

## PART 1: THE SPARK OF SECESSION

By the early 1800s, the spiritual vitality of the Dutch state church had withered under heavy government control. King William I altered the church's historic structure, allowing the crown to appoint officials, marginalize the authority of the historic confessions, and actively silence pastors who spoke out against modern, secular ideas. Conflict erupted when the state forced the introduction of new, government-mandated hymns into weekly worship, overriding the congregation's desire to stick strictly to the biblical Psalms. The church that had been bought with the blood of martyrs during the Reformation had effectively become an arm of the state bureaucracy.

The breaking point arrived in October of 1834 in the small northern village of Ulrum. A young, passionate pastor named HENDRIK DE COCK refused to comply with the government's theological compromises. He was officially suspended by state-controlled boards for preaching orthodox Calvinism and defending historic doctrines. In response, his entire congregation gathered to sign the "Act of Secession and Return," officially breaking away from the state church. This brave, highly illegal move became known as the AFSCHIEDING. It ignited a wildfire of spiritual resistance across the Netherlands, as thousands of believers chose to face heavy fines, property seizure, and intense social exile rather than compromise the purity of the gospel.

## Church Calendar

### This Week July 5

Door Monitor- Dave Ruitenber  
Sound- Paul Cusack  
Video- Jon Englishmen  
Projector- Dan Vande Vrede  
Nursery- Karen Spano, Renee Kobovitch  
KidsChurch- Kathy Faasse, Liam Faasse, Abigail Faasse  
Coffee- Trudie Pruiksma, Ruth Mulder  
Prayers Of The People- Dave Dykhous  
Children's Message- Krissy Vande Vrede  
KidSpace- SUMMER BREAK  
Chosen-SUMMER BREAK

### Next 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

### Second Collections:

July 5- Missions

July 12-New Hope

July 19-ECOSA

July 26- Lighthouse Pregnancy Resource Center



Rev. Phil Lee  
Rob Flim, Worship Leader

July 5, 2026

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GATHERING SONG-** "SALVATION BELONGS TO OUR GOD"

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

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

### \*SONG OF PRAISE- "BEHOLD OUR GOD"

**CALL TO CONFESSION-** "GOD BE MERCIFUL TO ME"

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**SONG OF ASSURANCE-** "FOR THE BEAUTY OF THE EARTH"

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### OFFERING

*SPECIAL COLLECTION- MISSIONS*

### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

**\*SONG OF PREPARATION-** "COME, THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"

### PRAYER FOR THE LIGHT OF THE SPIRIT

**SCRIPTURE-** LUKE 15: 11-32

**SERMON-** "PARABLE OF THE GOOD FATHER"

**\*SONG OF RESPONSE-** "GOOD, GOOD FATHER"

### \*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 5,

- Is the seventh Sunday of Pentecost
- We will welcome Rev. Phil Lee to lead us in worship

**NEXT SUNDAY**, July 12,

- Is the eighth Sunday of Pentecost
- We will welcome Rev. John Sideco 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 Phil Lee (7/5), John Sideco (7/12) and John Dyksen (7/19).

**The Christian Singles** are planning to meet at 6 pm on July 11<sup>th</sup> in the Barn for a “Sandwich and Show.” We plan to have sandwiches at 6 pm followed by a Christian movie starting at 7pm. For more information contact Carol at 973-523-5072 or email cdunningCSNJ@gmail.com.

**The July/August** Todays are available in the narthex.

**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**

**Preakness Valley United Reformed Church** will be hosting an outdoor patriotic concert on Saturday, July 11 at 7pm featuring The Chapel Concert Band. Invite your family and friends to join us for an evening of fellowship and patriotic music as we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> birthday of our country!

**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-** Is it hot outside today? Here in the Northern Hemisphere it is summer, and the temperatures have climbed. Do you like that? Or would you rather it be cooler? Sadly, you can't order your favorite temperature today! Just as in many other parts of life, the temperature outside is not yours to control. Remembering that is helpful for recognizing that you are small and that God (who can control the temperature) is big. Are there other things in your life that you can't change? Name one of those things each day this week and praise God for his big-ness. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive).

**Kids Corner Devotions:** Apollos: The Gift of Accepting Help - Check out this week's kids' devotion, “Apollos: The Gift of Accepting Help” at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Sometimes we try to do everything on our own because we want to feel strong—but it's okay to need help! God made us to learn from each other, so who can you learn from today? Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like The Kids Corner Activity Book Collection.

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

Congratulations to *Betty Youngsman*, who will celebrate her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday today.

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



7/5 Bev Bentley

7/5 Betty Youngsman

7/5 Elaine Dapp

7/9 Jay Everett

7/10 Craig Hoogstra

**2<sup>nd</sup> collections recap:**  
**6/28/26-**  
**Dawn Treader School, \$613**