

Sunday, January 21, 2024

~A warm welcome to all who worship with us today~

Prayers:

- God's blessing on the preached Word today and on the sacrament of baptism.
- Those sorrowing the loss of loved ones, those with afflictions of body, mind & spirit, the lonely, elderly, widower & widows, & those unable to worship with us
- Spiritual transformation of our families, church, nation and our leaders, bringing us back to the Lord and living according to His word.
- *Ladies' Bible Study* as they meet this week.
- The *Youth Group* when they meet this evening.
- Today has been designated "Sanctity of Life Sunday". Let us pray fervently for respect for life from preborn to old age as created in God's image.
- Farmers, especially those with livestock during this very cold, winter weather.
- God's blessing on Rowan James Vander Waal, and for his parents as they seek to raise him in the nurture and admonition of the Lord.
- The Spaans family in the loss of a dear friend, Mr. Perry Raman of Hull, 66 yrs from cancer. Mr. Raman's wife, Audrey is Lavonne's sister-in-law.

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Today: Pastor van der Hoek serves at 9:30am and 6:00pm

Fellowship and refreshments after the morning service.

Catechism, Sunday School and the Adult Class at 11:20am to 12:05pm

Youth Group will meet at the parsonage following the evening service.

1st Offering: General Fund **2nd Offering:** Facilities Fund

The sacrament of baptism will be administered this morning to:

Rowan James, son of Arthur (AJ) and Shanae Vander Waal

"I will establish my covenant between me and thee, and thy seed after thee, in their generations, for an everlasting covenant; to be a God unto thee and to thy seed after thee." Genesis 17:7

Next Lord's Day: Pastor van Der Hoek serves at 9:30am and 6:00pm

2nd Offering: Facilities Fund

Membership: En Hao (Rufus) Peng was accepted as an Associate Member. Please welcome Rufus to our church family, praying he will be blessed and be a blessing.

Consistory Notes:

- 4) Time scheduled to tune our sound system to Pastor's voice so that clarity improves.
- 4) A child abuse policy and team were finalized/approved. This policy is available on Church Social: go to "files" and then select "Policies & Standard Procedures."
- 6) Agreed to restart "Hymn Sings" on one Saturday evening a month, details coming
- 6) As shared at our 12/24 service, we will no longer cancel church services due to weather since our pastor lives nearby, as do a number of families. We encourage each family to decide whether to attend based on the weather. This decision plus our use of Church Social led to an additional decision to discontinue our subscription with OneCall, the phone call system we used in the past for announcements, etc.

January:

Sunday 21st: Sacrament of baptism, morning worship service

Sunday 21st: *Youth Group* will meet at the parsonage, following the evening service

Tuesday 23rd: *Ladies' Bible Study* at church, 1:30pm

Wednesday 24th: Men's Bible Study, 7:30pm, at church

Wednesday 31st: Men's Bible Study, 7:30pm, at church

February:

Sunday 4th: Lord's Supper, morning worship service

Sunday 4th: *Youth Group* will meet following the evening service

Monday 5th: Consistory Meeting at church, 7:00pm

Tuesday 6th: Ladies' Bible Study at church, 1:30pm

Wednesday 7th: Church Activity Evening, Hope Haven at 6:50pm

Wednesday 14th: Men's Bible Study at church, 7:30pm

Sunday 18th: *Youth Group* will meet at the parsonage, following the evening service

Wednesday 20th: *Ladies' Bible Study* at church, 1:30pm

Wednesday 21st: Men's Bible Study at church, 7:30pm

Sunday 25th: Pastor Vander Zwaag serves

Wednesday 28th: Men's Bible Study at church, 7:30pm

Birthdays:

January 22: Abby Van Der Brink

January 24: Jaivyn Van Grootheest

Save the Date for the upcoming Heritage Spring Retreat. It will be held on May 18-20, at the *Maple Grove Christian Retreat Centre*, Thamesford, Ontario. This conference is for young adults and married couples, ages 18-35.

On behalf of the Heritage Spring Retreat Committee, Jason and Corine Averink

Church Lunch:

January 21: Marilyn G. and Esther VDB

January 28: Mindy VW and Jennifer VW

Greeters:

January 21: Pete and Linda Van Beek

January 28: Karlin and Carolyn Bleeker

Nursery:

January 21:

AM: Mylie Z. and Olivia VB

PM: Brynlie Z. and Lois vdH

January 28:

AM: Paige C. and Tirzah vdH

PM: Misty D. and Ariel VW

The congregation is gratefully acknowledged for the following December collections:

Construction Fund - \$35,058

Emeritus Fund - \$21,288

General - \$12,089

PRTS - \$25,000

Domestic Outreach - \$1,622

Facilities - \$2,948.00

HRC Mission - \$20,000

Student Support - \$20,000

~All the Lord willing~

Unity, not Uniformity in the Body of Christ (2 of 3)
Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26

Arranging the Body's Members (1 Corinthians 12:14-20).

Continuing to unfold the metaphor of the church as the body of Christ, Paul stresses that a well-functioning, unified church requires diverse gifts. Without this diversity, the church suffers greatly.

The Apostle makes his argument for diversity as necessary for unity by making an analogy with different parts of the human body. As he notes in 1 Corinthians 12:14, the human body consists of many different members. No single member makes up the entire body, so a healthy body that functions as it was originally designed requires each constituent part [see v. 17].

Practically speaking, this means that each individual member of the church has a particular purpose and is a part of Christ's body even if that member is discontent with his place. Such discontentment should not be. Just as it is silly for a foot to complain that it is not a full part of the body because it is not a hand, individual Christians are unreasonable to question their necessity to the church because they lack a particular gift.

The point is that since there would be no unified human body without each distinct member functioning in its place, there could be no unified church that functions according to God's design without the variety of gifts the Lord has granted to His church (v. 19). Diversity of giftings, properly understood and embraced, results in unity. Any purported unity created by emphasizing one gift over others is not the kind of unity that Christ has appointed for His people.

All this comes from the Lord, who has arranged individual members of Christ's church according to His good purpose (v. 18). John Chrysostom writes: "God has placed each part of the body where he has chosen, so we must not inquire any further as to why he has done it the way he has. For even if we could come up with ten thousand explanations, we would never find one better than this—that it pleased the Creator to make it the way he chose."

Living before the face of God. It can be easy for us to think that the church does not really need us because we do not possess a particular spiritual gift. Today's passage, however, requires us to reject that notion. Each of us is needed for the church to function as God designed it, and if we do not serve and use our gifts, the church will be lacking. (For further study: Ex. 31:1-11; Matt. 16:13-20; Acts 10:45; 1 Pet. 2:4-8). –

~Tabletalk, 5/27/21

Heritage Reformed Congregation

Sunday, January 21, 2024

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*"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of
the LORD." Psalm 122:1*



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

*Hull, Iowa
712.439.1630*

Pastor: Rev. Pieter van der Hoek

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

Member Church of HRC Denomination heritagereformed.com

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