



September 2024



## DAVID & CATHIE SANDIFER

with Annabelle (13) and Josiah (11)

Serving the Lord in the Netherlands



*"As for the saints who are in the earth, they are the majestic ones, in whom is all my delight."  
(Ps. 16:3 NASB95)*

### Dear friends

As we pass through this life serving the Lord, wherever He may place us, one of the greatest joys He gives us is the company of His saints, those who belong to Him and are serving Him with us. It is a foretaste of heaven, of our eternal companionship in worship of our Lord. We were reminded of this again as we visited churches and friends in Florida over the last couple of months, and enjoyed the sweetness of fellowship in the Lord and drew encouragement from it. Thanks to each of you, all over the world, who do truly constitute our spiritual family, and from whom we draw such strength, both from your faithfulness to the Lord, and from your prayers and love directed toward us.

### Florida Deputation

We've had a particularly busy last several months--the reason that, unfortunately, this letter is very late! Our long-planned visit to our four supporting churches in Florida--postponed from 2023--finally was able to take place this past July and August. We are so thankful for the rich times we were able to have with some of you there. All of our needs were provided for while we were in the US (including a pickup truck!), and it was a privilege to be able to share about the ministry God has given us in the Netherlands with supporters old and new.



Sharing at All Souls Church, Jacksonville

## Tyndale and Ministry News



*David with Carl Trueman and other speakers at the Preachers and Leaders Conference 2024*

Before we went to the States, David was able to take part in a major conference co-organised by Tyndale, and featuring the author Carl Trueman, along with other speakers. David was scheduled to be the moderator for the panel discussions, but not to be a speaker. However, two days before the conference was set to start, one of the speakers

had to back out, and David was asked to fill in. The topic that he addressed 'Church discipline in the wake of the sexual revolution', was a sensitive one, but it was very well received. Furthermore, we received word from the Dutch co-organiser of the conference afterward that it had generated a tremendous response online afterwards. The whole conference was a huge encouragement, as it was attended by over 200 participants, and addressed an issue (secularism) which is very timely here in the Netherlands and in Europe. Thank you so much for your prayers for this event!

On our return to Europe, we were thankful to be able to serve at a family camp in France once again. Cathie again led in art workshops, and David led the daily youth Bible studies. Following this, David participated in the bi-annual Fellowship of European Evangelical Theologians (FEET) conference, representing Tyndale there and presenting a paper. It was a special conference this year, as it was co-sponsored by the European Evangelical Alliance, in celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Lausanne Conference, with the theme of the future of evangelicalism in Europe. David was encouraged that, although this was not initially planned, he was asked by the conference organisers afterwards if his paper could be included in the bound volume for the conference.

Back at in the Netherlands, we've been encouraged both by the new term and with the progress of our little church plant. David is teaching ethics and healthy church development again, continuing to lead the department, and also mentoring a group of students (something he missed last year, being away part of the year). There is a good spirit at the seminary, with lots of enthusiasm, though Tyndale continues to struggle financially right now. We continue to pray also for more European students (encouragingly, the number of Dutch students seems to be continually increasing, thanks to growing connections with the Dutch church).

Via Church was in low gear during the summer, but things are now picking up steam again. An older gentleman from the community has been attending regularly, even as he continues to attend the Dutch Reformed Church in the morning. A couple of weeks ago, he met an Indian man at that church, and invited him to come to Via in the afternoon. He has been attending ever since! We thank God for these connections, and pray that God would help us to draw more to Himself in our village.



*David presenting at the FEET conference in Prague*

## Family Update



*Cathie leading the art workshop at the Camp of the Peaks family camp in August*

We are so thankful now to be back in Badhoevedorp after a period of travel and are looking forward to a season of settledness here. We are all in good health--we thank you so much for your prayers on this front, and for our little Josiah in particular: he is doing well, showing lots of energy and growing--praise God! The children and Cathie have enjoyed getting back into their daily home-schooling routine, as well as their extra-curricular activities and their interaction with the Tyndale community.

We appreciate your prayers for us as we settle into our second term here at Tyndale and the Netherlands. We are conscious that as opportunities for ministry multiply, we really need God's wisdom to have discernment to do the things God means for us to do here. We also feel that we want to be putting down deeper roots here--most of our ministry is with non-Dutch students and others, but we believe that God also wants us to serve those in the nation He has sent us to, and to make our home here. Finally, Tyndale is in a period of transition, and we covet your prayers for the leadership here, and all of the decisions that lie ahead.

Thank you so much for your partnership in the gospel and in this ministry--may the Lord in turn supply all your needs and equip you for the work He has called you to where you are!

### Give thanks

- For a wonderful, encouraging time in the US visiting churches, family and friends
- For good health for all of us
- For special and well-received special opportunities for David to speak
- For a good start to the new semester, both for Tyndale and as a family
- For the Lord encouraging us and strengthening us in so many ways

### Please pray

- For God's direction and empowering for all aspects of our ministry here
- For continued good health, especially for our children
- For David's teaching this term, and discipling of students
- For God's blessing and direction for Via Church
- For us to be faithful in the little things, and always rejoicing in the Lord

*From David, Cathie, Annabelle and Josiah*



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