

Important Dates

March 27 – Girls Gathering for Christ

March 28 – Women’s Coffeebreak – NERC

March 31 – Games Night

April 2 – Personal Care Pantry Donation Collection

April 6 – Maundy Thursday Service - 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, March 19, 2023

Total Offering - \$6,801.26

GEMS (Local) - \$299.26

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 – 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 – pastor.necrc@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.

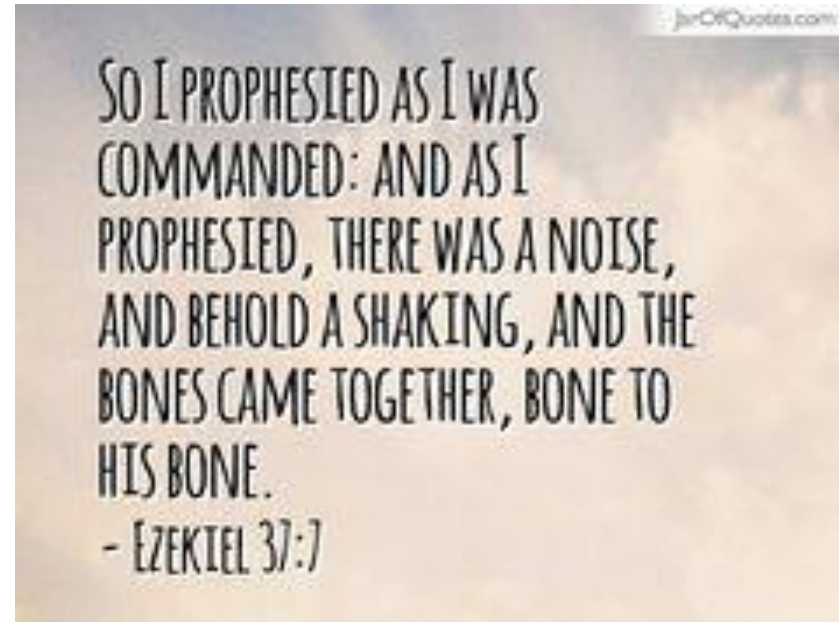
Custodian/Church Use – Contact Jacque Weesies at 517-525-4787.

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, March 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

Fifth Sunday of Lent
Sunday, March 26, 2023

Order of Worship

Prelude	
Welcome	
Call To Worship	Hebrews 12:2-3, John 11:25-27
*Opening Song	<i>Ten Thousand Reasons</i>
*God's Greeting	
*Songs of Praise	<i>Blessed Assurance, Jesus is Mine</i> <i>What Wondrous Love Is This</i>
Call to Confession	Psalm 130
Prayer of Confession	<i>Jesus, Remember Me</i>
Assurance of Pardon	Romans 8:6-11
Guide for Grateful Living	The Ten Commandments
*Passing the Peace	<i>Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love</i>
Children's Blessing (Children invited to Children's Church)	
Children's Song	<i>Jesus Loves Me</i>
Church Family Time	
Offering	General Fund
Special Music	
Congregational Prayer	
*Song of Preparation	<i>Out of the Depths I Cry to You on High</i>
Prayer for Illumination	
Scripture Reading	Ezekiel 37:1-14
Sermon	The Breath of Life
*Closing Song	<i>Oh to See the Dawn</i>
*Blessing	
*Doxology	<i>To God Be the Glory</i>

Schedule of Events & Worship Notes

Today

Nursery – Patti Weesies, Lori Westrate

Refreshments – Gary & Mary Weesies, Patty Buursma, Keri Hall

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 –

Refreshments – Bob & Sharon Bush, Henry & Terri Langerak

Evening Service – 6:00 pm

Morning Service

During the six-week season of Lent, we prepare our hearts and lives to celebrate God's gift of new life on Resurrection Sunday. We have been walking through Old Testament stories that help us to understand and appreciate the work that Christ accomplishes for us through his death and resurrection. This morning, Pastor John will be preaching on the valley of dry bones from Ezekiel 37, exploring how Christ pours out the gift of his Holy Spirit, which raises us up to new life in him.

Everyone is welcome for coffee and refreshments immediately following the service.

Evening Service

This evening, Pastor John will be teaching on the fifth commandment, "Honor your Father and Mother." How does God use human authority to form and shape us as a people and society? What boundaries and limits does scripture place on our submission to authority? Join us for a time of song, prayer, and fellowship as we learn together to live in gratitude to the God who delivers us from our sin!

Next Sunday

On Palm Sunday, we will be celebrating the liturgy of the psalms with a children's procession. Pastor John will be preaching on Jesus' betrayal from Matthew 26 to lead us into Holy Week.

Prayer Requests

- Tom and Carole DeMeester have moved back to Grand Rapids. After their Hawaii vacation, Tom's dementia got much worse, and he has been moved to Beacon Hill's memory care facility. Carole also suffered a stroke, which left her blind in one eye and unable to drive. It is unlikely they will return to New Era. Please keep them in your prayers. Cards may be sent to 1919 Boston St. SE, Apt. B315, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.

- Pastor Don Byker has notified council that he will be working as a transitional minister with Hope Fellowship CRC of Denver, Colorado for a one-year term from April 2023 – March 2024. He will be working in a hybrid arrangement –on-site in Denver and remotely in New Era- from April to August. Don and Donna will be departing to Denver in August for full time ministry for the rest of the term. Please pray for Don and Donna as they serve the larger church through this important ministry.

- All in our fellowship who are journeying with cancer and its effects: Margaret Amstutz, Ellen Prince, John Davila, Henry Hoekstra, and others.

- All who journey with mental health, depression, anxiety, and dementia.

- We celebrate with Paul Mulder, who celebrated his 98th birthday on Friday!

Announcements

Women's Coffeebreak – The Women's Coffeebreak will not meet on Tuesday, April 4 due to Spring Break.

Personal Care Pantry – We are planning to resume regularly scheduled Personal Care Pantry days, beginning in April. There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex for volunteers to staff the Pantry. Since the beginning of Covid, the Pantry has provided for needs on an appointment only basis, which Pastor John has met with recipients as requested. We are also planning a Personal Care Pantry collection to be held on Palm Sunday. Please bring your items to church with you to be collected during the morning worship service on April 2. Items needed for the Pantry include: Laundry Detergent, Fabric Softener, Dryer Sheets, Dish Soap, Spray Cleaners, Garbage bags, Toilet Paper, Shampoo and Conditioner, Men's and Ladies Antiperspirants, Mouthwash, Toothpaste, Body Wash, Kleenex Tissues, Paper Towels, Liquid Hand Soap, Tampons, Diapers size 4-6.

Announcements

Games Night – Join Pastor John and Ashley as the church for another Games Night for young adults and families on March 31. We will gather in the church basement. Bring a favorite game (or five!) to teach, and invite your friends! Dinner and childcare will be provided.

Maunder Thursday Service – On the evening of April 6, at 6:30 pm, we will gather together with the New Era Reformed Church and Trinity Lutheran for a special community service to remember the story of the Last Supper, where Jesus washed his disciples' feet and prayed for them on the night he was betrayed. The service will be held at the New Era Reformed Church and will include the celebration of Holy Communion. If you are interested in participating in this service as a reader, singer, or musician, please contact Pastor John.

Farmer's Market – The Farmer's Market is one of our outreach ministries. We will need donations to cover the entertainment at the market this summer. We are also going to try and provide meal kits to take home as part of the MSU Extension demos for adults. If you feel led to help with this ministry, please use green Special Offering envelope and write "Farmer's Market" on the line. We are also still taking donations of returnable bottles and cans as a fundraiser. If you are interested in volunteering at a market, please contact Sandy Whitaker.

New Membership Class - Pastor John will be leading a class for new members and those interested in making profession of faith or reaffirmation of faith, later this spring. If you are interested, please let him know.