


400 Years and Counting

Contributing Writer
Dordt College

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JAMINYR VELDE '99



The “Dordt: What’s in a Name?” kiosk features a website that highlights videos of alumni and faculty explaining the history and influence of the Synod of Dort. To view the website, visit synod.dordt.edu.

400 years and counting

In celebration of the 400th anniversary of the Synod of Dort, Dordt College will hold a year of festivities focusing on the Synod and its impact today.

In November, representatives from Dordt will travel to Dordrecht to participate in the city’s celebratory opening ceremony kicking off a seven-month celebration that will include conferences and an art exhibition titled “Work, Pray, Admire: New Views on Calvinism and Art.”

Mark Volkers, a digital media professor at Dordt, has partnered with Dordt’s marketing office to create a video exhibit titled “Dordt: What’s in a Name?” The exhibit features a microsite that displays a series of videos highlighting the Synod and how it has quietly influenced alumni. In the series, members from Dordt’s faculty and administration describe Dordt’s connection to the Synod, explain why the Synod took place, and talk about what happened at the Synod. Five alumni also describe what their Dordt education and being Reformed means to them.

In the spring, the Dordt art gallery will feature artifacts from the Dordrecht Museum that focus on themes of hospitality, language, and the Calvinist identity. Another show will include material from Dordt’s own archives,

including the Dutch “Statenbijbels”: Calvinist translations of the Bible into Dutch.

From April 4-6, the Andreas Center will host a conference titled “The Prodigal Love of God: Reencountering Dort at 400 and Beyond.” Speakers will include Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Marilynne Robinson; Timothy George, a leading Baptist theologian and expert on Reformation church history; James K. A. Smith, a prominent public theologian and best-selling author; and Richard Mouw, esteemed theologian and member of the neo-Calvinist movement in America. The conference, which will include plenary talks, panels, and papers from thinkers all over the country, will feature conversations about the legacy and future of Protestantism as well as opportunities facing the global church.

In May, alumni and friends of Dordt will participate in the Synod of Dort celebratory events as part of a learning vacation to Switzerland, Germany, and the Netherlands. They will visit important places of the Reformation: John Calvin’s church in Geneva, the Ulrich Zwingli monument in Zurich, and the Heiligegeist Church in Heidelberg. The trip will end in Dordrecht, where the group will attend the closing ceremonies.

ALUMNI NOTES

Kelly Tien ('80) graduated from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California, on June 9, 2018, with a master of arts in theology.

At McMurry University’s spring commencement ceremony, **Pamela Veltkamp** ('84) received the Gordon R. and Lola J. Bennett Award, the university’s highest faculty honor. This award is presented for conspicuous accomplishments in furthering the aims of the university. Criteria for the award include excellence in teaching, contributions to the governance of the university, leadership on committees, and support of better community relationships.

Carol DeYoung ('86) was named the 2018 Woman of the Year by *Country* magazine. DeYoung owns a 110-acre farm in upstate New York, which she runs almost exclusively on her own. Whether baling hay, driving tractors, constructing fences, raising livestock, building custom pig houses, or even constructing her own log cabin, DeYoung has a passion for stewarding God’s creation and leaving it better than she received it.

In October, **Darryl** ('86) and **Shelly** ('87) **De Ruiter** moved to Haiti to begin a two-year service mission with an organization called Many Hands for Haiti.

In October, **Tim Antonides** ('92) published his debut novel *Rain*. His novel depicts a married couple’s desperate pursuit of having a child. Antonides earned his Ph.D. in English language teaching and his MFA from Vermont College of Fine Arts. He lives in Vancouver, British Columbia, with his wife and two sons.

Sally Haack ('00) was appointed as vice president and director of human resources for St. Francis Regional Medical Center. She has supported Fairview Ridges, Fairview Southdale, and Bethesda hospitals as a human resources strategist. With a deep understanding of metro-area healthcare systems and employment matters, Haack has held positions within the Fairview system since 2005.



FEATURES