## **September 16, 2018**

#### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Today:** We hope to have a morning catechism service and an evening reading service.

**Next Week:** We hope to have a morning reading service and an evening catechism service.

Advance Notices: October 7, 2:30 p.m. Rev. Witvoet
October 11, 7:00 p.m. Thursday Bible studies resume
October 14, Children catechism classes/adult study resume
October 30, 7:00 p.m. Rev. Witvoet, Reformation Day
November 11, 9:30 a.m. conf. of faith & 2:30 p.m. Rev. Vergunst
December 16, 2:30 p.m. Rev. Witvoet

-All the Lord Willing-

Offerings Today: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund Next week: 1<sup>st</sup> General Fund 2<sup>nd</sup> School Fund 2<sup>nd</sup> Theological School

#### Note of Thanks:

It is our desire to extend a thank you to all those from the three congregations who warmly greeted and welcomed us as a family at the open house held on the 7<sup>th</sup>, as well to those who couldn't attend, but sent hearty wishes, made personal phone calls, or sent messages in various ways. Again there were many cards and tokens of love. A special thank you to the wives of the Rock Valley consistory for the work in organizing this, and serving up the lunch, all which made for an enjoyable and unforgettable evening.

~Rev. and Mrs. Witvoet and family

### We Remember in Prayer:

- -The synod which hopes to meet this week.
- -All those affected by the hurricane and the first responders and all those assisting in various ways
- -Those who have been unable to gather with us for some time, 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**

I feel assured that you want to hear ministers who can trace the footsteps of the flock, who can describe the path that you are travelling in, and who can take up the stumbling-blocks out of your way. You want them to tell you what you have felt and experienced, and what you have not; and when they speak of repentance and faith, you want them to tell you what they mean, both in their power and in their effects, so that you may know whether you are a partaker or not. You want to have the gospel trumpet blown with a distinct sound, so that you may clearly distinguish the note; and it must be a life-giving sound or you will not be satisfied. If there be nothing but a confusion of sounds, you will have cause to murmur. You will leave such preaching without profit, and more confused than when you went, and you will come home without the knowledge of the way you are travelling in; for such ministers do not divide the word rightly, nor their hearers: consequently, the characters of the regenerate and unregenerate not being set forth, how can a seeking soul find solid comfort? First he is comforted, and then cast down; at one time encouraged by the minister setting forth salvation as all of God, and then distressed with a conditional salvation at the end. If ministers do not preach the finished work of Christ, and hold out the breasts of consolation to the sucklings and weaklings, the Name of Christ will not be as ointment poured forth, nor will the Spirit of truth bear testimony to such ~W. Tiptaft preaching.

# Thankful Joy and Praise (Psalter 277)

O praise and bless the Lord, my soul, His wondrous love proclaim; Join heart and voice and all my pow'rs To bless His holy Name.

O praise and bless the Lord, my soul,
And ever thankful be;
Forget not all the benefits
He has bestowed on thee.

He freely pardons all thy sins, And He is strong to save; He heals thy sickness, soothes thy pain, And ransoms from the grave. He crowns thee with His grace and love, And, with His strength endued, Thou mountest up with eagle's wings, Thy joyous youth renewed.

The Lord is ever merciful,
And unto anger slow;
His lovingkindness and His grace
In rich abundance flow.

As heaven is high above the earth, So great His mercy proves; As far from us as east from west He all our sin removes.

Notes

# Netherlands Reformed Congregation

Sioux Falls, SD



"So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Romans 10:17

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