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The English Reformed Church
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www.ercadam.nl

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Minister's Letter

Dear Friends,

I have just returned from a week in Edinburgh where I was a Commissioner at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, along with one of our elders, Ingrid Sorensen (ministers and elders are always paired in such Presbyterian gatherings to prevent decision-making from being dominated by ministers!). Highlights of the week included Edinburgh (mostly) in the warm sunshine; a beautiful service in a packed St Giles Cathedral, the High Kirk of Edinburgh, on the Sunday morning; some stirring debates and, of course, the chance to meet up with old friends and colleagues.

Perhaps one debate and decision stood out in particular. A report was brought to the Assembly, *The Strategic Plan*, which was supposed to offer a 10 year plan to turn the Church of Scotland around from drastic decline and to offer a plan for renewal. The response of the Assembly was dismissive as the report was accused of being thick on gloss and presentation and thin on specifics. It was really an exhortation to go on doing what we are already doing but to do it better and it was therefore considered insufficiently radical. And so the Council which prepared the report was basically sent back to think again and to come up with a more definite action plan to bring much needed reform.

Like other commissioners I was very disappointed by the report, but I also felt that those entrusted with the task of producing it had really been set up to fail - and I fear that their second attempt may equally fall short. The Church of Scotland, after all, is faced with a huge problem. In 60 years its membership has declined from 1,300,000 to just 300,000 members - less than a quarter of its size. And where once upon a time the General Assembly was a major annual event in the life of the Scottish nation, much reported, nowadays - despite a fair sprinkling of pomp and ceremony - it is a sideshow. And of course the Church of Scotland is not exceptional here. Churches all over Europe are feeling the cold winds of secularism and are closing down or becoming pubs or nightclubs. How do we turn this round? How can any Council or Committee come up with a plan for resurrection?

Well, of course they can't. There are structural changes that need to be made as congregations shrink but there are no silver bullets, no simple remedies. We have to learn to respond to a new situation where much has changed in society, and to trust God to do something new and very different from what has gone before. With that in mind, I would commend the words of a leading American theologian who has suggested that God is making us 'leaner and meaner.' Perhaps that's a better interpretation of what is happening than simply 'decline'. And it might be a good place to begin for the poor Council tasked with coming up with a strategic plan for the Church of Scotland.

Best wishes,

Lance

Report from Consistory

Consistory met on April 9th and May 14th. In between the meetings we had our Annual General Meeting on April 15th. A report of the meeting can be found on pages 5-6 of this Record.

Membership matters

Jelte de Jong passed away on April 11th.

Ferry Haris and Pratiwi Kartika had a baby girl named Claire (Clarissa Emma Putri Tindaon). Claire was born on April 20th.

Sascha Sizoo-Adema has kindly offered to take over the editor position for The Record. Sascha was editor of this magazine before she and her husband Bram moved to Malawi.

Outreach work

De Kloof is working quite well. There is a sufficient number of volunteers.

A group from church visited the theatre production by refugees in the OBA on April 13th. You can read a report on that in this Record.

Requests are made for assistance for individuals in need via Gillian's mailing list.

Property Report

A replacement for the red carpet in church has been chosen. The carpet will be replaced at the end of May.

Tom and Jaap are making an inventory of the maintenance work that is needed for the Manse, drafting a plan and looking into offers.

Jaap and Judi had a long conversation with Hanny van Kerkhoff, in charge of the archives for many years and writer of numerous Record articles about the history of the church and building. They will look into ways of preserving our archives and history, e.g. as a university project.

General Data Protection Regulation

From May 25th the ERC needs to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation. The GDPR gives companies and institutions specific instructions on how to handle data (name, address, telephone, email etc) according to the wishes of the owner of the data, i.e. you. The Church of Scotland made material available for congregations, both background information as well as examples of policies.

We discussed the draft of a Privacy policy specifically for the ERC. After Consistory's approval the policy would be published on the website of the ERC and on the notice board in church.

We also agreed to send all people on our membership (and adherents) roll a letter with the data that we currently have. You can check if the data are correct and let us know how we may use your data (e.g. your email address for notifications). You can also let us know if you wish your data to be removed. This letter will be sent in June.

Presbytery matters

International Presbytery meeting in Amsterdam October 2018: the committee (Lance, Gillian, Nick, Thijs, Baafi and Heleen) started their work. Focus now is on confirming venues for all events.

Ingrid Sorensen will join Pastor Lance as commissioner on behalf of the International Presbytery to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland from May 19th to May 25th this year.

Other matters

We are looking into the possibilities for the placement of *a minister in training* via the Protestant Church in the Netherlands (PKN), with which we are linked.

A Newcomers' evening will be held on June 1 in the Manse.

Summer Picnic: the date of the picnic is set for July 8. Thijs and Ingrid will co-ordinate.

Pulpit supply: because of presbytery work and holiday our minister will be away a few Sundays in the coming period. The services will be led by:

June 10: Rev Eric Foggitt

June 17: Rev Robert Jan Bakker

August 26 and September 2: Rev John Bell.

The next meeting of Consistory will be held on Monday June 4.

Heleen Koning

scriba@ercadam.nl

Night of the Refugee 2018

Worldwide there are 65.6 million people fleeing from war, violence and oppression. All participants of the Night of the Refugee raise money for refugees and displaced persons worldwide.



ERCADAM 10 km team in “Night of the Refugees”

In 2017 we raised € 1.700 to help refugees and displaced people in Myanmar, Democratic Republic of Congo, Syria, Iraq and Cameroon. The money helped provide food, emergency shelter and clean water.

This year we will take part again in the 10 km sponsored walk, which will take place on Saturday, June 16th.

Do you want to walk with us this year? And help again? You can sponsor our team or walk.

Get in touch with gillian.walker.ams@icloud.com / thijsglasz@hotmail.com or go to <https://www.nachtvandeavluchteling.nl/inschrijving> and join the Ercadam 10 km team.

Finance Report

Income January - April 2018, Amounts in €

	<u>2018</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018 vs 2017</u>
Donations	24,452.92	25,379.76	- 926.84
Collections	16,570.51	14,782.12	1,788.39
Church hire	6,317.60	7,469.60	- 1,152.00
Concerts	3,873.00	3,150.00	723.00
Weddings	1,575.00	2,000.00	- 425.00
Church shop	120.00	150.00	- 30.00
Flowers	- 6.00	- 13.15	7.15
	52,903.03	52,918.33	- 15.30

In this report I want to inform you about three topics:

1. The financial situation of our congregation
2. The status of our discussion with the Church of Scotland regarding our contribution to it
3. The new red carpet which will be delivered soon

Since I have had the honour of being the treasurer of our congregation I have never encountered such a coincidence: the income of the first four months of the current year (2018) is almost the same as it was during the same period in the previous year (2017) - just EUR 15.30 less.

Unfortunately this also means that we are already facing a deficit of almost EUR 3.000. This particularly demands our urgent attention as we received EUR 10.000 this year from the Salvesen fund - otherwise the deficit would have been EUR 13.000. Our congregation has about 400 members. If only half of our members would give each month just an additional EUR 5, this would compensate for the deficit.

During the AGM in April I mentioned our discussion with the Church of Scotland (CoS) regarding the increase of in our monetary contribution. We have informed the CoS that we will increase our contribution from EUR 1.500 to EUR 3.000 to demonstrate our commitment - but that we are not in a position to meet the expected EUR 7.353. For the remaining balance of EUR 4.353 (and EUR 9.000 in 2019) we applied to the aforementioned Salvesen fund, and will only pay this amount once it is received from the fund.

On a different note: you may have wondered what happens to the money that visitors put into the massive wooden box in the vestibule. From the end of May or beginning of June you can walk on it - literally. Thanks to the great work of Jaap, our property convener, we are replacing the red carpet in the church. After more than 40 years the old one is worn out, and needs urgent replacement - just have a look at the part in front of church close to the table. We all will enjoy this!

As always if you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me any time at treasurer@ercadam.nl or (0294) 77 29 34.

Thorsten König, Treasurer

Annual General Meeting

On Sunday April 15th the Annual General Meeting was held in church after the service. Consistory presented the annual report regarding 2017 including the audited accounts and focused on a number of topics.

An annual general meeting is open to all, however if a proposal needs a formal vote, only members can cast them.

Pastor Lance highlighted a few topics from his letter in the report. He is encouraged by the different gatherings and platforms in which we can discuss and explore our faith: we have the Bible study and Exploring the Faith groups, a Whatsapp group, a book club and discussions after the service, discussing and sometimes disagreeing, which is great.

One of the topics in Consistory is church membership: what does it mean to be a member of this church? We are exploring how we can have a closer relationship between elders and members. It is common in other churches that an elder has a certain responsibility for a group of members, so currently we are looking into the geographical spread of our membership and will come up with some proposals.

Pastor Lance enjoyed last year and finds it a privilege to be minister of this church.

As **Scriba I** gave an overview of lots of initiatives and volunteers in our church - too many to mention in this article, so please read the report. The work of our staff was highlighted: Susan Polstra, Richard Zook, Veronica Garcia, Kenneth Ewen. They, together with our minister, form the backbone of this church.

We also paid tribute to Charles van Saagsvelt, Riet van Hoek and Anneke de Jong, who passed away in 2017.

Thorsten König, treasurer, always faces the challenge, as he put it, of not making his presentation a dry number game (in which again he succeeded). He stressed that what is given to the church enables us to keep the church open and pursue our projects. It is all about *what we make* of this money.

We see a steady decline (in percentage terms) in our income, but we are able to pay our staff and sustain our projects and buildings. We are breaking about even between income and expenditure. Our reserves are now about €40.000, though ideally we would have €90.000 available. We trust that it will be okay.

We could carry out extensive maintenance in the church and other work. We could also do important work on both organs.

The Friends foundation play an important role in the upkeep of our buildings and Thorsten thanks the board for their work as well as Jaap Maas, the ERC's property convener. So far, we have achieved what we promised regarding the Mulanje Mission. Each year we can meet the commitment of €1.000 per month. Last year it was €31.000 including the proceeds of the fundraising concert at the end of the year.

Two years ago the International Presbytery was made into a full-fledged Presbytery of the Church of Scotland with responsibilities, including financial ones. We are committed to meet our obligations to CoS and our obligation to good stewardship of our church. We are currently looking into how this can be worked out.

Sies Plokker and Eduard van Starrenburg formed **the audit committee**, who had met with the treasurer the previous Sunday. Sies and Eduard were satisfied with the answers to their questions about the accounts. The committee made a few suggestions last year for improvement and they were implemented. They thank the financial team of the ERC for great work. The audit committee formally approved the accounts of 2017.

The **development of outreach** is a topic in our congregation and two elders are charged with this: Gillian Walker and Thijs Glasz. They presented the meeting with an overview of the work and their role in it (please also see the article in the March 2018 issue of the Record). The committee currently supports the following activities:

1. Cooking at the kloof (Tom and Ingrid co-ordinate)
2. Support for refugees (Gillian)
3. Mulanje mission hospital (Mulanje committee)
4. The Church hall: we support the 12 step programmes in the hall (Johan)
5. Food Bank (Thijs and Susan)
6. Food Run (Joe).

We are involved in additional support for refugees, not just in Amsterdam. We work together with de Wereldhuis, Human Aid in Greece and Amsterdam City Rights.

International Presbytery

Pastor Lance re-introduced the International Presbytery by showing the attendees pictures of all the church buildings from Rotterdam to Bermuda and Columbo, Sri Lanka. The Presbytery meeting will be coming to Amsterdam in October 2018.

The Annual report is available on the website of the ERC or by sending a message to scriba@ercadam.nl.

Heleen Koning



Mulanje Mission Hospital



Meets in Amsterdam

In October 2018 the ERC will be hosting the meeting of the International Presbytery in Amsterdam. Around 50 elders and ministers from congregations all over Europe and beyond come together to discuss Presbytery affairs, to worship and enjoy a time of fellowship together.

The moderator of the Presbytery and the clerk are responsible for the content of the meetings. Pastor Lance and presbytery elder Baafi Sekyere will represent our church. All representatives will join us for Worship on Sunday October 14th, the last day of the meeting, which will be concluded with a potluck lunch for our guests and the congregation in the church.

All churches of the International Presbytery take turns in organising this event. The ERC has put in place a small organisational committee (pastor Lance, Thijs P, Gillian, Nick, Heleen). We would love to have you involved as well. We will be looking for volunteers to help with lunches, accompany presbyters from their hotel close to Amstelveen to the meeting venues, put together information packs etc. Great chance to meet members of our sister churches.

More information to follow in the next issue of the Record. But please mark the dates: The International Presbytery meeting will be held from 11th-14th of October.

If you would like to volunteer, please send us a message (scriba@ercadam.nl).

ERC ANNUAL SUMMER PICNIC

8 JULY 2018

(AFTER THE CHURCH SERVICE
APPROXIMATELY 13:00)

WHERE: WERELDHUIS GARDEN

NIEUWE HERENGRACHT 18
AMSTERDAM



Can you help out with games, picnic blankets, logistics and other preparations?

Email for more information to Thijs Glasz at: events@ercadam.NL or contact Ingrid Sorensen on 020-7701341

Fleeing the war in Syria

On Friday evening 14 April six ERC members sat expectantly in the OBA theater. The Dutch/Syrian theater group was about to start the multimedia Light and Shadow Show.

Before it started a Dutch man who had worked on the shore of Greece assisting arriving refugees came out on the empty stage and, anticipating the bombing of Syria, requested a Minute of Silence for the people in Syria; very poignant as the bombings took place later that night.



As the production continued with music, slides projected as a back drop of local situations, individuals told their own interesting and touching stories: the ravages of war and the missing of families and past lives in lovely places that no longer existed. The music and dialogue and projections were very professional and revealed many aspects of losses, travels, and hardships, and beginnings of new lives in The Netherlands.

The story of a very attractive young man explained that the police approached his overcrowded rubber boat between Turkey and Greece and shouted at them and then slashed their boat with a knife. His begging kept the police from lashing out again and the boat made it back to Turkey. He was traveling alone on this dangerous journey. His wife and two young children were still in Syria.

A second attempt, after again paying thousands of euros to human smugglers, was successful. The dangerous and lonely trip through Europe was far from over.

Each of the several participants had a similar personal story equally harrowing of missing home, country, parents, family and friends. After arrival in the Netherlands, they received food and a place to sleep but their situation was hardly better. They were moved around the country to camps from Ter Appel to Middelburg each time making new friends and then being shuffled around and being alone all over again.



A very lengthy and discouraging process ensued before their interviews to receive status to stay. Finally one couple who had met in a camp and fallen in love and then been separated, were reunited. In the end the wife and two children were reunited with the father to start a new life together in the Netherlands.

I was so touched by the play that I wanted to give each participant a hug and wish them welcome. I would love to see it again. Such remarkable and brave people.

Lucy Correll

Concerts in June and July



Sunday 3 June 3:15 pm

**Het Franz Liszt Kamerkoor
conductor Eric Jan Josse**

Love and other Perils

Works by Antonin Dvorák, Johannes Brahms,
Max Reger, Franz Schubert, George Dyson and
William Wadely

Friday 8 June 8:15 pm

**Vocaal Ensemble Tout Venant
conductor: Enrique Lopez Corton
Lennie Kerkhoff: piano**

Johannes Brahms: Drei Quartette op. 64 and
Vier Quartette op. 92
Edward Elgar: From the Bavarian Highlands: The
Marksmen en False Love
Gabriël Fauré: Les Djinns en Madrigal
Johan Wagenaar: Hymnus de ascensione Domini
Anton Verhey: Salve Regina



**Saturday 9 June 8:15 pm and
Sunday 10 June 3:15 pm**

**Het AUK Kamerkoor
conductor: Alfrun Schmid**

Once upon a time

To include works by American composers John
Cage, Philip Glass, Ned Rorem
and Leonard Bernstein.
Also works by Alfred Schnittke

Saturday 16 June 1 pm Free concert

**Het Rietveld Ensemble
Elisabeth Perry: violin
Richard Wolfe: viola
Matthias Naegele: cello
Nancy Braithwaite: clarinet
Roberta Alexander: soprano
Ernst Munneke: piano**

The American programme

Gian Carlo Menotti: Trio for violin clarinet and
piano
Christian Wolff: Rock About for violin and viola
Leonard Bernstein Songs for soprano and piano
Thomas Oboe Lee: Yo Picasso for clarinet viola
cello and piano

Sunday 17 June 3 :15 pm

**Het Plantagekoor, Vocaal Ensemble Amadeus
and instrumental ensemble
conductor: Bert 't Hart
Rocus van der Heuvel: piano and organ
Ruña 't Hart: violin**

Georg Friedrich Händel: Funeral Anthem for
Queen Caroline, HWV 264
Johannes Brahms: Dem dunklen Schoss der
heil'gen Erde
Johannes Brahms: All meine Herzgedanken
Aaron Copland: Old American Songs First set
Aaron Copland: Old American Songs Second set

Thursday 21 June 8:15 pm

Together in Recital

Natasa Sibalic: soprano

Anne Kaasa : piano

Alejandro Erlich Oliva: double base

Songs and piano pieces by various Portuguese composers

To include works by Armando José Fernandes, Luís de Freitas Branco, Fernando Lopes-Graca, Constança Capdeville, Amilcar Vasques-Dias and Alejandro Erlich Oliva

Sunday 24 June 3.15 pm

Het Purcell Kamerorkest

conductor Mimi Mitchell

Mitchell Sandler: bass

English Baroque Music

Works by Henry Purcell, John Dowland, Matthew Locke and Georg Friedrich Händel

Tuesday 26 June 1 pm Free concert

Sacred and secular works



Works by

Ken Berg, Karl Schiske, Joel Raney, Zoltan Kodaly, Gabriel Faure, John Newton, Roger Emerson, Johann Sebastian Bach, Dan Walker, Mary Lynn Lightfoot and Johannes Brahms

The Methodist Ladies College Choir

Melbourne, Australia

conductor: Kathleen Fong

Friday 6 July 1 pm Free concert

The Dayspring Chorale,

Phoenix, Arizona U.S.A.

conductor: L. Michael Kelley

Knut Nystedt: Cry Out and Shout

Kenneth Jennings: With a Voice of Singing

Greg Sewell: Sing to All Eternity

Craig Courtney: Ukrainian Alleluia

Morten Lauridsen: O Magnum Mysterium

Stephen Paulus: Pilgrims' Hymn

Craig Courtney: Sanctus

Abide with Me

Lord of the Dance

Amazing Grace

Moses Hogan: Hear My Prayer, Ride the Chariot,

Elijah Rock

We Shall Walk Through the Valley in Peace

Saturday 14 July 1 pm Free concert

**The choir of Bristol Cathedral, England
conductor: Mark Lee
Paul Walton: organist**

William Byrd: Vigilate
William Walton: A Litany
Josef Rheinberger: Mass in E flat major opus 109

Anton Bruckner: Three Motets: Ave Maria, Locus Iste and Christus factus est
Johann Sebastian Bach: Lobet den Herrn BWV230
David Bednall: O clap your hands

Sunday 15 July 3:15 pm

**Ensemble LUZ
conductor: Ludwika Kowalewska
Jelena Popovitz: organ and piano**

To include works by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Josef Rheinberger, Francis Poulenc, Wilhelm Peterson-Berger and Ron Ford

Monday 16 July 1 pm Free concert

**The Gunnersbury Catholic School Choir, England
conductor: Errol Hui**

From the British Isles and Beyond
To include works by Johann Sebastian Bach, Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, Benjamin Britten and John Rutter

Tuesday 17 July 1 pm Free concert

**The choir of St Anthony's Girls' Catholic Academy, England
conductor: Laura Dudley**

Georg Friedrich Händel: Tornami a Vagheggiar
Johann Sebastian Bach and Charles Gounod: Ave Maria
César Franck: Panis Angelicus
Gustav Holst: Ave Maria
Léo Delibes: The Flower Duet from Lakmé
Howard Goodall: The Lord is My Shepherd
Karl Jenkins: Adiemus
Eric Whitacre: Seal Lullaby
And more

Thursday 19 July 1 pm Free concert

**St Michael's Catholic Grammar School Choir and Chamber Orchestra
England
conductor: Daniel Daly and Deirdre Bowers-Broadbent
Philip Godfrey: piano and organ**

Henry Purcell: Sound the Trumpet
Antonio Vivaldi: Gloria in excelsis Deo
Franz Schubert: Kyrie from the Mass No 2 in G major
Gabriel Fauré: Cantique de Jean Racine
Philip Godfrey: Day by Day
James Bay and Iain Archer: Hold Back the River
Richard Smallwood: Total Praise
Trad: Down by the Salley Gardens and Steal Away
Craig Tyson & Leonard Scott: Feel Good

Monday 23 July 1 pm Free concert

**The choir of Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-upon-Avon, England
conductor Benedict Wilson
Stephen Dodsworth: organist**

To include:

William Harris Faire is the Heaven
Benjamin Britten: Rejoice in the Lamb Op. 30
Michael Tippett: Five Negro Spirituals
Edward Elgar: Light of the world

Thursday 26 July 1 pm Free concert

**The Churcher's College Junior Choir, England
conductor John Lofthouse
Ian Webb - Taylor and Helen Purchase: organ
en piano**

To include:

Bob Chilcott: Remember Me
Karl Jenkins: Adiemus
A.P. Carter: Cups
Duncan Sheik: Song of Purple Summer
The Rembrandts: I'll be there for you
Trad: Down by the Riverside
Tim Minchin: Revolting Children
Alan Menken: God Bless Everyone
Ivor Novello: Keep the Home Fires Burning

Monday 30 July 1 pm Free concert

**The Choir of St David's Cathedral, Wales
conductor: Oliver Waterer
Rupert Jackson: organist**

To include:

Sir Hubert Parry: I was glad
Wynn Jones: O Ddewi Sanctaidd
William Byrd: Sing Joyfully
Josef Rheinberger: Abendlied
Orlande de Lassus: Missa Bell' Amfitrit' altera

Friday 3 August 1 pm Free concert

**The Romsey Youth Choir, England
conductor: Marion Maxey
Chris Maxey: piano**

To include:

Carly Simon : Let the River Run
Snow Patrol :Run
Amanda McBroom: The Rose
Andrew Lloyd Webber: Don't cry for me
Argentina
Eric Whitacre : Seal Lullaby

20-30s Lunch continues

The 20s and 30s continue to meet every first Sunday of the month to have lunch together. Anyone in their 20s and 30s is invited to join us for this time of fellowship. We will walk to a restaurant together after the service.

For more information, contact Veronica Garcia-Robles (Lay Assistant) or Pastor Lance.

General assembly of the Church of Scotland



On Tuesday, 22nd of May more than 500 people marched up The Mound to celebrate the 50th anniversary since the first women were ordained in the Church of Scotland. We heard very moving testimonies. The mood was celebratory and defiant (in a very good way). The march was led by the present Moderator, Sue Brown and previous moderators and church leaders, including two generations of female ministers.



Under the statue of John Knox the Great Reformer, over 500 delegates, commissioners and ministers met during the circulations breaks. Much of the conversation revolved around Assembly business but there was also time to make new acquaintances and renew old friendships.

My favourite part of Assembly was making new friends (my email inbox is bursting!) Special among these are some new friends from Malawi. We had dinner in a lovely brasserie in Edinburgh and we attended the regular coffee-morning to raise funds for students in Malawi.

If you are interested in knowing more about my trip, I would be delighted to share my experiences.

Ingrid Sorensen

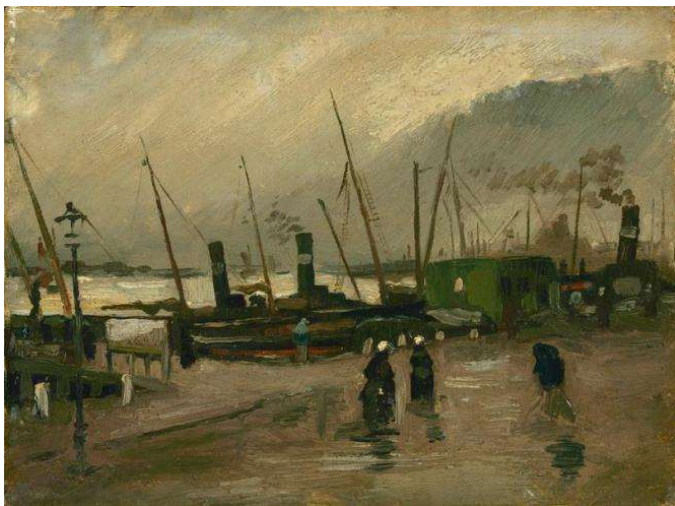


Vincent van Gogh in Amsterdam

“Tomorrow morning I am going to the English Reformed Church, which at night lies so peacefully in between the thorn bushes on the quiet Begijnhof, and which seems to say: *In loco isto pacem*: In this place will I bring peace, says the Lord, Amen, let it be so”.

On the 21st October 1877, Vincent visited the English Reformed Church on the Begijnhof. During the well-attended service he heard a sermon which he liked very much. Vincent wrote to his brother Theo about the visit: “I love that small church, and many there will probably have memories of things and places that I am no stranger to”.

When he visited the church somewhat later, he wrote to Theo a similar letter: “There were not many people in the church, but several faces bore a remarkably attractive expression which reflected a good character. I do love being in that little church. In fact you could read from the faces that which can be found in the English books of Elliot and others.”



A surprising part from the letters by van Gogh!

Sascha Sizoo

Study, Services, Fellowship

Coffee Mornings

The coffee mornings take place on the first Tuesday of each month, a wonderful opportunity for fellowship with members of our congregation who carry the history of our church. Please join if you are interested, you are most welcome to come. You can contact Sies Plokker or Joke de Bruin for more information. The next coffee mornings will be held on Tuesday June 5th, followed by a summer break.



Midweek Fellowship

Midweek fellowship continues with our usual pattern of Bible Study the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month, Taizé service the 2nd Wednesday, and Ladies' Fellowship the fourth week (with Men's group meeting bi-monthly).

Taizé Service

Second Wednesday is our joint Taizé service with the Roman Catholic Begijnhof Chapel, a wonderful opportunity to share in ecumenical worship with our near neighbours and to welcome visitors. If you haven't given this a try, come along. Services start at 19:30 hrs.



Coffee after the service

Meet your fellow members of the congregation over a cup of coffee after the service each week. And if you enjoy these gatherings, please consider volunteering once in a while or regularly. We always need help in this vital ministry. Please contact Anniek van Engelenburg or Sally Stone (you can reach them by sending an email to info@ercadam.nl or put your name on the list on the notice board)

Ladies' Fellowship

The Ladies fellowship meets usually on the last Thursday of the month. We start by having dinner together followed by a time of fellowship. We will be starting this month by looking at a new book, that I am very excited about, called: "Christ -F.I.T. for the Journey, Discover your Freedom in Transformation" by Lisa McConnell. I'm hoping for some lively discussions. If you would like to join us but are not on the invitation list, please contact Peggy Krol and you will be added to the list. All ladies are most welcome.

Men's Fellowship

The Men's fellowship group continues to meet in the last week of the month. For more information regarding meeting dates and times, please contact Jaap Maas at jj.maas@upcmail.nl. All men are welcome.

De Kloof

Tom Flanagan is always looking for people to help out on the second Monday of the month. A group of four will prepare a meal for visitors to the homeless shelter De Kloof. A great outreach. If you are interested, please contact Tom at dekloof@ercadam.nl.

Membership notices

Birth

Claire (Clarissa Emma Putri Tindaon)
daughter of Ferry Haris and Pratiwi Kartika
20 April 2018

Wedding

Anniek van Engelenburg
&
David Pascoe
1 June 2018

Deceased

Jelte de Jong
11 April 2018



The Publicity Committee acts as editorial board for the Record:
Laura Elliot, Ferry Haris, Heleen Koning, Thijs Polstra,
Johan Sloet de Villiers, Jens Anders Wejsmark Sørensen, Lance Stone

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The deadline for the next Record is August 15th 2018

Input requested:

We are looking for ways to adjust our means of communication to the needs of the congregation.

Do you only read news online? Would a Record once every three months be sufficient? Would you like to get more information via email? Please let us know. We will bring these questions to the various groups in church, but you can also give us your point of view via email (info@ercadam.nl).

Thank you.

Did you know that the English Reformed Church sends out a weekly newsletter? Receive news about services, activities and events and a PDF-version of the Record automatically. You can subscribe via the website: www.ercadam.nl



**English Reformed
Church Amsterdam**

A congregation of the Church of Scotland and
the Protestant Church of The Netherlands (PKN)

NEWSLETTER



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