Winter Classis Report 2024

Greetings from Redeemer University

The fall term at Redeemer University was a time of celebrating successes and launching new initiatives. Living into the mission to prepare students to reflect the love of Jesus Christ in every career and calling, God's faithfulness continued to be evident. Redeemer's student body grew in number, and there is much to share with supporters in the Christian Reformed Church (CRC).

Celebrating Record Enrolment

Redeemer <u>set new records</u> in incoming class size, full-time students, students living in residence and total enrolment! With nearly 1,100 students overall, more students are choosing to study within Redeemer's unique Reformed Christian mission, attracted by expanded program offerings, tuition affordability and strategic recruitment efforts.

Shaped by the Reformed Tradition

Faculty members <u>engaged in a series of workshops last summer</u> that deepened their understanding of Redeemer's Reformed Christian mission as it applies to scholarship and teaching. The multi-day gathering focused on the Westminster Confession of Faith. This bi-annual practice helps Redeemer pursue one of its main purposes: "the advancement of learning and dissemination of knowledge on the basis of the Reformed confessions, traditions and perspectives."

Exploring the History of the Land

A project three years in the making, Redeemer unveiled its <u>History of the Land exhibit</u> and <u>website</u>. The exhibit honours the rich First Nations heritage of the area, showcasing artifacts found on the land where Redeemer is situated. On September 19, 2024, Redeemer hosted an opening ceremony, bringing together local First Nations leaders, students, faculty, staff and guests.

Honouring an Exceptional Alumna

In August, Redeemer awarded the 2024 Distinguished Alumni Award to alumna <u>Dr. Wendy Willmore</u> '98. She holds a bachelor of science and a minor in missions from Redeemer. Dr. Willmore is a missionary surgeon who is using her passion for mentoring to help new surgeons bring God's love and justice to Tanzania. She is currently affiliated with the mission organization Commission to Every Nation.

Launching Microcredentials

Responding to the growing need for church leader training, Redeemer launched its <u>first of three church leadership microcredentials</u>. A unique addition to Redeemer's academic offerings, these short, competency-based online learning opportunities teach in-demand knowledge and skills. Distinct from seminary and corporate professional development, Redeemer is coming alongside the church to provide church leaders with management and organizational leadership training specific to a church context. I invite you to share this practical learning opportunity with your congregation!

Thank You

The Christian Reformed Church plays an invaluable role in Redeemer's support community. Thank you for your prayers and financial support!

In Christ,

David Zietsma, PhD

President, Redeemer University