

## Important Dates

February 27 – Girls Gathering for Christ

February 28 – Women’s Coffeebreak – NERC

March 3 – Family Games Night - NECRC

March 6 – Manna Monday, Cadets, GEMS, Men’s & Women’s Bible Studies

March 7 – Women’s Coffeebreak - NERC

## Accessibility

A T-Loop hearing system is installed throughout the sanctuary. To use, switch your hearing device to the “T” position. Our service is also available online for live-stream and recording at You Tube. Search “New Era Christian Reformed Church” on You Tube to locate the service.

## Offering Report – Sunday, February 19, 2023

Total Offering - \$6,972

Benevolence - \$10

Farmer's Market - \$296

World Renew - \$614

Today’s Offering – General Fund

Next Week’s Offering – World Renew

## 2023 Council Members of New Era CRC:

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

**Chairman of the Deacons** –

**Growing in Relationship with God:**

**Growing in Relationship with Each Other:**

**Growing in Relationship with Community:**

**Pastor Information** – Pastor John Medendorp - Email – [pastor.necrc@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.necrc@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.

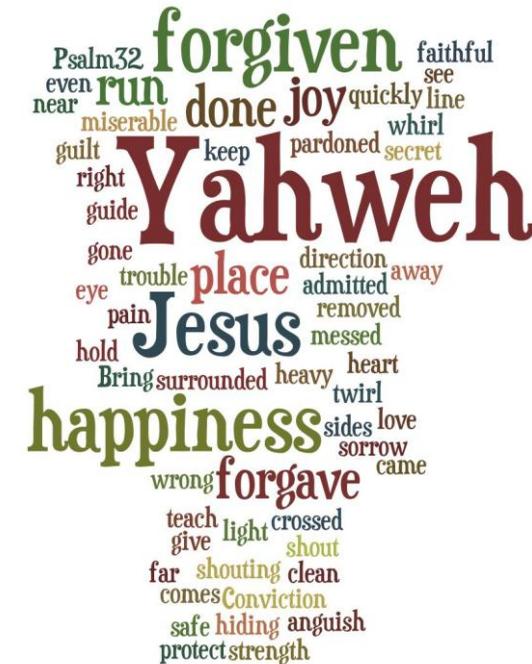
**Custodian/Church Use** – Contact Jacque Weesies at 517-525-4787.

**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, February 26, 2023**

**Worship Services 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 26, 2023*

### **Order of Worship**

Welcome

Call To Worship

\*Opening Song

\*God's Greeting

\*Songs of Praise

**Psalm 32**

***The Heavens Declare Your Glory***

***How Great Thou Art***

***He Leadeth Me***

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Guide for Grateful Living

\*Passing the Peace

**Matthew 4:1-11**

***Jesus, Remember Me***

**Romans 5:12-19**

**The 10 Commandments**

***We are One in Christ Jesus***

Children's Blessing

Children's Song

Church Family Time

Offering

Congregational Prayer

(Children invited to Children's Church)

***Jesus Loves Me This I Know***

**General Fund**

\*Song of Preparation

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Sermon

***The First Place***

**Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7**

**Living and Dying**

\*Closing Song

Lord's Supper Preparatory

\*Blessing

\*Doxology

***Christ the Life of All the Living***

***To God Be the Glory***

## *Schedule of Events & Worship Notes*

### **Today**

**Nursery** – Patti Weesies, Paula Meyers

**Refreshments** – Bob & Ruth Eekhoff, Dick & Brenda Harper

**Evening Service** – 6:00 pm

### **Next Week**

#### **Monday**

**Girls Gathering for Christ** - 6:30 pm

#### **Tuesday**

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

#### **Friday**

**Family Games Night** – 6:00 pm

#### **Sunday**

**Nursery** – Ashley Medendorp, Amy Weesies

**Refreshments** – Adam & Emily Lavelly, Doug, Lori & Bonnie Westrate

**Evening Service** – 6:00 pm

### **Morning Service**

This is the first Sunday of Lent, a 6-week season of preparation before Easter. Throughout this season, we will be looking at stories in the Old Testament that help us make sense of Jesus' death and resurrection. Today, Pastor John will explore the story of the creation and fall of humanity to help us see how Jesus is the beginning of a new humanity born not into sin, but into righteousness! Everyone is welcome for coffee and refreshments immediately following the service.

### **Evening Service**

In the evening services we are exploring how to live in gratitude for what God has done for us in Christ by exploring the 10 commandments as God's guide for a flourishing and right-related life. This Sunday evening we will be exploring the second commandment: "Make no images to worship." What are appropriate and inappropriate ways of worshipping God? Join us for a time of song, prayer, fellowship, and discussion as we grow together in Christ.

## *Prayer Requests*

- For spiritual renewal, transformation, and growth as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the death and resurrection of Christ this Lenten season.
- For the family of Brenda Kieft, who passed away last Sunday. A memorial service was held here at the church on Friday.
- For students, faculty, and families of Michigan State University in the wake of last week's shooting.
- For the people of Turkey and Syria as they continue to recover from the earthquakes earlier this month.
- For the people of Ukraine, Burkina Faso, and so many other places where there is active warfare.

## *Announcements*

**Caring for MSU Students** - Thank you to everyone who has expressed interest in supporting MSU students through care packages in the wake of last week's deadly shooting. Emily Lavelly is coordinating our church's response with Athletes in Action (AiA), a division of Cru focused on ministry to student athletes. AiA is putting together care packages for student athletes affected by the shooting with Bible and grief journals, and we have offered to cover the cost for those materials. ***We are looking to raise at least \$150 for this cause by next Sunday, March 5. Please write "MSU" in the memo line of checks, or write a note to go with cash offerings, and place them in the offering plate on Sunday, the treasurer's church mailbox, or mail them to the church.***

**Games Night** - Join Pastor John and Ashley on March 3 at 6:00 p.m. for another games night for young adults (20-40ish) and their families. Bring a favorite board game or card game, and be ready to teach others how to play. We will meet in the church basement. Dinner and childcare will be provided.

## *Announcements*

**Farmer's Market** - The New Era Farmers Market is accepting donations for the entertainment, marketing and programs at the market. If you would like to become a Friend of the Market and support this Outreach Ministry of our church you can use the Special Offering Envelopes and write Farmers Market on the line. We continue to take all returnable cans and bottles as a fundraiser as well. Sandy

### **Council Updates**

- Council met for an office bearers retreat on February 18 for a time of prayer, learning, discussion, and goal-setting for the coming year.

- The council executive team will meet on Wednesday to plan the agenda for the council meeting on March 8. Please direct any communications/requests for council's consideration to the clerk of council, Scott Meyers.

- We will be celebrating the sacrament of Holy Communion together as a congregation next Sunday, March 5. If you are not able to join us next Sunday but desire to take communion at home, please contact one of the elders or Pastor John.

### **Thank You!**

You are making a difference! On behalf of the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, thank you for your gifts to ministry shares. Your support enables congregations to do so much more to further God's Kingdom than any one church could do alone. Our denomination could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. Thank you! To discover more visit [crcna.org/ministryshares](http://crcna.org/ministryshares).