

Limerick Reformed Fellowship
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Dear saints
in the Protestant Reformed Churches,

Last week, I gave a lecture in Wales on “Eternal Life in Heaven.” It was my turn to visit our South Wales venue, the Round Chapel in Port Talbot. Perhaps you would like to know something about our work there. Rev. Stewart gave his first lecture in South Wales in February 2004. Before that Rev. Ron Hanko and Prof. Herman Hanko had given lectures there. For many years the venue that we rented was an old people’s convalescent home called *The Rest* in Porthcawl, a lovely seaside town. *The Rest* has now “retired” (gone into administration) and our new venue is just off the M4 motorway, in a place called *The Round Chapel*. Rev. Stewart lectured in Wales roughly once per month from 2004-2011 until I came to Limerick. Now he and I take turns to travel to Wales to minister to the saints there, so that each of us goes about every two months. Attendance varies at our lectures. The greatest attendance I have witnessed was eighteen people and the lowest number in attendance on one occasion was two. Some of the saints there have been with us for many years, and they also attend the *British Reformed Fellowship Conference*. Please pray for the development of the work there.



*Inside Round Chapel
Richard Holt, Carl Hurley, Brian Harris*



Brian Harris, Carl Hurley, Richard Holt

The work in Limerick is progressing slowly and steadily. I recently began a series on Micah (“Proclaiming the Incomparable God”), so that the saints here could learn to appreciate the Minor Prophets. The Word of God is so rich and varied, and it is good that we vary our diet between the two testaments as well as between different genres (epistles, poetry, historical narrative, and prophecy). This week we will also be finishing the *Heidelberg Catechism*, my second time through that beloved confession, with 72 sermons in total. I remind you that all our sermons can be downloaded from our website. There is even a handy button with which you can download *the entire series with one click*. Few websites have such a feature, I am told. In addition, we have live audio streaming of our two worship services at <http://mixlr.com/limerickreformed/>.

Back in June 2012 I began an *Essentials of Reformed Doctrine* class with Alfonso and Salome Mansona. Since most of the lessons took place on Friday/Saturday evening, Chester and Dale (their sons) attended most of those classes also. On Friday 29 November 2013 we finished that class. After some quizzes/tests/reviews in the next couple of weeks to see how much they have remembered, I intend to begin teaching them the *Canons of Dordt*. Chester and Dale Mansona have just finished the

Bible history catechism classes. Therefore, they will begin the *Heidelberg Catechism* this Saturday. They gulped when they saw the memory work (memorizing the Catechism!), but I am confident that they will continue with their diligent and conscientious preparation. It is very enjoyable to teach enthusiastic children.

We have had a few visitors of late. One lady named Theresa attends when she can (usually the morning), and Jimmy attends most evening services. Occasionally, Barry and Corn (Cornelius) join us for evening worship also. Jimmy and Barry have been getting the *Covenant Reformed News* for many years, so they are well known to us.

Jimmy has also been attending our Bible study, especially because we are studying Revelation, a book that many evangelicals find fascinating, but often for the wrong reasons. Every week, he brings some titbit from *Jack van Impe* or some other “prophecy expert,” and every week, I explain to him that Revelation is a book altogether different from how *he* imagined it! We are hoping that, with patient instruction, he (as well as the others) will appreciate sober amillennial exegesis of the Scriptures and be weaned off the hype that masquerades as “Bible prophecy” today.

Soon, D.V., we will have finished another *British Reformed Journal*, in which (among other things) we will be advertising the BRF Conference (26 July to 2 August

2014). Kristin Crossett (nee Prins) from the CPRC has designed a website to help you with your bookings. You will find all kinds of advice there, especially on how to get to the Conference (<http://brfconference.weebly.com/>).

I greatly enjoyed the *Heidelberg Catechism Conference* in October. One of the highlights for me (apart from the Conference itself and the fellowship with the saints there) was a visit to Covenant Christian High School in Walker, Michigan. I have always been fascinated with the idea of a Protestant Reformed school, and I took the opportunity (on one of my free mornings) to visit the school and sit in on a few classes, just to see what a Reformed high school is like. We do not have anything like that in Ireland. What a blessing the young people of the PRC enjoy in solidly Reformed education! Thank you to the teachers who let me observe the classes. I also was able to visit the seminary, meet the student body and faculty, and attend a Contact Committee meeting. We look forward to welcoming our annual church visitors in late January/early February, D.V.

May I take this opportunity also to thank you for the Christmas cards and messages, and to wish you a blessed Christmas and a happy New Year.

May the Lord bless you richly,

In Christian love,
Rev. Martyn McGeown