

# Schedule OF CONFERENCE EVENTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2017

8:00 am - 3:00 pm

Registered conference participants are invited to observe classrooms at either or both the Plymouth Christian Elementary or High School. Lunch will be provided.

THURSDAY EVENING

7:00 – 10:00 pm

**The Need: How Can We Help Our Students Maintain a Compassionate Biblical Worldview Regarding Sexuality and Gender in the Face of an Abandoned Culture?**

*Rev. M. Kelderman*

In 2005, Canada became the 4th country in the world to legalize same-sex marriage with the Civil Marriage Act. In 2009, when President Obama took office, there was one state with legalized homosexual marriage. On June 26, 2015, the US Supreme Court ruled that the US Constitution guarantees the right for same-sex couples to marry in all 50 US states. Associate Justice Anthony Kennedy stated in the majority opinion: "The Court, in this decision, holds same-sex couples may exercise the fundamental right to marry in all States." When we look at the changing landscape of the United States and its evolving world view with respect to marriage, how do we prepare our children to give a loving and Biblical response to those they come in contact with? In this context, how do we teach them to love their neighbor as themselves, and yet hold a firm Biblical view on God's institution of marriage?

## DESSERT SOCIAL

**Graduate Panel Discussion**

*Dr. D. Sweetman/Mrs. S. West*

Using the main theme as the topic, a student panel will respond to the conflict that they experience at college/university setting and/or in the workplace. What is required of us as Christians is often diametrically opposed to what we are taught as "normal" or "politically correct" behavior all around us. The panel will share experiences as well as ask for advice and/or offer suggestions for educators as to how we might better prepare our students for what they will encounter on the average post-secondary campus and in the work force.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2017

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

**The Task: What Doth the LORD require of Thee?**

*Rev. J. R. Beeke*

Today's Christian school teachers are very busy meeting the various needs of students – academic, emotional, physical, and spiritual. In addition, keeping a balance among school commitments, family responsibilities and church involvement is a continual struggle. Based on the instruction through Micah and Christ's example as the Master Teacher, "What doth the Lord require of thee?" is a plea for a focus and serenity in fulfilling the calling to be a Christian school teacher.

**The Preparation**

*Rev. M. Kuivenhoven*

There are many resources available for Bible study in print and online. Which resources are most valuable for assisting teachers with lesson development and devotions? What would be useful for students and parents, especially related to personal devotions? What are some pitfalls with using particular Bible resources?

**The Students: Who Are We Teaching?**

*Rev. F. VanderZwaag*

Parents face many challenges in seeking to raise their children in the fear of the LORD. Christian school teachers are hired to assist parents in fulfilling their baptismal vows. How can teachers best aide families in training their children, given the many stresses on family life in our media-saturated world? Are there particular ways we can reach our young people during the school years?

**The Challenge: How Do We Ensure that What We Teach is Important?**

*Rev. D. VanBrugge*

In a world where information is easily accessible, and where answers are but a typed or spoken question away, how should we teach? How should we approach our class time? How should we approach our students? How can we keep from being sidetracked as teachers? How do we ensure that what we teach is important? In this practical conclusion, teachers will be encouraged and challenged to approach all their teaching from a distinctively Christian perspective.



## BREAKOUT SESSIONS

### **Biblical Worldview Tools**

*Rev. M. Kuivenhoven*

This is a follow-up workshop to the "Preparation" topic to provide hands-on experiences and time for Q & A.

### **Biblical Worldview Discussion**

*Rev. M. Kelderman*

This is a follow-up workshop for the "Biblical Worldview" topic to provide a time for discussion and Q & A.

### **Banish Bullying and Cultivate Kindness**

*Mrs. M. Beeke*

Love is at the very foundation of Christianity. Kindness is an expression of love, but we and our children are born as sinners and not prone to either love or kindness. In fact, some of us are bullies. We will look at ways to provide an environment of strong kindness in the classroom, as well as ways to prevent bullying, and deal with it with resolve and wisdom when it surfaces.



## A NOTE TO FELLOW CHRISTIAN SCHOOL TEACHERS:

Often in our busy school-life we busily move from one task to the next with barely a chance to breathe in between. We invite you to take some time out and join us for a spiritually focused in-service to renew our priorities in teaching, gain insight into our students, explore ways to help students face the challenges in the world today, and examine tools for incorporating a Biblical perspective in our courses.

Come with multiple teachers from your school or send one or two representatives to bring back this information to the rest of your staff. You are welcome to come for part or all of the conference!

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Email questions to [info@plymouthchristian.us](mailto:info@plymouthchristian.us)

### TO REGISTER:

Visit [plymouthchristianschools.org](http://plymouthchristianschools.org) and under the "Information" tab, choose "Teachers' Conference", then print and complete the appropriate forms and email to:

[cdewaal@plymouthchristian.us](mailto:cdewaal@plymouthchristian.us)

or mail forms to:

Plymouth Christian School  
965 Plymouth Ave NE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

To connect electronically to any part of this conference, contact Jim Bazen: [jbazen@plymouthchristian.us](mailto:jbazen@plymouthchristian.us)

WHAT  
DOTH THE  
LORD  
REQUIRE OF  
THEE?

WHAT DOTH THE LORD  
REQUIRE OF THEE,  
BUT TO  
*do justly,*  
AND TO  
*love mercy,*  
AND TO  
*walk humbly*  
WITH THY GOD?

(MICAH 6:8)

HRC TEACHERS' CONFERENCE  
AT  
PLYMOUTH CHRISTIAN  
HIGH SCHOOL

FEBRUARY 16-17, 2017