

Good News From New Life

January 15, 2026

Calendar of Coming Events

Jan 18 Epiphany 2
Jan 21 Wednesday book group 10:30
Jan 25 Epiphany 3, Annual Meeting and Chili Cookoff
Feb. 1 The Presentation, Troy Dunn preaching
Feb 8 Epiphany 5
Feb 15 Last Epiphany. Scott Bridges preaching
Mardi Gras Breakfast
Feb 18 Ash Wednesday. 12 noon Holy Eucharist and Imposition of Ashes
Feb 22 First Sunday in Lent. The Great Litany
March 1 Lent 2
March 8 Lent 3
7 pm Taize resumes
March 15 St Patrick observance and Irish Coffee Hour
March 22 Lent 5
March 29 Palm Sunday
April 2 Maundy Thursday
April 3 Good Friday
April 5 Easter Sunday

No Taize in January or February

Our regular Second Sunday Taize service will not take place in January or February because of weather challenges and darkness. The regular services will resume on March 8 at 7 pm.



A Change in Personnel

The Rt. Rev. Anne B. Jolly was unable to make her official Episcopal visit to New Life on Sunday, January 11, because of illness.

Instead, Bishop Anne sent the Rev Canon Rosiland Hughes, from the Diocesan staff. Rev Rosiland preached and celebrated at the service. She also met briefly with the vestry and participated in the Coffee hour thereafter, where she led a discussion on the gifts of New Life.

Also attending our service and doing diaconal duties was the Rev Bryan Gillhooly, Archdeacon of the diocese. See photo on last page.

Food in January

Our Annual Meeting is always accompanied by the Chili Cookoff, an enduring tradition at New Life. The meeting and Cookoff will be held on **January 25**, overseen by Team One. A signup sheet for chili and other treats is available in the parlor.

On February 15, the last Sunday before Lent, the Ioles will treat us to their Mardi Gras breakfast.

For **March 15**, the closest Sunday to St. Patrick's Day (March 17) so the March coffee hour will have an Irish theme overseen by Team Two.

Send in Annual Reports!

Episcopal Minute: Two Saints

Saint Peter and Saint Paul are two towering saints in our tradition. Both of them are patrons of the National Cathedral. One of them is our patron from the merger, Saint Peter. We honored both of them as martyrs on June 29 last year. But in January, their commemoration is happier than martyrdom.

Each has a day dedicated to their remarkable ministry. On January 18, this Sunday, Saint Peter is remembered for his “Confession” that Jesus is the Messiah. On January 25, next Sunday, Saint Paul is remembered for his remarkable conversion on the road to Damascus. (Because both days land on Sundays, they are usually transferred to the next available day, Mondays). Because Peter is one of our patrons, I will observe him on Sunday. He deserves it! And Saint Paul’s story might also be told in connection with our Annual Meeting Sunday on January 25. Both stories are very dramatic.

In between these two observances are eight days known as the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. And a secular holiday, Martin Luther King’s birthday, is celebrated on Monday, January 19. (The church celebrates King as a martyr on the day of his death, April 4).

I intend to pray for Christian Unity and in thanksgiving for the extraordinary prophetic witness of King. It is time for observance of three saints!

Coffee Hour Teams

Team 1: Darlene, Bo, Connie 1/25
Team 2: Rita, Terri, Charlyn 3/15
Team 3: Marianne, Kathy, Julie
Team 4: Gladys, Laura, Judy R

The Bookshelf: John Grisham

I confess that I am a fan of best-selling author John Grisham, who is very prolific (this is his 51st book), and who is especially adept at legal thrillers. (Grisham is a lawyer, but he doesn’t practice any more. He doesn’t need to.)

His latest book, destined to be a bestseller, is entitled The Widow. I read it in about two days. It combines some of Grisham’s best writing techniques. Let’s call it a plot in three acts. Act One tells about an eccentric widow who retains a small-town lawyer I(Simon) to rewrite her will. She convinces him that her total worth is about \$20 million, and Simon goes through many amusing attempts to please her. She dies in the local hospital at the end of this section.

In Act Two, Simon is accused of killing his client and is brought to trial. This is Grisham at his best, weaving through all the legal scrambles.

In Act Three, Simon is out on bail, and he knows that he didn’t kill his client, so there must be a murderer out there somewhere. This section covers his hunting for the real killer.

Grisham is a master storyteller. This book is highly recommended for an exciting trip.

Wednesday Book Group

The Wednesday Book Group has chosen a new book for their reading discussions: Broken Country by Clare Leslie Hall. The group meets on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am in the parlor. Rev Barbara leads a short worship service observing a saint, and the book discussion follows at 11 a.m. Newcomers are always welcome.

FISH Items for 2026

Please bring items to church for the FISH food pantry.

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

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

Vestry Candidates for 2026

Candidates for vestry positions beginning in 2026 are **Kathy Jernigan and Darlene Giffin**. Retiring vestry members are Julie Martin and Jeff Maurer. **The Annual Meeting will take place Sunday, January 25, 2026.**

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 720-8432008. 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 330606-9904. 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

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)**

Send in Annual Reports!

Collecting Books for FOL

We are again collecting books for donation to the Lake Friends of the Library, for their annual summer book sale. Rev Barbara will cull books from our Bookshelf and place them on the table at the rear of the parlor. Look them over and see if you would like to take one home. Cull your own books from home and add them to the collection. We will gather books until February 15, after which Julie Martin will take them to Lake Library.

Server Schedule

Altar Guild

1/10 - 1/16 Marianne
1/17 - 1/23 Rita
1/24 - 1/30 Terri
1/31 - 2/06 Marianne

Readers

Jan 18 Bo
Jan 25 Charlyn

Counters

Jan 18 Kathy & Julie
Jan 25 Susan & Darlene

Vestry In Charge

Jan 18 Pete
Jan 25 Scott

Healers

Jan 18 Charlyn
Jan 25 Amy

Acolyte

Jan 18 Kathy
Jan 25 Andrea

**Archdeacon Bryan
Gillooly, Rev. Canon Rosalind
Hughes, and Rev. Barbara**



Deacon's Dismissal

By Rev Josh Butler

As a volunteer at the men's homeless shelter, known in Cleveland as 2100, I'd spent some time with the men there. I was in the cafeteria when a resident, whom I only vaguely knew, settled in at the sorrowful old excuse for a piano that was crammed into a corner of the room. He tested every key ... some keys sagged ... others were responsive to the touch but they made no sound. At length, satisfied, he started in. It was a complex piece, unknown to me ... but gorgeous. He somehow worked around those busted keys ... the room silent as he played.