

## *Schedule of Events*

### **Today**

**Nursery** – Danielle Bush, Terri Langerak

**Refreshments** – Chris & Colby Martin, Adam & Emily Lavelly

**Evening Service** – 6:00 pm

### **Next Week**

#### **Monday**

**Girls Gathering for Christ** - 6:00 pm

#### **Tuesday**

**New Era Coffeebreak** - 9:45 -11:15 am at NERC

#### **Sunday**

**Nursery** – Cyndi Natte, Mary VanderWerp

**Refreshments** – Henry & Margaret Bruinsma, Garry & Mary Weesies

**Carol Sing** – 6:00 pm

## *Contact Information*

### **2023 Council Members of New Era CRC:**

**President** - Mark Weesies    **Vice President** – Dave Zoller    **Clerk** – Scott Meyers    **Treasurer** – Jeremy Meyers

**Chairman of the Deacons** – Bob Bush

**Growing in Relationship with God:** Elder – Dave Zoller, Deacon – Bob Bush

**Growing in Relationship with Each Other:** Elder – Bob Eekhoff, Deacon – Chris Martin

**Growing in Relationship with Community:** Elder – Mark Weesies, Deacon – Diane Adema

**Pastor Information** – Pastor John Medendorp - Email – [necrc.pastor@gmail.com](mailto:necrc.pastor@gmail.com), Cell – 231-284-8245

**Bulletin Announcements** can be sent to Bekah Goodrich at [necrc.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:necrc.secretary@gmail.com), Cell - 231-450-0410

Announcements are due by 3 PM on Thursdays to ensure they are printed in the weekly bulletin.

**Custodian/Church Use** – Contact Jacque Weesies at 517-525-4787.

**Prayer Requests** – Contact Diane Adema at [diane.adema@gmail.com](mailto:diane.adema@gmail.com).



## ***New Era Christian Reformed Church***

*"Growing in Relationship with God, with Each Other,  
and with our Community"*



*Pastor John C. Medendorp*

**Sunday, December 10, 2023**

**Worship Service at 9:30 am and 6:00 pm**

**1820 Ray Avenue - New Era, MI 49446**  
**(231-861-5554) [www.neweracrc.org](http://www.neweracrc.org)**

*Second Sunday of Advent*  
*Sunday, December 10, 2023*

**Order of Worship**

Welcome	
Call To Worship	from Psalm 85
Opening Song	<b>Halle Halle Halle</b>
God’s Greeting	
Song of Praise	<b>With Joy I Heard My Friends Savior of the Nations Come</b> <i>Ensemble</i>
Advent Reading	Mark 1:1-8
Advent Candle Lighting	
Song	<b>Comfort Comfort O My People</b> <i>Ensemble</i>
Children’s Blessing	(Children invited to Children’s Church)
Church Family Time	
Offering	Benevolence
Special Music	
Congregational Prayer	
Song of Preparation	<b>Show Us Christ</b>
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 40:1-11
Sermon	Tidings of Comfort and Caution
Closing Song	<b>How Great Our Joy</b>
Blessing	
Doxology	<b>Halle Halle Halle</b>

*Worship Notes*

**Morning Service**  
This Advent season we will be exploring the prophecies of Isaiah to prepare our hearts for Christ’s return. Today, Pastor John will preach on Isaiah 40:1-11, “Tidings of Comfort and Caution.”

**Evening Service**  
This evening, Pastor John continue our series on the Belhar Confession, exploring the historical context of South African apartheid and the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that followed. Join us for a time of song, discussion, fellowship, and prayer as we learn to live the gospel’s call to unity, reconciliation, and justice.

**Next Week**  
On the Third Sunday of Advent, Pastor John will preach on Isaiah 61, “Health and Wealth and Freedom.” In the evening, we will enjoy a carol sing.

*Council Hospitality Duties*

<b>This Week</b>	
Elder in Charge – Bob Eekhoff	Hospitality Elder – Scott Meyers
Deacon in Charge – Diane Adema	Hospitality Deacon – Bob Bush
<b>Next Week</b>	
Elder in Charge – Scott Meyers	Hospitality Elder – Mark Weesies
Deacon in Charge – Bob Bush	Hospitality Deacon – Chris Martin

## *Announcements*

- **Gifts Survey** - As we approach the new year, please take time to fill out the gifts survey. We encourage everyone to fill out the survey, even if you are already serving. Drop your completed gifts survey in the plates by the doors as you leave the sanctuary. Copies are available by the church mailboxes.
- A **Holiday Cooking Series**, hosted by the New Era Farmer's Market and MSU Extension office, is being offered at New Era CRC on Tuesdays and Thursdays in December from 6:30-8:30 pm, offering simple and elegant recipes for the holidays with take home ingredient packs. Register by email ([fleuyel@msu.edu](mailto:fleuyel@msu.edu)) or by phone 231-873-2129 x6849. The program is free of charge.
- **Council** will meet on Wednesday, December 13. New office bearers will be attending this meeting, together with retiring office bearers. Please direct any communication for council to the clerk, Scott Meyers.
- Join Pastor John and Ashley for a **Christmas-themed games night** at the church on Friday, December 15 at 6 pm. Pizza and childcare will be provided. Bring your cheesiest Christmas outfit, your favorite family game, and a Christmas treat to share.
- **The children will be singing** "Go Tell It on the Mountain" for the morning service on Sunday, December 24. Families are encouraged to plan to attend this service.

## *Offering Report – Sunday, December 3, 2023*

Total Offering - \$18,331  
Benevolence - \$50  
Roy's Kids - \$70

Personal Care Pantry - \$312  
Angel Community Church - \$100

Today's Offering – Benevolence  
Next Week's Offering – General Fund

## *Prayer Requests*

- For Belkis and Didier Kollo, Pastor John's sister and brother-in-law, who lost their home in a fire on Wednesday.
- For Ron Weesies, who is recovering from knee replacement surgery at home.
- For Dave Zoller, Barb Youngs, Steve Meyers, and Merle Bosch who are all recovering from surgery.
- For those who cannot currently worship with us in person: Gerald & Flossie Meyers, Paul Mulder, Betty (Jay) TenBrink, Agnes Wybenga, and others.
- For all who journey with cancer: Henry Hoekstra, Sarah Samuelson, Erin Stevens, and others.
- For all who journey with mental health, depression, anxiety, and dementia.
- For all who live under the threat of war and violence in Ukraine, Burkina Faso, Sudan, Israel and Palestine, and so many other places. Come quickly, Lord Jesus!
- For our congregation and leadership, as we seek to begin a Latino Outreach ministry. Pray that God will continue to bless our church and help us grow deeper in relationship.
- For our sponsored missionaries: Pablo & Sheryl Canché in Mexico City, Jeffrey & Evelyn Hough in Muskegon, Jeff & Kristi Schmidt with Wycliffe Bible Translators, Bob & Marcia Vermaire in Sierra Leone, and church planter S.M. in Uttar Pradesh, India.

## *Important Dates*

December 11 – Girls Gathering for Christ  
December 12 – New Era Coffeebreak – NERC  
December 13 – Council Meeting  
December 15 – Family Games Night – 6:00 pm  
December 18 – Manna Monday, Cadets, Gems, Men's and Women's Bible Studies