

**March 19, 2023**



**The ARC Ministry Staff**

Lead Pastor – Kevin Van Wyk

Equipping Adults Pastor – Doug Shotsky

Equipping Youth Director – Jessa Ter Beest

Equipping Children & Families Director – Lynnae Loomans

Office Administrator – Megan Vande Zande

Youth & Worship Intern – Wyatt Guell

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## We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

Mixed Choir – “At the Cross (Love Ran Red)”

Covenant Partnership – Aaron Legate

Baptism – Bentley Michael, son of Aaron & Brianna Legate

Praise Singing

**“Count Your Blessings” Hymn #82 vs 1 & 3**

When upon life’s billows you are tempest tossed,  
When you are discouraged, thinking all is lost,  
count your many blessings, name them one by one,  
And it will surprise you what the Lord hath done.

Count your blessings,  
Name them one by one;  
Count your blessings,  
See what God hath done.  
Count your blessings,  
Name them one by one;  
Count your many blessings,  
See what God hath done.

When you look at others with their lands and gold,  
Think that Christ has promised you His wealth untold;  
Count your many blessings, money cannot buy  
Your reward in heaven, nor your home on high.

Count your blessings,  
Name them one by one;  
Count your blessings,  
See what God hath done.  
Count your blessings,  
Name them one by one;  
Count your many blessings,  
See what God hath done.

## **“Evidence”**

All throughout my history  
Your faithfulness has walked beside me  
The winter storms made way for spring  
In every season, from where I'm standing

I see the evidence of Your goodness  
All over my life, all over my life  
I see Your promises in fulfillment  
All over my life, all over my life

Help me remember when I'm weak  
Fear may come but fear will leave  
You lead my heart to victory  
You are my strength and You always will be

I see the evidence of Your goodness  
All over my life, all over my life  
I see Your promises in fulfillment  
All over my life, all over my life

See the cross, the empty grave  
The evidence is endless  
All my sin rolled away  
Because of You, oh Jesus  
(x2)

I see the evidence of Your goodness  
All over my life, all over my life  
I see Your promises in fulfillment  
All over my life, all over my life  
(x2)

Why should I fear  
The evidence is here  
Why should I fear  
The evidence is here

## **“Above All”**

Above all powers, above all kings,  
Above all nature and all created things;  
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man,  
You were here before the world began.

Above all kingdoms, above all thrones  
Above all wonders the world has ever known;  
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,  
There's no way to measure what You're worth.

Crucified, laid behind the stone;  
You lived to die, rejected and alone.  
Like a rose trampled on the ground,  
You took the fall, and thought of me, above all

Congregational Prayer

### **We Hear God's Word**

Children's Message – Adrea Daane

Message – Greed Will Wreck You: How to Avoid It/Guarding Against Greed  
Scripture – Luke 12:13-21

### **We Respond to God**

Prayer

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Hymn #225 vs 1, 2 & 4

When I survey the wondrous cross  
On which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.

Were the whole realm of nature mine,

That were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life my all.

## Benediction



Meet the Legate Family! Aaron and Brianna have been married for five years and live in Fond du Lac. Aaron works at Northeast Asphalt as a plant foreman while Brianna is home with their children. Aaron is becoming a Covenant Partner today and shared how Brianna's family has helped him get his faith back on track. He has seen God make him slower to anger, instilled trust in tough times, and made him more patient. Brianna grew up at Alto and made profession of faith in 2012. Her parents are Tom and Colleen Core. They have three children; Joseph (3), Lucille (2), and Bentley (3mths). Bentley will be baptized today. We are thrilled to have them partnering with us in the mission.

*Family Memory Verse for March 22<sup>nd</sup>*: Whatever is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable – if anything is excellent or praiseworthy think about such things. – Philippians 4:8



# Jesus

How He Redefines  
Sabbath, Wealth,  
& Family,

## **Greed Will Wreck You: How To Avoid It**

### **Luke 12:13–21 (NET 2nd ed.)**

*<sup>13</sup> Then someone from the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." <sup>14</sup> But Jesus said to him, "Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator between you two?" <sup>15</sup> Then he said to them, "**Watch out and guard yourself from all types of greed, because one's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.**" <sup>16</sup> He then told them a **parable**: "The land of a certain rich man produced an abundant crop, <sup>17</sup> so he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?' <sup>18</sup> Then he said, 'I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to myself, "You have plenty of goods stored up for many years; relax, eat, drink, celebrate!" ' <sup>20</sup> But **God said to him**, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded back from you, but who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' <sup>21</sup> So it is with the one who stores up riches for himself, but is not rich toward God."*

### **NOTES ON LUKE 12:13-21...**

#### **Three Practical Steps to Guard against Greed: (12:15)**

**By \_\_\_\_\_ possessions** (12:32-34; 18:21-30; 6:20,21a, 24, 25a)

**By \_\_\_\_\_ to the poor** (12:33; 18:22; 21:1-4; 6:29-31, 34-35; 11:42; 14:12-14)

**By \_\_\_\_\_ God to provide** (21:4, 12:22-34; 11:39-42; 16:10-13, 14-18)

## APPLICATION: Survey the wondrous cross!

### More Q & A on Giving...

#### **Jesus repeatedly calls disciples to give to the poor in the gospels, so should I just give to the food pantry or other organizations that help the poor and skip the church?**

Beyond helping the poor, Jesus did instruct his disciples to receive provision from others in Luke 10:7. Later, Paul repeatedly calls the believers to support those who teach in the church (1 Corinthians 9:9-14; 2 Corinthians 11:8; Philippians 4:16-19; 1 Timothy 5:17-18). Our deacons work hard to steward well the funds they receive. They seek to help individuals with needs, to support local organization, international missions, and our local teaching ministry needs. You can read more about the missionaries and organizations we support at [www.altoreformedchurch.org/missionaries.html](http://www.altoreformedchurch.org/missionaries.html) and now you can give online at [www.altoreformedchurch.org/online-giving.html](http://www.altoreformedchurch.org/online-giving.html).

#### **What's happening with giving in the USA?**

"Only 5% of Americans are tithers. Most (80%) give about 2% of their income to tithing donations. About 3-5% of those who attend and donate to churches do so through tithing. 17% of Americans responded that they tithe regularly. Tithe statistics reveal that most tithers (77%) donate 11-20% of their income. This tithing percentage is much higher than the baseline of 10%. About 70% of tithers base donations on gross income rather than on net income. **Christians these days give 2.5% of their income, which is less than how much they gave in the past.** During the Great Depression, they gave a higher share of 3.3%. Only 1% of Households making over \$75,000 contribute with tithing amounts of at least 10% of their income. Christian church charity statistics demonstrate that 17% of American households currently give less than they used to in local church donations. For 7% of regular churchgoers, the amounts donated dropped by 20%." (<https://balancingeverything.com/church-giving-statistics/>)

#### **I'm in debt and can't afford to give, what should I do?**

You need to get control of your finances. Dave Ramsey has some great materials on baby steps to get rid of debt. I don't agree with everything he says, but when it comes to Christian teaching on money, he has great stuff. Talk with Doug or I about Financial Peace University. RightNow Media also has resources on money. [www.altoreformedchurch.org/resources](http://www.altoreformedchurch.org/resources). We could also connect you with someone in the church capable of coaching you.

## *Upcoming Events*

- Mar 19**      8:30am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Mixed Choir  
10:45am – Sunday School  
5:30pm – Jr High Praise Band  
6:00pm – Post High March Madness Party at The Union  
6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group
- Mar 20**      6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study  
7:00pm – WI Cluster Meeting  
8:00pm – High School Band
- Mar 21**      8:00am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – Women’s Bible Study
- Mar 22**      9:30am – Golden Lifers  
6:00pm – Intermediate Praise Band  
6:20pm – Sonshine Singers, Jr Choir  
6:45pm – Bible Class, Mixed Choir  
7:30pm – High School Youth Group, Men’s Chorus
- Mar 24**      Class of 2023 Retreat
- Mar 25**      Class of 2023 Retreat
- Mar 26**      Class of 2023 Retreat  
8:30am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – Pastor Doug, Sonshine Singers  
10:45am – Sunday School  
5:30pm – Jr High Praise Band  
6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group

To view the church calendar, go to [www.altoreformedchurch.org](http://www.altoreformedchurch.org)

## *Youth News*

**Middle School** – It’s game night! See you at 6:30!

**High School** – Wednesday is A-teams night! Check with your coaches to see where your class will be meeting.

## *Opportunities to Get Involved*

**All Church Retreat** – Join us for our 2nd annual All Church Retreat at Silver Birch Ranch on April 21-23. Brochures with information are in your church mailbox or at the Information Center. Register by March 31st or contact Megan to get help with registration. Any questions, reach out to Pastor Doug, Jessa or Lynnae.

**Pinewood Derby Family Night** – Join us at the Alto Community Center on Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm for a fun, free night. We’ll have a meal at 5:30pm and races will start at 6pm. Sign-up and grab a car kit with instructions at the Children & Families Resource Center by April 9<sup>th</sup>. Classes range from 1<sup>st</sup> grade to adult. Want to check the weight of your car? Stop in by Lynnae or Megan. Don’t want to race a car? Join us anyway.



**Post-High Group coming soon!** We're starting a post-high group focused on young adults that have graduated high school and are looking for others to do life with. We are kicking this off by having a March Madness party March 19<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the Union. Don't worry-if you don't care about basketball, there will be plenty of people, games, food and other activities!

**VBS Volunteers Needed** – We are looking for volunteers (incoming 6<sup>th</sup> grade-adults) to help with VBS June 19-23 at 9-11:30am. Please sign up at the Children & Families Resource Center. VBS registration will open for 3 year olds – 5<sup>th</sup> graders in May.

### *Bulletin Board News*

**Offering** may be placed in one of the three white offering boxes located in the lobby, may be given online, or through autopay. For more info or to set up autopay, please contact Megan. Upcoming benevolent schedule: 3/19 Missionary Salary, 3/26 Camp Manitoqua, 4/2 The Union, 4/9 Missionary Salary. If you feel led to give specifically towards the ceiling project, please put your check in a separate marked envelope in one of the offering boxes. The deacons are keeping track separately of what has been contributed towards the project, which will be shown on the monthly financial reports. Thank you.

**Congrats** to Junice Vande Zande as she celebrates her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Congrats** to Alvin & Doris Harmsen as they celebrate their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Congrats** to Beverly Kastein as she celebrates her 88<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**AMEN** articles are due next Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Donations Needed for VBS** – Over the next few months we will be collecting large cardboard to use for VBS decorations. We are also looking for water bottle caps, yellow, orange or red tissue paper, new colored plastic tablecloths and new/used pool noodles. Donations may be placed in the tote by the Children & Families Resource Center.

**Women's Break Away** – Faith Alliance Church in Chilton is hosting the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Women's Break Away on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup>. Robyn Dykstra is the keynote speaker and will share a message of love and hope. More information including registration can be found at <http://faithcmachurch.org/z/womens-break-away/> Contact Betty Daane with any questions.

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

**Praise:** Our Provider, we are grateful that you have provided for us, so that we might help others in your name. We give thanks for those who are on the forefront of helping the poor. We give thanks for the generous individuals here today and who came before us who have enabled this church to pass on the faith and continue a legacy of faithful giving. We praise you for providing!

**Repent:** Forgive us for our greed, for seeking things of this world over heavenly treasures. Forgive us for hoarding and expecting things back when we do give. Change our hearts and make us more generous.

**Ask:** Almighty God, we ask that you answer our prayers quickly...

- Bless those serving others in need; particularly the organization we support at Alto like Brandon Food Pantry, Bread for the World, Church Health Services, ONE Waupun, Waupun Food Pantry, and Waupun Holiday Help. Also, bless the organizations and missionaries we support who help and teach. (See the full list at [www.altoreformedchurch.org/missionaries.html](http://www.altoreformedchurch.org/missionaries.html))
- We pray that you would work to place a godly leader on our State Supreme Court who will support life, liberty, and justice for all.
- We ask that you raise up biblically minded voters on April 4 to elect godly leaders to our school boards.
- Bring healing, strength and peace to those listed below as they face challenges each day. Renew their hearts, minds, and bodies to continue to live faithfully in this world.

**THIS WEEK...** Pray for Don Vande Zande as they consider future care. Pray Rich Kamphuis as he has begun chemo. Pray for healing for Jodi VandeBerg. Pray for peace and comfort for the family of Johanna Schultz. Pray for healing for Arlyn & Lois Glewen.

**Yield:** Lord Jesus, I will be more generous! I will maintain a life of prayer, study your Word, participate in the Lord's supper, gather with believers regularly, use my spiritual gifts and financial resources to further the mission of Jesus through the local church, live a life pleasing to you and accept the spiritual guidance of the church leadership.

**Healing:** Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery/illness, etc.: Betty Daane, Cal Flegner, Barbara Gordon, Alvin Harmsen, Kevin Harmsen, Sharon Harmsen, John Hoekstra, Faye Janey, Isabel Kastein, Jim Parrish, Dave Rumley, Jean Stelsel, Jodi Vande Berg, Carl VanderKooi, Jake Vande Zande, Ron Vande Zande, Connie Wiersema, and Silas Willey.

**Military Personnel:** Aaron Zeatlow, stationed in Las Vegas; Sebastian Hoenisch, deployed on an aircraft carrier in the Pacific, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder; Mitch Miller, US

**Shut-ins:** Members in assisted living, nursing homes or those confined to their home: **Barrett House:** Lowell Glewen **Charleston House:** Brian Hemp **Beaver Dam Memory Care:** Cora Hemp **Christian Home:** Sharon Harmsen, Dayton TerBeest, Junice Vande Zande, Kay Vande Zande **Home:** Margaret Hoekstra, Julie Medema, Marion Tolsma, Marilyn Westerveld **Christian Homestead:** Betty Bruins **Maple Meadows:** Arlene Henning **Marvin's Manor:** Eleanor Loomans **Prairie Ridge:** Annice Hopp

**Missionaries:** Bob Abel – Remember Nhu, Steve & Amanda Bialy – Converge, Chris Briggs – CCCD, Andy Lickel – InterVarsity, Jersey & Preston Sheldon – Overland Missions, Randy & Wanda Potratz – SIM, Scott Ritzema – Youth for Christ