



**Platte**  
**Christian Reformed Church**  
July 2018

Synod 2018

Dear Platte CRC,

For the second straight year, Platte CRC sent a delegate to our denomination's annual decision-making assembly, Synod (you should encourage your district elder to put their name up next year so we make it three). Our President of the Deacons, Dave Kuipers, traveled to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan this past month for the meetings. I asked him about his experience. Here's a bit of what he had to say (if at some points you might think Dave sounds oddly like Pastor Drew, know that I'm doing some paraphrasing):

**In a word, how would you describe your experience?** Enlightening! I've never been to Grand Rapids before, and it definitely makes you appreciate the bigger structure that we have as a church.

**Coming away from the meeting, what ended up being the more significant topics?** Our relationship with the Reformed Church (RCA) was discussed quite a bit. We are definitely coming closer together...about half of the meeting was spent (in joint session) with the RCA. We're different in some areas still, but overall there's a lot the same. It will depend a lot on what our churches do with the same-sex marriage issue and how that gets handled (RCA in 2020, CRC in 2021). In addition, a lot of time was spent discussing the Safe Church Ministry and issues around abuse (Pastor Drew's note: a member from Classis Pacific Northwest overtured Synod to confront issues of abuse by requiring officebearers to attend abuse prevention training, among other things). It can be easy to think that that's not a big deal, especially in a place where we all know each other, but there were some stories and issues that made it clear it's a big deal.

**You are put on a smaller Advisory Committee to deal with a specific area... what was that like?** I was on the Finance Committee. Pretty exciting stuff (a bit of sarcasm here)! We dealt with many things, including a request that commissioned pastors be included in the CRCNA pension plan. That was turned down because of the wide variety of situations that commissioned pastors are involved in.

**How was the food?** Really good. Ice cream at most meals, except I wanted to get an ice cream cone at breakfast and the machine was shut off.

**What part of the week did you most enjoy?** The worship was really special. The Spirit was definitely moving. During the week you build a lot of camaraderie, meeting people from all over the United States and Canada. You get to know people on a first-name basis, and you realize that there's different places and different ideas and yet we have the same goal. Overall, we're on the same page!

**What surprised you most?** I didn't expect the amount of time spent joined together with the RCA (they were holding their General Synod at Calvin at the same time). Also, everyone at Synod is treated the same, whether you are a pastor or a dirt farmer!

Make sure to thank Dave for giving up a week to serve the church and ask him any more questions you may have regarding the work of Synod 2018!

Sincerely,

Pastor Drew

## FAMILY PRAYER NOTES

### GENERAL PRAISES AND PRAYER REQUESTS:

- ◆ Thank God for the liberty and justice of our country. Pray for our leaders to govern out of a love for people, not power, and to preserve that liberty and justice.
- ◆ Ask God prevent destructive storms that might harm property and crops.
- ◆ Give thanks to God for another year of SERVE and pray for all the participants to continue knowing and serving Jesus as they return home.
- ◆ Pray for a neighbor or friend who doesn't know Christ and pray for opportunities to help point them to Christ.
- ◆ Pray for faithful missionaries and pastors to be raised up through our church and our denomination – “the harvest is plentiful.”

### Nursing Home Residents, Shut-ins and their Caretakers:

- ◆ Tony & Rozella Baan Hofman, Ted Bultsma, Kevin Burma, Gertie DeJong, Clair & Pearl Dyk, Marie Kok, Clarence Hunsucker, JoAnn Kuipers, Juna Meyerink, Helen Pheifer, Ruth Pranger, Cheryl Reed, Don & Evelyn Severson, Harriet Sprik, Leona Van Dusseldorp, and Muriel Van Vuren, Betty Van Zee

### Those Mourning the Loss of:

- ◆ Alfred VanZee, MacKenzie Haack, Esther Hoekman, Cornie & Eleanor Lieuwen, Jennie Bultsma, Darrell Kuipers, and Janet DeJong.

### Missionaries:

- ⇒ Ben & Amy Meyer (CRWM– Mexico)
- ⇒ Victor & Lori Selemani (YWAM– Africa)
- ⇒ LaVeryl & Max Voss (Wycliffe– Papua New Guinea)
- ⇒ Calvin & Jessica Wunderink (TeachBeyond-Czech Republic )

### Monthly Birthdays and Anniversaries

*(to see church activities, please refer to our weekly bulletin, or to the online calendar at [plattecrc.org](http://plattecrc.org) for the most up-to-date information)*

### July Birthdays:

- 3: Deb Bultsma
- 4: Mae Lieuwen
- 5: Joan Niewenhuis
- 5: Sawyer DeGroot
- 6: McKenna Kok
- 9: Luanna Kuipers
- 11: Elaine Dyk
- 13: Mae Wunderink (Missionary)
- 14: Leon Sprik
- 15: Bailey Kraayenbrink
- 22: Eli Kraayenbrink
- 25: Jessica (Weg) Brown
- 26: Chris Kuipers
- 27: Leona Van Dusseldorp
- 27: Lois Visscher
- 27: Molly Sybesma
- 28: Dee Kredit
- 28: Sean Sybesma
- 30: Clarence Boltjes

- 31: Brian DeGroot
- 31: Tammy Meyerink

### July Anniversaries:

- 6: Tony & Rozella Baan Hofman
- 8: Elmer & Judie Visscher
- 9: Roland & Deb Bultsma
- 17: Bob & Corinne Middendorp
- 17: Roy & Norma Lorensen
- 26: Marion & Marie Kuipers

*Please let the church office know if there are any birthdays or anniversaries that we've missed! Call 337-3572, or email: [plattecrc@gmail.com](mailto:plattecrc@gmail.com)*