

## *Schedule of Events*

### **Today**

**Nursery** – Margaret Bruinsma, Jamie Westrate

**Refreshments** – Greg & Sue Vriesman, Henry & Loie Hoekstra

**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** – Kate Eilers, Mary Weesies

**Refreshments** – Larry & Joyce Weesies, Mark & Patti Weesies

**Evening Service** – 6:00 pm

## *Contact Information*

### **2024 Council Members of New Era CRC:**

**Chair of Council** – Dave Zoller   **Vice Chair** – Bob Bush   **Clerk** – Scott Meyers   **Treasurer** – Jeremy Meyers

**Chairman of the Elders** - Dave Zoller   **Chairman of the Deacons** – Bob Bush

**Growing in Relationship with God:** Elder – Greg Vriesman, Deacon – Carole Giberson

**Growing in Relationship with Each Other:** Elder – Ron Weesies, Deacon – Chris Martin

**Growing in Relationship with Community:** Elder – Dan Mulder, 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"*

Jesus Is Lord - Mark 14:36

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AND HE SAID, ABBA, FATHER, ALL THINGS  
ARE POSSIBLE TO YOU; TAKE AWAY THIS  
CUP FROM ME: BUT EVEN SO LET NOT MY  
PLEASURE, BUT YOURS BE DONE.

*Pastor John C. Medendorp*

**Sunday, February 18, 2024**

**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 Lent*  
*Sunday, February 18, 2024*

**Order of Worship**

Prelude	
Welcome	
Call To Worship	Psalm 25:1-10
God's Greeting	
Opening Songs	<b><i>Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty In Christ Alone</i></b>
Call to Confession	
Silent Prayer of Confession	
Song of Confession	<b><i>Not What My Hands Have Done</i></b>
Assurance of Pardon	
Guide for Grateful Living	Hebrews 12:1-3
Passing the Peace	<b><i>Lift High the Cross</i></b>
Children's Blessing	
Church Family Time	
Offering	Missions – Vermaire's
Special Music	
Congregational Prayer	
Song of Preparation	<b><i>Go to Dark Gethsemane</i></b>
Scripture Reading	Mark 14:32-42
Sermon	Suffering in Prayer
Closing Song	<b><i>My Faith Looks Up to Thee</i></b>
Blessing	
Doxology	<b><i>God, the Father of Your People</i></b>

*Worship Notes*

**Morning Service**

Today is the first Sunday of Lent, a 40-day season of preparation before Easter Sunday. Traditionally, Christians engage in prayer and fasting throughout this season. For the next six weeks, we will be focusing on the suffering that Jesus endured so that we might be saved, looking at the last few days of Jesus' life from the Gospel of Mark, in a series we are calling, "For the Joy Set Before Him." Today, we begin with Jesus' prayer of agony in the Garden of Gethsemane. Pastor John will preach on "Suffering in Prayer" from Mark 14:32-42.

**Evening Service**

This evening, we will continue our series on the Belgic Confession, a confessions of faith in the Reformed tradition. We will look at Article 4, on the books of the Bible. Why does our Bible contain these 66 books? How did the Bible come to be? Join us for a time of song, discussion, fellowship, and prayer as we explore the doctrines of our faith.

**Next Week**

Next Sunday morning, we continue our Lent series, "For the Joy Set Before Him." Pastor John will preach on "Suffering Betrayal" from Mark 14:43-52. In the evening, we will welcome Dave Rakosky, director of Love INC, who will talk to us about poverty in Oceana County and how Love INC is partnering with churches to meet this incredible need.

*Council Hospitality Duties*

**This Week**

Elder in Charge – Ron Weesies	Hospitality Elder – Dave Zoller
Deacon in Charge – Bob Bush	Hospitality Deacon – Carole Giberson

**Next Week**

Elder in Charge – Dave Zoller	Hospitality Elder – Scott Meyers
Deacon in Charge – Carole Giberson	Hospitality Deacon – Chris Martin

## *Announcements*

- There is **no Children's Worship** during the service today, due to Mid-Winter Break.
- **Council** met on Thursday, February 15. A summary of council's decisions will be included in next week's bulletin.
- **Classis Muskegon**, our regional body of Christian Reformed Churches will meet on Thursday, February 22 in Fremont. Please pray for the churches, office bearers, and ministries of Classis Muskegon. Also pray for the delegates of this meeting.
- **Laughing Matters** is on February 24! This is the 9<sup>th</sup> year of this event that supports the work of the Fountain Hill Center for counseling in providing mental health services to the people of our community who otherwise could not afford it. We do not turn anyone away, so we rely very much on this event to raise the funds needed to provide these services. We invite you to join us for a wonderful catered dinner and an excellent family-friendly comedian. Pastor John will be doing the invocation, and you will have the opportunity to hear more about the services that Fountain Hill provides. Tickets are \$50, you can purchase through Fountain Hill's Facebook page or website ([www.fountainhillcenter.org](http://www.fountainhillcenter.org)) or contact Amy Van Gunst. We hope to see you there!
- **Games Night** on Friday, March 1 at 6 pm. Join Pastor John and Ashley for a night of table games, pizza, and free childcare! Bring a favorite game to teach. Invite your friends!
- **Thank you** to the Women's Fellowship for the Valentine's treats and cards!  
~ Gerald and Flossie Meyers

## *Important Dates*

February 19 – Manna Monday, Cadets, Gems, Men's and Women's Bible Studies  
February 20 – New Era Coffeebreak – NERC  
February 24 – Laughing Matters Event  
February 26 – Girls Gathering for Christ  
February 27 – New Era Coffeebreak – NERC

## *Prayer Requests*

- On this President's Day weekend, pray for our president, Joe Biden, and all who govern our nation.
- For Rebecca Hughes, daughter of Dennis Hughes, who has been hospitalized for a serious infection at St. Mary's in Grand Rapids.
- 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, February 4, 2024*

Total Offering – \$4,678

Benevolence - \$195

Today's Offering – Missions – Vermaire's  
Next Week's Offering – General Fund