

PART 3: THE AMERICAN UNION

When Albertus van Raalte and his bedraggled group of settlers arrived in the forests of western Michigan in 1847, survival was their immediate priority. Struggling with disease, harsh winters, and the sheer physical exhaustion of clearing the wilderness, these new immigrants desperately needed structural and financial support. In 1850, Van Raalte made a strategic decision to align his young Midwestern congregations with the old, established REFORMED PROTESTANT DUTCH CHURCH based in New York and New Jersey (later known as the RCA). This historic denomination had been in America since the 1620s. For a brief moment, it seemed like a perfect match: the weary immigrants received crucial financial aid, classical connections, and a shared theological heritage, allowing their infant settlements in Michigan and Iowa to successfully take root.

Church Calendar

This 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

Next Week July 26

Door Monitor- Jim Calaski
Sound- Paul Cusack
Video- Jon Englishmen
Projector- Emily Lotz
Nursery- Sue Grimm, Mark Tolsma
KidsChurch- Bev Smid, Alyssa Morin
Coffee- Roy & Jeanne Bushoven
Prayers Of The People- Pastor Moses
Children's Message- Barb Belanus
KidSpace- SUMMER BREAK
Chosen-SUMMER BREAK

Second Collections:

July 19-ECSA

July 26- Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center



John Dyksen
Krissy Vande Vrede, Worship Leader

July 19, 2026

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG- "THE HEAVENS DECLARE YOUR GLORY"

*CALL TO WORSHIP

*GOD'S GREETING & MUTUAL GREETING

*SONG OF PRAISE- "TO GOD BE THE GLORY"

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- ECSA

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*SONG OF PREPARATION- "SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD"

PRAYER FOR THE LIGHT OF THE SPIRIT

SCRIPTURE- HEBREWS 11: 8-16

SERMON- "LONGING FOR A BETTER COUNTRY"

*SONG OF RESPONSE- "JERUSALEM, THE GOLDEN"

*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 19,

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

NEXT SUNDAY, July 26,

- Is the tenth Sunday of Pentecost

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.

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!

Do you like games? Do you like to play? Do you like working with children? If so, we have the perfect opportunity for you! We are looking for a volunteer to lead our recreation time for VBS. If you have always wanted to lead a *Laundry Basket Bobsled Race* or participate in *Widow's Offering Hockey* or a *Snowball Scoop*, this is what you've been waiting for! Even if you can commit to only one or two days the week of August 17, you would be an invaluable part of our team! Please see Kelly in the office or let Linda Van Lenten, Bev Bentley, Carol Dunning or Jan Kuiken know that you would like to step out in faith and help in this way!

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

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.

OUR FAITH COMMUNITY FAMILY

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



7/23 Steve Ruit

7/25 Joey Vande Vrede

7/26 John Belanus

