

Sunday January 12, 2019

~We welcome all who worship with us today~

Prayer Needs:

- God's indispensable blessing on the preached word, may the Holy Spirit draw us all to the Lord Jesus Christ.
- For the repentance and full restoration of those who have been placed under the first step of church discipline.
- Those sorrowing the loss of loved ones, those with afflictions of the body, mind and spirit, the lonely, elderly, widowers and widows in our midst.
- For our nation, that we would be drawn back to God and biblical living. Pray for our president in the weighty task entrusted to him.
- For humbled hearts of thanksgiving to the Lord for all his mercies and benefits given unto us.
- Joel and Mindy Vander Waal and family with the passing away of Mindy's grandfather, Mr. Jake W. Rus, at 94 years. Funeral services are pending thru Porter Funeral Home, Rock Valley

Announcements:

Today: *Congregational Prayer* at 9:00 am

Pastor Elshout serves.

Coffee and fellowship follow the morning worship service.

Catechism Class, Sunday School, and Adult Class today at 11:20

1st Offering: General Fund 2nd Offering: Building Fund

Next Lord's Day: *Congregational Prayer* at 9:00 am.

Pastor Elshout serves. 2nd Offering: PRTS

Building Information Meeting: January 21, @ 7:00 p.m. in the church basement. Members, visitors, male and female are welcome. Please see your church mailbox for an information packet.

Monthly sing-a-long: There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex, please add your name if you are willing to host a sing-a-long in your home. Thanks!

PRTS: Please join the faculty and staff of PRTS in giving thanks for God's faithfulness to the seminary in 2019. Recently, the seminary has extended its reach of training students from a biblical, experiential, and Reformed perspective by opening "campuses" in four different locations around the world with partnering institutions for a Master of Theology (ThM) degree. A fully accredited ThM degree from PRTS is being offered in Brazil, the United Kingdom, Egypt, and Taiwan. This means that the seminary will more effectively train theological students throughout South America, Europe, the Middle East and Africa, and Southeast Asia. PRTS faculty will teach 50% of the required courses and resident faculty will teach the remaining 50% or course offerings. None of this would be realized if not for the Lord's blessing and your heartfelt support. Thank you for your continued prayers and financial contributions to PRTS. For more information on ways you can partner with PRTS please contact Chris Hanna at 616-432-3407 / chris.hanna@prts.edu.

January:

Tuesday 14th: Singing at *Whispering Heights*, Rock Valley, at 6:30pm

Wednesday 15th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Tuesday 21st: Informational Meeting at church, at 7 pm

Wednesday 22nd: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

February:

Sunday 2nd: Dr. Sacha Walicord serves

Wednesday 5th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Wednesday 5th: Monthly *Church Family Night*, Hope Haven at 6:50 pm

Tuesday 11th: Consistory Meeting at church, at 7:00 pm

Wednesday 12th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Wednesday 26th: Ladies' Bible Study, same time and location

Senior Birthday:

January 12: Hank Rozeboom, 81 years

Birthday:

January 18: Annette Maggert

Members and friends with ongoing needs:

Wilma Koedam George & Chris Vonk Nellie Fintelman Mrs. Joan Maassen

Greeters:

January 12: Jason and Misty Davelaar

January 19: Larry and DeeAnn Villalobos

Lunch Schedule:

January 12: Clarice E. and Amber Z.

January 19: Heather VG and Julie P.

Note: There is an updated lunch schedule in the kitchen; there are a few changes so please have a look for your assigned date. Thanks to all who help out with serving each Sunday!

Grateful acknowledgement is given for the following collections:

12/01/19 General - \$1,281

12/08/19 General - \$2,230

12/15/19 General - \$1,436

12/22/19 General - \$914

12/25/19 General - \$1,732

12/08/19 Local Mission - \$1,061

12/15/19 Benevolent - \$1,367

12/22/19 PRTS - \$1,256

12/25/19 Construction - \$11,994

~All the LORD willing~

The Brotherly Love of Believers

Be kindly affectioned one to another with brotherly love; in honour preferring one another;" Romans 12:10

Whenever Paul thinks of believers, he conceives of them as constituting (in the Lord) one family (Eph. 3:15). All have one Father (cf. Rom. 8:15; Gal. 4:5). This thought is entirely in line with the teaching of Jesus (Matt. 12:46-50).

According to this teaching the bond that unites the members of this spiritual family are far more secure and lasting than those which bind together the members of a purely physical family (Luke 14:26). What the apostle is saying, therefore, is that the members of this spiritual family should do all in their power to be and remain devoted to each other in tender affection.

There is a sense in which believers should love everybody, including even those who hate and persecute them (Rom. 12:14; Luke 6:35). But tender, brotherly affection, implying intimacy, understanding, spiritual unity, is reserved for the inner circle. Believers have the right and the duty to discriminate between those who hate God and those who love Him. As the apostle says elsewhere, "Let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:10).

Christians are your family regardless of their background, race, nationality, occupation, wealth, or education—or even whether we are attracted to or like another believer. That is irrelevant. The first verse of "Blessed Be the Tie that Binds" goes like this:

*Blessed be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above*

"Kindred minds" means the minds of those who are spiritual kin—members of God's new family on earth. So, our devotion to one another is not to be a matter of liking but of life. The contemporary church will never have the power of the early church until today's Christians love one another as a close-knit family.

~ J. M. Boice and W. Hendriksen on Romans 12:10a

Heritage Reformed Congregation

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*"O come, let us worship and bow down: let us kneel
before the LORD our maker." Psalm 95:6*



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Worship Services: 9:30 AM & 6:00 PM

Online services available on hullhrc.com or sermonaudio.com/hullhrc

Member Church of HRC Denomination heritagereformed.com

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