

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.

4th Sunday of Advent - December 22, 2019

We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

4th Sunday of Advent – Love

Sonshine Singers – “The Best Present Ever”

Greet one another

Praise Singing

“Joy to the World!” Hymn #135

“Angels We Have Heard on High” Hymn #132

“The First Noel” Hymn #131

Congregational Prayer

We Hear God's Word

At this time, children 3 years old – 1st grade are dismissed for Walk Out Worship in the basement.

Message – Troubled Christmas

Scripture – Matthew 2:1-12,16

We Respond to God

Prayer

Offering – “Christmas Amazing Grace” – Joel & Tonya Bruins Family

Benediction

Closing Song – “What Child is This?” Hymn #140 vs. 3

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: 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

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

This Week at the ARC: December 22nd - 28th

Media Delivery: Steve Daane & Larry Kok

Tuesday, December 24th

4:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

5:00pm – Christmas Eve Meal

7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

Next Sunday at the ARC

8:30am – Prayer Meeting

9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Jr. Worship Team

Ushers: Larry Daane, Matt McDowell, Andy Derksen, Corey Flier

Nursery: Kelli Vossekui, Melene Kraemer, Kaylee Flegner, Easton Hull

Greeters: (M) Willy & Carol Jansma (N) Ron & Helene Daane
(N. Ext) Mark & Marilyn Zeatlow

Benevolent offering is for Regular Benevolence **Media Delivery:** Gary Navis & Brian Tenpas

Video Tech: Oliver Glewen & Hannah Derksen

Parking Assistance: Gary & Marlene Navis **Sound:** Eric Redeker

Upcoming Events

Dec 30	7:00pm – Deacon Meeting
Dec 31	7:30am – Prayer Meeting for our schools 8:00am – Prayer Meeting
Jan 1	New Year's Day – Office Closed
Jan 3	Young Adult Mission Trip Departure
Jan 5	8:30am – Prayer Meeting 9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Installation Service, Men's Chorus 10:45am – Sunday School

Youth News

Middle School – Tonight at 6:30 we're going caroling around Alto to spread some Christmas joy before coming back to church for our Christmas party from 7:30-8:30pm.
Jr Praise Band at 5:30pm, Jr Choir at 6pm

High School – Merry Christmas! Enjoy celebrating the birth of our Savior with your families! See you January 8th!

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 three 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.

Calendar – Please having any additions/changes to the January calendar to Megan by Tuesday.

AMEN – Articles are due next Sunday, December 29th.

Love Offering – This year’s recipient is the Jack & Marla De Jager family. Donations can be placed in the designated boxes located on the bulletin stands. Christmas Eve is the final day to make donations.

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.

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.

2nd Offering on December 29th – To my ARC family! I just want to thank you for your past years of support to the Jamaica Deaf Village mission trips that made it possible to repair and maintenance many things at the village. This year, Lora and I will be traveling to JDV with Jessa and the team and will stay for an additional two weeks.

After contact with Chris Briggs, he was excited about the remodel of Mission Home #3 (M3), to change it into accommodations for groups of 30 or less, which will free up the conference center to host large groups for weddings and retreats. This would increase revenue, employment, training, etc. This is a big project for which the team’s labor will be a huge asset. The funds raised by the team will be used for their building materials, tile, windows, room and board, etc. for the week. The remodel of M3 will be an opportunity for the deaf village to be self-supporting. The deacons have kindly offered to designate a second offering on December 29. As in the past years, Chris and I will use these monies to do maintenance and small repairs on equipment and buildings at JDV and the school in Knockpatrick not covered by the teams. These funds will not be used for any travel expense incurred by Lora and I. Again, a huge “thank you”.

Marty Huizenga

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

Prayer Concerns since December 15th

*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. *Praise God that Marla De Jager passed all her tests and the stem cells have been collected for her transplant in January.
3. 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.
4. Pray for the farmers and the stresses they face.
5. Pray for the prayer requests in the silent prayer box.
6. Pray for those battling addictions, anxieties, worries & stress & for God to sustain & deliver them.
7. Pray for marriages to be strengthened.
8. 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.
9. 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:** Margaret Hoekstra, 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.
10. 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.
11. 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