



## **Devotional**

### **HOLINESS AND HYPOCRISY**

**Scripture Reading:** [Matthew 7:1-6](#)

*Rid yourselves of all ... hypocrisy ...*

*1 Peter 2:1*

What would you think of a pastor who routinely lied or a marriage counselor who had an extramarital affair? The word hypocrite would probably come to mind.

A hypocrite tries to project a personal image that is false. For example, a hypocrite can pretend to live by moral principles while pursuing a lifestyle that defies the gospel.

The call to rid ourselves of hypocrisy is an invitation to adopt a lifestyle consistent with Christ-centered faith: "Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature" (Romans 13:14).

Who is a hypocrite? It could be any or all of us. Every honest Christian struggles with inconsistencies between faith and life. The apostle Paul acknowledged this when he said, "I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing" (Romans 7:19).

The critical difference between a struggling believer and a calloused hypocrite is desire. Getting rid of hypocrisy means developing a heart that grows to hate evil and "cling to what is good" (Romans 12:9). God's children live by this motto: "Seek first his kingdom and his righteousness" (Matthew 6:33), in God's strength, of course.

Is your desire consistent with God's?

#### **Prayer:**

Lord, create a pure heart and renew a steadfast spirit within me. May your Spirit teach, counsel, and direct me in your truth. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Calvin Hoogendoorn



## **Pastor's Report**

### The Belgic Confession Articles 12 and 13

Articles 12 and 13 of the Belgic speak of Creation and Providence respectively. Article 12 clearly asserts that God created all things. Both what we can see in this world and what we cannot see. Thus, we confess God created the world, the animals, and us. But God also created the angels AND demons including Satan. These evil spirits are the enemies of God, and every good thing, hating the church. Thus, they are our enemies. But they are still created by God for the damnation that they deserve. This goes against the idea that seems to never end in our culture and in some churches that God and Satan are two opposites in a war, as if God and Satan are equal in some way. Satan is decidedly not eternal, not everywhere present and not all powerful. He is a creature, created for destruction. This is the error of the Manichees expressly rejected: that the evil spirit are not creations of God. The Sadducees are also rejected since in the Bible they did not believe in anything that was unseen.

Article 13 speaks of how God continues to govern the world which He created. Nothing happens without the express will of God. Yet, the Belgic spends most of the article explaining that this means God cannot be held accountable for the sinful evil deeds done by men. Yes, all actions are under God's control and happen because He wills it, but this does not mean that He is responsible. Our wills are not circumvented in this controlling process. In other words you do not do things that you do not wish to do. God does not force people to sin. They sin because they want to do it. Yes, God ordained that sin, but He is not responsible for it. Acts 2:23 is the perfect verse to explain this. Jesus Christ was killed by crucifixion through the counsel and foreknowledge of God, but also by the "wicked hands" of men. God ordained it, but the wickedness of man did it, and did it willingly.

The rest of Article 13 is spent pointing out how we can take great comfort that God has providential control over all things. Even the evil deeds of men is under His control. Nothing happens by chance. If chance exists in the universe then you can have no comfort. With the all powerful ever loving Lord in control then you can rest easy and have great solace and comfort no matter what happens in this life.

Rev. Lee Johnson



## Consistory Meeting Minutes

**Monday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2011**

Attendance: Rev. Lee Johnson; Elder Melvin Burbach; Deacons Dan Hans, Mike DeWitt, and Rich Novak

Absent: Elders Mike Burbach, and Bob Davis; Deacon Ben Torell

At 7:14 p.m. the meeting was called to order.

The meeting was opened with devotions from Rev 22 and prayer.

The minutes from the May monthly meeting were read and adopted as such by common consent.

Regarding the new bulletins on legal-sized paper, we need a digital picture of the church to place on the bulletin. We do have enough old bulletins left for approximately 1 month.

Discussion was held regarding a patio outside the kitchen door of the church building. No decisions were made.

No Treasurer's report was available for review.

The following up-coming events were reviewed.

- May 30 – start of summer schedule
- July 25-29 – Youth Camp
- Aug. 8-12 – Vacation Bible School
- Oct. 2 – Rev. Johnson at Emmanuel Church in Sutton for Missionfest

A Supplemental Remittance Form was received from Synod requesting a special remittance in order to bridge the gap from the old fiscal year to the new fiscal year. The form and remittance needs to be sent in by the end of June. A motion was made to submit the form with payment. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Morris has been contacted and has accepted our invitation to be the speaker for Missionfest this year. A motion was made to hold Missionfest on September 25<sup>th</sup> with September 18<sup>th</sup> being an alternate date. The motion was seconded and carried.

The roofing company has been contacted and is planning to begin repair work on June 20<sup>th</sup>.

The following were discussed regarding parsonage concerns.

- Rev. Johnson asked if it would be possible to put the patio screen door on the outside rather than the inside. The Consistory did not think it would be possible because of the track alignment. More research is needed.

- Rev. Johnson asked for permission to install a mounted baby gate at the top of the stairway in the parsonage. Permission was granted by common consent.

An estimate was received from Clark Electric, Inc. to install wall switches next to the breaker box to control the worship area lighting. The estimate came in at \$300. The Consistory agreed by common consent to table a decision until the next meeting.

Discussion was held regarding what material we would like to use this year for Vacation Bible School. Rev. Johnson stated that he does have a sample of the material produced by Rev. Kyle Sorenson. Another option would be to again use the material produced by Great Commissions. A motion was made to use the material from Great Commissions for another year of VBS. The motion was seconded and carried.

Rev. Johnson requested reimbursement of housing costs incurred during the Classis meeting in Greeley, CO. A motion was made to reimburse the Pastor for the housing costs. The motion was seconded and carried.

An update on the status of speakers for the conference being planned.

- Daniel Hyde – has now declined the invitation
- Del Tackett – has stated he would be willing to speak at a future time but would want us to go through the Truth Project video series again prior to the conference.
- Other suggested speakers included:
  - David Van Drunen
  - Tim Challies

Rev. Johnson asked if we would want to hold short (2-3 week) bible studies during the summer. By common consent the Consistory agreed to hold bible studies during the summer on Wednesday nights beginning in July.

At 8:59 p.m. a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and carried.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.



## **Calendar**

### **Summer Sunday Schedule (June 5<sup>th</sup> – September 4<sup>th</sup>):**

- All-ages Sunday School (9:30 a.m.)
- Fellowship/Snack time (10:00 a.m.)
- Worship (10:30 a.m.)
- Youth Discipleship Group (5:00 p.m.)

### **Upcoming Events:**

- 06/20:
  - [Women's Fellowship \(7:00 pm\)](#)
- 06/25:
  - [Men's Fellowship Breakfast \(8:00 am\)](#)
- 07/11:
  - [Consistory Meeting \(7:00 pm\)](#)
- 07/17:
  - [Christian Senior Navigators \(12:00 pm\)](#)
- 07/18:
  - [Women's Fellowship \(7:00 pm\)](#)
- 07/25:
  - [Heidelberg Youth Camp \(6:00 am\)](#)
- 07/30:
  - [Men's Fellowship Breakfast \(8:00 am\)](#)
- 07/31:
  - [Building Fund Offering \(10:30 am\)](#)
- 08/8:
  - [Vacation Bible School \(6:00 pm\)](#) (Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>)
  - [Consistory Meeting \(7:00 pm\)](#)
- 08/14:
  - [Deacon's Fund Offering \(10:30 am\)](#)
  - [Vacation Bible School Program \(4:00 pm\)](#)
- 08/15:
  - [Women's Fellowship \(7:00 pm\)](#)
- 08/27:
  - [Men's Fellowship Breakfast \(8:00 am\)](#)



## **Nursery Schedule 2011**

July	3	Sarah D. Joseph D.	Oct.	2	Jennifer O. Sarah D.
	10	Deb L. Espen A.		9	Nellie B. Hailey D.
	17	Arlene H. Kirin D.		16	Arlene H. Kirin D.
	24	Jenny Jo Nellie B.		23	Katelyn B. Grant B.
	31	Christie V. John B.		30	Jamie B. Phillip B.
Aug	7	Marilyn J. Grant B.	Nov.	6	Vicki D. Joseph D.
	14	Jamie B. Hailey D.		13	Jodi D Martha B.
	21	Sheryl B. Espen A.		20	Sheryl B. Matthew B.
	28	Natalie T. Cole V.		27	Natalie T. Espen A.
Sept.	4	Jodi D. Kirin D.	Dec.	4	Deb B. Cole V.
	11	Vicki D. Phillip B.		11	Jenny Jo J. Hailey D.
	18	Shirley A. John B.		18	Amy N. Kirin D.
	25	Heidi B. Oliver B.		25	Katelyn B. Philip B.

If the date you are assigned does not work for you, please find your substitute or call Jodi DeWitt at 488-1810 to make other arrangements. Thank you for your help!



## **Announcements**

**CHURCH DIRECTORY** – There is an old copy of the church directory on the table in the church foyer. Please verify/update your name, address, and phone number. If you are not in the directory please add your name, address, and phone number in the front cover.

**FIREWORKS** – The Christian Education Assistance group will again be selling fireworks to help support our children's Christian education. If you are interested in helping out please contact Dan Hans, Arlene Hans, or Mike Dewitt.

The fireworks stand will again be located on West 'A' street just east of Folsom street and as last year we will be selling [Poppers Fireworks](#).

If you plan to purchase fireworks this year or know someone who will be, the Christian Education Assistance group would truly appreciate your patronage.

**2011 POGO CARDS** – The Christian Education Assistance group is again selling POGO cards as a fund raiser. Contact either Dan Hans or Mike DeWitt if you would like to purchase a card. Pictures and additional information regarding the cards can be found on the web at [www.pogocard.com](http://www.pogocard.com).

**MEALS ON WHEELS** – St. John's Reformed Church is sponsoring a once a month Saturday morning route. We are scheduled for the 3rd Saturday of each month beginning December 19th. Time required is about 60-90 minutes beginning at 10:30. There is a sign-up sheet provided in the entry way. This is a great project for families as shut-ins enjoy seeing children.



## **Prayer Requests**

### **New Mothers:**

Amy Novak and new son Kashdyn Novak born Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **Our Shut-Ins:**

Esther Elfring, Julia Chomos, Eleanor Heinbigner

### **Those with Health Concerns:**

Braeden Ems, Chloe McClure, Rawly Wrobliski (blood clot in leg), Vickie Davis's brother-in-law

### **Outreach:**

Christian Education, Heidelberg Theological Seminary, Africa missions

### **Our Mission Churches:**

Chico, CA; La Habra, CA; Vermillion, SD; Bentonville, AR; Sherman, TX; new work in Minneapolis, MN; the Bible Study Group in Omaha, NE