Petoskey, Michigan
Rector Search
2010

New Life Anglican Church
619 Waukazoo Avenue
Petoskey, MI 49770
231-347-3448
www.newlifeanglican.com
This isn’t about religion—it’s about a relationship

Search Prayer

Father God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on your church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a rector for this parish, that we may receive a faithful shepherd who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries, and grant strength and optimism to those who are finding change uncomfortable or fearful. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Introduction

Our Faith . . .
Our beliefs center on the saving death and glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ, who is the Son of the one true God; and with the Holy Spirit, this is the full presentation of God in three separate persons. The authority for that faith is the Bible — both the Old and New Testaments. The Old Testament looks to the coming of Jesus. The New Testament recounts his Life, Death and Resurrection. The Scriptures promise that one day he will return in glory to establish his Kingdom forever. We believe that the Holy Scriptures contain all things necessary for life and salvation. The Bible guides our teaching at New Life Anglican Church.

The Gospel . . .
The good news of the Christian faith is that even though all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God, Jesus’ death and resurrection has made it possible for us to be forgiven, saved, and restored to the glorious life intended for us. We who were separated from God can know Him personally by receiving his free gift of salvation and trusting in His goodness and mercy. We are never “good enough” to earn our salvation, but we can be sure of eternal life through our faith in Jesus Christ.

Spirit-Filled Living . . .
The Holy Spirit is given to all who confess Jesus is Lord. He seeks to change us and make us more like Christ in every way. He develops in us godly virtues and characteristics like love, joy, patience, peace, and humility. He also empowers us to live for God and be free from sin. We are given gifts and abilities for ministry. We believe that the ministries of the Holy Spirit seen in the New Testament are good gifts that God still gives to Christians today, and that He still desires to pour out His life into us.

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
Search Process

In spring of 2009, we established a search committee. Our charge was to engage the parish in evaluating New Life Anglican Church as a whole, as well as defining our needs and desires for a new rector. Through the process of group meetings, survey and Vestry discussions, we have reaffirmed our commitment to being a Spirit-led and Biblically grounded congregation.

This has been a journey of self-discovery, a time of serious but enjoyable discussion about the pains and joys of being a congregation who can be well-intentioned but human in its efforts.

We welcome qualified candidates sensing a call to ministry at New Life Anglican Church.

... I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received. Be completely humble and gentle; be patient, bearing with one another in love.

Ephesians 4:1-2

Acknowledgements

Vestry

Tim Strauss - Senior Warden
Virgil Smith - Junior Warden
Sally Stump - Secretary
Brad Comport - Treasurer
Erika Jo Dielman
Don Greenwell
Ellie Nicol
Wes Ostrander
Susan Stout

Search Committee

Tim Strauss - Chair
Bill Atkins
Brad Comport
Erika Jo Dielman
Richard Downey
Don Greenwell
Ellie Nicol
Liz Ostrander
Wes Ostrander
Virgil Smith
Wally Stansbury
Susan Stout
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For more information, please contact:
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Our Town

Welcome to Petoskey where we choose to live and enjoy---

- Our historic, picturesque location overlooking the shores of Lake Michigan’s Little Traverse Bay in the northern tip of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula.

- Our culturally rich community with an abundance of four-season outdoor recreational opportunities.

- Our quality of life, with various K-12 and higher education opportunities and readily accessible sports, arts and entertainment alternatives (small town atmosphere with larger city opportunities). Its never-ending downtown renovations enhancing its already beautiful residential and retail buildings; its library; its hospital and office complexes — all within a few minutes’ walk from New Life Anglican Church.

- Our vision for the future, recognizing short-comings and building on strengths.

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History & Location

Petoskey is located on the shores of Lake Michigan’s Little Traverse Bay in the northern tip of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula. Rambling Victorian cottages serve as a reminder that Petoskey has been a summertime destination of vacationing city dwellers for several generations. Tourism continues to be a major economic force and has grown to include winter attractions as well. The city is now a four-season vacation area offering world class alpine skiing, numerous kilometers of groomed cross-country trails, championship golf courses, all types of water sports, breathtaking autumn colors, and morel mushroom hunting in the spring.

As part of Emmet County, Petoskey enjoys 67 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline — the most of any county in Michigan. With over 463 square miles of woodlands, waterways, lakes and beaches, Emmet County maintains its natural abundance throughout the seasons. Petoskey is experiencing diversified economic development that includes industry, specialty shopping, health care, education, and other services. By car, by plane, by bus, by boat — Petoskey is accessible from anywhere in the world.

We are the Land of the Shining Light — Petoskey: A Destination Transcending Generations

Illuminated by unmatched natural beauty, Petoskey has lured generations of families to share its charmed lifestyle. It’s where “light shines through the clouds,” in the language of its original inhabitants, the Odawa. Living between Harbor Springs and Cross Village, they once represented the largest concentration of natives in Michigan. The region’s strategic location along the Great Lakes drew early traders and later its natural splendor attracted settlers and resorters, including the United Methodist Church who in 1875 founded Bay View, a Chautauqua institution. As many as seven generations of original members maintain about 640 cottages at the colony and return each summer to enjoy the region’s magic.

The family of American literary icon Ernest Hemingway was also among early vacationers. Hemingway spent his youthful summers exploring area woods and waters and later used those experiences in his Nick Adams stories. In the mid-1990s, the region captivated a modern company when developers reclaimed an abandoned cement plant site to create the four-season luxury resort community Bay Harbor and its world-class recreational facilities and shopping.
Life in a Northern Town

Northern Michigan is small enough to be personable and big enough to enjoy many of the cultural and recreational advantages usually afforded much larger areas. Whether you're interested in establishing a commercial or residential presence in the Petoskey region, the information here can help you get acquainted.

When asked by the Northwest Michigan Council of Governments, 82.3% of the residents of Emmet County agreed that this area is an excellent or above average place to live. Also, 81.1% of the residents admitted they feel a great sense of belonging in their communities.

Petoskey, with a population of 6,000, is the county seat of Emmet County. Harbor Springs, the county’s second incorporated city, is home to 1,600. Petoskey is surrounded by the villages of: Alanson, population 760; Pellston, 640, Mackinaw City, 515. Emmet County population totals about 34,000, which grows by tens of thousands in the summer when resorters and seasonal residents return.

Emmet County offers a wide range of housing possibilities. It ranges from average single family housing units to magnificent lakefront homes on Lake Michigan and on several inland lakes. Eighty-two percent of the county’s homes are single family detached and seven percent are multiple family dwellings. Nearly half (49%) of the homes in the county are sited on a city or so called suburban lot. Condominium type housing has become very popular in Emmet County, reflecting on the resort housing market. Some 95% of the condominiums are exclusively for seasonal use; they are very high value, with the average sale price being $125,000. Overall, however, housing is available in a wide range of values.

Emmet County is comprised of nearly 300,000 acres, of which two-thirds are forested and one-third are crop and pasture. Of the 460 square miles, half is land and half is water, inland waters covering over 10,000 acres, and the Lake Michigan shoreline length measuring 68 miles. Nearly 30% of the county’s land is in public ownership. As a four-season vacation area, Emmet County’s climate fits the bill. The average temperature in January is high 28F, low 15F; July is high 76F, low 59F. Average annual snowfall is 117 inches; average rainfall, 31.33 inches.

The area’s accolades include:

- Midwest Living magazine ranked Petoskey #2 among the Best Small-Town Getaways in 2008.
- Petoskey has been noted by national travel writers, including authors of “The 100 Best Small Towns in America,” “The Great Towns of America” and “America’s 100 Best Places to Retire.”
- Emmet County was ranked sixth for access to healthcare in the “Best Places to Live in Rural America” by Progressive Farmer in 2007.
- Bay Harbor, the new world class resort community just west of Petoskey, garners considerable attention, including Top 50 “Best Resort Courses,” by Conde Nast Traveler, the Urban Land Institute’s International Award for Excellence, and #20 ranking in America’s “Top 75 Golf Resorts” by GOLF magazine. Wall Street Journal named Bay Harbor among the top five places to retire in the United States at age 50.
Quality of Life

- Public Schools of Petoskey are among the best in the state, based upon evaluation by the North Central Association and the University of Michigan. Petoskey High School serves as the vocational training center for several school districts in the area. Alternatives to traditional public schooling also exist, including: Harbor Light Christian Academy; Concord Academy chartered public school with a focus on the Fine arts; Montessori School serving K-8 and a thriving home schooling network.

- **North Central Michigan College** (NCMC) in Petoskey provides robust local opportunities for higher education and continuing education. NCMC's University Center brings the curricula of six four-year universities to the area, enabling residents to pursue degrees through the Master's level. The College is located only one-half mile from downtown Petoskey on a 280-acre campus in scenic surroundings.

- Since November of 1909, the **Petoskey Public Library** has been a prominent downtown landmark. In 2004 a new library opened its doors signifying one of the most important and ambitious public works the city had undertaken in decades. It is a major community gathering center enriching the knowledge and lives of all ages.

- Northern Michigan Regional Health System employs more than 1,800 colleagues serving families throughout northern Lower Michigan and the eastern part of the Upper Peninsula designated to provide the residents in 22 counties with access to specialized healthcare and the best resources available. The flagship of Northern Michigan Regional Health System is **Northern Michigan Regional Hospital**, a 243-bed, regional referral center located in Petoskey. This award-winning state-of-the-art hospital anchors the medical community, which includes advanced services from heart and vascular specialists and orthopedic surgeons to the most sophisticated emergency department and walk-in clinics.

- Petoskey offers diverse opportunities for art, music, theatre, literature, philosophy and history. Our community hosts the **Annual C. S. Lewis Festival** each October, a growing cultural event fast becoming a national event at which people of faith and inquirers join for world-class presentations related to famous scholar/author Lewis. The **Crooked Tree Arts Center** has a popular performing arts theater, which hosts area ensembles including the Little Traverse Civic Theater, Little Traverse Choral Society, Northern Michigan Choral and the Great Lakes Chamber Orchestra along with world renowned performers and features display galleries, and studios for teaching. The Center also sponsors outdoor concerts and local art shows.

- During the summer months, nearby **Bay View summer resort community** hosts concerts and other activities in the John Hall Auditorium and provides rich summer programs of worship, plays, opera, adult education and recreation for children. Local and regional history can be viewed at the **Little Traverse Bay Historic Museum** on the Petoskey waterfront, in the former railroad depot building.

- In recent years, the area has attracted a number of relatively young retirees, adding to the pool of talented volunteers and civic leaders. This area is a good place to raise a family, live and work.
Ministerial Opportunities

Even Shangrila Needs a Savior:  
A Population At-Risk and Ripe for Ministry*

Pastors considering living with their families and ministering in our area will be concerned not only with what the area has to offer, but also the aspects of our community that burden the heart of Christ: specifically the needs of those community members whom Jesus would count as being among “the least of these”.

The Children
When it comes to Youth, the Petoskey area’s extraordinary resources and impressive distinctions don’t keep us from sharing disturbing similarities with the rest of the country. Indeed, our community is stellar in many aspects making it a great place to live and minister. But it is still situated south of Heaven, within an American culture deeply troubled by a broken moral compass, broken families, and youth becoming increasingly adrift among their peers, desperately needing faith.

As teens throughout the state, our local youth face very real struggles related to mental health, drugs, alcohol, and sexual activity; thus, area pastors face a tremendous challenge and ministry opportunity: leading their parishioners in discerning the church’s role in bringing God’s love and light to bear on these issues.

The Unborn Children
To help prevent abortion locally, our local Christian community has long sponsored a Pregnancy and Resource Center; but, an ongoing financial shortfall and inadequate support by area churches has limited its reach to girls and unborn children in crisis. The plight of these little ones is a cause we as the church must attend to with more prayerful attention. Much more outreach and ministry is needed both in prevention of abortion and counseling women traumatized by its results.

The Poor
Michigan faces the same economic challenges encountered by our nation. Fortunately, in 1988, area churches launched a Christian homeless shelter—the first initiative of the Nehemiah Project. Later, the Mary-Margaret House, a shelter for women and children, was added. Currently these shelters are typically at capacity. Likewise, area food pantries are in greater demand than ever before and are falling behind demand for goods to feed the newly poor.

*New Life Anglican Church
Summary of Community Profile

So I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. Who can bring him to see what will be after him?

Ecclesiastes 3:22

We have seen that amidst the beauty and many assets unique to our community, we face real-world problems that the church is commissioned to address. None of the problems discussed are significantly worse in Petoskey than in other communities overall, but they are discussed here to assure that our community profile presents life locally as we at New Life Anglican Church encounter it.

Fortunately, the Petoskey area is blessed by a strong community of faithful churches who are working with the schools, concerned citizens, and other local agencies to serve “the least of these” mentioned here. In addition, we who live in Emmet County are refreshed by enjoying daily life in a region in which God’s creation plays out in nature with extraordinary beauty and peacefulness. The next Rector of New Life will find our community a place robust with great opportunities for ministry and with resources to meet the needs of his family.

* Statistical data related to youth is from the Michigan Department of Public Health, and the Michigan Youth Risk Behavior Survey.

More detailed information and community statistics are available upon request.

Links to area websites may be found at:

Our Active Church

For we are God's fellow workers. You are God's field, God's building.

1 Corinthians 3:9

Chief Petoskey overlooking Little Traverse Bay

Annual Church Picnic

Sunday night Youth Group

Parish Retreat

Men's Retreat

~ 10 ~
New Life Anglican Church owes its start to a group of parishioners at Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Petoskey, who were dissatisfied as The Episcopal Church continued to stray from scriptural truth. After the National Convention of The Episcopal Church in 2003, a group of parishioners formed a group entitled “A Place to Stand” with the intent of trying to present candidates for the vestry with a conservative view. During the 2004 annual meeting at Emmanuel, only one of the conservative candidates was elected to the vestry. Subsequently the rector chose to leave the church for a conservative diocese. The conservative voice within the church did not feel welcome at Emmanuel after these events. A decision was made on February 14, 2004, during a meeting of the “A Place to Stand” group, to start an Anglican Church for those who wish to continue to worship in a liturgical church that sees the Bible as the authority for our faith.

The new congregation of 35 was continually blessed by physical and spiritual gifts. We found a building that was formerly the Trinity Missionary Church, at the time owned by Youth for Christ. It was vacant and we were able to obtain a lease for a reasonable fee. The building was in sad disrepair, but no task seemed too great. It did not compare to the Episcopal “castle” we left behind, but we have made it our Church and feel the presence of the Holy Spirit. The spirit of community was evident when there was work to be done. Those with the spiritual gift of teaching delivered the Sunday sermon of God’s Word. We easily found sympathetic ordained priests willing to visit us sporadically to bless our Sacraments. Three members of our new congregation attended the Emmanuel vestry meeting and told them of our plans. We were wished well with our endeavor. An informational meeting was held at a local church in March 2004 for all interested conservative Christians, with a surprisingly large attendance. The first formal service of the First Anglican Church of Petoskey was held in May 2004.

The youth pastor from Emmanuel joined us and provided administrative and spiritual leadership our first year. He continued his work with our youth and with his wife led our music ministry as well. Shortly after we became established, we began to explore the different paths available for alignment as an Anglican parish. After some study of the various choices, Anglican Mission in America (AMiA) was chosen as our best option, mostly due to the fact that it was already established and was not involved in the various battles over property with the Episcopal churches. We had left the Episcopal Church physically and spiritually and did not want to be burdened with their battles.

The Anglican Mission in America was in communication with us and sent Deacon David Linka, their Operations and Development Officer, to share their vision. The decision was made to join AMiA and soon after we called the newly ordained David Linka as our first priest. He began his ministry in July 2005.

We experienced growth with a priest in place and decided our location was too small; so, we rented the cafeteria at a nearby elementary school for Sunday morning services, using the church building for weekday events, youth gatherings and administrative offices. A committee was formed to choose a new name for the church, as the original was never meant to be permanent. In early 2006 the First Anglican Church of Petoskey became New Life Anglican Church. The decision was made in late 2007 to return to the Waukazoo Street location and eliminate the rental expense.

Our new congregation experienced financial challenges and it became obvious we could not support a full time priest and youth pastor. The position of youth pastor was eliminated. Our youth remained active and committed becoming involved in community Christian youth events. Eventually we regrouped and started a Sunday evening youth gathering at a popular local coffee house. We have hired a part time youth leader, and the group has attracted many churched and unchurched kids from throughout the community for a time of music, teaching and prayer.
Our music ministry has evolved from contemporary praise music to traditional hymns to a blend of both styles of worship. Currently our music ministry is led by a member who is a gifted musician, vocalist and leader. He has encouraged many of our other talented vocalists to join him in sharing their God-given talents with their church family.

We have evolved in the past 5 years. Some changes have attracted new members; others have caused them to leave. Our membership has remained fairly stagnant.

The Rev. Linka resigned in the spring of 2009 to accept a call to All Saints Church in Morehead City, North Carolina. His last Sunday at New Life was on April 26. We began laying the foundation of the search for our new rector. In the interim, we have returned to our roots with primarily lay-led worship, with our Senior Warden, Tim Strauss, serving as our Interim Pastor.

*Blessed are those who dwell in your house, ever singing your praise!*

*Psalm 84:4*

Our Church

We have been in our current building since our beginning, in the spring of 2004. We leased until 2008, at which time we were blessed by the generous donations of our members to purchase the property debt free.

Our Building and Grounds Committee oversees and in many cases does the required maintenance of our building and the grounds. Recent improvements have taken place including the following: new and improved access ramps to the lower and upper levels, a new roof, insulation in the ceiling and walls of the upper level, and a total renovation of the sanctuary.
The People

New Life Anglican Church is a community of about 11 communicants with average Sunday attendance of 65. Our current roster consists of about 60% of those who “broke away” from Emmanuel Episcopal Church. The fact that 40% of us were not part of that group shows we are not just a split-away group, and have met the spiritual needs of others in our community. It is our desire to continue to follow the Lord’s Great Commission and seek a rector committed to the same divine command.

New Life’s demographics portray us as being a chronologically older parish. (See chart.) The fact that Northern Michigan is seen as a “retirement community” may explain part of this demographic. We consider it an attribute that so many who are charter members of this congregation, while having been long standing members of an Episcopal congregation for most of their lives, chose faith over heresy. They demonstrated that the saying, “old patterns are hard to break” does not apply when the heart has truly been reborn. Finally, most of our members live in city of Petoskey, with a few families from the nearby communities of Charlevoix, Boyne City and Harbor Springs.

Outreach is important to us; however, New Life takes pride in the fact that our church family truly is a family and cares for one another. We support each other in times of need with prayer and assistance and share each other’s joy when prayers are answered.

New Life has volunteers in all areas typical of most parishes. Acolytes, Lay Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Guild, and Musicians work to help others reach to God in worship. Our Prayer Team prays for the needs of those who request special prayer during Sunday services, and there is a Prayer Chain activated by a phone call when a member has an urgent prayer request.

Our youth see each other as family and have become closer through their experiences together. Our current youth group setting at “Roast N Toast”, a local coffee shop, is bringing kids to Christ for the first time and appealing to not only our own youth, but youth from other churches.

Our goal is to continue to reach out to the youth in our community, and we seek a rector who is willing and able to support this ministry.

Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked, nor stands in the way of sinners, nor sits in the seat of scoffers; but his delight is in the law of the LORD, and on his law he meditates day and night.

Psalm 1:1-2

Age Demographic
Worship

At New Life Anglican Church we have active Worship ministries.

- Our worship services have a liturgical, yet contemporary flavor of new and traditional music.
- We celebrate communion every Sunday.
- Services typically last between 80 and 90 minutes.
- Sermons are Bible-based and life application-oriented.
- We offer a time of soaking prayer the second Sunday of each month.
- We offer a range of mid-week studies and programs.

We have a dedicated group of Lay Eucharistic Ministers who serve at the altar faithfully. Communion is also provided to those unable to attend church due to illness or disability.

Our Prayer Ministries consist of a Prayer Chain who faithfully lifts up prayer requests which are received throughout the week, and Prayer Teams are available during communion to pray with people at a prayer station. The team adheres to a strict code of confidentiality. Our Soaking Prayer on the second Sunday of each month is a time of silent prayer as indicated on a written card next to the chair where the person being prayed for is sitting. The prayer team rotates until everyone has been “soaked” with deep prayer. The above-mentioned groups have had many positive results on behalf of these requests for prayer.

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

Psalm 29:1-2
New Life Anglican Church comprises many good and faithful people. We are biblically committed and strong in our beliefs as stated in the Nicene Creed, living accordingly with great love and caring for one another and the world around us.

Fellowship events include potlucks, picnics, softball games, Bible studies, and participation in community functions. An outstanding ministry we support is our youth group which has attracted churched and unchurched youth who thirst for his Word.

We have a group of women who create items to be sold in a craft sale with profits going to African children. The Church family gathers together each fall to make a batch of our famous Angel’s Delight Toffee as a Christmas fundraiser, thanks to our friends at Kilwin’s Chocolates who allow us to use their facilities.

Our members are involved in various projects, non-profit services and organizations that serve our community. Our youth have shared their abundant talent in praise band, local Christian events, and have performed in the musicals “Godspell” and C.S. Lewis Festival production of “Narnia the Musical”.

In the future, we foresee continual growth in faith and membership, bringing comfort to a hurting world and offering the one true gift of knowing Christ and the eternal life He gives to all who come to Him.

*If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and purpose.*

*Philippians 2:1-2*
The philosophy of Christian Formation at New Life has been multifaceted. The components have been to have a consistent Bible study on Sunday mornings for all ages and ongoing men and women Bible study groups. The focus is Biblical Truth with the Bible as our source rather than a Christian book. This has been a very stable part of Christian formation, and attendance has increased over the years.

Educational groups get together within the church. In the past we have had groups participate in:

- The Alpha Course
- Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace
- Dave Ramsey’s No Matter What (the youth version)
- Erilynne Barnum’s “Call to Discipleship”
- Faith Stories
- Dare to Share with Gordon Densmore

The men’s ministry involves a Bible study and an annual Cedar Campus Retreat which has been consistently attended. The most recent retreat included men from our church plant, All Saints Church in Traverse City. In addition, “Men’s Story Nights” have helped new attendees get acquainted with men of New Life.

There have been three parish-wide planning and team building retreats, the last one being Faith Stories. The goal has been to bring all these facets of ministry together in a church-wide organization. In addition, we have sponsored and participated in several special events including:

- Andy Piercy Area Worship Leaders Training
- Andy Piercy, A Night of Praise and Worship Concert at the Crooked Tree Arts Center
- C. S. Lewis Festival Lecture Series
- C. S. Lewis annual production of Narnia the Musical
- Relay for Life fundraisers
- Cedar Campus community-wide youth retreats
- Petoskey community-wide Good Friday Services

Future components will focus on men’s and women’s ministries and the possibility of a couple’s Bible study, as well as ongoing small groups.

Adult Christian Education

Adult Christian education is held between the months of September and June. Programs have included apologetics, the Holy Land, and an overview of the Bible from Genesis to Revelation. Future programs being considered are the Gifts of the Holy Spirit and the foundational doctrines of our faith. Whatever the focus of learning, all instruction is filtered through the Word of God so that this time becomes part of one’s journey in sanctification and does not return to the Lord empty but accomplishes that which He purposed. (Isa. 55:11)
The Outreach Committee is dedicated to making an impact on a small number of charities on a regular basis. We send quarterly checks to the Northern Chaplain Services, the Community Free Clinic, and the Sonrise School in Rwanda. In the past, we have sent quarterly checks to Northwest Michigan Human Services, but for 2009, we are considering that the money be donated to other local charities, such as Manna Food Project and Pregnancy and Resource Center.

We are committed to the Pregnancy and Resource Center (PRC), and participate in their annual Baby Bottle Bank fundraiser. We have sponsored a table at the PRC yearly benefit dinner, and New Life’s response was so great that an extra table was required as we exceeded our limit of people! Manna Food Project’s food supply has been low due to increased demand, so we are collecting food on an ongoing basis to help supply that need. A special project has been undertaken each Christmas season for several years. We adopted families and purchased Christmas gifts ensuring that each family member had presents. Last Christmas, we donated hats, gloves and scarves to Mary Margaret and Nehemiah Project shelters for the homeless.

Our youth have had several successful fundraisers. During the summer months they raised $2,331 for mosquito nets for more than 200 families in Africa. They also assembled 97 love-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes bringing joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world. They have sponsored many farm animals through the Heifer International fund.

We participate in additional monthly outreach projects beyond our small budget thanks to our very generous and supportive congregation. These include collecting baby supplies for the PRC, food for Manna Food Project and basic necessities for the local homeless shelters.

And the King will answer them, '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
New Life Anglican Church acknowledges that we are stewards of God’s property. He owns everything and we must manage that which He has entrusted to us. The proper use of our time, talent and treasure leads us to prayerfully consider how we respond to God’s plans.

The tithe is the Biblical standard that our Vestry upholds. One-tenth of our gifts from God are to be returned to God for the work of His Church. We also believe that our gifts of our time and our talents, given back to God, are pleasing and holy to Him.
In 2009, New Life Anglican Church has established a revenue budget of $146,300, over 80% of which is comprised of pledges and plate collections.

2009 Income

The adjusted budget for expense in the current year is $139,615. As of December 31, 2009, the balance sheet was comprised of cash totaling $63,250, land and building of $71,896, liabilities in the amount of $1,664, and fund balances totaling $133,482.

2009 Expenses

Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
Matthew 6:19-21
Our Future Rector

The members of New Life Anglican Church recognize the distinctive nature of a rector's vocation. His ministry is to “Pay careful attention... to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseer, to care for the church of God. . .” (Acts 20:28) Importantly, this vocation is undertaken in a spirit of humble submission as a calling from God. (Heb 5:4) Within this framework, the Vestry of New Life Anglican Church believes the following essential priorities should be embraced by the Rector who is called by God to shepherd this congregation.

Beliefs

- That the Bible is the inspired, inerrant and infallible Word of God. The Bible alone teaches all that is necessary for our salvation and is the standard by which all Christian behavior is to be measured. (2 Tim. 3:15-17) Further, that Scripture is clear regarding matters of salvation so that it can be sufficiently understood by both the learned and unlearned. (Psalm 119:105)
- That the 39 Articles of Faith are a defining statement of our faith but are subordinate to Holy Scripture. (Regarding Article VI – New Life Anglican Church believes the 66 Books comprising the Old Testament and New Testaments are canonical and denies that any books of the apocrypha are, although they may be read for examples of life and instructions of manners but not to establish doctrine.)
- That corporate worship is vital to the Christian life and it is to be given to God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit and to Him alone.
- That prayer is a special part of worship. It is to be done with reverence, humility, faith, love, and perseverance. God commands by His Holy Word that we offer “. . . prayers, intercessions. . .” and therefore intercessory prayer should be an integral part of corporate worship. (1 Tim. 2:1)
- The covenant of marriage is only between one man and one woman and is a sacred union.

Personal Qualities

- That the Rector’s character should be exemplary in all aspects of life – within the church, the family, and community as stated in 1 Timothy 3:1-7 and Titus 1:5-9.

Relational Qualities

- The Rector should have strong interpersonal and communication skills. This involves a desire to have timely, direct and personal interaction with the church leadership and parishioners so as to create a sense of availability, and interest in their concerns.
- The Rector should have an interest in confronting and resolving conflict. This does not suggest a need to please everyone but rather a willingness to resolve conflicts with both leadership and parishioners quickly should either arise so that healthy relationships are maintained.
- This vestry believes that the success and growth of a small parish is directly proportional to the priest’s ability to develop an interest in the parishioners/families on an individual basis. This will result in parishioners developing confidence in living out their Christian faith and being comfortable sharing the Gospel with others.

Duties

- That preaching of the whole counsel of God, without neglect of either the Old or New Testaments is the primary task of the Rector. (2Tim. 4:1-2) It is primarily by means of the preached Word that persons come to have a saving knowledge of God in Jesus Christ and grow in the process of sanctification. (Rom. 10:14)
Duties - continued

- That the Rector exercises his leadership role in accordance with 1Peter 5:2-3, that is “... shepherd the flock of God that is among you, exercising oversight, not under compulsion, but willingly, as God would have you; not for shameful gain, but eagerly; 3 not domineering over those in your charge, but being examples to the flock.” That he would work with the vestry in a shared vision concerning all aspects of New Life Anglican Church.
- That pastoral care is important and reflective of the Rector’s concern for his flock to include all age groups.
- That the responsibility of the Rector is to encourage growth in the faith of the Body recognizing that it is God who will provide for the growth of the church. (1 Cor. 3:6-7) For as the Word is faithfully preached, and thereby the faith of the elect enriched, God promises that His purpose will be fulfilled. (Isa. 55:10-11)
- That the Rector is to oversee all the ministries of New Life Anglican Church while relying on the spiritual gifts of those entrusted and serving in those functions. Without minimizing the importance of any ministry, we particularly recognize that youth are the future of the Lord’s Church.

On June 14, 2009 the congregation was asked to prioritize ministerial preferences regarding our future rector. Below is their response.

Rector - Personal Qualities

1. Spirit-led and Biblically grounded.  
3. Good sense of humor.  
4. Comfortable with all age groups - accepting, caring and compassionate.  
5. Focused, with a strong work ethic and administration skills.  
6. If married, has a supportive spouse, active in the church.  
7. Easily resolves personal difficulties.  
8. Provides a good role model for all age groups.

Rector - Worship

1. Preaches Biblically sound sermons.  
2. Believes in the importance of traditional liturgy and hymns.  
3. Believes in the importance of non-traditional liturgy and praise hymns.

Rector - Pastoral Care

1. Equally gifted in dealing with aging population and young families.  
2. Good with children.  
3. A good counselor.  
4. Believes in the importance of pastoral care to include: hospital, nursing home and shut-in visiting.

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Rector - Program Development

1. Connects with the community and looks for new growth and outreach opportunities.
   Very Important ................................ Not Important
   7 ...... 6.2 ......................................................... 1

2. Skilled in planning and leading adult classes.
   7 .......... 5.6 ......................................................... 1

3. Committed to the improvement of youth programs.
   7 .......... 5.9 ......................................................... 1

4. Promotes training for lay readers, Eucharistic ministers, and acolytes.
   7 .......... 5.8 ......................................................... 1

5. Is committed to a strong stewardship program.
   7 .......... 5.9 ......................................................... 1

6. Explores new communications mechanisms and promotes their use.
   7 .......... 5.3 ......................................................... 1

Rector - Spiritual Development

1. A strong spiritual leader who believes in a shepherding leadership style.
   Very Important ................................ Not Important
   7 ...... 6.5 ......................................................... 1

2. A leader who promotes spiritual gifts and encourages their use.
   7 ...... 6.2 ......................................................... 1

Please send us your phone number, email and Skype video conferencing addresses.

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