

## *Schedule of Events*

### **Today**

**Nursery** – Margaret Bruinsma, Lori Westrate

**Refreshments** – Ruben & Debra Gaitan, Scott & Paula Meyers

**Evening Service** – 6:00 pm

### **Next Week**

**Manna Monday** - Meal begins at 6:00 pm

**Cadets, GEMS, Men's & Women's Bible Study** – 6:30 – 8:00 pm

### **Tuesday**

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

### **Sunday**

**Nursery** – Danielle Bush, Terri Langerak

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

**Evening Service** – 6:00 pm

- **Lost & Found** – Please be sure to check the coat room to see if you may have left an item behind.

## *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 3, 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)**

*First Sunday of Advent*  
*Sunday, December 3, 2023*

**Order of Worship**

Prelude	
Welcome	
Call To Worship	
Opening Song	<b><i>Come Thou Long Expected Jesus</i></b>
God's Greeting	
Song of Praise	<b><i>Come All You People Imagine</i></b>
Advent Reading	Mark 13
Advent Candle Lighting	
Song	<b><i>O Come O Come Immanuel</i></b>
Children's Blessing	(Children invited to Children's Church)
Church Family Time	
Offering	Personal Care Pantry
Special Music	
Congregational Prayer	
Song of Preparation	<b><i>Show Us Christ</i></b>
Scripture Reading	Isaiah 64:1-9
Sermon	A Lament for Advent
Closing Song	<b><i>When Will We See Justice Done</i></b>
Blessing	
Doxology	<b><i>Halle Halle Halle</i></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 "A Lament for Advent" from Isaiah 64:1-9.

**Evening Service**

This evening, Pastor John continue our series on the Belhar Confession, looking at the biblical call to justice summarized in Article 4. 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 Second Sunday of Advent, Pastor John will preach on Isaiah 40:1-11 "Tidings of Comfort and Caution." In the evening, Pastor John will continue our study of the Belhar Confession.

*Important Dates*

- December 4 – Manna Monday, Cadets, Gems, Men's and Women's Bible Studies
- December 5 – New Era Coffeebreak – NERC
- December 8 – Christmas Games Night 6 pm at NECRC
- December 11 – Girls Gathering for Christ
- December 12 – New Era Coffeebreak - NERC

*Council Hospitality Duties*

**This Week**

Elder in Charge – Dave Zoller	Hospitality Elder – Bob Eekhoff
Deacon in Charge – Jeremy Meyers	Hospitality Deacon – Diane Adema

**Next Week**

Elder in Charge – Bob Eekhoff	Hospitality Elder – Scott Meyers
Deacon in Charge – Diana Adema	Hospitality Deacon – Bob Bush

## *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 surveys in the plates by the doors as you leave the sanctuary. Extra copies of the survey are available by the mailboxes.
- **Council Executive** will meet on Wednesday, December 6 to set the agenda for the December 13 council meeting. 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 8 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.
- **Singers and Instrumentalists!** Rehearsals for Advent Choral Ensemble begins this Sunday, December 3 (about 20 minutes after Fellowship Time). If you are still exploring the possibilities, this is the day to do so! “Sing to the Lord a New Song!” Meet at the Sanctuary piano.

## *Offering Report – Thanksgiving, November 23, 2023*

Total Offering for Personal Care Pantry - \$712

## *Offering Report – Sunday, November 26, 2023*

Total Offering - \$4,838.25

Benevolence - \$100

Farmer’s Market - \$1580

Today’s Offering – Personal Care Pantry

Next Week’s Offering – Benevolence

## *Prayer Requests*

- Last Sunday, we selected nominees for elder and deacon who will serve on council for the next three years. Please keep Carole Giberson, Dan Mulder, Greg Vriesman, and Ron Weesies in your prayers as they prepare to take their vows and begin their service in January.
- 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.