



*Rev.  
Thomas  
Miersma,  
Home  
Missionary*

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*Proclaiming  
the sovereign  
grace  
of our  
Covenant  
God  
upon  
the basis  
of His  
Holy Word*

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*Jesus said,  
"And other  
sheep I have  
which are  
not  
of this fold:  
them also I  
must bring,  
and there  
shall be one  
fold, and  
one  
shepherd,"  
John 10:16*

To the Loveland Congregation  
and the churches

July, 2008

Dear Brethren

I want to put the planning for a fall conference first in this newsletter as it may be of some interest to those in the churches who might like to come.

Prof. H. Hanko has agreed to come and speak for us, D.V., in October. The seminar or sermon series on the doctrine of the covenant will be over two Friday and Sunday nights. At the present we are planning the following:

Friday, October 3 - Psalm 25:14

The Idea or Essence of the Covenant

Sunday, October 5 - Ezekiel 16:60-63

The Unconditionality of the Covenant

Friday, October 10 - Hebrews 8:8-12

The Unity of the Covenant and the Different Administrations

Sunday, October 12 - Acts 2:39

The Promise to Believers and Their Seed

The time for the Friday night sermons will be 7:30 p.m., while the Sunday sermons will be part of the regular evening worship at 6:00 p.m. Prof. H. Hanko will also be preaching in the morning services.

The details of this seminar are still in the process of being fully developed. Those interested should, as we move into the fall, check the web site for updated details.

<http://www.reformedspokane.org>

In addition to advertising the seminar on radio, which worked well last year, we will be doing a mailing to about 10,000 homes in the residential area near the building to introduce the congregation and invite the recipients to come to the event. We will also be putting up posters where we can.

In other news, in June, I was at the Mission Awareness Day and also spoke at Synod about the work here in Spokane. I am grateful for the opportunity to explain what the Lord has done and is doing here as He builds His church.

A number of the young adults, in their twenties, with whom we have been working are now absent due to summer employment, college summer break or other activities. We continue to hear from them by letter and e-mail. We are looking forward to seeing them in the fall. The special Essentials of Reformed Doctrine class which I have with this group has also taken a recess during their absence. Other years this class has continued straight through the summer, and it has been good to have a short break.

We continue to grow internally as a congregation. Ryan and Sarah Lathrop were blessed with the birth of a baby boy, Oliver, at the beginning of July. Greg and Candace Duerr are also expecting their first child in September. It is a blessing to see God's covenant established in the generations here and to see the number of children grow.

We continue to have phone calls and e-mails about the congregation from people moving to the area or contemplating such a move. These too tend to be largely young couples with small children.

As this is the summer, we have also been seeing a few visitors from our churches or other reformed denominations, who are in the area on vacation. I took a week of vacation in July and will be taking another in August. Rev. M. Dick was here on vacation and preached for us. Rev. S. Houck will also be here the end of August and beginning of September to preach for a couple of Sundays when I am on vacation and then in Michigan for the missions conference.

The elders from Loveland, Ray Ezinga and Leon Griess, will be here on a second trip in August as well, with a view to conducting family visitation on the mission field. We will administer the sacrament of baptism to Oliver Lathrop while they are here.

With the planning for the conference, trips, vacation, and various visits, it has been a rather busy and varied summer which will lead also into a rather busy fall.

As it is unlikely that I will be able to be in Loveland for the fiftieth anniversary commemoration of the congregation. I would like to extend to the Loveland congregation my family's and the mission field's thanksgiving for the congregation, their labor here, and our prayers for God's continued blessing.

Yours in Christ,  
Rev. Thomas Miersma  
Western Home Missionary of the P.R.C.