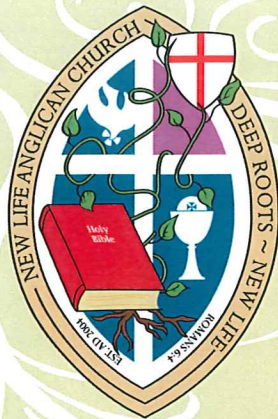


219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

*We will glorify God by deepening the roots of our Anglican faith,
and bringing people to new life in Jesus Christ.*



In recent months I have talked about things that can help you grow as a Christian. I talked about things like how to interpret the scriptures, what kinds of habits you can cultivate to grow in the faith, and the importance of bible reading. This month I want to talk about another tool that can be very powerful to your spiritual life- scripture memorization.

I just learned yesterday during dinner with my family that my father-in-law has Psalm 119 (176 verses) and Romans chapters 7-9 memorized. Apparently, when he first became a Christian at age 24, he was enamored with the bible. Someone told him that Romans 7-8 are the most important chapters in the bible, so he memorized them. I guess he added chapter 9 for good measure. Now, I'm not sure if Romans 7-8 are the most important chapters in the bible, but they certainly aren't a bad place to start in terms of memorizing scripture.

Romans 7 is a discourse about sin and the law. It is where Paul famously says that he finds it to be a law that when he wants to do right, evil lies close at hand. He says that he does the things he doesn't want to do and doesn't do the things he wants to do, and that this is the result of sin in his flesh. We are at war with the sin within us, but it has been defeated by Christ. So even though we sin, if we are Christ's, then we have defeated sin by his sacrifice.

Romans 8 has some of the most exciting passages about salvation in it. For example, we have what is called the golden chain of Romans. "28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. 29 For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. 30 And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified." In this we see the full work of God from beginning to end in the work of salvation.

We also have Paul's claim that nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ. "31 What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? 32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? 33 Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. 35 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? 36 As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." 37 No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. 38 For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, 39 nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord."



May 2025

at New Life



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Dielmans	28	29 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	30	1  6:30pm Morning Prayer 8:00am	2 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	3 Women's Fellowship Gathering 9am - 11am @ TBD
4 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Williams	5 	6 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	7	8 Morning Prayer 8:00am	9 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	10
11  Worship Service 10:00am No Coffee Hour	12	13 May Vestry Meeting 6:00pm Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	14	15  6:30pm Morning Prayer 8:00am	16 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	17 Women's Fellowship Gathering 9am - 11am @ TBD
18 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Bowmans	19	20 Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	21	22 Men's Ministry Group 5:30pm Morning Prayer 8:00am	23 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	24
25 Worship Service 10:00am Coffee Hour The Zakos	26  Church Office Closed	27  Men's Breakfast 8:30am @ Southwoods	28	29 Morning Prayer 8:00am	30 Men's Bible Study 9:00am	31

WALLY'S GALLERY —

In November 2024 There was an article in World Magazine entitled Raising a Ruckus by Lindsey Mast. Ms. Mast's article was a recap of an interview she had Allie Beth Stuckey who had recently written the book Toxic Empathy: How Progressives Exploit Christian Compassion.

Ms. Stuckey explains that toxic empathy is "...a kind of mallet of manipulation by which those in power and media extort people into taking a particular position by saying, "In order to be a compassionate and kind person, this is the stance that you must take." It says that feeling someone else's pain must convince you also to affirm their choices, their perspectives, and whatever policy prescriptions they say will alleviate their pain. They do that through emotional manipulation, telling only one side of the story, or misrepresenting an issue to make you believe the only righteous position is their position."

During the election this was played out when the media pulled on the viewer's heartstrings relating the hardship some women went through, who wanted an abortion but lived in a State whose laws favored life. The media would create an emotional picture of the women's pain all the time excluding the brutality the child would endure in an abortion that denied the child's possibility of life.

In another more recent World podcast, Mary Eicher from World, interviewed an OB/GYN doctor, Catherine Wheeler, who had performed abortions for many years. In the interview Ms. Wheeler said that she was not a Christian during those years and that her empathy for the woman seeking an abortion was able to "block out the baby".

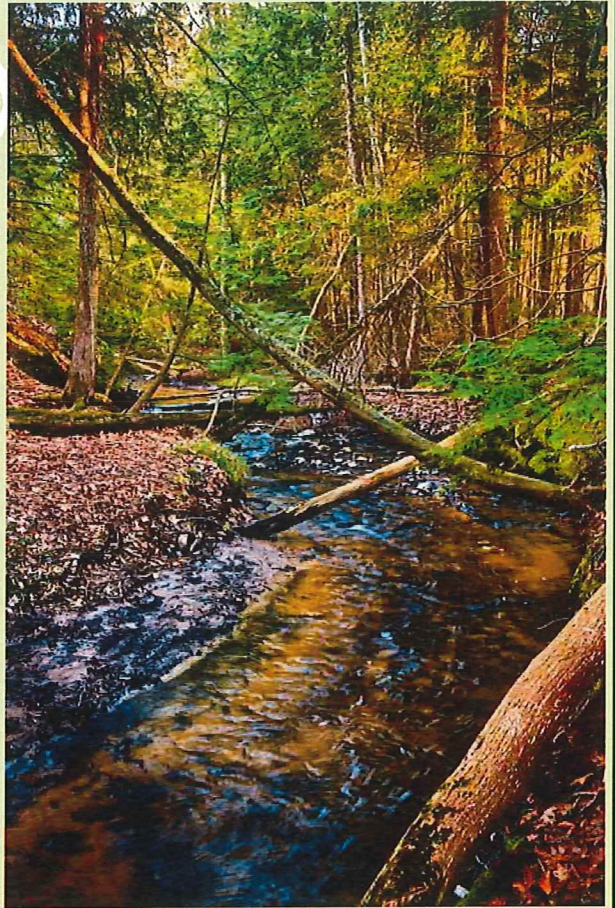
Dr. Wheeler tells of the experience that changed her mind.

"...but you feel bad for that women, and you get the wrong answer when you're not grounded and when you don't believe in God...I went in to do her abortion that day, and I can't even tell you what happened. All I know is...starting the abortion and realizing that there was just some kind of evil present in the room. And all of a sudden it was like, I saw the baby for what the baby was. I realized. I mean, in that moment, I'm like, I am about to murder a human being..."

Mary Eicher of World wrote: "It was about this time that Wheeler believes the scales fell from here eyes and she began a journey to faith in Christ."

These are vivid examples of how empathy can influence our decisions. In the interview with Beth Stuckey, that I mentioned earlier, she gives other examples of "toxic empathy" She said, "Progressives

Continued on page 4



will use Christian ideas like loving your neighbor and loving mercy and justice to convince you that affirming someone's so-called gender identity, or affirming the redefinition of the family are actually Biblical positions, because this is what it means to love."

Ms. Stuckey then points out that empathy and love are not synonymous, and can be "falsely conflated." She says: "Empathy and love are different things. You can feel how someone else feels, but love is inextricable with truth, because love never rejoices in wrong-doing, but rejoices in truth as 1 Corinthians 13:6 tells us."

"Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things." (1 Corinthians 13:4-7)

"Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love." (Ephesians 4:15-16)

~ Wally

Continued from page 1

I don't know that Romans 7-8 are the most important chapters in the bible. I think we might want to consider some passages that include the resurrection or Jesus' own words. But I can certainly see why these two chapters are worth memorizing. There is so much that is good and beautiful in them that they are definitely worth the time to commit to memory if possible.

I am not writing to try to convince you to memorize these chapters, but to consider scripture memorization as a whole. Bonnie, for example, was working on memorizing the epistle of James. She got, I believe, as far as chapter 2. That may not seem like a lot, but two chapters of scripture is a lot to memorize. If you want to start with some scripture memorization, you can always start with some of the shorter works. Pick a Psalm, like Psalm 23 (which you can probably mostly recite from memory) and work on it. Pick a short book of the New Testament, like 3 John (fifteen verses) or Jude (25 verses), which are only one chapter each.

Scripture memorization will serve you well should you ever need the comfort of scripture when you don't have your bible handy. Or when you want to recall the word when talking to others. Or should your memory start to slip, there's a good chance that the things you have already memorized will stay while you may have trouble recalling newer memories (as can happen as we age). There are countless reasons to memorize scripture. So let me encourage you to give it a try. Having your mind full of God's word will never be something you regret.

~ Fr. Mike



THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH OF NORTHERN MICHIGAN

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

May 1st & 15th 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.

Have you heard?

We're going back to Ethiopia!



A team from New Life is planning a mission trip to Ethiopia this November to assist The MossyFoot Project – a Christian organization dedicated to helping those suffering from a debilitating foot disease. This disease takes a toll on people physically, economically, socially, and spiritually. Contact D.W. Lucky or Dan Wandrie if you're interested in joining the team. Watch for more information in the coming weeks.

LITURGICAL SEASON — *by Karen Dielman*

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

We began our journey into Holy Week with Jesus entry in to Jerusalem. As we progress on his walk we hear of the last supper and foot washing with the disciples on Maundy Thursday. Good Friday.....the goodness of our sins paid with the death of our Lord and Savior. Easter...the rising of the Son! As Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw the stone rolled away and the tomb empty. She runs and cries, "they have taken him and we don't know where he is". The disciples go, see, and believe. Scriptures fulfilled. On the third day the temple will be rebuilt. Alleluia! The Lord has risen. He has risen indeed. Alleluia!

ASCENSION DAY — May 29th

Today we are celebrating Ascension Day, which falls on Thursday, May 29. Ascension Day is celebrated on the closet Sunday it falls. In Luke, chapter 24, verses 36 through 49, Jesus appears to his disciples. He ate and he opened their minds to the scriptures and told that the promise of God was yet to come and to wait. He then led them out to Bethany where he lifted his hands and blessed them.While he was blessing them, he left them and was taken up into heaven. Luke 24:51 You may have noticed in the sanctuary, a large white candle that has been lit since Easter Sunday, the paschal candle. It is lit before anyone enters the church and is extinguished when everyone has left. It represents Christ's presence here on earth until Ascension Day and is extinguished after the gospel on the Sunday his ascension is celebrated.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS



WOMEN'S COFFEE FELLOWSHIP — meets at 9-11am, Saturday, May 3rd & 17th, 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.

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 May 22nd 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. Sign up sheet in Blanz Hall.

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

May 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.

	May 4	May 11	May 18	May 25	June 1	June 8
ALTAR GUILD	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Karen Dielman	Gretchen Lucky	Gretchen Lucky
SOUND/ MUSIC	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Wes, Ferd & Dylan	Ferd, Dylan & Wes	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd	Dylan, Wes & Ferd
USHER/ COUNTER/ GREETERS	Dan W. / Randy F. / The Bowmans	Randy F. / Don L. / The Flynns	Don L. / Dan W. / Sally Stump	Dan W. / Randy F. / Taylor DuBois	Randy F. / Don L. / The Bowmans	Don L. / Dan W. / The Flynns
LECTOR	Dan Wandrie	Karen Dielman	Gretchen Lucky	Erika Dielman	Mary Jane Zako	Dylan Williams
LAY MINISTER	Mickey Bridge	Mary Jane Zako	Erika Dielman	Wally Stansbury	Howard Bates	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 Willams	Happy Mother's Day	The Bowmans	The Zakos	The Ostranders	April Honeycutt



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



ALTAR GUILD

May Karen Dielman
June Gretchen Lucky
July Liz Ostrander
Aug Karen Dielman



Birthdays

Betty Stansbury 5/3
Howard Bates 5/4
Sally Stump 5/26

May



Wedding Anniversaries



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
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 Stout	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 Stout	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!

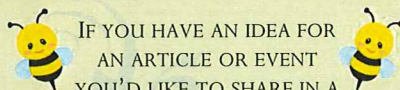
Please consider submitting
an article or item of interest
for the next issue of the
Joyous News.

Submission deadline
is May 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.



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
OR 231.347.3448

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 ~ March 31, 2025						
	March			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Difference	Actual	Budget	Difference
Offering	12,650.00	13,508.00	(858.00)	34,990.00	40,524.00	(5,534.00)
Other	170.00	2,987.00	(2,817.00)	407.40	8,961.00	(8,553.60)
Income	12,820.00	16,495.00	(3,675.00)	35,397.40	49,485.00	(14,087.60)
Expense	(14,621.35)	(17,378.00)	2,756.65	(45,103.39)	(52,264.00)	7,160.61
Difference	(1,801.35)	(883.00)	(918.35)	(9,705.99)	(2,779.00)	(6,926.99)
Assets				\$567,977.08		
	Feb. 1, 2024	Dec. 31, 2024	Donations	Expenses	Difference	Mar. 31, 2025
211 Fund		113,054.94	-	-	-	113,054.94
211 Fund In/Out Reach		20,291.94	-	-	-	20,291.94
Kathi Kan Scholarship Fund		15,299.47	-	-	-	15,299.47
		Operating	211 Fund	211 In/Out	Deposit	Total Interest
Interest Bearing Accts.		-50,000.00	-110,000.00	-15,000.00	175,000.00	13,816.07
St. Francis CD			Deposit		175,000.00	188,816.07

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

May 2025

219 State Street - Petoskey, Michigan - 49770 - 231.347.3448

April
SHOWERS
BRING
May
FLOWERS

*Soon spring's gate
will open into warm
and sun-filled days,
so let our prayers
be risen
in thanks to God
with praise.*

BES