

Limerick Reformed Fellowship
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Dear saints in the
Protestant Reformed Churches,

The Lord continues to bless the work of our hands, and for that we give Him thanks. This summer will be busy with a speech at the British Reformed Fellowship Conference (there is still room; and it will be *much better* than the Olympics! [I Tim. 4:8]) and another speech at the Young People's Convention (my third as a chaperone and first as a speaker), as well as the other work of our mission here in Limerick.

Most of the work for the British Reformed Fellowship Conference is in the capable hands of the Stewarts and the Committee of the BRF. In the LRF we are greatly looking forward to it, and trying to finalise who will be attending and how. We have also been in touch with several young adults from Iowa, Michigan and elsewhere who intend to make the trip; and at least four of them plan to worship with the LRF on 22nd July, D.V. This will be a huge encouragement to us, and we look forward to meeting them and showing them our Irish hospitality.

Preaching, teaching, and writing continue. We finished an eight-part series on Esther ("Covenant Remnant Providentially Preserved") and have just begun a new series on Philemon ("An Object Lesson in Forgiveness"). We spent three weeks on Heidelberg Catechism LD 12 so we could preach a sermon on each of the aspects of Christ's office of prophet, priest, and king. As far as catechism goes, we finished *New Testament History for Juniors*, and immediately launched into *Old Testament History for Seniors*. We managed to cover the first four lessons, although it looks unlikely we will be able to continue through the summer as I had originally hoped and planned. The

Mansona family (Alfonso, Salome, Chester, and Dale) are on holiday in the Philippines for the whole of June. They are in Baguio City, Loakan Apugan, which, sadly, is nowhere near any of the contacts familiar to Missionaries Kleyn and Smit (I checked with Rev. D. Kleyn before the Mansonas travelled). We look forward to their return in early July, D.V.



Before the Mansonas left, I had started an *Essentials of Reformed Doctrine* class with them in their home. The whole family came together and their participation was enthusiastic. The *Essentials* book is an excellent resource to teach newcomers Reformed doctrine. The only drawback (if it can be called a drawback) is that it takes a very long time to go through all the material (if we spend two weeks per lesson, that is sixty weeks, not including reviews), and, since the Mansonas have an irregular schedule, we cannot commit to meeting every week. We managed to cover three (out of thirty) lessons before they went on holiday.

The main *Essentials* class, which is held on Wednesday evenings in the Kuhs' home, is going very well. We have reached Lesson 24 on the church. Since Ecclesiology is such an important subject, and greatly misunderstood and neglected by modern evangelicalism, I have been spending a lot more time on it than on earlier lessons. We looked at the nature of the church; the dis-

inction between church organism and church institute; the attributes of the church; the marks of the true church, and we still have to cover the power and government of the church, including the keys of the kingdom and the importance and function of officebearers! Therefore, Lesson 24 will not take the usual two weeks, but *four* weeks. But it will be time well spent. After that we will cover the means of grace and the two sacraments.

One more exciting development is that Nuno Pinheiro, a dear friend from Portugal, joins our *Essentials* class by Skype. Behold the wonders of modern technology! Nuno informs me that he has started using the outlines, after translating them into Portuguese, to use via Skype with a fellow saint in Brazil. Nuno and his family plan to be at the BRF Conference, D.V.

The outlines for the catechism lessons for *Essentials* (up to Lesson 20), *OT History for Juniors*, and *NT History for Juniors* (25 Lessons each) have been uploaded to our website. Each lesson consists of one double-sided page with narrow margins (in PDF) and can be printed from our website to be used as a guide to Reformed doctrine and Bible history. These outlines have been getting a lot of “hits” already. For example, Lesson 1 (“The Knowledge of God”) received 360 hits; Lesson 11 (“The Fall of man”) received 153 hits; and Lesson 3 (“God’s Essence and Names”) received 150 hits. This is encouraging, as these outlines have been online for only about three to four months. Other popular contents on our website are “A Critical Examination of John Piper’s Christian Hedonism,” by Manuel Kuhs (2034); and “An Answer to Baptistic Imaginations,” by Samuel Watterson (1784). Other articles of interest are: “A Review of John MacArthur’s Five Arguments Against Infant Baptism”; “Jehovah’s Witnesses and the Name of God”; “Reformed Church Government: Proof Texting or Principles?”; “Universal Infant Salvation and Reformed Baptists”; and “Has Rome Changed? The Romish Spider and Ecumenical Flies.”

Manuel Kuhs plans to upgrade our website, so bookmark www.limerickreformed.com/

for the big unveiling next week, D.V. Do not forget, also, to add Limerick Reformed Fellowship to your “likes” on Facebook if you are a social networking aficionado.

Another project on which I (and other ministers) have been working is one from Singapore. The saints there are producing a daily devotional based on the Belgic Confession. This is a follow up on their last project, a daily devotional based on the Heidelberg Catechism (<http://www.cerc.org.sg/ministries/clm/DailyMeditations/dailymed.htm>). I have submitted 21 meditations on Article 26 (“Of Christ’s Intercession”) and have committed to writing some more articles. The meditations should be published next year, D.V. This is a very worthwhile project, well worth our support and prayers.

Last, but by no means least, we bade farewell to Briana Prins. She spent several months at the University of Limerick in its foreign studies programme, which came to an end last month. Her last Lord’s Day in Limerick was 13th May. We thank God for the short time she could be part of our group, and we hope she will find her way back here some time soon. As I mentioned before, the University of Limerick offers very good study programmes for young people who might want to study abroad; and if you do, you will find a warm welcome in the Limerick Reformed Fellowship!

The Lord bless you all,

In Christian love,
Rev. Martyn McGeown