

Good News From New Life

March 13, 2025



Second Sunday in Lent
Saint Patrick, Celtic Eucharist
1 Thess 2:2b-12
Psalm 96:1-7
Matthew 28:16-20
Scott Bridges preaches

Calendar of Coming Events

March 16: Lent 2 St. Patrick
Scott Bridges preaches
Irish coffee hour
March 19 Wednesday Group 10:30 am
Video: *From Jesus to Christ*
March 23: Lent 3 Rev Barbara
March 24: Vestry meeting 6:30 pm
March 26: Wednesday video 10:30 am
March 30: Lent 4 Rose Sunday
Debbie Likins-Fowler preaches
April 1 Tuesday Group, Carlo's
April 2: Wednesday video 10:30
April 6 Lent 5 Rev Barbara
April 13 Palm/Passion Sunday
April 17 Maundy Thurs Agape
April 18 Good Friday
April 20 Easter Sunday

NCD Prayer for New Life

Holy and living God,
who nurtures our faith:
Help us to be so rooted in your love
that we may encourage New Life in
others.

Lenten Preaching Schedule

March 16 Scott Bridges
March 23 Rev Barbara Bond
March 30 Debbie Likins-Fowler

Organist Valerie Thorson

We greatly enjoyed Valerie Thorson's organ playing last November. We joyously welcome her back among us. She will play every Sunday in Lent as well as Easter Sunday, April 20.

NCD Action Team

Our Natural Church Development Action Team is now complete: Larry Mackey, Jeff Maurer, Scott Bridges. Charlyn and Joe Bridges. and Darlene Giffin. Rev Barbara is leading the group, which will concentrate on Need-oriented Evangelism.

The Action Team met February 27 and outlined an action plan for the parish. The Team asks that we all pray the NCD Prayer (at left) in our private devotions, in Prayers of the People on Sundays, in the Telecon prayers on Sundays, and any other gatherings of the faithful. Prayer will sustain our efforts and guide our path.

Send newsletter items to Rev Barbara by Tuesday

Please send items by Tuesday evening to Rev Barbara by e-mail:

RevBLBond@msn.com

Episcopal Minute: Great Litany

On the first Sunday in Lent, our service began with The Great Litany, a long chanted prayer that covers so many petitions that we eliminated the Prayers of the People and the Confession, as topics already covered! The Great Litany has a long history, going back to the early Christian liturgies in the Eastern Church (4th century) and the Western Church (6th century). In our long tradition, this formal prayer has gone through many changes, and in the Anglican church of the 17th century, when arguments on style were particularly vicious between Anglo-Catholics and Puritans, the Litany disappeared altogether.

Many of the faithful rather like the formality of the prayer (which lasts about 10 – 15 minutes) and rejoiced when it was recovered in the liturgical renewal that led to our 1979 Prayer Book. Other liturgical expressions from the early centuries of our faith that were retrieved include the Great Vigil of Easter and the Mozarabic Chant form of Eucharistic Prayer D (which I usually chant on Easter Sunday and All Saints Sunday).

New Life has experienced a large variety of liturgical styles in the past 25 years, usually following the preferences of the clergy. I started wondering if the Great Litany was something our parish just endured, like a Lenten punishment, so last Sunday I asked for feedback. Imagine my surprise to find that at least eight people really like it!

So, OK, we can continue to use it on the First Sunday in Lent next year, with perhaps some leadership from our other excellent singers.

Wednesday Group in Lent

The Wednesday Morning Group has begun a four-part video series entitled **From Jesus to Christ: The First Christians**. Part 1: Who was Jesus?; Part 2 (March 19) The Apostle Paul; (March 26) Masada, Rabbis, Gospels; and Part 4 (April 2) Paganism and Ancient Rome.

No reading is required. All are invited to attend. Class begins in the parlor at 10:30 am. With a one-hour video presentation, followed by discussion.

FISH Items for 2025

Please bring items to church for the FISH pantry! Any of these items can be donated during any month, but the following schedule is suggested.

January	Canned soup
February	Peanut butter
March	Toothpaste
April	Cleaning products, dish soap
May	Cereal
June	Canned fruit
July	Shampoo
August	Fruit juice
September	Cleaning products
October	Cereal
November	Pasta and pasta sauce
December	Instant potatoes

Coffee Hour Teams

Team 1: Darlene, Bo, Connie

Team 2: Rita, Terri, Charlyn

Team 3: Marianne, Kathy, Julie

Team 4: Gladys, Laura, Judy R

March 16: St Patrick's Irish coffee hour

Rev Barbara plans sabbatical

Rev Barbara is in her seventh year at New Life, a customary time for a sabbatical. Vestry approved her taking the month of May this year, for travel and enrichment. Lay preachers and supply priests will hold the fort.

Barbara plans to leave April 29 for Hamburg, Germany. The first leg of her time will three days spent with friends in Schleswig-Holstein (a region in northern Germany close to Denmark). Thereafter she will fly to Rome and spend the remainder of her time there, with emphasis on museums and archeological sites. She hopes to send "Dispatches from Rome" for the newsletter. She plans to return on May 27, and be in church on June 1, the feast of the Ascension (transferred).

Vestry Officers 2025

Senior Warden: Larry Mackey

Junior Warden: Julie Martin

Treasurer: Amy Allen

Clerk: Pete Iole

Vestry members: Andrea Page, Scott Bridges, Jeff Maurer, Julie Martin, Larry Mackey.

Priest-in-Charge: Rev Barbara Bond

Lenten Outreach (Terri Mackey)

Children's Network of Stark County is our outreach focus for Lent this year. The program works with all support organizations when children are reported to Child Protective Services. Helping organizations include Akron Children's Hospital, Child and Adolescent Behavioral Health, Stark County Job and Family Services, Law Enforcement, National Child Alliance,

Ohio Network of Child Advocacy, and Lighthouse Family Ltd.

At New Life, we will be providing supplies needed to help children and their families, such as hygiene needs, underwear, snacks, and financial donations. See list below.

www.starkchildrensnetwork.org.

Suggested Donation items for Children's Network

Combs and brushes
Children and adult toothbrushes
Children's toothpaste and adult toothpaste
Children's underwear for both boys and girls (sizes 4/5 up to 12/14)
Soap (liquid or bar) for face and body (Dove makes hypoallergenic)
Acme facial products for teens
Deodorant
Wipes
Larger baby diapers
Wipes (diaper, whole body wipes)
Socks (small children up to adult size)
Shampoo
Nonperishable healthy snacks
Terri will also pass on financial donations to the Center

Vestry Goals for 2025

- 1. Improve visibility of the church**
- 2. Adopt Natural Church Development process, focusing on Need-oriented Evangelism**
- 3. Continue developing relationships within the larger community (FISH, Lake Library, other parishes, lay preachers, Taize services, Adults with Disabilities Events)**

Servers Schedule

Altar Guild

3/15 – 3/21 Terri

3/22 – 3/28 Marianne

3/29 – 4/4 Rita

Readers

March 16 Pete

March 23 Amy

March 30 Bo

Counters

March 16 Jan and Susan

March 23 Andrea and Susan

March 30 Darlene and Julie

Vestry In Charge

March 16 Pete

March 23 Julie

March 30 Scott

Healers

March 16 Amy

March 23 Julie

March 30 Bo

Acolytes

March 16 Kathy

March 23 Andrea

March 30 Kathy

Sunday Night Prayer Telecon

Join your New Life family in prayer for about 15 minutes each Sunday night at 8 pm and start your week off prayerfully! A few minutes before 8 pm call 720-843-2008. Enter the access code when prompted: 420030#. If you use a smart phone and would like a text reminder and texted prayers, contact MJ at 330-606-9904. Or pick up a flier in the parlor with the prayers. Rotating telecon leaders are Julie Martin, MJ Maling, Bo Iole and Jo Schiffbauer. We pray for our church, our country, our world, and each other's concerns and thanksgivings.

Easter Memorials

Easter memorials, in memory of, or in honor of a loved one, are available with a donation to New Life, in any amount. See forms located in the parlor, or in the Sunday bulletin.

Deadline is Sunday, April 13

Deacon's Dismissal

Rev Josh Butler

These are trying times ... a difficult road lies ahead. I am beginning to understand how to live with hope ... whatever hope may be. Poet Emily Dickinson wrote: "Hope is the thing with feathers, That perches in the soul, And sings the tune without the words, And never stops at all." These ethereal words brace me ... carry me along ... and so, too, the spiritualist Matthew Fox: "Hope is a verb with its shirt sleeves rolled up." I walk the road that is ours to travel ... I look aloft ... perhaps to see hope perched in a tree ... my shirt sleeves rolled up.

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