

We have come here today to magnify and worship our wonderful Lord. We are so happy that you have joined us, and we want to welcome you. We hope you will be blessed through God's Word and feel His presence here. If you are a visitor, please take a moment to fill out a Connection Card (found in your pew) and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the coffee window to receive a welcome gift. Join us for coffee, juice, and snacks in the lobby after the service.

Preparation: You are encouraged to pray silently asking God to soften your heart to hear His voice.

3rd Sunday of Advent - December 15, 2019

We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

2nd Sunday of Advent - Joy

"O Come, All Ye Faithful" Hymn #133

Praise Singing

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Hymn #137

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Hymn #120

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" Hymn #134

Greet one another

Congregational Prayer

Offering – "Make Room"

(loose offering is for the Mixed Choir)

Mixed Choir Cantata - "The Love of God at Christmas"

Directed by Mary Bruins

Pianist – Jenny Glewen

Narrated by Randy Bresser

Sound Tech – Jason Mulder

"Christmas Is the Love of God"

"God's Love Medley"

"King of Love"

Soloist – Melene Kraemer

"The Saints' and Angels' Song"

"More Than Wonderful"

Soloists – Jack De Jager & Nancy Heringa

"You Make This Night Divine"

"The Love of God"

Benediction

We would love to pray with you! If you would like prayer, please join our prayer leaders at the front of the sanctuary following the service.

Today at the ARC

Ushers: Berwyn Van Buren, Isaac Glewen, Rich Kamphuis, Paul Bruins, Chas Glewen

Nursery: Julia Meinke, Angie Daane, Ashlan Bruins, Brayden Kok

Greeters: (M) Clark & Diane Harmsen (N) Jim & Karen Stelsel
(N. Ext) Milan & Bonnie Vande Zande

Benevolent offering is for Regular Benevolence

Video Tech: Zack & Elyssa Van Wyk

Parking Assistance: Jeff Kok & Bob Pluim **Sound:** Jason Mulder

10:45am – Sunday School **3:30pm – Search Team Meeting**

7:00pm – Sunday School Christmas Program

This Week at the ARC: December 15th – 21st

Media Delivery: Miley Ter Beest & Randy Bruins

Tuesday, December 17th

7:30am – Prayer Meeting for our schools

8:00am – Prayer Meeting

Wednesday, December 18th

11:30am – Golden Lifers (Bring a dish to pass. Table service, beverage, & dessert provided.)

6:45pm – Prayer Meeting

7:30pm – High School Youth Group Bridge Dinner

Thursday, December 19th

6:15pm – 4K Class Christmas Program

Next Sunday at the ARC

8:30am – Prayer Meeting

9:30am – 4th Sunday of Advent, Pastor Kevin, Sonshine Singers, WOW

Ushers: Dwaine Vande Berg, Mark Zeatlow, Ben Kraemer, Casey Flier

Nursery: Sheila Schultz, Jodi Kloosterboer, Hannah Derksen, Evan Sauer

Greeters: (M) Barrie & Ardyce Tenpas (N) Johan & Renee Jurjens
(N. Ext) Steve & Torie Daane

Benevolent offering is for Missionary Salary **Media Delivery:** Steve Daane & Larry Kok

Video Tech: Rylan Bruins & Blayne Kloosterboer

Parking Assistance: Miley Ter Beest & Burt Wiersema **Sound:** Chad Loomans

10:45am – Christmas Eve Program Practice

5:30pm – Jr. Worship Team

6:30pm – Caroling in Alto

Upcoming Events

Dec 24 4:00pm – Christmas Eve Service
 5:00pm – Christmas Eve Meal
 7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

Youth News

Middle School – Tonight we greet and usher for the Sunday School Christmas Program! Please be at church by 6:15.

No Jr Praise Band or Jr Choir practice tonight.

Don't forget caroling around Alto with our Christmas party afterward next week! Caroling will be 6:30-7:30, Christmas party 7:30-8:30.

High School – Wednesday is our Bridge Christmas Party! Come for delicious food, fun fellowship, and to celebrate our Savior's birth, 7:30-8:30pm!

Christmas Card Distribution – The youth group students will have a table set up for Christmas gifts and cards starting Sunday, December 1st running through December 29th. We will pass your addressed Christmas cards (first and last names if possible) out to the correct church mailboxes - all we ask is that you donate the money you would have spent on stamps to the youth group in the box on the table. Thank you so much for your support!

Opportunities to Get Involved

Alto Christmas Caroling! – December 22nd at 6:30pm. Everyone is invited! Meet in the youth room. If you're willing to bring treats to make gift plates for our neighbors, please come at 6pm to put them together. Let's spread some Joy! Jesus is the Reason for the Season!

Women's Ministries Board – The Women's Ministries board is looking for two more members. Terms are only two short years, and the opportunity to work with a great group of ladies planning fun events throughout the year. If interested, please let Tiffany Arndt know.

Bulletin Board News

Thinking about joining church? – Read over the Discovering Membership packet (found at the info desk or on our website) then join Pastor Kevin & Stephanie at their home for brunch on **January 26th at 11am**. RSVP to Pastor Kevin or Megan.

Congrats to Margaret Hoekstra as she celebrates her 86th birthday on December 16th.

Autopay Offering Changes – Effective February 1, 2020 the way the church receives offerings via autopay will be changing. If you currently give via autopay or would like to start giving via autopay please contact Ned Derksen, Jason Vande Zande, or Megan Vande Zande to get the proper form filled out.

Love Offering – This year's recipient is the Jack & Marla De Jager family. A second offering will be collected each week in Sunday school class (parents, please explain to your children that one offering goes in the regular offering and the other should be given to a Sunday school teacher). There are also donation boxes set out on the bulletin stands. An offering will be collected during the Sunday School Christmas Program on December 15th.

Did you see the mitten tree? We hope you'll take new and gently used mittens (the waterproof ones are best!) and put them on the tree to help our local school and food pantries keep kids warm this winter. In even higher demand are boots, boots, boots (especially middle school sizes), snow pants, and elastic waistband pants, so please share those as well. Thank you for your help helping the community. Donations will be collected through the end of December.

Let's Celebrate Christmas Together! – Join us for supper at church on December 24th any time between 5-6:30pm between our 4pm and 7pm Christmas Eve services. The meal is provided...no need to bring anything. No need to sign-up. Transportation provided if needed. Any questions? Please call Peg Bresser 382-9648 or Gloria Mulder 346-5343.

Christmas Day Meal – You're invited to a free dinner at noon on December 25th at the Wesley Center on Forest Street in Waupun. Please make reservations by calling 928-3310. Transportation is available in the Waupun area.

Worship Pastor Search Team – Jade Bresser, Stephany Buwalda, Mike De Jager, Jenny Glewen, Nicki Jahn, Jason Mulder, Rick Stelsel, Brian Tenpas, and Rachel Zeatlow.

2020 Offering Envelopes – Members please take your offering envelopes from the table in the lobby.

P - praise R - repent A - ask Y - yield

Prayer Concerns since December 8th

*Concerns submitted since last week

1. Pray that we would be listening for God to speak by the Holy Spirit to reveal Himself, His purposes, and His ways.
2. As the RCA's Vision 2020 Task Force is leaning toward a "functionally diverse" future for the RCA, pray for the Alto 2020 Task Force, other RCA churches, our classis, and the Gospel Alliance to carefully consider next steps.
3. Pray for the farmers and the stresses they face.
4. Pray for the prayer requests in the silent prayer box.
5. Pray for those battling addictions, anxieties, worries & stress & for God to sustain & deliver them.
6. Pray for marriages to be strengthened.
7. Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery or illness: Harlan Bossenbroek, Bill Bruins, Marla De Jager, Dale Heeringa, Annice Hopp, Faye Janey, Dawn Loomans, Dorothy Mills, Deb Navis, Dave Rumley, Azyrah Ter Beest, Carl Vanderkooi, Ron Vande Zande, and Silas Willey.
8. Members in assisted living, nursing homes or those confined to their home:
Anchor Communities (Brandon): Dale Kastein. **Anchor Community (Fox Lake):** Doris Daane. **Barrett House:** Lowell Glewen. **Christian Home:** Gladys Kastein, Katherine Prange, Helen Straks, Warren & Kay Vande Zande. **Evergreen:** Glen Loomans. **Home:** Dayton Ter Beest. **Maple Crest Assisted Living:** Carol De Groot. **Maple Meadows:** Arlene Henning. **Marvin's Manor:** Eleanor Loomans, Junice Vande Zande. **The Meadows Assisted Living:** Donna Kastein. **Spring Lake Apartments:** Jessie Klumpers.
9. Pray for: Aaron Zeatlow stationed in Nevada; Sebastian Hoenisch stationed in North Carolina, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder; for the leaders of our country and the troops stationed overseas; Mitch Miller (former youth group student) Marine deployed to the Middle East; Dan Bruins deployed to the Middle East.
10. Missionaries: Bob Abel – Remember Nhu, Steve & Amanda Bialy – Converge, Chris Briggs – CCCD, Mandy Kimes – His House Christian Fellowship, Andy Lickel – Intervarsity, Jersey & Preston Sheldon – Overland Missions, Randy & Wanda Potratz – SIM, Scott Ritzema – Youth for Christ