

## PROVIDENCE REFORMED CHURCH

June 12, 2022; All this the Lord willing

**Tonight, June 12:** Congregational singing after PM service

**Monday, June 13:** Consistory Meeting, 7:00

**Wednesday, June 15:** Titus 2, 7:00

**Sunday, June 26:** Installation of new office bearers, PM service

**Wednesday, June 29:** Prayer Service, *John Boerkoel*

**Sunday, July 3 AM:** Rev. Vanden Belt

**PM:** Dr. Kranendonk

**Wednesday, July 6:** Lay Preaching 7:00

**Tuesday, July 12:** Consistory Meeting, 7:00

### Collection Schedule

**Today:** General

CEF

**June 19:** General

Building

### Nursery Schedule

**Today: AM** Katie Klaasen, Mairi Heikoop

**PM** Sarah Schipper, Hosanna Bazen

**June 19: AM** Faith Vander Boon, Kristen Bazen

**PM** Heidi Schipper, Mya Schipper, Silvia Boerkoel

### Family Visitation Schedule

**June 14:** Jim Bazen family, 7:00

### Youth Group

**June 19:** Singalong at VanderBoon's

### Announcements

- Mr. Willem Henke, Metty Boerkoel's father, had a stroke earlier this week and is still in the hospital but has made some progress. *"For He shall give His angels charge over thee, to keep thee in all thy ways."* Psalm 91:11
- We have received word that Mrs. Budding fell three weeks ago and broke her hip and leg. It required surgery and now she is at a nursing home for rehabilitation.  
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8071 AM Nunspeet  
Netherlands

*"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness."* Isaiah 41:10

- Grace Christian Academy and Plymouth Christian School are in desperate need of bus drivers. If you or someone you know has an interest in or questions about a bus driving position, please contact Mrs. Cindy Bazen (616-862-5988). Even part time drivers would be helpful.
- Grace Christian Academy (GCA - [gcagr.org](http://gcagr.org)) is accepting applications for teaching positions for the 2022-2023 school year. We have an upper elementary position available. Contact the principal for more details and an application: Mr. James Bazen ([jim.bazen@gcagr.org](mailto:jim.bazen@gcagr.org)).
- The annual HRC Youth Camp is planned for July 12-15 at camp Michawanna. Brochures are in the narthex or at+ [youthcamp@hrcgr.org](mailto:youthcamp@hrcgr.org)
- At the annual Congregational Meeting June 7, Walter Rozeboom was elected elder and Robert Boerkoel was elected deacon. If there are any lawful objections from the congregation to them serving, please notify an elder before June 26. Installation of new office bearers will be June 26 during the PM service.

## Meditation

### *Turn us again*

'Turn us again' is what we read three times in Psalm 80. We read this in verses 3, 7, and 19. It is remarkable to have almost identical verses in one and the same Psalm three times. But there can no longer be any misunderstanding about the theme and main content of the Psalm with this threefold repetition. It is noteworthy, meanwhile, that these verses are not entirely identical. Indeed, God's claim is slightly different in each of the three verses. That claim expands in each of these three intense prayers. The first time we read 'God.' The prayer, 'Turn us again, and cause thy face to shine; and we shall be saved' is thus addressed to God. Not to an idol, but to the true God! The God who has revealed Himself as such to us. The second time, however, the same prayer is addressed to 'God of hosts'. So the God, the only true God, is also the 'God of hosts'. That is the God who is the ruler of the immense heavenly army powers and of all earthly powers, the nations, and their citizens. Who can measure up to Him? The third prayer is addressed to 'LORD, God of hosts.' That God who is the All-Giver and has chosen a people to be His people has the Name, LORD. With that Name, He indicates that He has committed Himself to that people as the covenant God, the 'I am here'. What a miracle of one-sided grace and faithfulness!

But how diametrically opposed the Psalmist's experience is to what that God reveals of Himself and what that God has done in the past! The complaint of the Psalm poet, and many with him, is that God, the faithful Shepherd of Israel and Leader of His sheep, has turned against His people. For a long time now, the blessing of the LORD has not been experienced, but His chastening hand has. In Psalm 79 the confession of guilt and the plea for forgiveness sounded. In Psalm 80 we hear the complaint that the chastening lasts so long. But amid these severe and lengthy chastisements, the Psalmist learns one thing, and that is to call upon God in the knowledge of who He is and what He has done. It is He Who, by His unilateral free electing grace, chose a people and redeemed them. Then the prayer remains whether this God, who is still the same God, still wants to have mercy on His people again and give them His blessing. Thus, in verse 14, God is asked: 'Return!' After all, if that God of love turns to His people again, then those people will be restored, then they will be brought back to God again. There is no strength in the people to restore themselves. But when the LORD turns again in grace to His people, it will be well.

What lessons lie in this Psalm. It is a time of difficult economic and political circumstances. The Western countries are turning further and further away from the LORD, with all the consequences that entail. But also, personally, there can be so much misery. And how is it with our sins? Paul exclaims: *'the good that I would I do not: but the evil which I would not, that I do.'* What a bitter complaint. What remains then? Calling upon the LORD for His grace. And we do this in the Name of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. It is amazing how the eightieth Psalm has a Messianic turn. In the closing verses, we read of 'the Son', undoubtedly, among the other meanings, an indication of the coming Messiah. In Him, we call upon God in times of trials: 'Turn again, that we may be brought back to you and experience your blessing again'. Rev. J. Th Pronk