

Two Profs Retire from Dordt

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Recommended Citation

Moss, Sarah (2022) "Two Profs Retire from Dordt," *The Voice*: Vol. 67: Iss. 3, Article 14.

Available at: <https://digitalcollections.dordt.edu/voice/vol67/iss3/14>

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Throughout history, God has called people to gather for worship. Worship was and always has been a mix of personal devotion and piety, as well as regularly meeting together corporately in a worshipping congregation of people. I believe that the church will continue to gather, but the gathering may increasingly be a mix of people who are present physically and virtually. The challenge will be as it always has been: learning how to best lead and encourage people to deepen in faith and to live out that faith in all areas of life. The church will have to continue to learn new ways how to disciple, foster accountability, and empower people to live grateful lives of service.

The Canons of Dort reminds us that God will never let his church perish: "...There is always a church of believers founded on Christ's blood, a church which steadfastly loves, persistently worships, and—here and in all eternity—praises him as her Savior who laid down his life for her on the cross, as a bridegroom for a bride."

As I enter my sixth decade of life, I become more convinced that living and remaining in faith is a miracle, truly a gift from God. As I reflect on my own faith, I have had my share of doubts and unanswered questions over the years, but at the end of the day, I keep coming back to Jesus—or, maybe more accurately, he keeps coming back for me. He calls me into community with generations of believers who walk this same journey of faith. God has always gathered believers together, and will continue to do so, even though our understanding of what "gathered" means may change. This gathering will extend into the new Creation.

As we wait, the words of Paul to the Corinthians could never be timelier: "For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known."

REV. TODD ZUIDEMA,
DIRECTOR OF CHURCH RELATIONS

TWO PROFS RETIRE FROM DORDT

This year, Professor of Philosophy Dr. Mark Tazelaar and Professor of Economics Dr. Jan van Vliet retired from Dordt.

Chris De Groot ('21) appreciates van Vliet's commitment to excellence "both in his scholarship and his character."

"Dr. van Vliet always challenged me to commit myself to the service of Christ and others by providing quality work in economics that can impact those around me," says De Groot. "He helped



M. Tazelaar



J. van Vliet

to instill in me a love for economics and scholarship as well as a heart for serving others."

Philosophy major Rylan Brue is grateful for the ways that Tazelaar mentored him. Short conversations could turn into hours of meaningful discussion—and Brue sees these conversations as immensely influential in his academic development.

"Whenever you talk to Taz, you quickly realize how vast his knowledge is. He reads just about everything," says Brue. "When talking with him, I liked to sit and absorb as much as I could."

SARAH MOSS ('10)

DORDT UNIVERSITY
DEFENDER DAYS
OCTOBER 28-29, 2022

Defender Days is the biggest event on campus as students, alumni, and parents celebrate Dordt and reunite on campus for home sporting events, concerts, the fall theatre production, and much more.