

## January 21, 2024

**This Week:** 9:30 a.m. Reading Service  
6:30 p.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD30Q81)  
Classes after the morning service.

**Next Week:** 9:30 a.m. Catechism Reading Service (LD30 Q82)  
2:30 p.m. service with Rev. Witvoet

**Wednesday:** The Brant County congregation is planning a dedication service for the new sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. Rev. H. de Leeuw hopes to conduct the service. For those who wish to listen, the number is 519-900-0098, Conference code: 712 551.

**Friday:** The postponed high school youth activity at Great Bear. For information contact Rebekah Rozeboom at 712-441-45677.

### Advance Notices:

-The post high school youth group plans to have a topic with Elder Van Den Brink in school on Friday, **February 23** at 7:00 pm. For more information, please contact Case Vogelaar (712-360-2725) or Beth Kelderman (605-987-7881).

-All the Lord willing-

**New Periodicals:** Banner of Truth and Insight Into

**Collections:** Today: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund Next week: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund  
2<sup>nd</sup> Alpha Center 2<sup>nd</sup> Prison Diaries

### We Remember in Prayer:

-Our widows and lonely ones, prodigal sons and daughters, and all those with hidden crosses.

## MEDITATIONS

How hurtful was the choice of Lot,  
Who took up his abode  
(Because it was a fruitful spot)  
With them who feared not God!

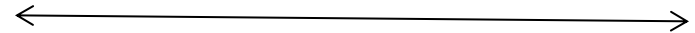
A pris'ner he was quickly made,  
Bereaved of all his store;  
And, but for Abraham's timely aid,  
He had returned no more.

Yet still he seemed resolved to stay  
As if it were his rest;  
Although their sins from day to day  
His righteous soul distressed.

Awhile he stayed with anxious mind,  
Exposed to scorn and strife;  
At last he left his all behind,  
And fled to save his life.

His wife escaped a little way,  
But died for looking back:  
Does not her case to pilgrims say,  
"Beware of growing slack?"

The doom of Sodom will be ours  
If to the earth we cleave;  
Lord quicken all our drowsy pow'rs,  
To flee to thee and live.



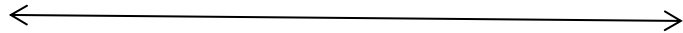
If ever you are tempted to think that you are surely safe for eternity because you have been brought to change your treatment of the outward ordinances of religion, remember, I beseech you, the parable of the marriage feast, where many were called and invited to come in, but few, few were found having on the wedding garment. Many are brought within the pale of ordinances, and read and hear, it may be, with considerable interest and anxiety about all the things that are ready—the things of the kingdom of God. But of these many, few are persuaded to abhor their own filthy rags and to put on the wedding garment of the Redeemer's righteousness. And these few alone shall sit still to partake of the feast, the joy of their Lord. The rest shall stand speechless, and be cast out into outer darkness, where there shall be weeping, and wailing, and gnashing of teeth.

You may read your Bible, and pray over it till you die; you may wait on the preached Word every Sabbath day, and sit down at every sacrament till you die; yet, if you do not find Christ in the ordinances, if He does not reveal Himself to your soul in the preached Word, in the broken bread and poured out wine, if you are not brought to cleave to Him, to look to Him, to believe in Him, to cry out with inward adoration, "My Lord and my God, how great is His goodness! How great is His beauty!"; then the observance is all in vain to you. You have come to the well of salvation, but have gone away with the pitcher empty; and however proud and boastful you may now be of your bodily exercise, you will find in that day that it profits little, and that you will stand speechless before the King.

~R.M. McCheyne

Consider your deplored estate, you who are wholly naked and unarmed. Can you pity the beggar at your door (when you see such on a winter day, shivering with naked backs, exposed to the fury of the cold), and not pity your own far more dismal soul nakedness, by which thou liest open to heaven's wrath and hell's malice. Shall their nakedness cover them with shame, fill them with fear of perishing, which makes them with pitiful moans, knock and cry for relief. And canst thou let Satan come and cut thy throat in thy bed of sloth, rather than accept of clothes to cover, yea, armor to defend thee? I mean Christ and his grace, which in the gospel is tendered to you. Do not lightly believe your own flattering hearts, if they shall tell you, you are provided of these already. I am afraid many a gaudy professor will be found as naked in regard of Christ, and truth of grace, as drunkards and swearers themselves. Such there are, who content themselves with a Christ in profession, in gifts, and in duties, but seek not a Christ in solid grace, and so perish. Those indeed are an ornament to the Christian, as the scarf and feather to the soldier, but these quench not the bullet in battle; it is Christ and his grace that doth that. Therefore, labor to be sound rather than brave Christians. Grace embellished with gifts, is the more beautiful, but those without grace are only the richer spoil for Satan.

~William Gurnall



*The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.* Psalm 9:17

If you will believe God, believe this: there is but one of these two ways for every wicked man, either conversion or damnation. I know the wicked will hardly be persuaded either of the truth or equity of this. No wonder if the guilty quarrel with the law. Few men are apt to believe that which they would not have to be true, and fewer would have that to be true, which they apprehend to be against them. But it is not quarreling with the law, or with the judge, that will save the malefactor. Believing and regarding the law might have prevented his death; but denying and accusing it will but hasten it. If it were not so, a hundred would bring their reason against the law, for one that would bring his reason to the law. And men would rather give their reasons why they should not be punished, than to hear the commands and reasons of their governors, which require them to obey. The law was not made for you to judge, but that you might be ruled and judged by it. If you doubt whether this be the Word of God or not, besides a hundred other texts, you may be satisfied by these few: "Verily I say unto you, except ye be converted and become as little children, ye cannot enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matt. 18:3); "Verily, verily, I say unto you, except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3); "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new" (2 Cor. 5:17). ~Richard Baxter

# NETHERLANDS REFORMED CONGREGATION

**Sioux Falls, SD**



*I will praise the LORD according to his  
righteousness: and will sing praise to the  
name of the LORD most high.*

*Psalm 7:17*

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Services at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.

Consistory

Elders: Mr. Derek Kattenberg, Mr. Craig Timmer

Deacons: Mr. Norm DeWit, Mr. Rick Rozeboom

Contacts

Moderator: Rev. Slingerland

Bulletin announcements: Mr. Craig Timmer [nrcsfsd@gmail.com](mailto:nrcsfsd@gmail.com)

Sermon recordings: Mr. Ryan Rozeboom

Website: [nrcsf.com](http://nrcsf.com)