Redeemer University Spring Classis Report 2025

April 2025

Greetings from Redeemer University

This spring, Redeemer University formally opened a newly renovated Wellness Centre, launched new academic programming and created new opportunities to platform Christian scholarship. Additionally, Redeemer looks forward to hosting the in-person portion of Synod 2025 June 13 to 19. We are grateful for the ongoing support from churches of the Christian Reformed Church, which helps Redeemer fulfil its mission to prepare students to reflect the love of Jesus Christ in every career and calling.

Helping Students Flourish

Redeemer's expanded Wellness Centre celebrated its opening on February 27 with a ribbon cutting and open house. Attendees were able to tour the new space, which includes a welcoming reception area, mental health triage, a health clinic with access to appointments with a nurse practitioner, in-person counselling spaces and quiet spaces to retreat. This centre brings together physical and mental health services, providing private and confidential support at the centre of campus. Redeemer is committed to caring for students and getting them the support they need on campus or in the Hamilton community.

Equipping Tomorrow's Christian Leaders

Seeking to meet the needs of more Christian learners, Redeemer is preparing to offer graduate degrees and continuing to develop other adult learning opportunities such as certificates and microcredentials. Redeemer is aiming to launch a master's of education next year and a master's in counselling within the next two years, each distinctly grounded in the Reformed Christian worldview. Additionally, Redeemer has recently released its second online church leadership microcredential on human resources, with plans to release its final microcredential on congregational care in the coming months. These short and affordable learning opportunities are great resources for leaders in your congregations! With regard to Redeemer's new not-for-profit management online certificate program, all courses currently scheduled are now approved as eligible for Certified Fund Raising Executive (CFRE) certification and recertification points.

Celebrating Nicaea

In celebration of the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea (325 AD), the Albert M. Wolters Centre for Christian Scholarship at Redeemer is partnering with four Christian academic institutions to host Defending Christ: Celebrating 1700 Years of Nicaea, a two-day conference on October 3 and 4, 2025. The conference will include a variety of academic sessions, including plenary lectures by Dr. Megan DeVore and Dr. Stanley Porter. Registration will open this May.

Preserving Christian Scholarship

Redeemer's Peter Turkstra Library is developing a neo-Calvinism resource room, faithfully stewarding important Reformed materials and publications. The room will contain the personal library of Calvin Seerveld, as well as that of Albert Wolters, and have capacity for approximately 11,500 volumes. The space will be ready for use in fall 2025 and will be a useful space for pastors, students and the broader Reformed church community!

Welcoming the Community

The university hosted a number of notable events in the spring, including a Wolters Centre Lecture with <u>Dr. Abby Foreman</u>, an inaugural <u>Meet the Innovator</u> dinner, <u>Pastor Professor Exchange</u>, the second annual <u>Public Law Lecture</u> with Christian Legal Fellowship, a <u>spring concert</u>, a senior art exhibit and visits from authors <u>Tim Challies</u> and <u>Ann Voskamp</u>.

Telling Campus Stories

Redeemer recently published its 2025 edition of Resound magazine, sharing stories that celebrate the amazing work God is doing through the university and its graduates. Check out the stories online at redeemer.ca/resound!

Thank You

Thank you for your continued support and prayers. Redeemer looks forward to hosting you at Synod this June, where we will be holding a president's dinner and a ministry fair. The university will have an information table set up throughout the event—stop by to learn more about Redeemer!

In Christ,

David Zietsma, PhD

President, Redeemer University