



ARTICLES

I Can Do It Myself!

By Pastor Kevin Van Wyk

Can you picture the 4 year-old declaring this as he tries to tighten a screw in your kitchen cabinet?

Can you picture the 15 year-old declaring this as he jumps behind the steering wheel of your car?

Can you picture the 24 year-old declaring this as he fills out his taxes for the first time?

It's easy for us to look at others and think how foolish they are to think they can do these things on their own. Maybe they can, but we wonder why they don't want some help.

No doubt some will quiver in the corner, hoping someone else will take on the task in front of them... doing the math homework, finding a job, getting out of debt, or fixing the car... But, most of us will, at least at times, go it alone.

Can you picture yourself declaring "I can do it myself!"?

Maybe you aren't that obvious about it, but we really do approach much of life with that attitude. Consider your week. What have you done?

The list probably includes many things you do every week... eat, dress, drive, work, parent. You know you can do these things without help. So, we silently chant, "I can do it myself!"

As many of you know, I had hernia surgery last week. Recovery was great the first day. I charted the medications they gave me and when I took each one. I timed the ones that made me sleepy for bed time, but then needed more during the day. Not long after that I reduced meds so I would not be sleepy. Eventually, Steph intervened and started charting for me and making recommendations. That helped, but by Friday I figured I could handle the pain and stopped taking anything. As those at camp know, I was miserable on Saturday.

Now circle all the "I"s above. See the problem.

Jesus actually said...

*"I can do nothing on my own. As I hear, I judge, and my judgment is just, because I seek not my own will but the will of him who sent me." John 5:30
ESV*

Jesus sought the will of the Father. He looked for what the Father was doing (John 5:19) and joined him. So, enough of this "I can do it myself!" It is time we take some long pauses to consider what God's will is for us.

Here are some practical steps to take:

1. National day of Prayer is May 4 and you are invited to join other believers at the Waupun City Hall at 6:00pm to pray.
2. Pray Luke 10:2 every day at 10:02 am, asking God to send out workers. Pastor Seth Sundstrom, staff of the Dakota Network, is lamenting the increasing need for pastors in Alliance churches. The workers are few.
3. Pray for discernment among the consistory regarding staffing at Alto.
4. Plan to prioritize prayer and worship this summer as I cover the Lord's Prayer in sermons and call us to seek God's will.

Prayer: Lord, Help us stop going it alone and doing things in our own strength. Guide us and lead us to do your will and only your will.

Equipping Youth Update

By Jessa Ter Beest
YOUTH MINISTRY SUMMER 2023

When	What	Time	Who	Where	Med Form	Cost
June 4	Bonfire	6:30-8pm	Middle School	Church Hill	No	--
June 5	Bible Study	6-7pm	Middle School	Youth Room	No	--
June 5	Bible Study	7-8pm	High School	Youth Room	No	--
June 8	Waterpark	TBD	Middle & High School	Wisconsin Dells	Yes	TBD
June 12	Bible Study	6-7pm	Middle School	Youth Room	No	--
June 12	Bible Study	7-8pm	High School	Youth Room	No	--
June 12	Alto Fair Band Practice	8-9pm	Youth Praise Band	Sanctuary	No	--
June 14	Color Wars	7:30-9pm	High School	Church Hill	No	\$5
June 19-23	Vacation Bible School	Every AM	Everyone	Church	Yes	--
June 21	VBS Family Night	5:30-7:30pm	Everyone	Church Hill	No	--
June 26	Bible Study	6-7pm	Middle School	Youth Room	No	--
June 26	Bible Study	7-8pm	High School/Young Adult	Youth Room	No	--
June 26	Alto Fair Band Practice	8-9pm	Youth Praise Band	Sanctuary	No	--
July 1	Jessa & Mitch's Wedding!	3pm, Dance 8pm	Everyone	Sanctuary, Dance @ The Rock	No	--
July 6-8	Lifest	TBD	Middle & High School	Sunnyview Expo Center, Oshkosh	Yes	TBD
July 16	Summer Celebration	5-7pm	Everyone	McCune Park	No	--
July 19	Bonfire	7:30-9pm	High School	Church Hill	No	--
July 24	Bible Study	6-7pm	Middle School	Youth Room	No	--
July 24	Bible Study	7-8pm	High School/Young Adult	Youth Room	No	--
July 24	Alto Fair Band Practice	8-9pm	Youth Praise Band	Sanctuary	No	--
July 26	Bonfire	7:30-9pm	High School	Church Hill	No	--
July 30	Bonfire	6:30-8pm	Middle School	Church Hill	No	--
July 31	Alto Fair Band Practice	6-8pm	Youth Praise Band	Sanctuary	No	--
August 9-10	Alto Fair Fundraisers	Sign ups	Middle & High School	Fairgrounds	No	--
August 13	Outdoor Worship/Picnic	10am-1pm	Everyone	Church Hill	No	--
August 14	Bible Study	6-7pm	Middle School	Youth Room	No	--
August 14	Bible Study	7-8pm	High School/Young Adult	Youth Room	No	--
August 27	Pool Party	TBD	Middle School	TBD	No	--
August 30	Pool Party	TBD	High School	TBD	No	--

All dates/events are subject to change. If your email/phone number is not updated in the church database, please contact Megan @ office@altoreformedchurch.org to do so. All email and text updates come through the database.

Class of 2027 is invited to ALL middle and high school events during the summer.

Class of 2023 is invited to ALL high school and young adult events during the summer.

In the event of a tornado warning for Dodge or Fond du Lac County, all church activities are automatically canceled

Call or Text Jessa with any questions @ 920-979-1853

High School Kickoff will be September 6th

Middle School Color Wars Kickoff will be September 10th

Equipping Children & Families Update

By Lynnae Loomans

What a blast it was with the 2nd Annual Pinewood Derby night. It was a huge success. Thank you to everyone who made cars, cheered, helped behind the scene with set up, food, and clean up. What an awesome time and looking forward to next year.



VBS registration

starts May 1st. Look for more details coming soon in your email or on Facebook.

MESSAGES

I would like to thank Pastor, Kevin, Miley & Benita Ter Beest, Jane Chene and all the others that stopped by for such nice visits during my recovery. Also thank you for the cards, food and prayers. Words cannot express how much I appreciate your support and encouragement. We are so blessed to be a part of this wonderful church family.

Thank you,
Jodi & Randy Vande Berg

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ at Alto Reformed Church, Thank you for the opportunity for one of our Gideon brothers to share about the work of the Gideons recently. Thank you for your very generous gift of over \$12,000. It will be used to provide scriptures for hungry souls. We pray that God will continue to bless your congregation and that together more souls will be won for Christ. God's blessings to you.
The Gideons

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, those who sent cards, and those who offered help in person or by phone. Special thanks to Jean Stelsel for taxi service from St. Agnes to Appleton VA Clinic to St. Agnes (to pickup forgotten keys) to their place. Also to Duane Bille for snow removal and Keith Loomans for the prayer blanket.
-Jim VanderBosch

EVENTS

Mark your calendar...

Alto Reformed Church
May 2023

May 07 **Elementary Kids Lead Worship + Last Day of Sunday School**
Join us at 9:30am as the kids lead worship followed by a fun last day of Sunday School at 10:45am.

May 07 **Foster Care Awareness**
You'll hear personal experiences from some of our own foster families, as well as from individuals who are involved in our church's foster care ministry. So grab your coffee and join us in the sanctuary on May 7th at 10:45am. Everyone is welcome!

May 07 **Newcomer's Lunch**
We welcome all new families/individuals to join us May 7th at 11:30am after Sunday School for lunch in the basement. The main dish, tableware, and drinks will be provided by the ARC, all who attend may bring a dish to pass. There will be a sign up sheet located on the information desk. RSVPs will be needed by April 30th. Not a "new" member but still want to attend? Feel free to help sign up and join us in welcoming our newest faces.

May 14 **Youth Service**
Join us as the Middle and High Schoolers lead worship at 9:30am.

For detailed information:
Call 920.346.5505 or email office@altoreformedchurch.org

NEWS

Births

4/18/23 - Makenna Beth, daughter of Marcus & Kelli Vossekui

Baptism

4/16/23 - Jett John, son of Chad & Lynnae Loomans