

Home Missions Today

This is Al Tricarico reporting the July 10, 2019, edition of *Home Missions Today*. God is using your prayers to develop the ministries of Orthodox Presbyterian mission works across North America.

WILMINGTON, NORTH CAROLINA — Ethan and Catherine Bolyard

Join us in extending a warm welcome to Ethan Bolyard (along with his wife, Catherine, and their sons, Isaac, Noah, and Josiah) as Heritage OPC begins denominational support this month. In God's providence, a small group of believers desired to plant a church in Wilmington, North Carolina a couple years ago. By October 2017, Heritage was approved to be a mission work of the Presbytery of the Southeast and soon began meeting regularly in a local church's fellowship hall. This month the Presbytery plans to ordain and install Ethan as the organizing pastor. Ethan testifies to the congregation's commitment to the ordinary means of grace, zeal for the beauty of Reformed worship, faith in Jesus Christ, and love for one another. He requests prayer that the Lord would 1) help them purchase a church building in the area, 2) bless the upcoming sermon series on the gospel of Mark, and 3) cultivate an evangelistic heart among the people for the city of Wilmington.

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA — Matthew and Lois Cotta

Pastor Matt Cotta shares, "Most recently, it has become clear to our congregation that in the provision of God we are well-situated to reach out to the vast and growing Chinese community in this region. It is estimated that there are over 300,000 Mandarin speakers here, and exactly zero Confessionally Reformed and Presbyterian churches where they might hear the Gospel and worship in their own tongue. Among those who worship with us are several Mandarin-speaking brothers and sisters in Christ, and a couple of these brothers have seminary degrees. On Sunday, June 30, we held a brainstorming meeting to discuss this possible outreach endeavor. A good number from our congregation came, including those who speak Mandarin, and there was an evident zeal to pursue a plan to go out into the mission field at our doorstep. The timing could not be better. Even as persecution is on the rise in China, God has brought China to the San Gabriel Valley. Now we must bathe these plans and preparations in prayer. Please pray with us in this regard!"

MIFFLINTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA — Ron and Carol Beabout

Pastor Ron Beabout reports that the congregation of Grace and Truth OPC is beginning to plan for Mifflintown's "National Night Out" event to be held in the park next to their worship location on August 6. As they did at the community fair in May, they will have a display with a variety of information about the church, the OPC, and the Reformed faith. They also plan to serve free popcorn at the event. Please pray for this big outreach evening, that many contacts would be made and that hearts would be receptive and drawn to learn more about the Gospel. Ron shares the praise that they recently had one new attendee who is enthusiastic about the work and looking to become a member. Pray that the Lord would see fit to add more families to the church. While the core group and finances have remained faithful and strong, they desire to see at least three new family units join in the near future.

ZEELAND, MICHIGAN — Michael and Naomi Schout

Pastor Mike Schout is happy to share that the Lord is blessing Grace Fellowship OPC. The church fully launched with morning and evening services on Easter Sunday, and they praise God for a wonderful turnout. New contacts are being made weekly, and many new members have been added to the church. A new summer small groups program for all ages after morning worship has been going well. Mike reports that they are also enjoying the blessing of having a part-time summer intern, Marc Scaturro (a student from Westminster Seminary California), serve the church. Please pray for Grace Fellowship as they continue to partner with The Bridge Youth Center, reaching out to 6th-12th grade students each Thursday. Pray as well that the church would have a zeal for unbelievers in the community, put hospitality into practice in tangible ways, and seek out fellowship amongst each other as their group continues to develop.

Look for the next Home Missions Today on Wednesday, July 24, 2019.

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