

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 are now firmly into the season of Lent, which, as you know, is a penitential season. It is a season for us to look at our lives and see where we need to grow, change, or even be broken so that we can be conformed to the image of Christ and learn to walk in good works that God has prepared before the foundation of the world that we should walk in. There are three things that we should consider doing for this season and in preparation for Easter. We should reflect, repent, and be renewed.

First, we should reflect. We have busy lives, hectic lives. So much goes on and it can be hard to slow down and take good stock of where we are. But we need to be able to give an honest assessment of where we are with the Lord. So, we need to take time to reflect. Reflect on areas of growth. As my former mentor would say, if you aren't growing you are dying. So where are areas in your Christian walk that you could or need to grow? Reflect on weaknesses. It is always helpful for us to take an inventory of not only our strengths, but areas of real weakness. Perhaps through reflection you have determined that prayer is a weakness for you. Now that you are aware of it, you are in a position to do something about it. So maybe you set a bit of a regiment for yourself, such as praying for fifteen minutes while drinking your morning cup of coffee. Maybe through reflection you realize that fifteen minutes of prayer seems daunting, so you need to start with five minutes of real, earnest prayer each day. Now you have a plan to help improve in that area. Likewise, reflect on where you are doing well. Are you a good dad or husband? A good mom or wife? Take the time to reflect on that, thank God for where you are strong, and ask him to further strengthen you in those areas.

Second, repent. This will follow from reflection as we begin to see places in our lives that don't match who we should be in Christ. Repentance is both a mindset and an action. From an action standpoint, we need to move from sin to holiness. As I reflect, perhaps I realize that I have a tendency toward a sin that never really stood out to me before. Or perhaps I am well aware of a greater sin in my life but I haven't had the strength or courage to face it and change. This is as good a time as any to begin making changes. Pray that God would help you to overcome the sins that hound you, set about on an intentional course to change behaviors, and, if necessary, bring a brother or sister in Christ into your struggle for prayer and accountability. If I am struggling, for example, with overeating, I would pray that God helps me with it, trusting that he is a God who answers prayer and wants me to be better than I am. I would work toward a healthier eating pattern in my life. And maybe I enlist my wife or best friend to help me. If it's my wife, she could help me by preparing food that helps me reach my goals and by not buying things at the store that will tempt me. If it is my best friend, I can text him when I am driving by the gas station, about to pull in for that 3000 calorie donut, and he can encourage me that I don't need it. In either case, they can also serve as someone to pray with and for me in my struggles.



March 2024 at New Life



HOLY WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Davis'	4	5 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	6 Lenten Soup & Salad 6:00pm Book Study 6:30pm	7 Morning Prayer 8:00am	1 8 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	2 9 Remember to SPRING AHEAD tonight
10 SPRING AHEAD Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Ostrandars	11	12 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods March Vestry Meeting 6:00pm	13 Lenten Soup & Salad 6:00pm Book Study 6:30pm	14 Morning Prayer 8:00am	15 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	16
17 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Deilmans	18	19 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	20 SPRING Lenten Soup & Salad 6:00pm Book Study 6:30pm	21 Morning Prayer 8:00am Men's Ministry Group 5:30pm in Blanz Hall	22 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	23
24 Palm Sunday Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Williams	25	26 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods Joyous News April Issue Deadline	27	28 Morning Prayer 8:00am MAUNDY Thursday	29 GOOD FRIDAY Men's Bible Study 9:00am	30
31 Happy Easter! Worship Service 10:00am	1	2 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	3	4 Morning Prayer 8:00am	5 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	6

God's Love For Me

My recent experience with sudden illness has reminded me of God's love for me.

As many of you know by the time this piece is published, I recently had an emergency appendectomy. I was working as a paramedic on the night shift. If we are not needed, we are allowed to get some sleep. I went to bed at 11 PM feeling quite well. At 1 AM, I woke with generalized abdominal discomfort. I thought it might be something I ate and went back to sleep. At 2 AM, I woke again with the pain moving to the right side of my abdomen and becoming more intense. I still hoped it would resolve on its own and tried to go back to sleep. However, I could not get back to sleep for more than twenty minutes at a time over the next three hours. At 5 AM, I called someone to relieve me and cover my shift so I could go to the emergency department. I was still scheduled to work another twelve hours. My relief arrived about 6 AM, which was shift change. He told me he would not let me drive myself to emergency because I looked terrible. So, after 41 years working in an ambulance, I found myself riding in one as a patient. My relief paramedic and the oncoming EMT drove me to the hospital. My EMT partner who I let sleep during the night even offered to drive my personal vehicle to the hospital, so I didn't have to arrange to pick it up from Boyne Falls later.

At the hospital, it was quickly confirmed I had appendicitis. Surgery would take place around 3 PM. During my wait in emergency, I was able to contact my wife, Darlene, who quickly got word out to my family and my church family. I received phone calls from my siblings and was visited by Darlene and my mother, Fr Mike, and various hospital employees who I had worked with over the years.

All this occurred on Ash Wednesday. When Fr Mike arrived, I asked him if he brought ashes with him. In his haste to visit me, he did not think of it. I did receive prayer and reassurance which I appreciated. After Fr Mike left, I left a message for the hospital chaplain and if he was available, I would appreciate a visit and asked him to bring ashes with him. I did receive a visit, had ashes imposed and more prayer. I asked the chaplain if he would get in trouble for imposing ashes on a surgical patient and he replied he imposed ashes at the request of the first surgical patient that morning in surgery and never heard a word.

My one concern was if I would be able to have my scheduled knee surgery in two weeks. My Nurse Practitioner from the surgical service said he would contact orthopedics and inquire. Later he returned telling me if everything went well, there was no reason to postpone the surgery.

When I went to surgery, I met the anesthesiologist. After signing consents, he saw my ashes and said he would pray for me. The surgery went well, I stayed the night in the hospital and went home the next day.

Throughout my experience, I realized how great is God's love for me. He put in place the people I needed at that moment to care for me, pray for me and love me. I give thanks to God for each of you who participated in my care and prayed for me. You were the representation of God's love. You showed me that I was important to God. Your presence reassured me. I had no fear or anxiety of the surgery and my recovery.

Realizing that it is now Lent, I thought further about God's love for me. He loves me so much that He gave his only Son for the forgiveness of my sins and restore me. Not only to forgive my sins, but the sins of the whole world. God loves you as much as He loves me. Let us bless the Lord. Thanks be to God!

~ Dan Wandrie

WALLY'S GALLERY —

In January of this year our washing machine started exhibiting unusual signs of distress. The first indication was when I found that it was not completing the spin cycle. At times it completed the spin cycle without a hitch and just when I thought the problem had resolved itself, it reappeared. Later indications of a deeper problem surfaced; noises that it signaled a far more profound problem deep inside the washer. Something that was not going to resolve itself, nor was I able to resolve. We were in need of a new machine.

As strange as it may seem, the need for a new washer gave me an idea for this article. Each Sunday we confess the Nicene creed with these words: "We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life..." When I recite these words on Sunday what comes to mind is life that is characterized by the birth of an infant, growth, movement, aging, and conscientiousness. It is the life of the flesh. What I now realize is that there is another form of life which I should also keep in mind as I say these words.

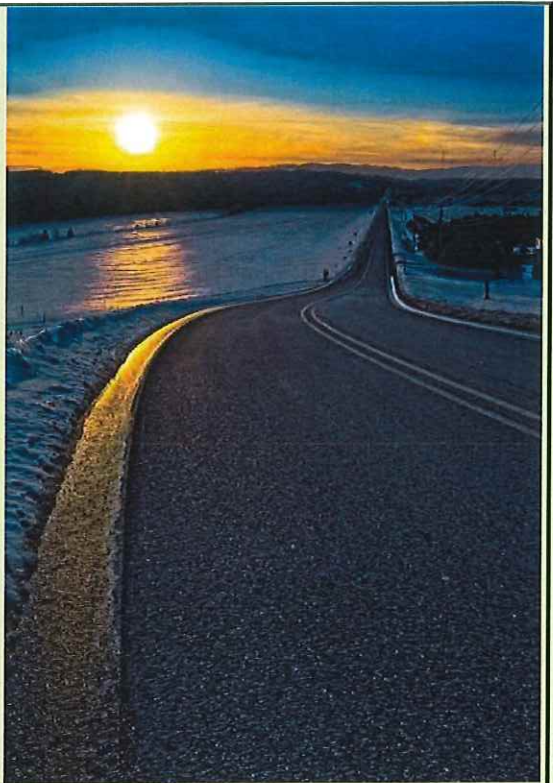
To explain here are the words of Jesus as given to us in John's gospel.

"Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:1-9)

To my surprise Nicodemus then asked Jesus "How can these things be?" I would have thought a better question would have been "Why must these things be?" Didn't the Jews believe that as long as they keep all the laws they were righteous? In other words, didn't they believe that the power for righteousness was within them selves.

Not so. Here is the apostle Paul's writing on the truth of the human condition; first to the church in Rome and then to the church in Ephesus.

"None is righteous, no, not one; no one understands; no one seeks for God. All have turned aside; together they have become worthless; no one does good, not even one." (Romans 3:10-12) The note in my ESV Bible says; "he (Paul) means that no human being on his own seeks for God or does any good that merits salvation."



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Repentance is also a mindset, so I need to work on having a mind that wants the things that Christ wants. As Romans 12:2 says, "Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what is the good, pleasing, and perfect will of God." So, we need to develop a mindset of repentance that seeks the things of God and actively shuns the things that lead us away from God. The best ways to renew your mind in this way will be by reading the scriptures, so that you can find the will of God. And prayer, so that you can engage the mind of God and seek his help to grow.

Finally, be renewed. In other words, put action to your reflection and repentance. Don't just learn where you need to grow, but actively pursue growth. Don't just learn where you need to root out sin in your life, but actively root it out. Don't let yourself get down because you aren't perfect but let yourself be lifted up knowing that God desires more for you because he loves you. He isn't a bully asking for unreasonable things. He is a loving Father who wants better for you than you could ever want for yourself. A great way for being renewed is through worship. That means that you do more than just mindlessly go through the service on a Sunday morning. You engage God in worship, praising him for who he is, letting his love wash over you as you are reminded of all that he has done for you in Christ, seek a new filling of the Holy Spirit each time you come before God in worship. You can also be renewed by finding new rhythms of worship and growth in your life, such as a commitment to coming to Wednesday night study or Thursday morning prayer. Or finding time with your spouse or a friend to read through scripture or a book together and have discussion on what you read. Renewal comes from growing in the faith and letting the Lord work in your life.

So, there is your call for this Lent. Seek God by committing to an earnest time of reflection, repentance, and renewal. Don't be surprised at what God does in your life, because he rewards those who seek him thusly.

~ Fr. Mike

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Paul further explains in his letter to the church in Ephesus:

"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience... But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ... 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 2:1-2; 4; 8-9)

Michael has explained our condition with this phrase that at times has left me tongue-tied: We are not sinners because we sin. Rather, we sin because we are sinners. If we were sinners because we sin, we could solve our condition by not sinning. But that is not possible because we are born sinners.

My washing machine was never made to last forever. Ultimately it needed to be replaced with a new machine. Metaphorically, we too are born with a fatal condition; sin. Unlike my washing machine, that I can have replaced with a new one, I am unable, by my own power, to fix the condition with which I came into this world. My machine needed a repair man; I need a Savior.

~ Wally's Gallery

FR. MIKE'S OFFICE HOURS

Tuesday & Wednesday 1:00 – 5:00pm and Thursdays & Fridays 9:00am – 1:00pm

March 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.

	March 3	March 10	March 17	March 24	March 31	April 7
ALTAR GUILD	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	Liz Ostrander	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	Mark D./ Randy F./ Leah Williams	Randy F./ Dylan W./ The Flynns	Dylan W./ Don L./ The Bowmans	Don L./ Mark D./ Sally Stump	Mark D./ Randy F./ Taylor DuBois	Randy F./ Dylan W./ Leah Williams
LECTOR	Karen Dielman	Ferd Dielman	Gretchen Lucky	Erika Dielman	Dylan Williams	Leah Williams
LAY MINISTER	Howard Bates	Erika Dielman	Wally Stansbury	Mickey Bridge	Karen 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 Davis'	The Ostrandersons	The Dielmans	The Williams	No Coffee Hour	The Stumps



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



ALTAR GUILD

March....Liz Ostrander
April.....Karen Dielman
MayKaren Dielman
JuneGretchen Lucky



Birthdays

March



Wedding Anniversaries



Mike Bridge 3/3

Karen Dielman 3/25

Ron Davis 3/28



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 (middle & high school)	231/622-2058
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:	Suzanne Schulte	517/899-1946
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 (newspaper articles, etc.)	231/445-1810
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 March 26th.



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 ~ February 29, 2024

	December			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	10,576.05	15,145.00	(4,568.95)	20,054.05	30,290.00	(10,235.95)
Other	771.00	1,986.00	(1,215.00)	7,669.35	3,972.00	3,697.35
Income	11,347.05	17,131.00	(5,783.95)	27,723.40	34,262.00	(6,538.60)
Expense	(14,136.50)	(16,907.00)	(2,770.50)	(32,499.31)	(33,748.00)	(1,248.69)
Difference	(2,789.45)	224.00	(3,013.45)	(4,775.91)	514.00	(5,289.91)
Assets				\$596,996.08		
		Jan. 1, 2024	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Feb. 29, 2024
211 Fund		124,445.27	-	1,649.36	1,649.36	122,795.913
111 Fund In/Out Reach		21,119.94	-	-	-	21,119.94
		Operating	211 Fund	211 In/Out	Deposit	Interest
Interest Bearing Accts.		-70,000.00	-120,000.00	-10,000.00	200,000.00	3,600.35
St. Francis 3-month CD			Deposit		200,000.00	203,600.35

New Life Anglican Church

P.O. BOX 481

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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



JOYOUS NEWS

March 2024

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

*There's a place for Lent
in our hearts,
space for drawing into ourselves,
growing in understanding,
and waiting
for the bursting forth
at Easter.*

BES

