

MIGHTIER THAN  
THE WAVES OF THE SEA

*is His love for you*

PSALM 93:4



**September Niekerk News 2025**

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**Prayer Line Maintained by:**

Brian Bosch

# Newsletter DEADLine

For the  
October Niekerk News is:  
September 21, 2025

**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*

“There is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.” Proverbs 18:24b

“A Friend loves at all times” Proverbs 17:17

Our friends, who live in New Jersey, visited us this past weekend. We enjoyed sweet fellowship and had a wonderful time together. Bev and Joe are friends who’ve known us since we were young. We’ve done life together. They are a gift to us.

One of the things I’ve noticed in the fellowship at Niekerk is that many of you have been blessed with such friendships. You have known each other for a long time. For some of you—all your lives! That’s a good thing and something to cherish.

When friends live far away it seems it’s easier to express our appreciation and tell them what they mean to us. Now, the truth is, we ought to freely share with “close by” friends what they mean to us too! The command in Scripture is “*encourage one another and build each other up*”. (1 Thessalonians 5:11) When is the last time you stopped, looked into the eyes of a dear friend, and thanked them for the ways they have blessed you? Have you paused to encourage them with words?

There are other kinds of friendships I see at Niekerk—just as vital to the fellowship. Each week we seek to nurture tried and true friendships and, at the same time, befriend the people the Lord is bringing into our fellowship. It is a work of joy because new relationships can bring great blessings.

The same principles apply in nurturing long-time friends as they do to welcoming new ones. We ask the Lord to give us His eyes for people. We make ourselves available to others by inviting them to join our circles of conversation. Or we can purposefully come near to someone and take the time to learn more of who they are, who they have been, and how God may be working in their lives at this time.

As we intentionally bless and value each other, we grow to experience friendships that are beyond circumstance or time because they are anchored in Jesus who is the Friend who sticks closer than a brother.

# September 2025

## *Birthdays*

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Gary Russcher	2	3 Dave Helder	4	5 Aden Tase	6
7 Bob Mulder	8 Jamie Hop	9	10 Jaxson Maas	11 Josh Wedeven Jenn Schierbeek	12 Brenda Bosch Jane Steenwyk	13
14	15	16 Deb Slenk	17 Phil Helder	18 Jack Koeman	19 Ava Kryger Chase Hoekstra	20
21 Jan Nykamp	22 Deb Eisen <b>Nancy Roelofs</b> Marcus Helder	23	24	25 Christine Van Gelderen	26 Carolyn Rietman	27 Cheryl Bosch
28	29	30				

**NIEKERK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 4, 2025, at 7:30 PM**

**Growing in Christ and Making Him Known**

01. Devotions and Opening Prayer: Carl Helder read from Philippians and opened with prayer.
02. Council Minutes of June 2, 2025, was approved as written.
03. Elders' Meeting Summary:
  - a. Carl gave a report on the Elder and Administrative Team meetings.
  - b. A proposal to move the Prayer Team under the Administration Team. This proposal was seconded and approved unanimously.
  - c. It was noted that communion will now be on the first Sunday of every other month starting in October. (Coinciding with Worldwide Communion on October 5)
04. Search Team Update: Dave Helder
  - a. Report & Discussion. A brief update on the Search Team process and where it stands. Randy shared some information from Classis regarding the process to call a pastor outside of the CRC/RCA. There was some discussion around this process.
05. Deacons' Meeting Summary as provided by Bryan Van Dyke.

The meeting was opened with devotions and prayer by Jon Boeve.

Article 1: Reviewed June 2 Deacon Meeting minutes.

Article 2: Loose Offering Collections & Schedule:

*June & July offerings confirmed*

June 1	Niekerk Christian Ed Fund	\$2,368
June 8	Heights of Hope	\$1,399
June 15	Doors of Hope	\$856
June 22	Holland Deacons' Conference	\$923
June 29	Wycliffe	\$991
July 6	Multiplication Network	\$931
July 13	Reframe Ministries	\$1,005
July 20	The Benevolent Fund	\$1,167
July 27	Positive Options	\$1,071

*September Offerings Scheduled as Follows:*

September 7	Community Impact Fund
September 14	Niekerk Christian Education Fund
September 21	The Health Pantry
September 28	InterVarsity (missionary Aaron Green)

Article 3: Benevolent Fund Balance (June & July):

June Beginning Fund Balance	\$7,002.62
How Mandy Disbursements	0
One deposit	1,565.00
July Ending Balance	\$8,567.62

Benevolent Needs Discussed.

1. Do we have any known benevolent needs inside of the congregation? A discussion was held.
2. Do we have any known benevolent needs outside of the congregation? No needs were discussed from outside of the congregation.

Article 4. Niekerk Family Mission Trip Fund

1. 2026 Niekerk Family Mission Trip to ARO is schedule for July 25-31.

Article 5. Open discussion, correspondence and other items.

1. Retiree Fall Dinner. Tentatively scheduling this for the first week of October.
2. Operation Christmas Child. Reviewed the proposal received from Jean, Sandy and Linda to again participate with the Benevolent Fund supporting the costs of the freight and booklet for the shoeboxes brought in by the congregation. The Deacons were all in agreement to continue supporting this request/program.
3. Special Donation Received. The Deacons are still considering how best to use a special donation received from the estate of a member.
4. Bravo CRC. We discussed the service week and how this went. It was noted that when the teams went to Bravo to assist with general repairs, cleaning and maintenance of the church, there were more projects and work that could be done. The Deacons will be keeping this in mind both financially and how we may further assist Bravo.

Closing Prayer by Dale Walters

Meeting Adjourned

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

<b><u>Sunday</u></b>	<b><u>Morning Worship</u></b>	<b><u>Evening Worship</u></b>
Aug 10	AM: Bill VanderHeide	PM: John Nyitray
Aug 17	AM: John Nyitray	PM: John Ouwinga
Aug 24	AM: John Nyitray	PM: Cal Compagner
Aug 31	AM: Leighton Seys	PM: Tom Pettinga
Sept 7	AM: Dr Paul Mpindi (baptism)	PM: John Nyitray
Sept 14	AM: John Nyitray	PM: Dan Roeda
Sept 21	AM: Tom Pettinga	PM: Dwayne Terpstra
Sept 28	AM: John Nyitray	PM: Dwayne Terpstra
Oct 5	AM: John Nyitray-WW Communion	PM: Dwayne Terpstra

Notes: We have pulpit supply confirmed through October 26. In October and November, we have two seminarians preaching: Tim Cacciaytore and Eric Lynch.

07. Shepherding team Minutes provided by Pastor Nyitray

- a. Report & discussion. Will meet the following week. No new report.
- b. Guest/Visitor Report. A brief discussion on the guests/visitors.

08. Next Communion Date: October 5, 2025

09. New Member, Profession of Faith, Baptism, and other membership matter provided by Joe Texer.

10. Other pressing matters: Holland Classis is set to meet on Tuesday, October 2.

11. Next meeting, September 8, 2025, at 7:30pm. Elders and Deacons Meeting at 6:30pm.

12. The meeting was adjourned.

14. Closing prayer: Matt Maas

# *September Thank You Notes*

Thank you so much for the beautiful cards, the calls, and texts that I received for my birthday. I am so thankful for the encouragement that the Niekerk family has given to me. Our God is good and He is faithful!

Magda Kos

Thank you to everyone who has been helping us with delicious meals, rides to therapy, help with yard work, visits, calls, cards and prayers. You have been the hands of Christ. It's so good to be part of the loving community at Niekerk.

Cal & Deb Schierbeek

My heart is full of gratitude. Thanks to Pastor John and Gary Meiste for home communion with Wayne and I. Thanks for the many visits from Jake and Jan Boeve. Thanks to all of you for the prayer support, the phone calls, the visits, the food, even receiving help in fine tuning Wayne's obituary. I truly felt loved, cared for and supported. Even the hospice nurse joked with me about my strong support system. I am truly blessed to be a member of Niekerk. Thanks be to God.

Virginia Alofs

Thank you for all the birthday cards, calls and prayers I received for my 86th birthday.

Virginia Alofs

Dear Niekerk Fellowship,

Thank you so very much for embracing Dad into your family. Thank you for all the cards and prayers. Dad appreciated you all so much, as do we, his family. We can't thank you enough!

The Cliff Prins Family

Psalm 32:8 "The Lord says, 'I will guide you along the best pathway for your life, I will advise you and watch over you'"

Thank you Niekerk family for the many prayers lifted up and the love and concern shown to Noah Brinks, his family and to us his grandparents during and after Noah's surgeries! God is so good and He is in control! We will keep you updated on his recovery.

Bob & Linda Nyhof,  
Tim & Sheryl, Noah, Micah, Lydia & Ezra Brinks

Thank you for all the birthday cards and well wishes for my 81st birthday.

Carolyn Jacobsen

Niekerk family,

Thank you for prayers, calls, visits, texts and cards following my injury. Your support for my family is humbling. Niekerk is a special place. God is so good!

Jon Boeve



# September Thank You Notes

I would like to thank the congregation for the many cards, calls and for coming to my birthday open house.

I thank God for blessing me with 100 years of life and being able to be as good as I am. I thank my children for all the time and work they put into it. God bless you all!

Ida Janssen

Niekerk Family,

Where do we begin to let you know how much you mean to us? We are so thankful for all the prayers, cards, food and other gifts! We can honestly feel all the prayers going up for us! One thing that meant the world to us is when the congregation sang *It Is Well* for us. Niekerk sings their hearts out on that song and it is our favorite! We are in total peace and accept God's plan for us. We are thankful that Pam has been experiencing some pain free days and an increased appetite, which is helping build strength and mobility. Answered prayers for sure! We continue to ask you to keep praying for us as God definitely hears them! Again, thank you for everything! This is what gets us through every day - "We don't know what the future holds, but we know who holds the future!"

Jerry and Pam Holmes

A note here to express appreciation for the conversations, prayers and cards over this last month of radiation treatments, which finished this past Friday (August 28). I'm doing well. The results won't be known for some time; I will post again next month.

Lou Wagenveld

Hello Niekerk!

We are so blessed to have your support of our ministry! It is a joy to work with college students to reach the campus and see their lives transformed by Christ. And we have a huge group of students planning to attend Urbana Mission Conference this winter. Your giving helps make all this possible. Thank you!

Aaron Green

Lost  
&  
Found



## September

Pink water bottle with stickers  
Miscellaneous jewelry & buttons

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





## Little Update on the Care Portal

At Niekerk we believe that God calls us to be His hands and feet in the world. The CarePortal is one of the beautiful ways we get to live that out—meeting practical needs in our community and sharing Christ's love in tangible ways.

The CarePortal connects churches directly with social workers and families in crisis. When a need arises—whether it's a bed for a child, groceries for a struggling parent, or

needed supplies for local organizations—the request is shared with local churches who can step in and meet it. Each request is an opportunity to bring hope, dignity, and compassion.

This summer, there has been many requests on the care portal and because of your generosity Niekerk has been able to meet several needs.

As I was shopping for packs of markers that LAUP (Latin Americans For Progress) requested a few weeks ago I was very encouraged as two different gentlemen came up to me during that shop and wanted to know what the markers were for. They ended up being fully paid for between the two men and Niekerk was then able to meet another need of a family needing clothes and shoes for a child.

Another story happened on the night of the Heights Hope 5K. I had committed to school supplies for a first grade boy. The social worker had connected me with the mother the day before and she had mentioned we could meet in a park because they were living in their car right now. We had talked about meeting up on Monday. However, I ended up not staying long at the 5K Because I felt the Holy Spirit press on me to get those school supplies now and ask her if I could bring them to the park that evening. I texted with her when I got to Meijer to ask if I could get her anything else while I was there. She said " Maybe just a snack for my son and some water would be wonderful because it's so hot out here." I was able to bring her multiple different food items and water along with a gift card for gas. She and her son were very grateful and she was excited to tell me that her husband just got a job and so did her brother. That they were expecting to be able to be in a motel by Monday. Thankfully, checking in with her a few days later they were able to get into a Motel.

Stories like these remind us of the power of the body of Christ when we come together. Every need met is more than just an item—it is a testimony of God's faithfulness.

We invite you to continue to join us in this ministry: by praying for families, serving when needs arise, or giving to help sustain the work. Together, we can continue to be the light of Christ to those in our community who need it most.

"Let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." – 1 John 3:18

Sara Walters  
Deb Slenk

## September & October DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

September 8	Council Meeting
September 10	Senior (65+) Singles
September 11	Men's Bible Study
September 17	Wednesday Night at Niekerk
September 18	Men's Bible Study
September 23	Women's Bible Study
September 25	Men's Bible Study
September 26	Monthly Prayer Meeting
September 30	Women's Bible Study
October 1	Wednesday Night at Niekerk
October 2	Men's Bible Study
October 6	Council Meeting
October 7	Women's Bible Study
October 8	Senior (65+) Singles
October 9	Men's Bible Study
October 14	Women's Bible Study
October 16	Men's Bible Study
	The Great Pumpkin Party
October 21	Women's Bible Study
October 22	Wednesday Night at Niekerk
October 28	Women's Bible Study
October 30	Men's Bible Study
October 31	Monthly Prayer Meeting

## 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.



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

## Shared Meals



The freezer has Chicken Alfredo Casserole, Chicken Lasagna, Beef Lasagna, Mexican Chicken Alfredo Casserole, Meatloaf & Cheesy hashbrowns, Mac-n-Cheese, Taco Bake, Chicken Bacon Ranch Casserole, Chicken Broccoli Rice Casserole, Chicken Pot Pie, Beef Enchiladas, Poppyseed Chicken Casserole, Tater Tot Casserole 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.



## **Ladies Getaway!**

Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday  
November 11, 12 & 13

- Come join us for a fun getaway at the Farmstead Inn in Shipshewana, Indiana.
- Have fun shopping at the many unique stores!
- Work on your favorite craft or quilting project!
- See the play "The Christmas Candy Caper" at the Blue Gate Theater!
- Just come and relax and enjoy some wonderful fellowship, great food, and many laughs!
- Sign up at the Information Center!
- For questions, contact Deb Bosch at 616-392-8635.

**The last day to sign up is October 5!**



# **The Great Pumpkin Party**

at Niekerk Church

Reserve Thursday , October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

5:30-7:30p.m.

for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Pumpkin Party!

*Please join us as we look forward to this  
time of fellowshiping with our  
neighbors and friends!*

Also please consider signing up to help!  
We are in need of over 50 of us to help in  
various ways; watch for the sign ups!



## Operation Christmas Child

This fall, Niekerk is promoting Operation Christmas Child, which is a project of Samaritan's Purse. Samaritan's Purse is a part of the Franklin Graham organization.

By October 5, cardboard boxes will be available for you to take home to fill with items for children ages 2-14.

These boxes will be distributed by Samaritan's Purse to children around the world before Christmas.

A list of gender specific gift suggestions for each age group (i.e. 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14) will be available when boxes are ready for you to pick up. Please check the pamphlet attached to your "shoebox" of the items **NOT** to place in your "shoebox." This year **NO SOAP** has been added to the list. Samaritan's Purse will add the gospel message to each box. You can make a huge difference in a child's life by participating in Operation Christmas Child!

**\*\*Niekerk Church will cover the \$10 cost for shipping etc., thank you, Council!\*\***

Please return your shoeboxes by October 26!



THANK YOU  
**NIEKERK!**



Wow, Niekerk! Thanks for showing up and being amazing! With 73 people participating in the 5k in some way, you helped make this year's race incredible! Whether you were running, walking, creating one of the spectacular, Candy Land-themed Road Warrior stations, sponsoring racers, donating raffle prizes, serving on the race team, or coming out to cheer, you brought your energy, creativity, and generosity.

It was such a beautiful picture of the body of Christ in action! We are so grateful for your partnership, your willingness to serve, and the way you reflect God's love in our community.

The Heights of Hope Team





# NURSERY SCHEDULE

## October

- 8-5 AM** Carol Venema  
Pat Texer  
PM Dawn Folkert  
Linda Timmer
- 8-12 AM** Melinda Kryger  
Kathi Petroelje  
PM Dana Hondred  
Kaylin Van Dyke
- 8-19 AM** Kathie Helder  
Renee & Emma Texer  
PM Sara Heeres  
Deb Slenk
- 8-26 AM** Sandy Van Dyke  
Jenn Schierbeek  
PM Jessica Schutter  
Kris Roelofs

## September

- 9-7 AM** Dana Hondred  
Sara Heeres  
PM Kaylin Van Dyke  
Jenn Schierbeek
- 9-14 AM** Jessica Schutter  
Deb Slenk  
PM Kris Roelofs  
Sandy Van Dyke
- 9-21 AM** Laura Vander Zwaag  
Lindsey Haan  
PM Abby Helder  
Char Janssen
- 9-28 AM** Margaret Timmer  
Sue Hoekstra  
PM Trisha Texer  
Lisa Kragt



# CHURCH SECURITY

## August

- September 7** Mike Venema
- September 14** Jon Boeve
- September 21** Carl Helder  
Marcus Helder  
PM Carl Helder
- September 28** Brenen Louwerse  
Terry Bosch  
PM Terry Bosch

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



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

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS at NIEKERK**

### **FALL 2025**

The fellowship, the delicious and nutritious meals plus interesting programs of WNN will continue to enrich life here at Niekerk Church. As always, feel free to invite family and friends to join us. The dates are September 17, October 1 & 22, November 5 & 19 and December 3.

The food line will be open from 5:20 – 6:30 PM with the salad bar offered with each meal except for the Thanksgiving dinner. Meals such as pork BBQ, tacos, beef BBQ, ham & cheesy potatoes, the turkey dinner with all the trimmings and Chicken and Ritz will be prepared by food teams and served by members of various committees. Upon occasion, members of Community Groups will be scheduled to serve and clean up. A sincere THANK YOU in advance to everyone who helps makes these meals a huge success.

#### **PROGRAMS:**

September 17 - outdoor activities for kids and a bonfire with 'smares for everyone  
(take your lawn chairs)

October 1- Dr Jeffrey Weima – *Paul the Man*

November 5 – Dr. Jeffrey Weima - *Paul the Missionary*

-A nursery with craft activities will be available after each meal

-Kids Swim will be offered on October 1 and November 5

The WNN Committee is pleased to be able to share this information with you and thank you for your attendance and participation.

Ken (chairman) and Joyce Schierbeek, Bryan and Kaylin VanDyke, Bev Leegwater, Carol Keen and Jim Lampen



**NIEKERK CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
**Catechism and Sunday School Calendar**  
**2025-26**  
**10:45 – 11:45 AM**

October 5	Regular Class	
October 12	Regular Class	
October 19	Regular Class	
October 26	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>CEA Convention</b>
November 2	Regular Class	
November 9	Regular Class	
November 16	Regular Class	
November 23	Regular Class	
November 30	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Break</b>
December 7	Regular Class	
December 14	Regular Class	
December 21	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Christmas Break</b>
December 28	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Christmas Break</b>
January 4	Regular Class	
January 11	Regular Class	
January 18	Regular Class	
January 25	Regular Class	
February 1	Regular Class	
February 8	Regular Class	
February 15	<b>NO CLASS</b>	<b>Winter Break</b>
February 22	Regular Class	
March 1	Regular Class	
March 8	Regular Class	
March 15	Regular Class	
March 22	Regular Class	
March 29	Regular Class	

Updated 7-31-25



## 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](mailto:aaron.green@intervarsity.org)

## New Students Arrive Today!

Freshmen are moving into MTU today—and our IV students are ready to meet them. Nearly thirty of our IV students moved back to Houghton one week early solely to reach out and fellowship with these new students.

I will be on campus to pray with our IV students every day this week and to help them share their faith and build connections with freshmen who range from excitedly looking for Christian fellowship to no faith whatsoever but open to hearing more.

And I will spend most of the next week working at NMU and Bay College doing the same thing when new freshmen arrive there.

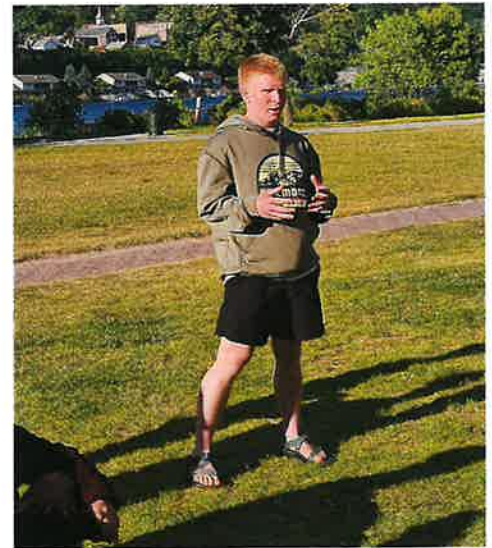
There are many temptations that can pull college students away from Jesus, or keep them from exploring faith in the first place. Pray that God would help us to plug believers into vibrant fellowship that will change their life, and pray that God would prepare good soil in the hearts of curious non-Christians who will meet us these weeks and hear more about Jesus.

How you can pray:

- Pray for great conversations with new students.
- Pray our students would grow in their heart for lost students and in their ability to share the gospel.
- I am giving a talk about finding abundant life in Jesus on each of our three campuses in the coming days. Pray that students would hear God through this talk and that we would see fruit as we follow up with these students individually.
- Our staff team in the UP is down to two of us. Pray that God would use the little we have to offer and multiply it to reach many. And pray that the Lord would raise up more workers – especially more IV staff – to reach the rich harvest field of UP college students!



Our students met last night to pray and make plans to reach out to freshmen this week



John, one of our student leaders, challenges our group to share their faith with non-Christian friends.

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

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

[Give a gift to support Aaron](#)

[Give a gift toward student scholarships](#)



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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](mailto: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](mailto: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



Restoring  
Hope  
Missions

# Newsletter

*Restoring Hope by sharing Jesus with a broken world.*



FALL 2025

It is our joy and privilege  
to work as co-laborers  
with the Creator in  
extending His Kingdom  
over

One more life  
One more family  
One more community

\*Start where you are  
\*Use what you have  
\*Do what you can

And don't be afraid.  
Our mission is to share  
Jesus with a broken  
world.

## These Past Months

*Restoring Hope Missions has recently  
partnered with these projects:*



7 "He has shown you, O mortal,  
what is good. And what does the  
Lord require of you? To act justly  
and to love mercy and to walk  
humbly with your God. Micah 6:8

\*This summer we partnered  
with Partners Relief and  
Development to provide 41  
households with funds to  
rebuild following the March  
28<sup>th</sup> earthquake in Myanmar.

\*RHIM partnered with Serv  
Int'l to do food distribution to  
Christian school children in  
Kenya and Uganda.

\*The Precious Beloved  
Christian School structure in  
Uganda has been completed  
with funding from RHIM  
donors.

## Golf Outing Fundraiser THANK YOU!...

*Restoring Hope Missions thanks you so much for  
your amazing support! Over \$18,000 was raised  
on August 21<sup>st</sup> at the Ravines Golf Course for our  
annual Golf Outing! All funds earned go directly to  
families and communities in physical and spiritual  
need of assistance in third world countries.*



*Thank you to  
our hole  
sponsors, our  
teams, and all  
those who  
donated  
toward the  
event!*

*RHIM Board Members:*

*Craig and Deb Brink  
Eric and Jill Louwerse  
Steve and Julie Meyaard  
Daryl and Brenda Van Dyke  
Doug and Lisa Wedeven*

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY – FALL 2025**  
**Tuesday mornings from 9:30 am – 10:45 am**  
**September 23, 30 – October 7, 14, 21, 28 – November 4, 11**

Abide ... an old English word meaning “remain” ... “stay steady” ... “keep your position. What does it mean “to abide in Christ” in John 14-17?

It means ... always to be resting in Him.

It means ... always to be anchored to Him.

It means ... always to be fixed in Him and drawing to Him.

It means ... continually connected to Him and in touch with Him.

Abiding in Him brings peace and joy and love.

Abiding in Him brings answers to prayer.

Abiding in Him brings fruitfulness to service.

Come join us this Fall 2025 as we study the following book “**Abiding in Christ**” by J. I Packer and Carolyn Nystrom.

This is for **women of all ages** – single, married, widowed – young or young at heart. **Bring along a friend!**

The cost of the book is covered by the Niekerk Council.

The signup sheet and a copy of the book are at the Information Center.

If you have questions, please call or email Char Janssen.

Char Janssen

Phone 616-772-6537 (landline)

Cell phone 616-210-2251

Email [johncharjanssen@yahoo.com](mailto:johncharjanssen@yahoo.com)





## **LIFE. The Other Choice!**

**The Trump Administration is now withholding \$20.6 million of Title X funding to Planned Parenthood. This has impacted 879 clinics across 23 states of which 20 clinics have been shut down. 4 clinics in MI have shut down and 2 in Ann Arbor are now 1 clinic.**

**Questions and Answers from a former Planned Parenthood (PP) director, Mayra Rodriguez. She grew up in Mexico City, but attended HS in the U.S. She was recruited by PP because she spoke Spanish. Mayra finally left and is now working with Abby Johnson's ministry, And Then There Were None.**

♦ **Planned Parenthood offers other services—but what's the company really about?**

Planned Parenthood exists for abortions. When I started, we were doing colonoscopies, cryosurgery, tests to determine cervical cancer on patients. I suggested expanding those services, but they said "No, there's no money in that." It was all about how to expand abortions, how to make them faster, how to make it so we can see more abortion patients every day. They don't care about people. It's just a corporation that makes multimillion dollars globally profiting from women and babies.

♦ **How did all this impact your faith?**

I'm a Christian, and my faith is important to me. I was raised in—and I'm still very active in - the Catholic church. It's by the faith of many people praying for me that I'm here today. But, through the years, I drifted from my faith little by little. I remember making excuses to my mother. "I don't do abortions, Mom. I'm on the other side - the "good side" of PP. I used my two years during the lawsuit to get healing... going back to my religion, to my faith. And now, literally everything I do is because of Him — for His glory, and because it's the right side of things.

♦ **Talk about the work of And Then There Were None.**

And Then There Were None is an organization started by Abby Johnson, another former director for PP. We help abortion workers leave the industry and find a right path where they can still help women. The point is to help them heal the trauma, to guide them into the love of God and follow Jesus. So far, we've worked with over 700 abortion workers in the US. We help them with counseling, financial coaching, schooling, finding grants or scholarships, or pursuing their certifications.

♦ **Why is it important to you to support Alliance for Defending Freedom (ADF)?**

It's important what ADF does - having someone who will protect our freedom, especially in a country where many of us moved to find that freedom. Right now, in England, they're trying to prevent people from praying outside abortion clinics. I have seen what praying on the sidewalk does to help women, and I know ADF is making sure that all those freedoms and rights are protected.



## SAVE THE DATE!

Focus on Life annual fundraising dinner will be held on Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at The Pinnacle Center, Hudsonville.

Guest speaker: Ellen Salter, she lives the prolife message in a powerful way. Her journey will touch your heart!



Ticket Cost - Checks or Cash ONLY:

**\$60 Individual**

**with a 10% savings when buying a table**

**8 Top - \$432**

**9 Top - \$486**

**10 Top - \$540**

**Questions? Call Ann 616.396.1037 or email:**  
***awilson.rtl@gmail.com***

***Reserve today by mailing in your payment!***

In the world of pregnancy care, there are two main sides of the coin: the life-affirming and attentive services of a Pregnancy Resource Center (PRC) or the radical, abortion-obsessed Planned Parenthood. A woman who is going through an unexpected pregnancy, or a pregnancy she feels she does not have the support or means to keep, is likely to seek out help from an organization who claims to help with pregnancy care. PRCs do exactly that; they support women both emotionally and with baby items, prenatal classes, and a variety of services to help women make the choice for life. Planned Parenthood, however, greets women with one option: abortion.

Planned Parenthood falsely claims that they are the "leading provider of high-quality, affordable health care." The services they champion, however, are anything but health care.

Abortion is not health care.

**Abortion kills twice. It kills the body of the baby and it kills the conscience of the mother.  
Abortion is profoundly anti-woman.  
Three-quarters of its victims are women:  
Half the babies and all the mothers."  
— Mother Teresa**

## Important Dates and INFORMATION

- ♦ October 5, 2025 Annual Life Chain in Holland on River Avenue between 10th and 12th Streets. Invite your friends, family, church groups - All Welcome! We will provide the signs or you can make your own (no HONK IF... signs).
- ♦ Annual Fundraising Dinner - October 21st at The Pinnacle; guest speaker: Ellen Slater. You can reserve a table by mailing your check into our office: 607 Heritage Court, Holland, MI 49423

To visit our website directly: Use your cellphone camera, center on the QR code below (should see a yellow square) and press OPEN on your camera screen.

Find out information on our events and other prolife information, download flyers or registration forms and you can make donations directly to us by using PayPal.





## Niekerk Ministry Teams

Updated 8-13-25

<u>Council Committee</u>	<u>Chair/Contact Person</u>	<u>Team Members</u>
<b>Community Impact Team</b>		
Building Men for Life	Cheryl Bosch,	Deb Slenk, Joe Texer*, Ryan Texer, Marv Venema, Brenda Van Dyke, Sarah Walters
Growing Hope Globally	Dave Walters	
Hand2Hand Ministries	Carl Helder	Lisa Wedeven, 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	
<b>Congregational Life Team</b>	<b>Ken Schierbeek*</b>	
<b>Fellowship Team</b>	Jan Hop &	Curt & Marcy Brower, Abby Helder, Sue Hoekstra, Mark Hop, Bob Steenwyk
	Jane Steenwyk	
<b>Wednesday Night at Niekerk</b>	Carl Helder	Carol Keen, Bev Leegwater, Ken & Joyce Schierbeek, Bryan & Kaylin Van Dyke
<b>Community Groups</b>	MJ Staal/Jamie Hop	Jim Hondred, Vern Hoeksema, Greg Leenstra
Greeters/Welcome Assistant	Linda Nyhof	
Pine Rest Counseling	Carl Helder	
Newsletter Editor	Julie Mulder	
<b>Discipleship Team</b>		
Catechism Teachers	Trisha Texer	Brian Bosch, Stephanie Edewaard, Kurt Rigtterink, Linda Timmer, Kaylin Van Dyke
Childcare/Nursery	<b>Kurt Rigtterink*</b>	Scott Helder (4 <sup>th</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup> ), Char Janssen (6 <sup>th</sup> -7 <sup>th</sup> ) Carl Helder (8 <sup>th</sup> )
Education Team	Kaylin Van Dyke	Lindsey Haan, Renee Texer
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		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		

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

# Niekerk Yellow Pages

**Tekton Ceramic Tile LLC**  
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tomhochhalter@gmail.com



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**Holland, MI 49423**



**Firewood**  
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**Holland, MI 49423**

**Mike Venema**  
**Carpet Cleaning**  
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