

## PART 2: THE ROAD TO AMERICA

The years following the 1834 Secession were brutal for the newly formed, independent congregations. Utilizing an old Napoleonic penal code, the government declared that any unauthorized religious gatherings of more than twenty people were strictly illegal. Royal soldiers were quartered in seceding towns to enforce the law, and pastors—including Hendrik de Cock—were frequently arrested, heavily fined, or even imprisoned. Believers lost their livelihoods, their businesses were boycotted, and their families faced relentless harassment on the streets.

By the mid-1840s, a devastating potato blight struck Europe, plunging these already persecuted congregations into severe economic starvation. Realizing they had no future in their homeland, leaders like Albertus Van Raalte made a monumental decision: they would lead their flocks across the Atlantic to the United States. They weren't looking for standard financial wealth; they were looking for a wilderness where they could farm, build homes, and establish a pure, independent church free from government interference. This Great Migration of 1846 was the direct birth of the Dutch-American settlements in Michigan and Iowa, setting the stage for the historic lineage that would eventually extend all the way to our own ridge.

## Church Calendar

### This Week July 12

Door Monitor- Andrew van der Meer  
Sound- Paul Cusack  
Video- Dan Grimm  
Projector- Phil Verrengia  
Nursery- Kristen Tolsma, Sally Ruitenber  
KidsChurch- Jeanne Bushoven, Sandy Ruit  
Coffee- Ed & Laura Lotz  
Prayers Of The People- Krissy Vande Vrede  
Children's Message- Kathy Faasse  
KidSpace- SUMMER BREAK  
Chosen-SUMMER BREAK

### Next Week July 19

Door Monitor- Steve Ruit  
Sound- Paul Cusack  
Video- Paul Cusack  
Projector- John Belanus  
Nursery- Karen Spano, Janet Jacobs  
KidsChurch- Sally Ruitenber, Kristen Tolsma  
Coffee- Bob & Janet Jacobs  
Prayers Of The People-  
Children's Message- Bill Faasse  
KidSpace- SUMMER BREAK  
Chosen-SUMMER BREAK

### Second Collections:

July 12- New Hope

July 19-ECISA

July 26- Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center



Rev. John Sideco  
Jay & Jess Everett, Worship Leader

July 12, 2026

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### GATHERING SONG- "FOREVER"

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

### \*GOD'S GREETING & MUTUAL GREETING

### \*SONG OF PRAISE- "GOD SO LOVED"

### CALL TO CONFESSION- "SPIRIT, OPEN MY HEART"

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### SONG OF ASSURANCE- "SPIRIT, OPEN MY HEART"

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERING

*SPECIAL COLLECTION- NEW HOPE*

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### \*SONG OF PREPARATION- "SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US"

### PRAYER FOR THE LIGHT OF THE SPIRIT

### SCRIPTURE- 1 THESSALONIANS 4: 1-12

### SERMON- "KNOWING GOD'S WILL"

### \*SONG OF RESPONSE- "TAKE MY LIFE (I AM YOURS)"

### \*BENEDICTION

### \*DOXOLOGY- "MAY THE PEACE OF GOD"

### POSTLUDE

**TIME OF FELLOWSHIP**  
**EVERYONE IS INVITED FOR COFFEE, REFRESHMENTS**  
**& FELLOWSHIP IN THE BARN**

\*Please rise, in body or in spirit

~ Deep Roots, Fresh Growth ~

**TODAY, July 12,**

- Is the eighth Sunday of Pentecost
- We will welcome Rev. John Sideco to lead us in worship

**NEXT SUNDAY, July 19,**

- Is the ninth Sunday of Pentecost
- We will welcome John Dyksen to lead us in worship

#### **FAITH COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Pastor Moses** will be on study leave and vacation from 6/22-7/24. If you need anything in his absence, please contact your Elder. Our pastors in his absence will be John Sideco (7/12) and John Dyksen (7/19).

**The church office** will be closed 7/12-7/19.

**We still have room** available in our VBS program this summer. All children 4-years-old through sixth grade are invited to attend *Snowball Mountain Challenge* August 17-21 from 9 a.m. - 12 noon each day. Register or volunteer through our church website and invite your friends!

**VBS volunteer needed!** If you would be willing to lead our recreation sessions for the children at VBS, we would be thrilled for you to join us. We have your assistant ready to go and just need an adult available for any days the week of August 17. Please contact Jan at 551-427-4647.

**From the Deacons:** New Hope is running low on food and is requesting help from supporting churches. The Deacons are organizing a food drive. There is an insert in the bulletin with suggested items and there will be a basket in the back of church for the donations. Thank you for your support!

#### **REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center** is hosting its Annual Young Adults Bowling for Life Night on Tuesday, July 21, at Bowlero in Fair Lawn. Anyone between the ages of 17-30ish is invited to join Lighthouse for a night of fun and raising funds to support women and men facing unexpected pregnancies! Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. Price includes shoes, 2 hours of bowling, pizza, soft drinks, arcade games and prizes! Bowlers are encouraged to break out the bell bottoms, sequins, and platform bowling shoes to come dressed in their best disco-themed outfit to compete for a prize – individually and as a team! Bringing a pack of diapers or baby wipes will earn extra raffle tickets and help Lighthouse stock their shelves to support families in need! Bowlers can sign up individually, with a few friends, or register as a team of 6 to 8. See Kelly for more information or to register.

**Biblical Study Tour to Italy** (April 12-22, 2027): Visit the Vatican with its Sistine Chapel and St. Peter's Cathedral; the impressive monuments of ancient Rome; Hadrian's Villa; Pompeii and Mt. Vesuvius; the spectacular Amalfi Coast; and much more! Join Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading biblical scholar, for this inspirational tour. Contact Dr. Weima at weimje@calvinseminary.edu or 616-328-3110.

#### **DENOMINATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip-** In the Northern Hemisphere this time of year is filled with longer days and sunnier weather, allowing many of us to spend more time outdoors. In Psalm 19, David speaks of the many ways creation displays the glory of God and his creative work. Take some intentional time this week to notice something specific in God's creation and to give God thanks for it. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive).

**Kids Corner Devotions: Who Taught You About Jesus?** - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Who Taught You About Jesus?" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Everyone learns about Jesus from someone special—just like Timothy, who heard amazing stories about God from his mom and grandma. Who is someone in your life you can learn from—and what awesome God story will you explore together next? Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like Family Practices for Family Collection.

#### **OUR FAITH COMMUNITY FAMILY**

Betty Youngsman wishes to thank everyone for the many cards and calls for her 94th birthday. They were so appreciated. God is good!

Lou Spano has been moved to Christian Health for rehabilitation. Please keep Lou & Karen in your prayers.

Please pray for *Carrie Johnson* (wife of Rev. Michael Johnson of Cedar Hill Church) as she undergoes cancer treatment.



7/15 Olivia Calaski

7/17 Frank Dykstra

7/18 Benjamin Miller

**2<sup>nd</sup> collections recap:  
7/5/26-  
Missions, \$802**