

April Niekerk News 2026

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Prayer Line Maintained by:

Brian Bosch

**Newsletter
DEADLINE**

For the
May Niekerk News is:
April 19, 2026

Gifts for Visitors

Just a reminder, there are gift bags and folders that can be handed to our visitors



***Phonebooks can be
found by the
Information Center
magazine rack.***

a letter from the pastor

Spring Sings!

On our way to pick up her brother from pre-school, my three-year-old granddaughter requested some songs from the radio. Now, in my day, a pushbutton radio was considered high tech, but today, children speak out requests and expect a device to respond. So my granddaughter spoke and we listened to "Old MacDonald". Next, she asked for "Spring Sings Steady and True". The radio and I could not figure out what song she was requesting all the way to Byron Center. After asking the radio at least six different ways and coming up with anything but the song she wanted, we decided to wait for her brother to help us.

When he got into the car, she immediately asked, "Who sings "spring sings steady and true"? He replied matter of fact, Ellie Holcomb. That was the missing information we needed and the song began...

Spring Sings!

By Elli Holcomb

Have you ever heard the spectacular song
That the earth sings each year when the Spring comes along?
The song holds its breath inside branches of trees
Oh that look like they'll never sprout brand-new green leaves
Yeah, sometimes in winter it feels dark and cold
Oh but underneath winter, there's buried spring gold
Seeds that fell down, looking brown like the dirt
They go into the soil, swallowed up by the earth
And after the winter's last chilly frost
Oh just when it seems that all hope has been lost
Those seeds come up singing, right out of the ground
Stretching little green arms toward the light that they've found

Spring sings the song, steady and true
To remind every heart that God makes all things new

Spring retells the story of God's Son who died
Was buried for three days, but then came alive
So Spring sings the song, "Death isn't the end

God loves to make everything new once again.
And guess what? The spring song, it lives on in you
Because God wants to bring new life to you too

Spring sings a song steady and true
To remind every heart that God makes all things new
Christ died, but He's risen He's risen indeed
And the Spring sings about it, every flower and seed
And the Spring sings about it, every flower and seed

So on dark days when it feels like winter won't end
Remember that Spring's song is coming again
Every bird, every bloom, every bright butterfly
Sings a song of God's love that brings all things to life
And we're all invited to dance and to sing
For the joy and the hope in the song of the Spring

Spring sings a song, it's steady and true
To remind every heart that God makes all things new
Christ died, but He's risen. He's risen indeed
And the Spring sings about it, every flower and seed
And the Spring sings about it, every flower and seed

All around us are examples of dark days that make little sense in our own lives and in the world. But, deep down, in the midst of it, we know the Lord of Life is making all things new. In the beautiful signs of spring, the Lord is shouting out to us again: "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God." ⁴ He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away." ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ He said to me: "It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life." (Revelation 21:3-6)

And as my grandchildren sang the chorus, "Spring sings the song, steady and true, to remind every heart that God makes all things new," the Lord of Life touched my heart with this blessed assurance—in Christ, God is indeed at work making all things new in me! in us! In His Church! And one day, all that's wrong will be set right! And that is truth that is steady and true!

Pastor John

February 28, 2026

Total Budgeted YTD Receipts	\$	109,733.67
Total Actual YTD Receipts	\$	84,903.00
Over(Under) Budget	\$	(24,830.67)

GENERAL FUND:	BALANCE	
2026 Beginning Balance	\$519,255.41	
Monthly Budget Amount Required	\$46,242.00	
This Month Envelopes Receipts	\$40,848.07	
Year to Date Budget Envelopes	\$68,093.99	
Over Budget Receipts	\$0.00	
Interest	\$0.00	
Facilities Rental Income	\$0.00	
Total Receipts	\$68,093.99	
This Month Disbursements	\$63,278.11	
Year to Date Disbursements	\$119,504.40	
Fund Balance	\$467,845.00	

EVANGELISM FUND:	BALANCE	
2026 Beginning Balance	\$9,880.03	
Monthly Budget Amount Required	\$4,875.00	
YTD Receipts from Envelopes	\$9,508.13	
YTD Over Budget Receipts	\$0.00	
YTD Total Receipts	\$9,508.13	
YTD Disbursements	\$344.20	
Allocated Not Paid	\$9,750.00	
Fund Balance	\$9,293.96	

BUILDING RENOVATIONS FUND	BALANCE	
2026 Beginning Balance	\$104,738.98	
Monthly Budget Amount Required	\$3,750.00	
YTD Envelope Receipts	\$7,300.88	
YTD Over Budget Receipts	\$0.00	
YTD Total Receipts	\$7,300.88	
YTD Disbursements	\$0.00	
Fund Balance	\$112,039.86	

SPECIAL FUND:	BALANCE	
2026 Beginning Balance	0.00	
This Month Special Fund	8,631.00	
Year To Date Special Fund	14,003.00	
This Month Disbursements	8,631.00	
Year To Date Disbursements	14,003.00	
Fund Balance	0.00	

MISCELLANEOUS FUND:	BALANCE	
2026 Beginning Balance	\$	38,768.06
Current Fund Balances:		
Niekerk Tuition Fund		11,178.76
Hockey Rock		2,464.54
Niekerk Christian Ed Fund		3,547.00
Hand 2 Hand Ministries		11,006.29
Community Impact		1,344.92
Health Pantry		1,892.71
Family Mission Trip Fund		6,965.84
Fund Balance	\$	38,400.06

Cash Balances		
Beginning Balance as of 1/1/2026	\$	672,522.48
Ending Balance as of 02/28/26	\$	637,328.88

CHURCH BUDGET	ACTUAL DOLLARS	BUDGETED DOLLARS	INCOME VARIANCE
Receipts	84,903.00	109,733.67	(24,830.67)
Disbursements	119,848.60	109,733.67	(10,114.93)
Allocated Not Paid	9,750.00		
Spendable Income	(44,695.60)		(34,945.60)

NIEKERK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH
Council Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2026, at 7:30 PM

Growing in Christ and Making Him Known

01. Devotions and Opening Prayer: Carl Helder read 2 Corinthians 8
02. Discussion about the process of calling Pastor Tim Nelson.
- Had a lengthy discussion with Keith Doornbos (Classis Ministry Coordinator) on the next steps and to come up with a plan forward. This plan includes:
 - March 22: Pastor Tim to preach with Q&A with congregation after the morning service. Council to meet and vote after the Q&A on whether to ask the congregation to call Pastor Tim.
 - March 29: tentative congregational vote after morning service.
03. Deacons' Meeting Summary of March 2, 2026, at 6:30pm.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Joel Kryger.

a. Review of February 2nd Deacons' Meeting Minutes.

b. Loose Offering Collections & Schedule:

February offerings confirmed:

February 1	CAMO	\$1,816
February 8	GEMS International	\$831
February 15	World Renew	\$775
February 22	JCBT	\$3,524

c. April Offerings Scheduled as Follows:

April 2	Benevolent Fund
April 5	Empower International (Pakistan School Supplies)
April 12	Community Impact
April 19	Gideons
April 26	Growing Hope Globally

d. February Benevolent Fund Balance:	\$17,163.09
How Many Disbursements	2
What Amounts	\$2,000.00
How Many Deposits	0
February Ending Fund Balance	\$15,163.09

Benevolent Needs Discussed.

Do we have any known Benevolent needs inside of the congregation? Presently the Deacons have one need that we are staying in contact with a member. We had a general discussion if there were other potential needs within the congregation that we could be reaching out to see if there is assistance that would be helpful.

Do we have any known Benevolent needs outside of the congregation? The Deacons have one family that we are aware that there is financial strain and have been discussing for the past several months if/how we may be of assistance.

We also discussed another family whereby the father recently passed away unexpectedly. A Deacon was aware of the family and was able to provide some additional information for the group.

- e. Niekerk Family Mission Trip Fund. Estimated cost per person is projected to be ~\$450. Presently there is ~\$7k in funds earmarked for this trip. Joe Texer is getting a sign-up sheet out and depending on the number of people that sign up, the Deacons may run an offering closer to the date of the trip if additional resources may be needed.
- f. Niekerk Box Envelopes. We briefly discussed the communication received from Mike Dozeman as it related to the costs of the envelope system Niekerk uses. This would be a potential change going into 2027 but the general consensus was to keep our existing envelope system going. Bryan will follow up with Mike Dozeman to see if there would be a way to shrink down the number of boxes #s as a way of managing the increasing costs.
- g. Widow/Widower Dinner. We have tentatively set the date for the Widow/Widower dinner for Thursday, May 21, which for the past several years we have held it at the Farmhouse. John Timmer was going to start doing some planning around this as he has historically assisted with this as a Deacon and will be one of the Deacons retiring in April.
- h. Deacon Transition of Duties. Outgoing Deacons please give some thought to the special duties/assignments that will need to be transitioned. We will also have seven Deacons going forward so we will also need to give some thought to how we set the Offering Schedule. Also see March 31st last year's transition meeting minutes. The "Super Council" meeting will be happening on April 13th with the newly elected Elders/Deacons in attendance.

Closing Prayer by Matt Maas

Next Meeting: Monday, April 13. Devotions: Mike Schierbeek

Meeting Adjourned

04. Pulpit Supply Schedule provided by Randy Hoogewind (*Subject to Change)

<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Morning Worship</u>	<u>Evening Worship</u>
March 8	John Nyitray	Duane Terpstra
March 15	Bill VanderHeide	Tom Pettinga
March 22	Tim Nelson	Duane Terpstra
March 29	Eric Lynch	Tom Pettinga
April 2	Maundy Thursday	John Nyitray
April 5	John Nyitray	
April 12	John Nyitray	Duane Terpstra
April 19	Bill VanderHeide	Cal Compagner
April 26	Ren Broekhuizen	Open

Next Communion: April 2 and June 7

- 05. Nomination Ballots. A motion to approve all nominees was presented. This was seconded and approved unanimously.
- 06. Next meeting, April 13, 2025, at 7:00pm. Earlier if Elder or Deacon Meetings are changed.
- 07. The meeting was adjourned.
- 08. Closing prayer: Steve Slenk

April Thank You Notes

Thank you, Niekerk congregation for the birthday cards and wishes, I am so grateful for all the kind messages. You made my day special.

Nick Ellerbroek

Thank you, to all our friends at Niekerk for all the PRAYERS, cards, calls, texts and care shown to our family at the time of Shane's stroke and now as he continues to improve! Above all, thanks to our heavenly father for answered prayers! GOD is so GOOD!

Sincerely,
Earl & Lin Plaggemars
Shane, Rachel, Olivia & Max Plaggemars

Niekerk Family,

Thank you for your love and support you showed us with the sudden loss of our dear sister-in-law and aunt, Renee. The cards, meals, and words of comfort mean so much. Renee embodied the joy of the Lord and we will miss her infectious laugh. We remain comforted by the hope of heaven, the love of Jesus, and the support of our community.

Love,
Mark & Jan Hip & Jamie Hop

Thank you to all the Niekerk family who provided meals, sent cards, and encouraging messages following my knee surgery. God's is so good—and our Niekerk family is dear to my heart.

Char Janssen

Thank you for the prayers, words of encouragement, cards, deeds of kindness and meals during my recovery from knee replacement surgery. Your thoughtfulness added to the joy of being part of God's family at Niekerk.

Carolyn Jacobsen

Niekerk friends,

We thank you so much for your donations. It is much appreciated!

Bravo CRC
Pastor Duane T, Roger D, Harry R, Victor R, Randy P

We would like to thank the Niekerk congregation for the many expressions of sympathy shown to us in the passing of our brother Ray Nyhof. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Elmer and Leona Nyhof, Bob and Linda Nyhof

Thank for all the delicious meals, baked goods, cards, visits and phone calls that have been given to us. We appreciate the family we have at Niekerk and the prayers that are offered on our behalf. We could not walk the journey we're on without God providing strength every day. 1 Peter 5:7 "Cast all your anxiety on him because He cares for you."

Cal & Deb Schierbeek

April Thank You Notes

Thank you for helping me celebrate my 86th birthday. Your thoughtfulness shown with best wishes, cards, texts, and phone calls was greatly appreciated. Praise God for whom all blessings flow!

Vern Klingenberg

Niekerk CRC,

Thank you so much for your recent gift to Positive Options. Your donation allows us to serve our clients well!

We are grateful for the opportunity to do this work and thankful to do it alongside partners like Niekerk. Your support allows us to serve families with care, dignity, and support. Thank you!

Alison Elders and the team at Positive Options



Spinnet Piano – Free to a good home – if you're able and willing to get it there. Call Jerry Holmes for more details. 616-690-2020

April

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Happy Birthday			1	2 Bev Leep	3	4 Joe Texer
			5 Jerry Holmes	6 Teri Hoogewind	7	8 Dan Petroelje
12 Bryce Koopman	13	14	15 Rita Helder Paul Bulthuis	16 Laura Helder Lisa Kragt	17 Doug Gritter	18 Bill Keen
19 Tyler Kragt Ken Vander Zwaag	20 Randy Nykamp	21	22	23 Bonnie Meiste Vern Hoeksema	24	25 Henry Bosch Kurt Rigterink
26	27	28	29 Marcia Walters	30 Lori Boeve		

Three (3) "Walks" Coming Soon!

"...for God loves a cheerful giver."

2 Corinthians 9:7

"Be kind and compassionate to one another..."

Ephesians 4:32

Holland Right to Life

3 mile Walk for Life

or

5K Fun Run

Saturday, May 16



Saturday and Sunday, May 17



**POSITIVE
OPTIONS**

Tulip Time Run/Walk

Saturday, May 2

**Sign up to walk and/or pledge on Sunday:
April 5, 12, & 19**

Check out the display in the narthex.

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT 2026



Saturday, February 21, was another great night for our Cornhole Tournament.

- Seventeen adult teams showed up to throw and compete!
- Eight kids teams shows up to compete too!!
- another 50-60 people showed up to cheer them on!
- Two hundred and eight slices of pizza and Sixty breadsticks were consumed!
- licorice, starburst, pretzels and numerous snacks were a huge hit to snack on!

In the end, it came down to Mike Venema & Matt Maas vs. Ryan & Angela Walters.

Mike & Matt took home the gold medals!!!!
Ryan & Angela took home the silver medals!!!!

In the Kids Tournament, it came down to Ava Kryger & Thandi Rozema vs. Ethan Texer & Gerritt Schierbeek

Ava & Thandi took home the gold medals!!!!
Ethan & Gerritt took home the silver medals!!!!

Thank you to all who participated, and we look forward to the 2027 Niekerk Cornhole Tournament.



CHURCH SECURITY

April

April 2 Hops (Maundy Thursday)

April 5 Steve Kragt
Mike Venema
PM Mike Venema

April 12 Terry Bosch
John Timmer
PM John Timmer

April 19 Jon Boeve
Dale Walters
PM Jon Boeve

April 26 Carl Helder
Marcus Helder
PM Marcus Helder

**Remember to find your own replacement if you are unable to volunteer. Contact Jon Boeve with any concerns.

INDOOR WALKING!

Mondays and Thursdays

9:00am to 11:30am

The church will be open for those who need to get out, get moving, and stretch their legs. Whether you're an Olympic speed walker or a casual slow walker, all are welcome to come out, bring their kids, invite a friend, and start walking laps here at Niekerk.



Church Calendar

Remember to schedule your meetings, community group events, and any other activities with the church office.

Shared Meals



The freezer has Chicken Alfredo Casserole, Meatloaf & Cheesy hashbrowns, Chicken Bacon Ranch Casserole, Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole, Beef Enchiladas, Poppyseed Chicken Casserole, Tater Tot Casserole, Ham & Potato Soup and Chili. These meals are for members of our church with needs and for those outside our church that could use a helping hand.



BRING
YOUR
CRAFTS

Ladies Quilting & Craft Day

Ladies take your sewing, knitting, scrapbooking, stamping or any other activity and join other women for a craft day starting at 9 AM until 4 PM in En Gedi. No need to sign up; come when you can, and leave when you must.

April & May DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- April 2 Hand2Hand Ministries
Maundy Thursday Service
- April 5 Sunrise Service w/ Breakfast
Easter Service AM (No PM Service)
- April 6 Council Meeting
- April 12 Elder & Deacon Instillation
- April 13 Council Meeting
- April 17 MS Youth Group
Hand2Hand Ministries
- April 24 Monthly Prayer Gathering
Heights of Hope Fest
- May 1 Hand2Hand Ministries
- May 4 Council Meeting
- May 8 Hand2Hand Ministries
- May 11 Red Cross Blood Drive
- May 14 Ascension Day
- May 17 MS & HS Youth Group
- May 22 Hand2Hand Packing
- May 29 Monthly Prayer Gathering
Hand2Hand Ministries
- May 30 MS & HS Youth Group

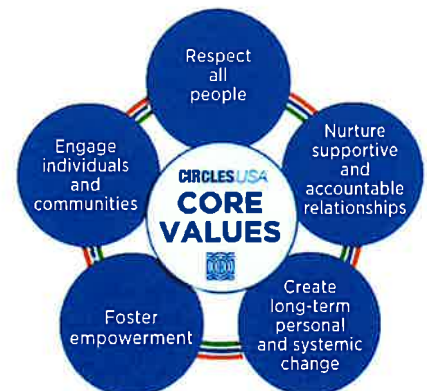


Heights of Hope partners with Circles, USA & Good Samaritan Ministries to offer Circles, an 18 - month national program designed to empower and equip families to move out of poverty and thrive. The method is intentionally, relational, and community-driven. It brings together people from all walks of life to support our Circle leaders and create change in our community.

Every Tuesday night **Circles** meets at our church. We support them with the use of the building. The program also provides the participants with a meal. If you are willing and able, consider providing a meal for



these dedicated leaders and their support team. Scan the QR code to see what dates are available.





Nursery

April

- 4-5 AM** Carol Venema
Kim Walters
PM Linda Timmer
Lisa Kragt
- 4-12 AM** Kathi Petroelje
Laura Vander Zwaag
PM Char Janssen
Sandy Van Dyke
- 4-19 AM** Emma Texer
Sara Heeres
PM Kaylin Van Dyke
Abby Helder
- 4-26 AM** Renee & Kayla Texer
Jenn Schierbeek
PM Pat Texer
Sue Hoekstra

May

- 5-3 AM** Trisha Texer
Jessica Schutter
PM Dawn Folkert
Kris Roelofs
- 5-10 AM** Lindsey Haan
Margaret Timmer
PM Dana Hondred
Kathie Helder
- 5-17 AM** Deb Haan
Melinda Kryger
PM Carol Venema
Char Janssen
- 5-24 AM** Deb Slenk
Linda Timmer
PM Kim Walters
Sara Heeres
- 5-24 AM** Lisa Kragt
Kathi Petroelje
PM Kaylin Van Dyke
Laura VanderZwaag

Nursery Volunteers: Remember to find your own replacement if you are unable to volunteer. Contact Kaylin Van Dyke with any concerns.





SOARING HEIGHTS

Heights of Hope Fest

SATURDAY APRIL 26
1:00 – 4:00 PM

HEIGHTS OF HOPE

Race thru the Decades 5K

August 8, 2026



Mark your calendars now and join us for one of our favorite summer traditions! The Heights of Hope 5k & 1.5 Mile returns Saturday evening, August 8 with a DECADES theme! Every pace. Every era. One great community.

Lost & Found



April

Sage green sweater with zipper—XL
Miscellaneous jewelry & buttons

Coats

Women's black Ana coat—medium
RedHead sage green coat—XL

*** Items can be picked up in the office under the elder and deacon mailboxes***

rightnow MEDIA

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leadership . relationships . and more

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study videos for kids,
youth, and adults

rightnow MEDIA

Our church's Bible study library **is now digital...**

AND GIGANTIC.

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kids, youth, and adults.

android chromecast  iPhone & iPad **Roku**  tv firetv

www.rightnowmedia.org

Join for
FREE



Here is the QR code for Niekerk!



Gearing Up!

<https://lshelder8.wixsite.com/mission-updates>



Hi friends & fam!

It has been a few months so I wanted to send a quick update on where I am at and what I am looking forward to. :)

I have officially bought my FIRST ONE WAY TICKET and am moving to Guatemala at the beginning of March for a minimum of three months! The Lord has provided a beautiful place to call home in Panajachel. I will also have the amazing opportunity to volunteer at Eagle's Nest. So, my days will look like spending the mornings at the orphanage and afternoons studying the beautiful language and culture of Guatemala! At the orphanage, I will be involved with teams who are coming in from the states for missions trips until I know a bit more Spanish and am able to communicate with the Guatemalan staff.

I do not have any sort of Visa, so I will have to leave after 90 days. Carol is currently planning on going back to Peru in June and has invited me to go with her again, so that is the tentative plan for June. After that, I will return to Guatemala to continue studying and volunteering. I am unsure if that will be immediately after Peru or not, but when I gain clarity, I will let you all know.

Ways to pray...

- Increase in self-discipline—especially spiritual disciplines as I find new rhythms
- A good church & community of people to connect with
- Continue wisdom & discernment
- Supernatural language learning
- Faith in fundraising
- Logistics of travels

Financial Updates...

- For 2026, I am looking to raise another \$12,250 so I am able to do all I believe God has called me to.
- Beyond 2026, I am looking for people who are willing to commit to giving monthly or annually to cover living costs as a full-time missionary.
- Monthly goal \$3,500 Left to raise \$2,668.33
- Annual goal \$42,000 Left to raise \$32,020

**Since I am having to take time to learn the language and am unable to commit long-term to an organization, I am still independent from an organization and do not have any sort of giving link unfortunately. Once that option is available, I will certainly let you all know! Thank you to those who have continued to faithfully give despite not have a tax-deductible option. <3

Ways to give...

Venmo, cash, or check—reach out if you would like further information (:

Thank you for continuing to encourage, support and send your love! I am so blessed by each of you and your involvement in where God continues.

Much love,
Laura H

Hola everyone!

I wanted to let you know that I arrived safely in Guatemala at my apartment on Sunday around 9:15am CST. I had a rough go with travels this time around but am thankful to be safe and sound in my home with all of my belongings. Thank you for all your prayers! <3

This week I am focusing on settling in and figuring out the lay of the land in Panajachel and Sololá. I am also beyond blessed to have my friend Kayla here with me this week to do some of these things together. We've already learned a lot of dos and don'ts haha. Thursday I will begin studying Spanish in the afternoons. Today we are spending some time at the orphanage. I will figure out more of a routine schedule with them after this week. (:

Love & blessings,

Blessings,
Laura Helder
lshelder8@gmail.com



H2H is collecting spaghetti & Meatball cans (no larger than 16oz) and no-sugar-added applesauce cups for the month of April & May.



American Red Cross

2026 Blood Drive Dates

Monday, May 15
Wednesday, July 15
Wednesday, September 9
Wednesday, November 11

One blood donation may help save three lives.

The American Red Cross commented that Holland is in the top ten of the Michigan cities for blood donations! The average donation is 1.12 with Holland at 3.4 donations.



Church Members in Care Facilities

Royal Park Place

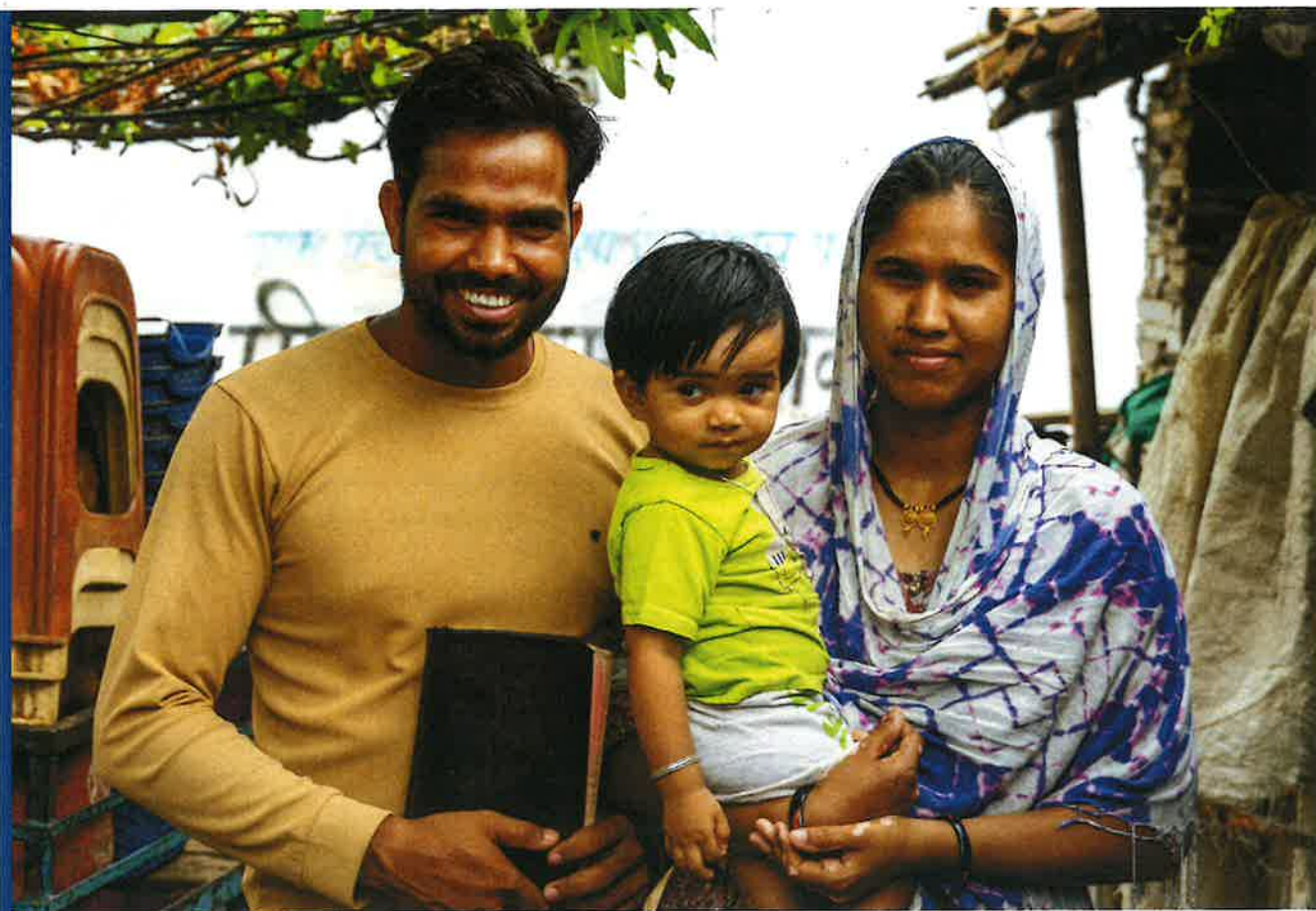
Judy Bosch
Nonie Rietman

Riley Grove

Jim & Lorraine Snay

Royal Park Atrium

Marge Boeve
Nick Ellerbroek



God's Word Takes Root Across the Globe in 2025

Your generosity carried God's Word to the hardest places—and changed lives

ASIA

Across Asia in 2025, following Jesus often came with real pressure. Political unrest, persecution, natural disasters, and government restrictions made gathering difficult and access to Scripture uncertain. Yet because of you, God's Word continued to move forward, and where it took root, joy followed.

In rural India, a man named Yuvraj (*pictured above left*) once believed his life was beyond hope. After years marked by addiction and violence, Yuvraj encountered God's Word for the first time through a Bible friend like you helped provide. As he studied Scripture and received Bible-based training, his life was transformed. Today, he leads house churches and discipled others with confidence and joy, even as persecution continues to rise.

That same joy is appearing across the region. In parts of Nepal and Bangladesh, entire villages studied God's Word together. As neighbors opened Scripture side by side, many chose to follow Jesus, which led to baptisms, new faith communities, and shared celebration. In places like Vietnam, China, Malaysia, and the Philippines, believers gathered carefully and faithfully, discovering that even quiet encounters with God's Word bring lasting joy.

Your generosity helped make this possible, even when pressure increased. So, thank you for helping make sure the Word—and the joy of God's Word—went further in Asia in 2025.

Bible League's Bible Studies

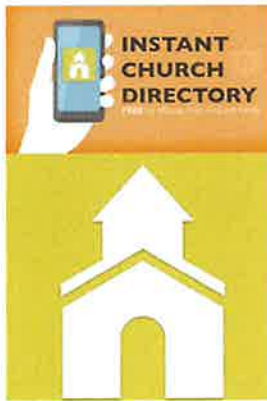
We provide Bibles and hands-on Bible study materials that teach people to walk with Jesus. And we train leaders who guide them.



We share **GIFT CARDS**
with your church!



Corners Of Your Field is a partnership between your church and our ministry. We return a portion of the value of your donation as gift cards to your church to be used with those directly in your care.



Now you can sync our church directory directly to your Apple, Android or Kindle Fire device with a FREE app!

ITS EASY!

1. Go to your device's app store.
2. Search for Instant Church Directory.
3. Enter your email as it's listed in Niekerk's directory.
4. Make a password.

NEW: If a family would like to use one email address and one password. Contact Julie Mulder.

****Contact Julie Mulder for assistance****

**How
may I
help
you?**

Contact Julie Mulder at secretary@niekerkcrc.org or 616-396-4388 if you would like to be:

1. Added to the prayer email
2. Added to the info@niekerkcrc.org email
3. If you would like a CD or DVD of the morning or evening service
4. If you would like the bulletin mailed to you
5. If you would like the newsletter mailed to you
6. If you would like the newsletter in your church mailbox



The Greener Side

InterVarsity in the Upper Peninsula

Aaron Green

1910 Robindale Drive, Houghton, MI 49931

Phone: 906-370-4835 Email: aaron.green@intervarsity.org

Growing Passion for Missions

We had nearly thirty MTU students attend Urbana Mission Conference. It was great to see the chapter thinking more about missions. Several students signed up for an InterVarsity spring break mission trip (they are returning from Belgium right now!) Some students are looking at doing a mission trip over the summer.

They've also been thinking about living missionally on campus. We've started some new Bible studies in departments and dorms, and we have a lot of students planning to move into freshmen halls to start Bible studies next year.

I've been going through a book about outreach with one of our student leaders, Noah. He was thinking about going on the mission trip over spring break. But as he was praying, God put a lot of his high school friends on his heart. He felt convicted to spend his spring break visiting those friends, bringing up spiritual conversations, and sharing the gospel with them.

It's a joy to see the MTU chapter growing in their desire to reach their friends. I've felt convicted that no matter how much we train students to share their faith or plan outreach events, we'll see little fruit unless our heart truly breaks for the lost and we learn to see people as Jesus sees them. Pray that God would continue to get ahold of these students' hearts more and more so that the gospel can go forth on our campus and in the UP.



Our MTU students at Urbana



The IV chapter working on our Winter Carnival statue



One of our many IV broomball teams. We saw several new students get involved in the chapter through broomball.

Our **VISION** IS TO SEE: **STUDENTS & FACULTY** **TRANSFORMED** campuses renewed **& WORLD CHANGERS DEVELOPED**



Give a gift to support Aaron
Give a gift toward student scholarships

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Prayer updates from our ministry with InterVarsity in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.



ReFrame Ministries

A Ministry of the Christian Reformed Church

Monthly Spotlight

reframeministries.org

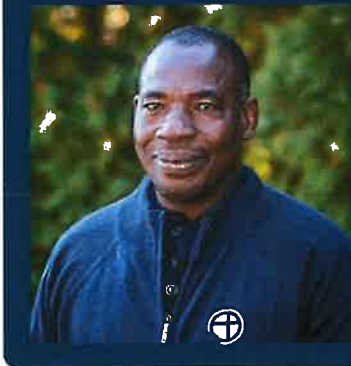
Beautiful Collaboration

When Pastor Marc reads the story of the paralyzed man in Mark 2:1–6, he sees the power of God revealed through both the Word and collaboration. As Jesus taught, the friends of the paralyzed man heard his words and were filled with faith strong enough to move them to action. Together, they dug through a roof and lowered their friend into Jesus' presence so that he could hear the words, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Pastor Marc is deeply grateful for this same spirit of collaboration today. Through partnership with ReFrame Ministries, the gospel is being shared across Burkina Faso, Chad, Niger, and Cameroon. Together, through the faithful proclamation of God's Word and shared mission, lives are being

brought before Jesus, where forgiveness, hope, and salvation are found.

Pastor Marc Nabie leads ReFrame's French Language Ministry in West Africa.



Resources for Spiritual Growth



GROUNDWORK

— BIBLICAL FOUNDATIONS FOR LIFE —

- First Bible study podcast episode aired in 2010.
- Has enjoyed 4 co-hosts over the last 16 years.
- Online archive of over 650 episodes.
- Bible study resources available for many series.



- Offers weekly kids devotionals and parent blog.
- Has over 80 audio Bible stories.
- DIY activities include: crafts, activities, videos, songs, and ebooks.
- First Kids in Action video was about four kids who swam across Lake Erie.



ReFrame Prayer Ministry

- Receives approx. 100 prayer requests weekly.
- Team consists of over 7,000 volunteers worldwide.
- Every prayer request receives a response if possible.
- Provides referrals for immediate help.

Reaching the World through Media

As the official media agency of the CRCNA, ReFrame Ministries is committed to connecting you with partners around the world who are using media to share the gospel. We work in nine languages and through special projects.

Use the QR code to visit our website, or contact info@reframeministries.org to learn more about how your support is impacting lives around the world and to explore resources to support your spiritual growth.





multiplication network

More churches, stronger churches

Thank you!



Dear Friends,

Gratitude is at the heart of the Christian life. It shapes our perspective on everything, including this past year at Multiplication Network. We are incredibly grateful for our leaders, the 17,000+ church planters who are sharing the Gospel around the world, and for **YOUR** support making this possible. Moreover, we are grateful to God, the author of our work, who supports and delights in all of us.

John Wagensell

Founder and President



global ministry results



Churches Started

17,237



People Reached With the Gospel

1,542,431



People Who Now Follow Jesus

581,273



People in Bible Studies

377,787



Scriptures Placed Globally

99,587



Churches Using the TYCP* Tool

2,718

**Take Your Church's Pulse*



multiplication network



ALEXANDER'S STORY

Ukraine



Leaders in Ukraine see Multiplication Network's training as an opportunity to jumpstart their ministries. New churches are starting and healing is taking place in churches that have experienced fatigue and devastation due to the war.

One example of a church revitalized by Stronger Churches training is Alexander's church. When Alexander and the other leaders in his church took the Stronger Churches training, he was impressed with how helpful it was. "After using the Take Your Church's Pulse tool, we

took six months to make a plan and address our issues," Alexander explained. **"We worked to apply what we learned through this training and saw a much-needed change in our congregation."**

Alexander adds that the people in his church are more united and excited to train new leaders. "We are excited to prepare new leaders to start more churches," Alexander adds. "This training should be required for all leaders and pastors. It will prepare you for ministry work and ensure each church has a solid foundation."



Frontline Church, led by Pastor Vlad, is providing hope to those affected by the war. Watch it here!

CELEBRATING

25 Years!

On September 30, Multiplication Network celebrated God's faithfulness for 25 years of starting new churches and transformation in communities.

This work has led to over 2,642,848 new believers in 76 countries! Only one person gets all the praise, honor, and glory for what has taken place these past years—the Lord Jesus Christ.

Niekerk Ministry Teams

Updated 1-20-26

<u>Council Committee</u>	<u>Chair/Contact Person</u>	<u>Team Members</u>
Community Impact Team		
Building Men for Life	Cheryl Bosch,	Deb Slenk, Joe Texer*, Ryan Texer, Margaret Timmer, Marv Venema, Sarah Walters
Growing Hope Globally	Dave Walters	
Hand2Hand Ministries	Carl Helder	Trisha Texer
Heights of Hope Rep's	Sara Heeres	
Hockey Rock	MJ Staal	Sara Heeres, Phil Helder, Steve Kragt, Jen Leenstra, Margaret Timmer
Health Pantry	Kim Walters	
	Dale Walters	
Congregational Life Team	Ken Schierbeek*	
Fellowship Team	Jan Hop &	Curt & Marcy Brower, Abby Helder, Sue Hoekstra, Mark Hop, Bob Steenwyk
	Jane Steenwyk	
Wednesday Night at Niekerk	Ken Schierbeek	Carol Keen, Bev Leegwater, Ken & Joyce Schierbeek, Bryan & Kaylin Van Dyke
Community Groups	MJ Staal/Jamie Hop	Jim Hondred, Vern Hoeksema, Greg Leenstra
Greeters/Welcome Assistant	Linda Nyhof	
Pine Rest Counseling	Carl Helder	
Newsletter Editor	Julie Mulder	
Discipleship Team	Trisha Texer	Brian Bosch, Stephanie Edewaard, Kurt Rigterink, Linda Timmer, Kaylin Van Dyke
Catechism Teachers	Kurt Rigterink*	Scott Helder (4 th -5 th), Char Janssen (6 th -7 th) Carl Helder (8 th)
Childcare/Nursery	Kaylin Van Dyke	Lindsey Haan, Renee Texer
Education Team		
Library	Marilyn Russcher	Rita Helder, Jane Steenwyk, Linda Timmer, Sandy Van Dyke
Little Lambs	Kim Walters	
Sunday Night Bible Study		Elmer & Leona Nyhof, Gary & Marilyn Russcher
Sunday School Superintendent	Kaylin Van Dyke	Abby Helder & Trisha Texer
Cadets	Jim Means	Henry Bosch, Terry Bosch, Mike Roelofs, Wayne Tjarks
GEMS	Nancy Means	Carol Hochhalter, Char Janssen, Stephanie Edewaards, Kristi Driscoll, Nancy Means, & Kaylin Van Dyke
Youth Director	Trisha Texer	
Middle School Youth Group	Trisha Texer	Melissa Dozeman, Scott & Stephanie Edewaard, Joe Texer
Youth Group	Trisha Texer	Melissa Dozeman, Scott & Stephanie Edewaard, Joe Texer
Young Adults		

Finance Team			
Financial/Member Secretary	Bryan VanDyke*		Mike Dozeman, Ivan Janssen, Brent Kapenga, Larry Van Dyke
<i>General Fund Treasurer</i>	Kathi Petroelje Mike Dozeman		
Missions Team			
Missionary Financial Support	Bryan Van Dyke*		Dave Helder, Bev Leep, Joe Texer, Wayne Tjarks
Growing Hope Globally	Carl Helder		
Prayer Team			
Oversee Prayer Activities	Dave Helder		Char Janssen, Gary Morren, Nancy Windemuller, Pastor John Nyitray
Worship Coordinator	Carol Hochhalter		
Support Team			
Administrative Assistant	Jon Boeve*		Ric Lucas, Jane Steenwyk, Mike Venema
Building Supervisors	Julie Mulder		
Custodian	Ric & Karen Lucas		
Donations	Karen Koopman		Jack Koeman, Bev Leegwater, & Karen Lucas
Emergency Response	Cheryl Bosch		Jon Boeve, Jessica Bosch & Jamie Hop
Historian	Judy Stoel		
Kitchen	Jane Steenwyk/ Jan Hop		Joyce Dalman, Elaine Helder, Verna Jansen, Char Janssen, Karen Lucas, & Linda Timmer
Media Team	Joe Texer		Julie Mulder
Safe Church			
Abuse Prevention	Jamie Hop		Jim Means, Ric Lucas
Physical Safety (Security)	Jon Boeve		
Worship Team			
Banner Changes	Carol Hochhalter*		Jamie Hop, Jen Leep, Dan Petroelje, MJ Staal
Flower/Decorations	Donna Lampen		Bonnie Nagelkirk, Jane Steenwyk
Greeter Coordinator	Linda Nyhof		
Nursery	Kaylin Van Dyke		Melanie Russcher, Renee Texer, Lindsey Haan
Visual Arts			
Power Point	Jamie Hop		Melissa Dozeman, Jan Hop, Tim Leep, Bryan Van Dyke
Sound Booth	Jamie Hop		Zeb Driscoll, Jamie Hop, Jacob Staal, Mary Jo Staal, Joe Texer

Niekerk Yellow Pages

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