

It has been shown, that by the faith of the gospel Christ becomes ours, and we are made partakers of the salvation and eternal blessedness procured by him. But as our ignorance and sloth (I may add, the vanity of our mind) stand in need of external helps, by which faith may be begotten in us, and may increase and make progress until its consummation, God, in accommodation to our infirmity, has added such helps, and secured the effectual preaching of the gospel, by depositing this treasure with the Church. He has appointed pastors and teachers, by whose lips he might edify his people (Eph. 4:11); he has invested them with authority, and, in short, omitted nothing that might conduce to holy consent in the faith, and to right order. In particular, he has instituted sacraments, which we feel by experience to be most useful helps in fostering and confirming our faith. For seeing we are shut up in the prison of the body, and have not yet attained to the rank of angels, God, in accommodation to our capacity, has in his admirable providence provided a method by which, though widely separated, we might still draw near to him.... I will begin with the Church, into whose bosom God is pleased to collect his children, not only that by her aid and ministry they may be nourished so long as they are babes and children, but may also be guided by her maternal care until they grow up to manhood, and, finally, attain to the perfection of faith. What God has thus joined, let not man put asunder: to those to whom he is a Father, the Church must also be a mother.

John Calvin *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 4.1.1.

Theological School Committee

Rev. Heath Bleyenbergh
 Mr. David Bouwkamp
 Mr. Robert Drnek
 Mr. Jon Huisken
 Mr. Cal Kalsbeek

Rev. Kenneth Koole
 Rev. William Langerak
 Rev. Richard Smit
 Mr. John VanBaren
 Rev. Ronald VanOverloop

*Theological School
 of the Protestant Reformed Churches*

Seminary Convocation 2016



held at
Grandville Protestant Reformed Church
Grandville, Michigan
September 7, 2016 7:30 P.M.

PROGRAM

Prelude Mrs. Linda Corson

Opening Devotions Rev. Kenneth Koole
President, Theological School Committee

Audience Singing: Psalter # 229:1, 3-6

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Ezra 7:1-10; Nehemiah 8:1-8

Special Music Piano Solo—Mr. Brian Westra
“Praise Him, Praise Him”

Address Prof. Russell J. Dykstra
*The Ezra Model:
A Heart for the Lord’s House*

Audience Singing Psalter # 273:1, 3, 4, 7

Introduction of the Students Prof. Russell J. Dykstra
Rector

Closing Prayer Prof. Russell J. Dykstra

Postlude Mrs. Linda Corson

Refreshments provided afterwards in the fellowship hall.

FACULTY

Prof. Ronald L. Cammenga

Professor of Dogmatics and OT Studies

Prof. Russell J. Dykstra

Professor of Church History and NT Studies

Prof. Barrett L. Gritters

Professor of Practical Theology and NT Studies

STUDENTS

Fourth year:

Mr. Matthew DeBoer

Hudsonville Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Brian Feenstra

Hope Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Joseph Holstege

Southeast Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Jonathan Langerak

Southwest Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. David Noorman

Faith Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Stephan Regnerus

Grace Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Justin Smidstra

Hudsonville Protestant Reformed Church

Second year:

Mr. Matthew Kortus

Faith Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Jacob Maatman

Southwest Protestant Reformed Church

Mr. Darren Vink

First Protestant Reformed Church (GR)

First year:

Mr. Josiah Tan

Covenant Evangelical Reformed Church in Singapore