January 28, 2018

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **-Today:** We hope to have a morning reading service and an evening catechism reading service. Kindergarten through Adult classes meet after the morning service.
- **-Next Week:** We hope to have a morning catechism reading service and an evening reading service. Classes following the morning service.
- -Advance Notices: Student Witvoet on February 11 at 2:30 p.m.
 Rev. Vergunst February 18 at 2:30 p.m.
 -All the Lord willing-

Offerings Today: 1st General Fund

2nd NAGMission

Next week: 1st General Fund

2nd School Fund

Directory Updates:

Mrs. Jennie Johnson cell # 605-357-2457
Miss. Lindsey Johnson –corrected # is 605-231-1335
Mr. & Mrs. Tom Johnson – corrected address house # 2521
Mr. & Mrs. Tyler Johnson – one child omitted: Landis

We Remember in Prayer:

- -Mrs. Marlene Zomer, who hopes to have knee replacement surgery this Tuesday
- -Mr. Clarence Zomer who hopes to commemorate his 76th birthday Friday, February 2
- -Those who have been unable to gather with us for some time, thinking especially of Mr. & Mrs. Roberts, and Mr. Hoogendoorn.
- -Our widows and widowers, our elderly, the unborn, prodigal sons and daughters, any others who are unable to gather with us today, are under doctor's care, and all those who have hidden crosses.

MEDITATIONS

Dear Congregation, "And there made him a booth, and sat under it in the shadow..." (Jonah 4:5b).

Jonah is leaving the citizens of Nineveh, the place of which we read, "And He did it not." God did not destroy the city or slay its citizens as He had previously said, and that is why Jonah is angry. Jonah did not pray that the Lord would have mercy and convert the people of Nineveh, and now he speaks of dying, but he cannot die; how can a child of God die when he is so angry with the Lord?

The Lord is so good that He comes to His rebellious child, asking him, "Doest thou well to be angry?" No matter what is being said to

Jonah, nothing humbles his heart. He leaves the city behind and comes to the east side where he makes himself a booth. From there he can see the entire city. He has a small shelter with a roof over his head, and he waits to see what the Lord will do. In his heart is confusion. He cannot pray anymore; he can only wait with an angry, rebellious heart.

What has become of a child of God when he has made his own booth, is resting in what came forth from his hands, and is not coming by the Lord? Perhaps you know what that is. You have made a place with your own hands. You have done all you can and now you are waiting, but inside it is all confusion. You cannot pray, and you do not have empty hands to lift up a troubled heart. How will that end?

The day did not begin right; how can it become evening and night this way? What a wonder for Jonah that the Lord did not turn away from so much bitterness, but He continued to be a faithful, good-doing Lord. Jonah forgot God, but God did not forget Jonah. Oh, what a wonder when sitting in the booth we have made that the Lord brings a visit for our soul. Then we may exclaim—"It is the grace and mercy of God."

~Your minister, Rev. J. den Hoed (From Franklin Lakes bulletin)

THE WISE AND THE FOOL

"The wise man's eyes are in his head, but the fool walketh in darkness." Ecclesiastes 2:14

> The Lord proclaims that man a fool. Who does in darkness walk: And tho' untaught in Jesus' school, Will of salvation talk. No peace he feels from Jesus' blood, No work of grace begun, Yet vainly hopes his path is good, And walks in darkness on. No gospel way-post can he find, To prove his road is right; Yet flattering hopes beguile his mind, And mists deceive his sight. A wise man's eyes are in his head, And Christ his Head is found: And while the Head the members lead. They keep on gospel-ground. Lord, let my light come down from Thee, Thy Head direct my feet; For only in Thy light I see The gospel clear and sweet ~Rev. J Berridge

Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



Blessed be the LORD God of Israel from everlasting, and to everlasting. Amen, and Amen.

Psalm 41:13

Church Times: 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 or 6:30 p.m.