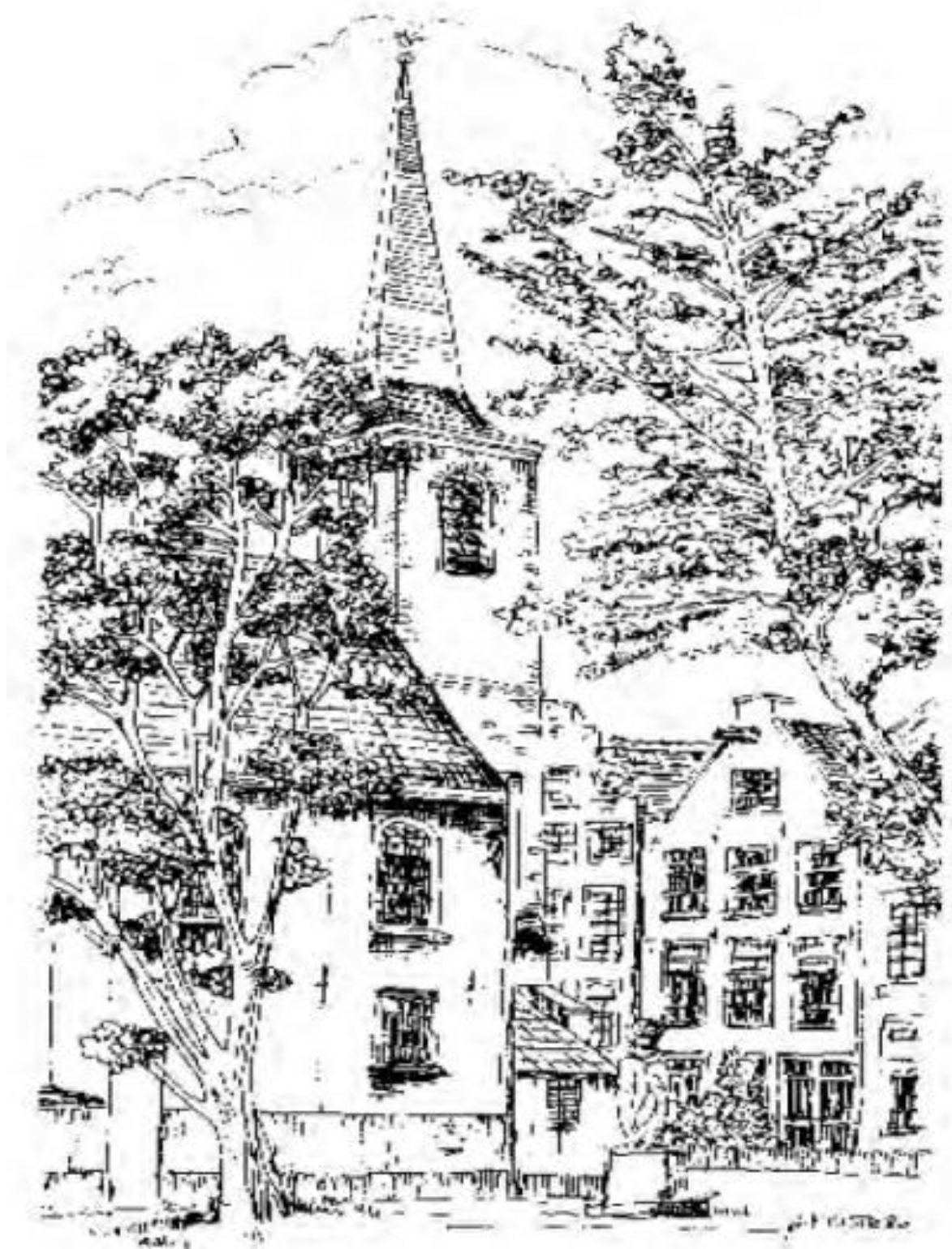


The Record



**April-May 2016
Vol. 2**

**The English Reformed Church
Begijnhof 48, 1012 WV Amsterdam
www.ercadam.nl**

2 Contact Information:

Rev. Dr. Lance Stone
Minister
minister@ercadam.nl

J.W.Brouwersstraat 9
1071 LH Amsterdam
020 6722288

Heleen Koning
Scriba
scriba@ercadam.nl

Jan de Jonghkade 56
1063 MH Amsterdam
06 13097756

Thorsten König
Treasurer
treasury@ercadam.nl

C.P. Van der Leestraat 36
1396 JP Baambrugge
0294 772934

Veronica Garcia Robles
Lay Assistant, Sunday School Superintendent

layassistant@ercadam.nl
06 30192687

Susan Polstra
Church Officer, Letting for Weddings
churchofficer@ercadam.nl

Marnixkade 67-2
1015 XX Amsterdam
020 6224158

Richard Zook
Organist, Choir Director
organist@ercadam.nl

Bloemgracht 85
1502 VB Zaandam
075 6311419

Kenneth Ewen
Concert Manager

concertorganiser@ercadam.nl

Nancy Sekyere Owusu
Crèche Duty Rota
creche@ercadam.nl

Roomtuintjes 197
1093 TB Amsterdam
020 6933521

Els Nooij
Church Guiding Coordinator

openchurch@ercadam.nl

Jens Anders Wejsmark Sørensen
Webmaster

webmaster@ercadam.nl

Church Hall

NZ Voorburgwal 282A
1012 RT Amsterdam

English Reformed Church

Begijnhof 48,
1012 WV Amsterdam
020 6249665

IBAN: NL44 ABNA 0547 6235 50
SWIFT address: ABNANL2A

Friends of the English Reformed Church
IBAN: NL90 ABNA 0624 1800 69

Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

Back in February, as is our custom each year, the elders had an away day together when we took some time out to consider the life of our church. This year we focused on pastoral care and I thought it might be helpful for me to share a little of what we discussed.

In many churches today, when the topic of pastoral care is mentioned, people will tell you of the arrangements their church has in place for visiting the sick and the house-bound or those going through very difficult times. No-one disputes the importance of such provision and our church is blessed to have a committed, caring group of visitors who visit and keep in contact with some of our elderly or less able members. It is, however, important to recognise that historically this isn't exactly what has been meant by pastoral care.

Historically this has had to do with 'pastoring' people, a task which has had to do with helping people to develop their spiritual lives and nurturing them in the life of discipleship. In Paul's letter to the Colossians he speaks of his desire to 'present everyone mature in Christ' – a striking phrase which has associations of being fulfilled and complete as Christian people. To be 'mature in Christ' suggests being all that God longs for us to be as disciples of Jesus and as members of Christ's church, and this is surely a good summary of the goal of pastoral care. Of course that means supporting people in times of sickness or adversity but it has to do with much more, encompassing all that it means to be a Christian and including worship, Christian education and fellowship as well as caring.

Pastoral care is done differently in different churches. At times it has been a task very much entrusted to the priest or vicar. By way of contrast, in our Presbyterian tradition the elders have had a key role, working with the minister (often, sadly, acting rather like moral police or as snoopers and busybodies). Different times and contexts require different approaches, however, and our modern world of Information Technology, social media and sometimes scattered congregations invite fresh thinking. My concern is not so much that we should have a highly trained team of pastoral carers that work with people on a 1:1 basis, but rather that there should be opportunities in the life of our church to grow in the life of faith and discipleship. It encourages me that such opportunities abound. As well as Sunday worship we have regular midweek Bible Study and a number of groups – Ladies' Fellowship, Men's Group, 20s-30s, the coffee morning – where people are supported and enabled to grow in their life of discipleship. This is how pastoral care takes place, and you might like to think about how you fit into that, and where you are being helped to grow into maturity in Christ.

As I write this Holy Week and Easter are approaching fast and so I would conclude by wishing you the peace of the risen Lord Jesus and all that he gives.

- Lance

Holiday Plans

Many of you know that Sally and I have a daughter and son-in-law who have been living in Argentina for the past two years. They return to the UK later this year and we have decided to visit them, something we have not yet had a chance to do. Normally we'd take holidays in August but that isn't a good time to visit Argentina, being winter time there. For this reason we've decided to go out the last week in April, returning mid-May. This is not an ideal time for me to be away but I have managed to get cover for all my services and responsibilities during that period and I trust the congregation will understand. Shortly after we return I am off to Edinburgh for the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland from May 21st – 22nd, so come the beginning of June I may be something of a stranger!

4 **Consistory Meetings Report - Feb. & Mar. 2016**

In February, Consistory took some time for contemplation and fellowship during a one day retreat. Topics were the development of pastoral care, the institution of quarterly church meetings as another means of staying in contact with the members of the congregation and the institution of the Property Committee to support the Property Convenor. Furthermore the Worship & Christian Education Committee will be asked to look into the development of the Family Service.

Membership Matters

Mrs. Ferkranus passed away at the end of January.

Veronica Garcia, Lay Assistant, reported on a variety of topics. Evening gatherings are planned in March and April for the 20-30's, parents of Sunday School children and parents of Junior Church youth. Veronica took over the co-ordination of the Record with the support of the Publicity Committee.

We received 29 slips nominating a broad range of people for eldership. As a congregation we are blessed with so many active and able people, doing important work voluntarily for the church and its members. After a review of the nominees in the context of the present composition of Consistory and prayerful reflection Consistory came to the decision to consider Sarah Ying Wang. The edict will be read on March 13 and 20.

Committees

All members of the Outreach and Social events committee were thanked for their work in making the Burn's Supper in January and Shrove Tuesday in February a success. The committee (who is always looking for people who would like to help out at events) will organise the Seder meal on March 23.

The Publicity Committee has put up a weekly digital newsletter, and a link to sign up for this can be found on the website. Jens tweaked the logo of the ERC. The committee is also looking into the possibility of using web-based programs to invite people for activities (in addition to the announcements in the liturgy sheet, Record etc.).

Finance

The income and expenditure of 2016 was discussed. Thanks to an increase of donations we are looking towards ending the year with a small surplus. For more information you will find a separate report from the Treasurer in this Record.

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Consistory Meeting Report - Feb. & Mar. 2016

Property

The new system for entrance to the Begijnhof after 17:00 hrs (doorbell, closing of the square in the evening) will take effect soon. The system will be programmed in such a way that there will always be access to the church in case of services, concerts and other activities.

The maintenance work in and outside the church is being planned to be carried out during a few weeks in summer. Because of moisture issues in a few wall, we have to postpone inside painting.

In April Consistory will decide on the remit of a Property Committee.

International Presbytery

Pastor Lance and Baafi represented the ERC in the meeting of the International Presbytery (IP) in the second weekend of March in Rome. The IP is now under the Mission Council, which gives the churches a special status in the Church of Scotland. But given the development of the IP over the years, it is felt that the IP should now become a presbytery as other presbyteries in Scotland.

This is a challenging process, because of the fact that the congregations of the IP all have to work within the legal framework of the country in which they are located. The IP Act, the document in which the new relationship is laid out, will be presented to the General Assembly in May 2016. The ERC has given its input to the Working Group and is awaiting feedback.

Annual General Meeting

After the service on April 17, the Annual General meeting will be held in church. The meeting will contain the traditional elements (reports from minister, treasurer and scribe and the audit committee) but we decided to also organise time for fellowship with members of the congregation over a potluck lunch. The agenda and annual report will be available at the beginning of April.

The next Consistory meetings will be held on April 4 and May 2, 2016. If you have any questions or would like to bring a topic to the meeting, please feel free to contact me.

Heleen Koning (scriba@ercadam.nl)

** Did you know that an article about the Mulanje Mission Hospital was recently published in the March 2016 issue of Wilde Ganzen Magazine? If you'd like to read it, please visit our website, where it has been posted:*

<http://www.ercadam.nl>

Report on Presbytery Meeting - March 2016

Our sister congregation, St Andrew's Church of Scotland in Rome, hosted the first of this year's two Presbytery meetings of the Presbytery of Europe (International Presbytery) from the 10th till the 13th of March 2016. Our congregation was represented by our Minister, Revd. Dr. Lance Stone and Presbytery Elder, Mr. Baafi Owusu Sekyere and reinforced by Mr. Thijs Polstra (incoming Presbytery Treasurer).

Presbytery appointed Mrs. Rhoda Grant, Elder of St. Andrew's Church in Brussels as the Moderator for 2016.

The late Revd. Bill Reid (former Minister of our sister congregation in Paris) was remembered with a short speech by the Presbytery Elder from Paris, Mrs. Dorothy Nitsche.

Between the last Presbytery meeting in October 2015 and mid-year 2016, our Presbytery is losing our enviable position as having the highest number of Ministers in relation to congregations within the Church of Scotland to become the lowest, as one has already left and three are on their way leaving and these are:

- Revd. Ian Manson (Geneva) – left
- Revd. Dr. Rhona Dunphy (Regensburg)
- Revd. Jim Cowie (Paris)
- Revd. Willie McCulloch (Rome)

Current Ministry vacancies in the Presbytery of Europe are Lisbon, Fuengirola/Costa del Sol, Rotterdam, Bermuda, Sri Lanka, Trinidad, Geneva, Paris (May 2016) and Rome (July 2016).

Our former Elder and ex-convenor of Presbytery Finance Committee, Mr Thijs Polstra was appointed to succeed Mr. Hunter Smith of the Scots International Church in Rotterdam as Presbytery Treasurer.

The Finance Committee noted that possible exit of the UK from the European Union could have a significant impact on congregations in our Presbytery (on mainland Europe).

The Mission Committee encourages congregations to make use of the promotional material provided by the Publicity Officer and to support this year's

Mission Project "Beyond Crisis" from our sister congregation in Budapest, supporting Syrian and other refugees to find their feet and function normally in the Hungarian system.

The next General Assembly of the Church of Scotland will be held in Edinburgh from the 21st till the 27th of May 2016 and our congregation, English Reformed Church, is one of four congregations representing the

Report on Presbytery⁷ Meeting - March 2016

Presbytery of Europe there. Our Minister, Revd. Dr. Lance Stone and Ms. Judi Haynes-Smart, Elder, will represent our congregation in this regard.

The General Assembly, which is the governing body of the Church of Scotland, is expected to formally adopt the International Presbytery Act. This means, thereafter, the name of our Presbytery will be International Presbytery and no more Presbytery of Europe.

As indicated in the previous Presbytery Report last year, this will change the status of our Presbytery within the Church of Scotland, making it function as any other Presbytery on mainland Scotland. With this come rights and responsibilities as a fully-fledged Presbytery of Church of Scotland instead of a mission case under World Mission Council. This will require that we contribute our due to the central coffers of the mother church as all other Presbyteries and congregations do in Scotland. This means a substantial increase in our contribution to the central coffers, which would be phased in, in five years starting from 2017. Though there are some uncertainties, Presbytery, represented by the International Presbytery Working Group and the Council of Assembly of Church of Scotland will continue to evaluate the situation as time goes on, adjust where necessary to ensure a smooth transition to a stable state for the benefit of all.

The next and last Presbytery meeting for this year will be held in Lausanne, Switzerland from the 7th. till the 9th. of October 2016.

For more information, please don't hesitate to contact me at church or per email.

Baafi Owusu Sekyere (Presbytery Elder)

General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, Edinburgh, May 21st – 27th 2016

The General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, which meets annually in Edinburgh, is an institution that is over 450 years old and is a very important part of the Presbyterian system that we, as a congregation of the Church of Scotland, are governed by. At the Assembly matters relating to the Church - and indeed the nation - of Scotland are discussed and laws passed that determine how the Church operates. One of the foundations of our Presbyterian system is that at such gatherings there is an equal representation of ministers and elders.

This year we are one of the congregations representing the International Presbytery of which we are a part and I will be attending along with our elder Judi Haynes Smart.

- Lance

8 Letter from the Friends Foundation

Friends Foundation "*Friends of the English Reformed Church*"

The English Reformed Church in Amsterdam's Begijnhof has been the home to an English language congregation since 1607 but it has been a gathering place for over 600 years. The present building is over 500 years old and requires constant care and maintenance.

In 1970 a friend of the church, Mr. Gerard Rhee, registered a foundation called the "Friends of the English Reformed Church" (registered as a Stichting, at the Amsterdam Chamber of Commerce). The aim of the foundation was to give support in any way possible to maintain the presence of the church in the city as a place of worship, as a concert venue and as a meeting place for many people and cultures. The board of the *Friends Foundation* is chaired by the Reverend Dr. Lance Stone and further consists of Maria-Louise Genet, Henk Keizer, *secretary*, Thijs Polstra and Jolmer Gerritse, *Treasurer*.

Over the past forty-five years the *Friends Foundation* has carried out its task through involvement in 2 major restorations of the church building in 1972 & 2006, development of the concert program, acquisition & renovation of the Manse in 2000 and many other acts of support for the work of the church, using gifts and legacies from the members and supporters of the Church.

Few buildings are more loved and treasured in Amsterdam than the English Reformed Church. The Begijnhof setting, the unique culture, and its historical place in the city make it a very special place. The Manse offers a suitable home for our Reverend and family and the many ways it facilitates church activities such as the weekly bible studies, Reverend office & various meetings.

In 2016 the final part of a 5 year refurbishment plan of the church building is to be completed for an estimated cost of €60.000, again to be primarily covered from the *Friends Foundation* reserves, as subsidies have largely subsided in the Netherlands for National Monuments, such as the church.

It continues to be goal of the *Friends Foundation* to be able to maintain & rebuild the reserve fund, to allow us to offer help in a timely way when future problems may arise. We are grateful to all those who have supported the *Friends Foundation* in the past and those who offer their support in the future.

Letter from the Friends Foundation

You can give your support through single gifts or periodical donations:

- . by bank transfer to: IBAN NL90ABNA0624180069 - BIC CODE ABNANL2A, in the name of: Stichting Friends of the English Reformed Church, BEGIJNHOF 48, AMSTERDAM-NL.
- . in cash in the treasury box, situated at the porch of the Church entrance, or
- . through a bequest, to be arranged with your notary.

As an affiliation of the English Reformed Church the A.N.B.I. status applies to donations to the *Friends Foundation* as well. Further information can be found on the church website.

The accounts of the *Friends Foundation* are published together with the ERC accounts, audited by the ERC audit committee, available, presented and approved at the Annual General Meeting of the ERC.

In case you may have any questions regarding the *Friends Foundation*: please contact me at: friends@ercadam, T +3120-535-3366, or at Begijnhof 48, 1012 WV Amsterdam.

Thank you for taking the time to read this appeal & for your support,

Jolmer Gerritse, Treasurer.

Shrove Tuesday

On February 9th, the ERC celebrated Shrove Tuesday, the last day before the start of Lent, holding pancake races on the Spui & enjoying a pancake potluck at the ABC Treehouse. Many joined in the festivities & fellowship. Thanks especially to those who volunteered, ensuring the event happened & helped make the night a success!



Photos by Jens Anders Wejsmark Sørensen

Who's Who in the ERC

Meet Janet & Bruce Dönszelmann:

Janet is from Iowa, the "heartland" state of the USA.
Bruce was born and raised in The Hague.



"We met in university in the US, where we both studied political sciences and fell in love. We got married in 1980 in...Iowa." Having 'bitterballen', a wheel of Dutch cheese and Heineken, "considered quite exotic in the area for 1980", they served these Dutch 'delicacies' at the reception after the ceremony, while everyone enjoyed a local Dixie Land Jazz band.

Later that year, they left the USA after a short stay in Middelburg, and moved to Alphen a/d Rijn to start their family. Janet taught university classes at the US military base in Soesterberg and at Webster University in Leiden while Bruce's career moved forward at KLM. From 1987 until 1993 they lived in Madrid, Sao Paulo and Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Attending interdenominational churches in Madrid & Sao Paulo, they recall a particularly memorable Christmas Eve service in Sao Paulo, as it is below the equator, and on a 30+ C summer's evening they sang Silent Night, as each person in the church held a candle, which they say must have raised the temperature in the sanctuary another 10 degrees!

Returning to The Netherlands in 1993, they joined the ERC at the end of 1995. Janet helped in the crèche and also taught Sunday School. "We do feel that our three children, Katie, Peter and Sophie enjoyed and benefited from these activities and the fellowship."

They explored and moved to other places as well, such as Budapest, Miami, Bogota and Tokyo. During the 5 years they lived in Budapest, they attended St. Columba's Scottish Church, part of the Presbytery of Europe. *"Rosemary (Tiggelovend) and John (Cowie) came to stay with us during a large Presbytery meeting."* Each move had challenges but also great rewards, sharpening their family's adaptation skills. While living abroad, they'd return for ERC services when visiting their Dutch relatives. *"We really appreciated the touch of familiarity, the continuity and, of course, Charles greeting us at the door."*

Four years ago, they returned to the Netherlands, are now living Amstelveen and are back at the ERC. Janet has cooked in the Kloof and joined the monthly coffee mornings. She enjoys this group of long term church members and appreciates their fellowship. She also values the chance to practice Dutch with the coffee group members. *"Together, we are on the coffee and tea rota in the church. It's great to see how many people stay for this time of fellowship in the church. There's lots of opportunity to say hello to someone new and have a quick chat with old friends."*

"Our grown children do not seem to be much deterred by distance or destination. Katie is in Bogota, Colombia, Peter is (nice and close) in Amsterdam and Sophie is in London. Staying in touch and abreast of each other's lives seems, thankfully, rather effortless despite the distance, thanks to digital technology."

"We think will we stay in Nederland. The boxes of memories and belongings are finally unpacked and we can continue to enjoy the fellowship of friends new and old at the ERC."

Interview written by Heleen Koning

Midweek Fellowship, Services & Studies

Bible Study: 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month

In April, we will begin a new Bible Study 6 week series entitled: **'Seeing Ourselves in Those Confronted by Jesus'**, which looks at some of the groups that Jesus interacted with in his ministry. For example, we read in the Gospels about the Pharisees, and the Sadducees and the Zealots, and there were other groups around like the Essenes, all of whom form the context of Jesus' ministry and account for his teaching and practice. All of these groups however are also relevant for how we understand our life as disciples today – as we shall explore. It has been heartening that our midweek Bible Studies have picked up a bit recently - you might like to give it a try. All are welcome!

Taizé Service: 2nd Wednesday of the month

Ladies Fellowship: Last week of the month

The Ladies Fellowship met on the 31st of March and are planning to meet again on April 28 and May 26. Please be sure to put these dates in your agenda. If you would like to join us but are not on the invitation list, then please contact Peggy Krol at peggy.krol@planet.nl or call her at 020-6767804 and she will gladly add you to the list. All ladies welcome!

Men's Group: Last week of the month

The newly-formed men's group continues to meet, albeit with small numbers, but in a convivial atmosphere and with stimulating discussion. The next meeting will probably be in the last week of April and will be publicised in the church notices and on the website. Come and join us!

Burns Night



Photo by Jens Anders Wejsmark Sørensen

Seder Passover



The Burns Night and Seder Passover were two lovely evenings complete with great fellowship and good food! A big thanks to all volunteers, who without their involvement and hard work, these events would not have happened! Thanks to everyone who came and made both of these events a great success!

Upcoming Concerts For April & May

Sat. 9 April 8:15 am

Chamber choir Douce Memoire
Conductor: Felix van den Hombergh

Program: *Douce Memoire Double*; Arrangements by Sandström, Cornelius, Stravinsky, Gottwald, Nystedt, Swingle, Urbaitis, vd Hombergh & Manneke from original works by Purcell, Debussy, Caplet, Gesualdo, Mahler, Bach, Mozart, Allegri & Sandrin. Two premiers by Daan Manneke & Felix van den Hombergh

Sun. 10 April 3:15 pm

The Ameesing Koor
Conductor: Evert van Malkenhorst

Program: *15-year jubilee concert*; Songs from the last 15 years from all periods, folk to classical music, in many languages. Including solos from singers & instrumentalists.

Sat., 16 April 8:00 pm

Benefit Concert for the sculpture "De Naaister"
Judi Haynes-Smart, soprano, Monika Geibel, violin
Judith van Swaay, cello, Olja Bučo, piano

Program: a selection from Händel's *Neun Deutsche Arien* & works by Gluck, Schubert & Rachmaninoff
***Please see the next page for further information.**

Sat. 23 April 7:30 pm

The Icelandic Choir in London & The Icelandic Choir in The Netherlands.
Conductors: Helgi Rafn Ingvarsson and Eyjólfur Eyjólfsson

Program: A capella arrangements of folk tunes from Iceland, pieces from the Romantic period and madrigals from various lands.

Sat. 14 May 8:15 pm

(Free concert with a voluntary collection)

The Vesta Ensemble
Annemieke Rozemond: soprano, Liesbeth de Bakker: mezzo soprano, Rien Jacobsen: theorbo, baroque guitar
Teun Lingeman: lute, theorbo, baroque guitar
Robin van Erven Dorens: viola da gamba

Program: *Monteverdi and more*
Works by Claudio Monteverdi, Heinrich Schütz, Dieterich Buxtehude, Johann Sebastian Bach and Georg Friedrich Handel

Sat. 21 May 3:15 pm

The Overijssels Kamerkoor
Conductor: Eugène van Boheemen
The Baldur Gitaar Ensemble: Sjors Holleboom, Grace van Dorsten and Tom Edskes.

Program: Works by G.P. da Palestrina, James MacMillan, Arvo Pärt, Henryk Mikołaj Górecki, Veljo Tormis, Patrick Hawes and György Deák-Bárdos. New works by Michel Bosc and Arend Gerds

Thurs. 26 May 8:15 pm

Johannette Zomer: soprano,
Bart Schneemann, oboes with The Tulipa Consort
Lidewij van der Voort and Marc Cooper violins
Yoshiko Morita viola, Robert Smith chello,
Maggie Urquhart double bass, Michiel Niessen, theorbo & Bart Naessens, harpsichord and organ

Program: *Baroque Heroes*

Selection of works by Georg Friedrich Handel & Johann Sebastian Bach. Includes: George Friedrich Handel: Arias from *Berenice*, *Giulio Cesare*, *Teseo*, *Theodora*, & *Solomon*. Also *The Arrival of the Queen of Sheba*. Johann Sebastian Bach: Excerpts from Cantatas BWV 49, BWV 68, BWV 105 & complete BWV 202.

Sun. 29 May 3:15pm

Franz Liszt Kamerkoor
Conductor: Eric Jan Josse,
Peter van de Kamp: piano

Program: Works by Carlos Guastavino, Tomás Luis de Victoria, Gabriël Fauré, Camille Saint Saëns, Francisco Guerrero & Johannes Brahms.

Tues. 31 May 1:00 pm

The Ladybrook Singers,
Conductor: Alison Bletcher,
Celia Maylor: piano

(Free concert with a voluntary collection) **Program:** F. Roy Bennett: Psalm 150, John Rutter: A Gaelic Blessing, Howard Goodall: The Lord is My Shepherd, Edward Elgar: The Snow, As Torrents, Eric Whitacre: Seal Lullaby, Ennio Morricone: Nella, Leonard Cohen: Hallelujah, Paul Mealor: Wherever You Are, D. Weiss & G. Douglas: What a Wonderful World, Sting: Fields of Gold, Don Besig : Flying Free

Benefit Concert

FOR THE SCULPTURE "DE NAAISTER"

a neighborhood initiative of the residents of the Bergstraat

Saturday, 16 April 2016, 20:00

English Reformed Church, Begijnhof 48

program includes a selection from:

Händel's *Neun Deutsche Arien*
and works by Gluck, Schubert
and Rachmaninoff

Judi Haynes-Smart, soprano

Monika Geibel, violin

Judith van Swaay, cello

Olja Bučo, piano

entrée € 17.50

The Naaister (The Seamstress) is an artwork that exudes history: it is based on the rich and colourful past of the Bergstraat and its surrounding neighborhood. The first accounts of the street were written at the end of the 16th century and these accounts reveal the original character of the Bergstraat. Not only did this little side-street lack the wealth and elite image of the neighboring grachtengordel, but was a true 'trade street': populated by seamstresses and prostitutes alike. The sculptress Caroline Kampfraath, who lives in the Bergstraat herself, has attempted to reflect this unique history in her sculpture.

For more information on the Naaister project, contact Valerie Robillard: v.k.robillard@rug.nl
Reservations can be made via Valerie Robillard or bergstraatnaaister@gmail.com



Courtesy of Valerie Robillard

Church Member Notices

Baptisms:

Feb. 7: Elisa Laurelei Elphick
Feb. 21: James Lawrie

Deaths:

Jan. 25: Mrs Reinera Ferkranus- de Vries

Mrs. Ferkranus 1924-2016

Mrs. Reinera Ferkranus- de Vries passed away on January 25, 2016, a week after she reached the age of 92.

Mrs. Ferkranus had a career as a professional soprano and she loved to play the violin, which she could not do anymore after her stroke. She used to come to our church and to many concerts. Until she passed away, she always listened to music.

The members of the Visitation Committee stayed in contact with her, also after she was not able to visit the church anymore.

Written by Joke de Bruin



Courtesy of Mrs. Doris Ferkranus

Youth Notices

Crèche:

The Creche is open during Sunday services for children ages 0 - 3 years.

Sunday School:

The Sunday School (for ages 4-11 years) is held during Sunday services at the ABC Treehouse, Voetboogstraat 11. Classes end at 11:45. Parents, please pickup your children at the Treehouse after church. Thank you!

Junior Church:

The Junior Church (for ages 12+ years) is held during Sunday services at the ABC Treehouse, Voetboogstraat 11.

Upcoming Events:

Sunday School Parents:

Fellowship Evening April 1 at the Manse (J.W. Brouwerstraat 9, A'dam) at 20:00

Junior Church Parents:

Fellowship Gathering April 3 at Luxembourg Cafe (Spui 24, A'dam) at 16:00

JC Teens & 20s & 30s Group:

Join us for a "U2charist" on April 10 at the Vredevorstkerk
(Laan der Nederlanden 152, Beverwijk) at 16:00

20's & 30's Group:

In March, the 20's & 30's group gathered for a night of fellowship over home-made Mexican food! More than 15 people, many who were new to the group, gathered to enjoy a relaxing evening together at the Manse. If you'd like to know more about our young, Christian 20's & 30's group, please contact Consistory Member Laura Elliott!



Photos by Veronica Garcia-Robles

Church / Volunteer Notices

Coffee Morning:

Each first Tuesday of the month, a group of ERC members meet for an informal coffee morning at someone's home.

Everyone is welcome to join. For more information, please contact Sies Plokker or Elly Kalff in church or send an email to info@ercadam.nl.

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."
(Matthew 18:20)*

Open Church Greeters:

Did you know that the church stays open for visitors during the week? We need church greeters! If you'd like to volunteer and can help, please contact Els Nooij at: p.nooij68@chello.nl for more information.

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me". (Matthew 25:35b)

Coffee Rota:

Would you like to help serve the coffee after church on Sundays? If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Johan de Villiers at jhsdev@iafrica.com.

*"Serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received".
(1 Peter 4:10b)*

Donations:

During February, we collected much needed toiletry items for the refugees. Thanks to those who donated, we were able to deliver about 5 shopping bags full of toiletries in the month of February to the refugees! Our ongoing collection of food and toiletries for the Food Bank also brings in quite a bit as we generally deliver a carload every couple of months.

"Be generous, and you will be prosperous. Help others, and you will be helped." (Proverbs 11:25)

De Kloof:

The ERC is committed to cook for the homeless every first Monday of the month at De Kloof. If you'd like to volunteer to cook, please contact Gillian Walker at dekloof@ercadam.nl for more information.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink". (Matthew 25:35a)

Church Committees

The ERC has many committees that help our church stay active in service (e.g. Outreach, Social Events, Worship, Christian Education, among others). If you'd like to get more involved at church, please speak with any consistory member!

"Serve one another in love." (Galations 5:13c)

Special Notice:

The Record is going paperless for environmental and cost saving reasons. The transition will take place over the next few months.

*We understand that some may prefer to keep receiving the paper version of The Record. If you'd like to continue getting the paper copy of The Record, please contact the ERC Lay Assistant, Veronica Garcia-Robles, by **July 15, 2016** via email at layassistant@ercadam.nl or call her so she is aware.*

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*You will receive **2** more paper issues of The Record before we go fully digital.*

Consistory Members:

Laura Elliott	06 26423799
Mattia Falcone	06 27853671
Giles Francis	020 3200197
Thijs Glasz J.	035 6910408
Judi Haynes-Smart	06 10242250
Thorsten König Treasurer	0294 772934
Heleen Koning Scriba	06 13097756
Peggy Krol	020 6767804
Baafi Sekyere	020 6933521
Rev. Dr. Lance Stone Minister	020 6722288
Seppo Stout Property Convener	020 6798698
Nick Thomas	06 11885017



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