge (newspaper articles, etc.) 231/373-7997

Student Visitor's Liaison: Lacy Bates Wes Ostrander 231/330-4930 Treasurer: 231/330-4821 Assistant Treasurer: Susan Davis

Sally Stump 231/881-2818 Assistant Treasurer: Dan Wandrie 231/347-5871 Assistant Treasurer:

Dan Wandrie Stewardship: 231/347-5871

New Life Anglican Church 2023 Vestry

Sr. Warden, Erika Dielman fr. Warden. Dylan Williams ...... Carol Bowman ........... Susan Davis ...... Toni DuBois

...... April Honeycutt ..... Don Lucky

Our Joyous News Needs youl

Please consider submitting an article or item of interest for the next issue of the Joyous News.

Submission deadline



### SAVE YOUR OLESON'S RECIEPTS

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 F | Report ~ Sep | tember 30, 20 | 23           |              |  |  |
|-------------------------|-------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--|--|
|                         |             | September     |              |               | Year to Date |              |  |  |
|                         | Actual      | Budget        | Difference   | Actual        | Budget       | Difference   |  |  |
| Offering                | 13,263.42   | 13,562.00     | (298.58)     | 123,172.66    | 122,058,00   | 1,114.69     |  |  |
| Other                   | 1609,01     | 1,636.00      | (26.99)      | 15,106,14     | 14,718,00    | 388.14       |  |  |
| Income                  | 14,872.43   | 15,198.00     | (325.57)     | 138,278,80    | 136,776.00   | 1,502.80     |  |  |
| Expense                 | (15,677.10) | (15,871.00)   | (193.90)     | (149,462.33)  | (146,465.00) | (2,997.33)   |  |  |
| Difference              | (804.67)    | (673.00)      | (131.67)     | (11,183.53)   | (9,689.00)   | (1,494.53)   |  |  |
| Assets                  |             |               |              | \$611,060.54  |              |              |  |  |
|                         |             | Jan. 1,2023   | Dana-        | Expenses      | Difference   | Sep. 30,2023 |  |  |
| 211 Fund                |             | 130,814.89    | - 2/         | 3,645.21      | 3,945.21     | 126,869.68   |  |  |
| 211 Fund In/Out Reach   |             | 22,546.65     | 148          | 446.71        | 446,71       | 22,099.94    |  |  |
| 0.000                   |             | Operating     | 211 Fund     | 211 In/Out    | Deposit      | Interest     |  |  |
| Interest Bearing Accts. |             | -70,000,00    | -120,000.00  | -10,000.00    | 200.000.00   |              |  |  |
| St. Francis 3-month CD  |             | Deposit       |              |               | 200,000.00   |              |  |  |

## New Life Anglican Church

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PETOSKEY, MICHIGAN 49770
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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.

Komans 6:1

