

Schedule of Events

Today

Nursery – Cyndi Natte, Mary VanderWerp
Refreshments – Henry & Margaret Bruinsma, Garry & Mary Weesies
Carol Sing – 6:00 pm

Next Week

Manna Monday - Meal begins at 6:00 pm
Cadets, GEMS - 6:30 - 8:00 pm
Men's & Women's Bible Study – 6:45 – 8:00 pm

Sunday

Nursery – Paula Meyers, Kate Eilers
Refreshments – Wes & Jan Weesies, Barb Youngs, Pam Stenberg
Evening Service – 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, Cell – 231-284-8245

Bulletin Announcements can be sent to Bekah Goodrich at 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.



New Era Christian Reformed Church

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



Pastor John C. Medendorp

Sunday, December 17, 2023

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

1820 Ray Avenue - New Era, MI 49446
(231-861-5554) www.neweracrc.org

Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 17, 2023

Order of Worship

Prelude		
Welcome		
Call To Worship	<i>Prepare the Way</i>	<i>Ensemble</i>
God's Greeting		
Song of Praise	<i>O Come O Come Immanuel</i>	
	<i>Advent Prayer</i>	<i>Ensemble</i>
Advent Reading	John 1:6-8, 19-28	
Advent Candle Lighting		
Song	<i>On Jordan's Bank the Baptist Cry</i>	
Children's Blessing	(Children invited to Children's Church)	
Church Family Time		
Offering	General Fund	
Special Music		
Congregational Prayer		
Song of Preparation	<i>Show Us Christ</i>	
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 61:1-11	
Sermon	Health and Wealth and Freedom	
Closing Song	<i>O Holy Night</i>	
Blessing		
Doxology	<i>Halle Halle Halle</i>	

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 "Health and Wealth and Freedom" from Isaiah 61.

Evening Service

This evening, we will enjoy a carol sing with scripture readings and reflections on the Christmas season.

Next Week

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, Pastor John will preach on "Good, Good News!" from Isaiah 52:7-10. The children will be singing "Go Tell It on the Mountain" during the service. In the evening, Pastor John is leading a community candlelight service and carol sing.

Holiday Services – For the holiday season, we are hosting the following services:

- **Christmas Eve** – Community Candlelight Service, 6 pm
- **Christmas Day** – Christmas Service, 9:30 am
- **New Year's Eve** – Old Year's Service with Lord's Supper, 6 pm
- **New Year's Day** – No service

Due to Christmas being on a Monday this year, we understand that people will be balancing church and family events. Do not feel burdened to attend *all* three services Christmas weekend. Participate, as you are able.

Invitations for friends, family, and neighbors are located by the church mailboxes and the table by the Pastor's study.

Announcements

- **Council** met on Wednesday, December 13. A summary of the meeting will be included in next week’s bulletin.
- We will be opening the **Personal Care Pantry** this Wednesday, December 20, from 2-4 pm. If you are interested in helping with the pantry this week, please contact Pastor John. If you know people who would benefit from the pantry, please encourage them to call the church or Love INC to schedule an appointment.
- 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) or by phone 231-873-2129 x6849. The program is free of charge.
- **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.
- **Women's Fellowship**: on Monday, December 18, we will be celebrating the birth of our Lord Jesus with a Christmas party. Please meet at 6:45 with an unnamed wrapped Christmas Gift that has no use in your household. Yes, it is a white elephant gift that someone else may find interesting or useful. We will be taking a collection for a Christmas card and monetary gift to the Canche's, Schmidt's, and the Vermaire's homes to use to brighten their Christmas celebrations. Join us in the fun!

Council Hospitality Duties

This Week	
Elder in Charge – Scott Meyers	Hospitality Elder – Mark Weesies
Deacon in Charge – Bob Bush	Hospitality Deacon – Chris Martin
Next Week	
Elder in Charge – Mark Weesies	Hospitality Elder – Dave Zoller
Deacon in Charge – Chris Martin	Hospitality Deacon – Jeremy Meyers

Prayer Requests

- For Ron Weesies, 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.

Offering Report – Sunday, December 10, 2023

Total Offering - \$94,673.60	Benevolence - \$334
Christmas Food Boxes - \$20	Farmer's Market - \$28.60
Today’s Offering – General Fund	
Next Week’s Offering – World Renew	