



“To the only wise God our Savior, be glory and majesty, dominion, and power, both now and forever. Amen” Jude 25

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Greetings from the Board of Trustees!

The board is excited about the progress towards both the classes at our school and the building of our new building. Since the last installment of the Messenger, many new developments have taken place. We again use this issue to update our constituency and supporters on those developments as well as the "behind the scenes" work of the Board and its committees.

The Society met on Tuesday, April 22, 2008, for a special society meeting. The main item on the agenda was a proposal from the Board to begin classes for the ninth grade in the fall of 2008. After some discussion, the Society voted to begin classes with a ninth grade in the fall of 2008, and add a grade each year thereafter. The Board is very thankful for the spirit of unity which prevailed, as well as for the thoughtful questions and comments from the Society.

Based on the direction given by the Society at this meeting, the Board has been laboring towards the start of classes for our high school this fall. The Board hired an additional full-time teacher to assist our administrator. The Board was thrilled with the quality and commitment to covenant education of those who were interviewed. After

interviews and some consideration, the Board offered a contract to BJ Mowery, who has accepted the position. The Board decided it was better to have another full-time teacher than several part time teachers for this coming year. Also, having a second full time teacher enables us to have another teacher on staff when additional classes are added in the future, and it will allow our administrator more time to devote to the necessary preparations for the three grades which will be added over the next three years. The Board is pleased with the progress which has been made by our Education Committee and Administrator with regard to the curricula and policies for our school.

One of the issues the Board has been working on is arranging for facilities for our school to operate in while our new building is constructed. The Board had located a rental facility earlier, but the building was sold before approval was given to start classes this fall. The board is looking at a number of other options, and will keep the society informed as to developments. The Board did obtain nineteen desks which are in excellent condition from Dordt College, at almost no cost.

The Board and Building Committee also continue to work towards the construction of our new

building. We have now obtained all necessary zoning and construction permits, and construction began on May 6, 2008. We thank our gracious Heavenly Father, who has so abundantly provided for us that we can provide covenant instruction for our children in our own school.

The Finance Committee has been working to establish budgets to divide building and startup costs and funds from operational costs and funds.

We as a Board pray for your continued prayers during this exciting time as we work to begin our school in a God-glorifying manner. We thank the society and all our constituency for all the support and encouragement which we have received during this busy and exciting time.

Administrator's Corner

With this issue we begin what we intend to be a regular feature of our newsletter. The Board asked me to share some of the work being completed so that we are ready to begin next fall. Myself being excited about the work, I am eager to share this information with our supporters.

The Education Committee, of which I am a member, has been fleshing out the framework of classes we propose to teach with brief course descriptions. A sample of this is given later in the newsletter. Note that it is a "proposed" curriculum. That is because I am working with local school superintendents to make sure we are on track to have all the necessary requirements met to fulfill the state's Competent Private Instruction guidelines. After that process is complete, a more exhaustive scope and sequence of each course will be written out and submitted to the Board for approval.

Personally speaking, many things has been a great encouragement to me in my work. I mention four particulars. The affirmative vote to begin this fall, interviewing some very qualified men for the other teaching position and getting one of them hired, the many words of encouragement people have said to me, and now seeing dirt moving along Hayes Avenue all serve to encourage and motivate me. It is my sincere desire that we all can share in the joy and give thanks to our Heavenly Father. These are exciting times!

In Christ, *Mr. Regnerus*

Bible Requirements

Trinity's proposed curriculum requires four semesters of Bible classes.

Freshman would take a one semester required **Bible** course. This course assumes that students enter high school with a solid base of knowledge of Bible history from their grade school and catechetical instruction. The course focuses on a more in-depth study of the major and minor prophets, the epistles, and Revelation. Different methods of studying Scripture are critiqued. Special emphasis is devoted to identifying our reformed worldview as it can be found in these books of Scripture.

Sophomores would take a one-semester required course of **Church History I**. The course begins where the Bible narrative ends at the conclusion of the missionary journeys. Significant attention is given to Augustine, Pelagius, and the crusades. The course teaches up to Martin Luther. Students are required to read one work of Augustine in the first quarter, and are required to write a report on one of the crusaders in the second quarter.

Juniors would be required to take a one-semester course of **Church History II**. This course teaches the period from Martin Luther through the early 20th century.

Particular attention is given to the Protestant Reformation, the development of the reformed faith in the Netherlands, and the religious developments in America from Puritanism up to Herman Hoeksema.

Seniors would take **Church History III**. This is a one-semester required course for all seniors. This course teaches Protestant Reformed church and doctrinal history to the present. Additionally, the course exposes the errors of cults, non-Christian religions, and apostatizing churches.

Seniors would have the selective of taking **Practical Theology**. This one semester course focuses on various contemporary issues and modern challenges that confront the student as he strives to live as God's covenant friend in the midst of the world. The goal of the course is to encourage students to apply the truth of God's Word all of life for the glory and honor of God. Sectionals include the subjects of prayer, missions, discipleship, the Christian and culture, Christian philosophy, developing a Protestant Reformed worldview, and living the antithesis. All seniors, but especially the college bound, are encouraged to take this course.