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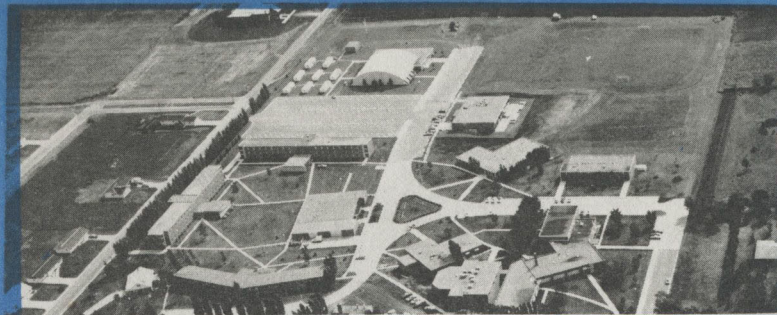
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Annual Spring Debt Reduction Drive Starts Soon

The annual Dordt College Spring Debt Reduction Drive will be conducted during the fourth week of March this year, with gift envelopes to be received in the church offertories on Sunday, March 28.

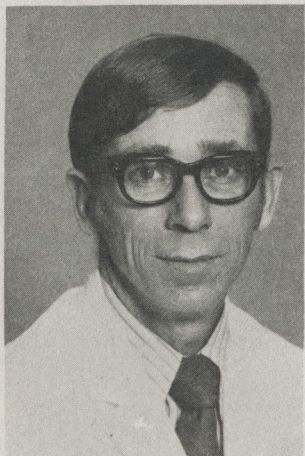
All funds received through the drive will be used for debt service commitments on academic building loans according to Mr. Lyle Gritters, chairman of the drive committee. "We also have loans on the dorms and student union," said Gritters, "but the yearly payments on these loans are made entirely from fees charged

students for the use of these facilities."

Letters explaining the goals and progress of the Dordt College debt reduction program will be mailed to members of participating churches about March 15. Gift envelopes will be included with each letter.

You are asked to place your gift in the church offertory on Sunday, March 28. Many churches are also designating one of the offerings on that Sunday for the drive. Gifts may also be mailed directly to: Development Office, Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250.

Former Medical Missionary to be Dordt's Commencement Speaker



commencement exercise to be held in the Dordt Gymnasium on Friday, May 7, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Den Besten is a native of Corsica, South Dakota. He holds a B.D. from Calvin Seminary and the M.D. from University of Iowa College of Medicine.

From 1957 to 1960, Dr. Den Besten was a medical missionary at Takum, Nigeria. During his stay there, the staff grew from Dr. Den Besten and a laboratory technician to a staff of approximately 100 missionaries and partially trained Nigerians.

He returned to the University of Iowa from 1960 to 1964 where he took graduate work in surgery and was engaged in research. Returning to Nigeria in 1964, he served two years as medical superintendent at the Mkar Christian Hospital.

Since leaving mission service, Dr. Den Besten has been at the University of Iowa as Professor and Vice-Chairman of the Department of Surgery at University Hospitals and Chief of Surgical Service at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Iowa City.

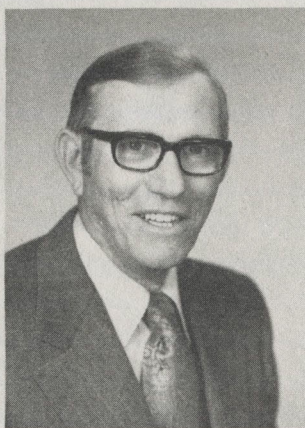
Dr. Larry Den Besten, Professor and Vice-Chairman of the Department of Surgery at the University of Iowa Hospitals will be the commencement speaker at the twelfth

Dordt Profs Participate in Christian Lecture Series

Five Dordt professors are participating in a Christian lecture series at the University of South Dakota in Vermillion, S.D. The series is being sponsored by Calvary Ministries of Vermillion, the Sioux Center Classis of the CRC, and Dordt College.

Under the theme "Christian Perspectives on Learning" the series features weekly evening lectures over a six week period for members of the university and local community. Lecturers from Dordt include John Van Dyk, John Vander Stelt, Hugh Cook, Marlin Vanden Bosch, and Russell Maatman.

Each lecture and discussion period is especially aimed at helping university campus students develop a Christian awareness in their respective disciplines.



From the President's Pen....

by Rev. B. J. Haan

How Reformed Are We?

Some of my readers may recall that I wrote a series of articles in the *Voice* on the topic, "How Reformed Are We?" That series was really never completed. For good reasons, I think, other matters required immediate consideration. Now I like to get back to the subject.

An article by Dr. William Hendriksen in the January, 1976, issue of *Outlook* encouraged me to pick up the series referred to above. The article by Hendriksen is a reprint of what he published in *Torch and Trumpet* in 1951, entitled "The Word Under Fire." In the process of showing how the Bible is being neglected or abused, Hendriksen points out how even those holding to Biblical inerrancy often fail to honor Scripture consistently.

Hendriksen writes as follows about such individuals:

Again, he confesses that he believes in the inerrancy of Scripture...but he refuses to give his employer an honest day's labor, or, perhaps, he pays his employees starvation wages. He never even tries to be guided by the light which Holy Writ sheds on the question of our social, economic, or political responsibilities.

That is what is wrong with us: we have failed in too many instances to begin at the beginning: we have too often neglected to construct a philosophy of life on the basis of a careful and penetrating exegetical study of the Word of God. We have all too frequently welcomed whatever is new—for example, some novel theory that is in conflict with this or that article of our confession—we have hailed it as if it were the quintessence of real "scholarship." In the meantime we ignored the old, tried and tested. With what enthusiasm do not some turn to Barth and Brunner, while they know next to nothing about Kuyper or Bavinck or Warfield.

A return to the Word of God, to our confessions, to what is best in Reformed literature, is what we need. Not until we do this shall we be able to convince the best and more stable portion of our consti-

tuency that our views on any burning issue are correct. May God's Spirit help us to do just that.

The recommendation of Hendriksen that we "return to the Word of God, our confessions and to what is best in Reformed literature" ought to receive the strongest endorsement possible. To return to the true Reformed understanding and interpretation of God's Word and our confessions, we must get back to the best in our Reformed literature. What we face today are the influences of both liberalism or the new hermeneutics and fundamentalistic, legalistic, pietistic orthodoxy. Our struggle is against both the leaven of the Sadducees and of the Pharisees. Our Calvinistic, Reformed fathers did battle against both influences. Representatives of both spirits, Sadducaism and Pharisaism, have appeared throughout history. Since the time of the Reformation those dedicated to the faith of the reformers have encountered, in varying forms and degrees, the undermining influences of both streams of thought.

For that reason we cannot simply return to Calvin as though he has all the answers to the burning issues confronting us. He certainly offers a great deal and we better not

neglect to study his writings. But there have been many others who have had to deal with developments in theology and philosophy since the Reformation which seriously threatened the Reformed faith. Hendriksen is obviously thinking of this when he refers to such mighty students of God's Word as Kuyper, Bavinck, and Warfield. These men knew their times. They saw what was happening. To be sure they became thoroughly acquainted with Calvin. They drew heavily from him. They wanted to be known as Calvinists. Yet what they offered in the context of their times was an advance beyond Calvin, a more complete, a more comprehensive outworking and application of the principles set down by Calvin. These men too demand our most serious study. We just cannot identify and refute the various types of thought in our present situation which are contrary to the basic spirit of Calvinism apart from a study of all the great Reformed scholars from Calvin down to L. Berkhof and C. Van Til.

What a blessed tradition has been ours! What a vast storehouse of solid, Reformed literature is open to us! What a pity it would be if the Reformed faith would be lost to the next generation because of our failure to understand, deepen and advance it.

Spring Debt Reduction Drive Summary

NEED

Dordt has a combined indebtedness of \$633,000 on the classroom buildings, library, gym, and science building. The amount of principal repayment and interest on these loans which must be paid every year totals close to \$65,000. Dordt has only one source to meet these contractual debt repayment obligations: the Spring Debt Reduction Drive. That's why the drive is so vitally important to Dordt.

GOAL

The goal for the drive has been set at \$65,000. That is the amount which is due and payable this year on the various academic building loans. Dordt simply cannot afford to budget anything for making this payment. We must and do rely solely on the drive to come up with the \$65,000.

PARTICIPATION

Last year, close to 8,000 people voluntarily participated in the drive, a remarkably high percentage of all those contacted. \$1, \$5, \$10, \$100, \$500—the size of your gift isn't nearly as important as your participation. We need and pray for your participation!

Lynden Christian High Choir to Participate in Dordt

Choir Festival

The Lynden Christian High School Choir (Lynden, Wash.) and choirs from five other Christian high schools will be traveling to Dordt to participate in a choir festival on April 23.

The other five high schools are Western, Hull, Ia.; Unity, Orange City, Ia.; Dakota, New Holland, S.D.; Southwestern, Edgerton, Mn.; and Central, Prinsburg, Mn. About 350 students will attend the day's activities.

The festival will culminate in an evening performance in Dordt's gymnasium. Each choir will sing separate selections and then, under the direction of Grotenhuis, will perform along with Dordt's Concert Choir and Chorale.

The Lynden choir will stay in northwest Iowa through April 27. They will sing in Dordt's chapel service April 27 and at Western's and Unity's chapel services. Sunday, April 25, the choir will give two concerts in Sioux Center and Rock Valley.

Dordt's Radio Station Wins First Place for the Best Single Program



Radio Station KDCR-FM, Dordt's educational radio station, won first place for the best single program in radio in the state of Iowa. The award-winning program, produced last year by John Allen, was entitled "Recital." The awards were sponsored by the Iowa Arts Council.

Martin Dekkenga, left, general manager, and Ron Klemm, program director, display the award (an original serigraph painting) presented to them by Iowa Governor Robert Ray at ceremonies held recently in Des Moines.

Quota Support for Dordt College . . . Part III by Lyle Gritters, Director of Development

In the first two of a series of Voice articles on quota support for Dordt College, it was noted in previous issues that in 1965 quota relief covered 18% of Dordt's total operating expenses; today, it covers only 7%.

Further, it was revealed that although 85% of the CRC young people from the Midwest attend Dordt, only 47% of the higher education quotas collected from CRC churches in the Midwest goes to Dordt.

Finally, it was reported that although 46% of the CRC young people from the western U.S. and Canada are attending Dordt, Dordt receives 0% quota from this area. The entire higher education quota (\$33.25 per family in the U.S. and \$18.75 in Canada) from CRC churches in this region goes to Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

In this article, we will examine some reasons for the apparent inequities in quota support for Dordt in the Western U.S. and Canada.

amount after taking care of Calvin's needs for the year. The situation in the western U.S. and Canada serves as an example of Dordt's problem.

The quota for Calvin is determined by Synod as follows:

(1) For 1976, Calvin's "above-tuition need," as agreed upon by Synod, is \$2,150,000 or an average of \$34.00 per CRC family.

(2) Every family in the CRC must share equally in 35% of this above tuition needs of Calvin. For 1976, that "equal share" is \$12.00 per CRC family. Even if there wasn't one CRC student from the far West attending Calvin, CRC families from this region would still pay the \$12.00 per family.

(3) The other 65% of Calvin's above-tuition need is allocated by geographical regions based on the number of CRC students from that region attending Calvin. For CRC families in the western USA, that adds another \$21.25 to their Calvin quota, for CRC families in western Canada, it adds another \$6.77 to their Calvin quota.

(4) The total Calvin quota for CRC families in Area 6 (Western USA) is \$33.25 (\$12.00 basic plus \$21.25 extra) and \$18.75 in Canada.

Regarding support for Dordt, the synodical rule is this: "areas which benefit from a quota reduction should employ the monies saved to finance their present area colleges." (Acts of Synod, 1962)

What Synod is referring to here as a "quota reduction" (or more commonly quota relief) is the difference between the overall average quota for Calvin (\$34.00) and the actual Calvin quota for the particular area, or \$33.25 for the western U.S.A.

Even though close to 40% of the students from the 5 CRC classes of the western United States attend Dordt, there still is for all practical purposes no "quota reduction" (the difference between the \$34.00 overall average and \$33.25 actual being inconsequential) or quota relief provided for in the synodical quota plan as it is applied to churches from these 5 classes.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the Christian Reformed Churches "out west" do make a real effort to help Dordt in a variety of ways, including offerings and participation in the Fall Foundation Drives. We deeply appreciate that concern and support which is received. Nonetheless, it remains true that the Higher Education Quota Plan, as adopted by the Synod of '62, makes no realistic provision for the needs of Dordt College as is evidenced by the current application of the plan in the western U.S.A.

CRC HIGHER EDUCATION QUOTA SUPPORT STATISTICS Western U.S.A. and Canada

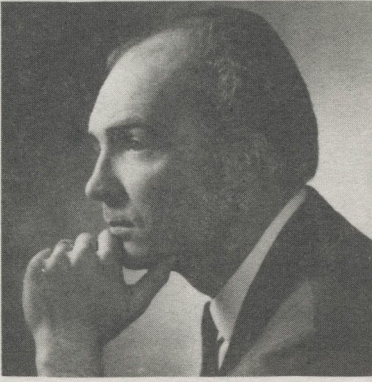
(includes CRC classes Central Calif., Calif. S., Columbia, Pac. NW, Rocky M., Alberta N., Alberta S., and B.C.)

	Number of CRC students from this area	Quota Support per Family	Total Quota Support for the area	Quota Support per student from this area
Dordt College	280	\$.00	\$ 0*	\$.00
Calvin College	.328	\$24.75 (USA) \$10.25 (Canada)	\$236,000	\$720.00
Calvin Seminary	N.A.	\$ 8.50	\$104,000	N.A.

* It should be noted that a few churches do set a "local quota" for Dordt which is over and above their Synodical quota for higher education.

Again, a problem is that under the present system, the amount of quota relief, as set by Synod each year for Dordt, is unrelated to Dordt's budget needs.

Dordt's "quota relief," as allowed by Synod is a "left-over"



Prof. Dale Grotenhuis, conductor of Dordt's Concert Choir, directed the 80-voice Mississippi All-State Choir February 20-21. He worked for two days with the students, who had been chosen in three separate auditions. The evening of February 21 the choir performed at Delta University in Cleveland, Mississippi.

Skillen and Downie Lectures Identify Civil Religion as the Cause of Many Problems

Attorney Rex Downie of Beaver Falls, Pa., and Dr. James Skillen, assistant professor of political science at Gordon College (Wenham, Mass.) pointed out how civil religion is the cause of many of North America's current problems in four public speeches at Dordt College, February 4-5.

The meetings formed the third part of Dordt's Bicentennial Lecture Series, which has examined the roots, development and manifestations of civil religion, a sacred loyalty to the government—and, in America and Canada, to the idea of man's sovereignty—that for some has preceded a loyalty to God.

For the past three years Downie has been waging a court battle to obtain an equitable distribution of the tax dollar for all educational systems, regardless of their religious views.

He traced his court battle in his first lecture, "Taxes, Justice and Education." "The state, through its various agencies had established what amounted to a secular religion," he explained. "My clients (five parents of Pennsylvania school children) believed that the religion of the public schools was hostile to their own and a violation of the freedoms granted to them in the First and Fourteenth Amendments!"

Downie cited numerous legal precedents, including the 1947 Everson case, in which the Supreme Court ruled that state busing for private schools was not unconstitutional since "no state may inhibit, handicap or hinder a citizen from the free exercise of religion."

The attorneys on the other side, according to Downie, feel they cannot oppose the main issue but urge that the case be dismissed "because it would cause tremendous cultural turmoil."

Dr. Skillen expanded the theme of

Should I Encourage My Son or Daughter to Go to College?

by Rev. John Hulst, Dean of Students

This is a question which many Christian parents are asking today. They see young people drop out of college, disillusioned with life in general and with college in particular. They see still others who graduate from college, but find it impossible to secure employment. For these and other reasons many parents struggle with the question: Should I encourage my son or daughter to go to college? And if so, why?

It is impossible to give an answer to this question which will apply to everyone. Even within the same family there are differences in personality, interest and ability between one child and another. These differences are bound to be as great or greater between one family and another. However, there are a few guidelines which can be laid down whereby we can come to a meaningful answer to this question. We assume throughout, of course, that we are talking about Christian education for covenant youth coming out of Christian homes and concerned to prepare themselves for service in the Kingdom of Jesus Christ.

It must be recognized, to begin with, that a college is a school, a place where young people are being prepared academically for kingdom service. Not all of our young people, however, are qualified for academic activity beyond high school. God has given them other gifts, but not the gift for further academic work. High school records and various tests will help in determining whether or not your son or daughter has this ability. Young people who are not capable of college work should not be encouraged to go to college, since such young people are usually frustrated and unhappy at college.

Assuming a measure of academic ability, most young people should be encouraged today to go to college or receive some type of post high school education. A generation ago it was understood that a high school education was the minimum required for coping with the challenges of our society. But, because of rapidly changing social circumstances, it seems that today some education beyond high school is needed. In certain instances this need must be met by a specialized type of training. More often, however, a general college education is desirable.

political religion and offered an alternative. "We should have Christian politics as religious politics instead of political religion," said Skillen.

"We must deny all neutral secularism, we must not impose another (Christian) civil religion, but allow for all religious freedom and dialogue," Skillen said. "Only from a Christian view of the state can there be true tolerance and an opening up of the state!"

Skillen presented a proposal for "Electoral Reform for America" in his second speech. "Our present system, based on geography and numbers, assumes that geography makes us distinct," said Skillen. "It assumes that those in the same district have a fundamental political community.... Since this system reflects the philosophical and religious commitment to the civic faith, we should look for ways to change the political structures."

Skillen criticized the American system for its voter apathy, superficial campaign slogans and "parties which function as electoral machines rather than policy formers." Congress is simply "a broker of competing interests with no definition of public justice," according to Skillen.

As a reform to the present American system, Skillen proposed that people could develop communal identities—based frequently on political philosophies—instead of being grouped in mere geographic blocs. In such a system, the members of a party could obtain seats in proportion to the total vote in a state—or a comparable geographic unit—instead of the present system where the winner takes all in each district. Such pluralism exists in many countries like the Netherlands, Switzerland, Austria and Belgium.

Downie and Skillen also spoke in several of Dordt's classes.

College education should be encouraged even if your son or daughter does not have a specific goal in mind. There is no better place for a Christian young person to discover God's will for his or her life than at a Christian college. In a Christian college the various life zones within God's creation-kingdom are investigated. Instructors and counselors are available to give guidance and direction. Ideas can be shared with fellow-students. As a result more and more Christian young people are not only preparing for, but are also discovering their vocation by going to college.

This means, I believe, that the best (only) way to encourage and prepare your son and daughter for college is not, first of all, to help them in the selection of a vocation, but prayerfully to develop within them a biblical sense of office and calling. This "vision" will hopefully make them eager to go to a Christian college and to seek the direction and programs of study which a Christian college has to offer.

Finances, of course, remain a problem for many. The cost of education (and everything else) is greater each year. But we must not let that discourage our children. There are many types of financial aid available to young people who desire a Christian college education. No young person, in the United States or Canada, should allow lack of finances to become a hindrance in the consideration of a Christian college education. Scholarships, grants, loans and work-study are, to a greater or lesser degree, available to all.

We cannot force our children to go to college. But we can encourage them. And I believe we should encourage our children to attend a Christian college, primarily by pointing out to them their responsibility to so develop their God-given talents that they may give their best to the Master.

Dordt College Development Foundation* Members - 1975/76

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* The Dordt Development Foundation is an organization of local business and professional people who appreciate Dordt College and are interested in the promotion and development of the college. Gifts received by the Foundation are used for the support of Dordt College.

Etcetera

The Dordt College Outdoor Club will be sponsoring a camping trip to the Rocky Mountains during spring vacation, March 18-27. The club provides equipment such as tents, toboggans, camping and cooking equipment, etc. to student members. Approximately 35 students are expected to make the trip. Len Van Noord, assistant to the dean of students, and Daryl Vander Kooi, a Dordt professor, will be accompanying the students.

Dordt's enrollment for the second semester totals 946 students, a record for second semester enrollments at the college. The previous high was 938 set last year. Fifty five new students were added to the rolls to start the semester.

Dordt will be hosting a Christian Reformed ministers' conference to be held April 21-22. The theme of the conference is "Report 44 - Nature and Extent of Biblical Authority - A Critique." All CRC ministers are cordially invited to attend. Speakers will be Dr. Fred Klooster, Dr. Gordon Spykman, and Dr. David Holwerda.

The annual Dordt College Society Voting Members meeting will be held on March 15 and 16 starting with an evening dinner on March 15 for all board members.

Bicentennial Play

"The Contrast" to be

Presented April 7-10

The Thaliens will travel back to 1787 with their spring production of the American comedy "The Contrast" on April 7-10.

Royall Tyler wrote the play back then, attempting to contrast the backwoods Yankee farmer—old-fashioned, stalwart, brought up in the Puritan tradition—with those unadapting Americans who thought that the refined, fashionable European customs were the only civilized ones.

Les Top holds the lead male role of Colonel Manley, with Jay Vander Pol portraying Dimple. Kevin Kelley plays the backwoods American, Jonathan. Jane Hasseler will act the leading Charlotte, with Cindy Holtrop as Maria.

Dordt alumnus ('68) John Schuurman is the resident director, with Prof. James Koldenhoven as the managing producer. Schuurman received an M.A. in theatre arts and the Best Actor of the Year Award from the University of Northern Colorado.

For two of the evenings, April 9 and 10, theater party dinner tickets are being sold. Live Bicentennial entertainment will accompany a catered dinner behind the Te Paske Theatre. The guests will move straight into the theater from the dinner party. And in the style of the eighteenth century, one-line jokes will keep the audience laughing between acts.



"The Contrast" cast, hamming it up a bit, seem oblivious to the fact that they will be premiering April 7. Left row, top to bottom: Ed Kruis, Gallup, N.M.; Arnie Melissen, Maple Ridge, B.C.; Jay Vander Pol, Seattle, Wash.; Jaci De Jong, Pella, Iowa; and Les Top, Edgerton, Minn. On the right are Jane Hasseler, Armour, S.D.; Kevin Kelley, Ideal, S.D.; Mary Vander Ploeg, Pella, Iowa; John Suk, Brampton, Ont.; Cindy Holtrop, Sheldon, Iowa; Kathy Gritter, Holland, Mich.; and Jay Oostra, Rock Valley, Iowa.

Women's Basketball Team Action



1975/76 Womens' Basketball Team. Left to right, front row: Luann Vermeer, Pella, Ia.; Mary De Waard, Corwith, Ia.; Gayla Vaandrager, Sheldon, Ia.; Sandi Nieuwendorp, Sheldon, Ia.; Loretta Schoneveld, Ontario, Ca.; Ruth Eekhoff, Kanawha, Ia.; and Lori Van Dyke, Chandler, Mn. Back row: Coach Etta Huisman; Linda Rozeboom, Hull, Ia.; Terri Vander Griend, Sioux City, Ia.; Michelle Van Leeuwen, Chino, Ca.; Margaret De Valois, Lynden, Wa.; Marlae Vander Griend, Lynden, Wa.; Ruth Van Zee, Rock Valley, Ia.; and Peggy Nugteren, Leighton, Ia.

Dordt's second year of womens' basketball has brought a team of young women with great spirit and devotion to the program. The team began their season well, leaving for semester break with a 3-2 record.

During the break ten of the players spent nine days in the Pella area playing four college teams. They lost to all four, however. The college is grateful to the parents who opened their homes and hearts to the gals during their stay.

Returning from vacation, the team re-

sumed competition but suffered from poor shooting. Playing excellent defense, they won 2 and lost 4, finishing the season with a 5-10 record.

Reflecting on the season's record, head coach Etta Huisman said, "The Lord has blessed us with a strong faith in one another and an unceasing desire to work harder in using our talents to praise Him. The camaraderie on the team this year was tremendous, and with all players returning next year, our future looks very good."

Fall Foundation Drive

Finishes at \$112,000

The 1975 Fall Foundation Drive for operational needs of Dordt College reached the \$112,000 mark as late results pushed the final figure up to this unexpectedly high total.

The total represents a 40% increase (\$32,000) over last year's result of \$80,000. Dordt College is deeply grateful for this most generous response to a call for increased help in the drive. The goal had been set at \$100,000.

Churches with the highest totals based on per family averages include Sioux Center, Ia., First, \$25.25; Bakersfield, Calif., \$22.12; Escondido, Calif., \$21.65; Sanborn, Ia., \$20.92; Bunde, Minn., \$20.64; Luctor, Kan., \$19.63; Sioux Center, Ia., Covenant, \$19.15; Holland Center, S.D., \$18.70; Kennewick, Wash., \$18.53; Vauxhall, Alberta, \$18.50; Cedar, Ia., \$17.03; Wellsburg, Ia., First, \$16.49; Austinville, Ia., \$15.66; Pella, Ia., Faith, \$14.48; and Kanawha, Ia., Wright, \$13.33.

Annuity Gifts

- * \$5,000 - from a supporter in central Minnesota.
- * \$2,000 - from a couple in New Jersey.
- * \$2,000 - from friends in western South Dakota.
- * \$1,000 - from a friend in Colorado.

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A Dordt College Gift Annuity provides all of these advantages. For more information, write to: Development Office, Dordt College, Sioux Center, Iowa 51250. Information regarding the interest rate and tax advantages will be sent without obligation.

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 Sioux Center, Iowa 51250

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