

**November 26, 2023**



**The ARC Ministry Staff**

Lead Pastor – Kevin Van Wyk

Equipping Youth Director – Jessa Wedel

Equipping Children & Families Director – Lynnae Loomans

Office Administrator – Megan Vande Zande

Worship & Youth Intern – Ashlan Bruins

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Pre-Service Song – “Crowns”

### **We Approach God**

Welcome & Announcements

Sonshine Singers – “I’m So Blessed”

Praise Singing

“Build Your Kingdom Here”

“Death Was Arrested”

“Crowns”

Congregational Prayer

Video presenting 12/17 offering cause: Remember the Children

### **We Hear God’s Word**

Children’s Message – Beth Redeker

Message – Religious Fruitcakes: Dedication

Scripture – 2 Peter 1:3-11

### **We Respond to God**

Prayer

“Take My Life”

Blessing

*If you are newer to Alto Reformed Church, we invite you to fill out a Connection Card, located at the entrance to the sanctuary, and turn it in at the Fellowship Kitchen for a small gift.*

# Religious Fruitcakes:

A People of Thanks, Dedication, Hope, Peace, Love, & Joy

Religious Fruitcakes: #2 Dedication  
Celebrating 125 Years of Dedication

## A Biblical Look at Temple Dedication

### \_\_\_\_\_ Temple Dedication

הִנָּח (h<sup>ā</sup>nūk·kā(h)): n.fem.; ≡ dedication, consecration, i.e., an act of setting apart something for a sacred use, in honor of God

שִׁדָּד (qā·dāš): v.; ≡ be sacred, consecrated, set apart, dedicate to service and loyalty to God, and so involving proper conduct

James Swanson, *Dictionary of Biblical Languages with Semantic Domains : Hebrew (Old Testament)* (Oak Harbor: Logos Research Systems, Inc., 1997).

1. Moses consecrated the \_\_\_\_\_ (Numbers 7:1, 10-11; Exodus 40:9–16).
2. Solomon dedicated the \_\_\_\_\_ (2 Chronicles 5-7).
3. The Dedication was a \_\_\_\_\_ event as the Temple represented their \_\_\_\_\_ with God (2 Chronicles 7:12-22).

### \_\_\_\_\_ (intertestamental) Temple Dedication:

The 400 “\_\_\_\_\_” between the testaments was marked by conflict, where the temple was destroyed and rededicated in 165 or 164BC (1 Maccabees 4:36–43) The rededication became a yearly ritual called \_\_\_\_\_ or the Feast of Dedication (1 Maccabees 4:56–59, John 10:22). (See <https://www.gotquestions.org/intertestamental-period.html>)

Jesus was clear, the OT/IT temple would be \_\_\_\_\_. (Luke 21:5–6)

### \_\_\_\_\_ Temple Dedication:

You are a \_\_\_\_\_... (1 Corinthians 6:19–20)

...called to complete \_\_\_\_\_ (godliness), making every effort to live for God! (2 Peter 1:3–11; see Matthew 6:24; Acts 2:42–47)

**APPLICATION:** \_\_\_\_\_ your life to God.  
Dedication is a fruit of the Spirit, but you can nurture fruit or kill it.

## *This Week's Events*

- Nov 26** 8:30am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Sunshine Singers  
10:45am – Sunday School  
5:30pm – Middle School Praise Band  
6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group
- Nov 27** 7:00pm – Deacon Meeting
- Nov 28** 8:00am – Prayer Meeting
- Nov 29** 9:30am – Golden Lifers  
5:15pm – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Christmas Program Practice  
6:20pm – Sunshine Singers, Jr Choir  
6:30pm – Mixed Choir  
6:45pm – Bible Class  
7:30pm – High School Youth Group, Men's Chorus
- Nov 30** 7:00pm – Incoming Elder & Deacon Training
- Dec 3** 8:30am – Prayer Meeting  
9:30am – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent, Pulpit Supply – Ian Van Wyk, Men's Chorus  
10:45am – Sunday School  
5:30pm – Middle School 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** – What is prayer really and why should we do it? Will God give me everything I ask for in prayer? Libbi will talk with us tonight about God's promises in prayer. See you at 6:30!

**High School** – What are God's promises to us when it comes to our prayer life? How can we make our prayer lives better? We'll talk about it Wednesday at 7:30!

## *Opportunities to Get Involved*

**Sunday School** – Sunday school is available for everyone 3 years old – adult. Preschoolers should meet in the Sunbeamers room. K-5<sup>th</sup> grade should go to the basement for their snack (do not take a snack from upstairs) and singing and then break off into their classrooms. 6<sup>th</sup>-High School should meet in their classrooms. Adults can meet in the Consistory Room for Sunday School Guide.

“**The Steps to Freedom in Christ**” will give you practical tools and biblical principles for you and your children to overcome negative thoughts, irrational feelings, habitual sins, and spiritual struggles. Friday, Dec 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30-9:30pm in the Youth Room. Kevin and Steph Van Wyk will share their experience with the materials; we'll watch short video segments for each of the seven steps; and we'll spend time in personal reflection and prayer on each step. It will be a safe place for you to face your chains and break them. The workbook (which you will certainly want) is \$6 and you can help the church cover this expense by placing a donation in the white offering boxes. Signup today at the Information Center or by emailing Kevin at [kevin@altoreformedchurch.org](mailto:kevin@altoreformedchurch.org) to make sure you get a workbook.

**Funeral Serving Help Needed** – We are looking for a couple new co-chairs for one of our Funeral Serving Committees. This position entails helping with ordering food, asking people to make/serve food, and helping on the day of the funeral. If this interests you, please sign up at the Information Center. Any questions, please contact Sue Bos at 296-1314.

### *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: 11/23 Bread for the World, 11/26 Regular Benevolence, 12/3 Missionary Salary, 12/10 Awaken Kids, 12/17 Remember the Children. 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.

**AMEN** articles are due today.

**Book Sale** – Looking for a new devotion, a fun kids activity book, a prayer journal, or just not sure what to get for Christmas gifts this year? We are having a book sale sponsored by Reach Out. Books will be available for purchase in the lobby through November 26<sup>th</sup> and you'll be able to take them home the same day. Cash or check only. Any questions, please contact Lynnae.

**Advent Resources** – There are Advent activity bags available at the Children & Families Resource Center to use during the Advent season. The bags contain a calendar of simple activities to do through Christmas as well as some of the materials needed. These bags are perfect for families with kids elementary age or younger. Please take one bag per family.

**Salvation Army Bell Ringing** – We are looking for bell ringers for Fri, Dec 15<sup>th</sup> and Sat, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> at Piggly Wiggly. Please sign-up at the Information Center or contact Darryl Navis for more details. Seating is available.

**Christmas Carol Sing** – First Reformed Church (422 W. Franklin Street, Waupun) will be hosting their annual Christmas Carol Sing on Sunday, Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6pm. Join in an evening of singing Christmas Carols and also enjoying musical performances by a variety of soloists along with The New Generation Singers and The United Men of Praise. A freewill offering will be shared equally with Awaken Kids and REACH, both Waupun organizations that support the youth of our communities.

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

**Praise:** We rejoice today in Your gifts of divine knowledge and power. We are grateful that You have revealed your grace in Jesus Christ and empowered us to live holy, dedicated lives for You.

**Repent:** Forgive us for allowing evil desires to corrupt our hearts and lives. Forgive us for making little effort to add to our faith, goodness, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, kindness, or love.

**Ask:** Lord, empower us to make every effort to live effective, productive lives.

- Restore peace to our world and strengthen the oppressed, especially persecuted Christians around the world.
- Stir up a conviction in our political leaders to support life, liberty, and justice. Uncover evil and deception in our leaders that they may lead us toward truth.
- Strengthen and encourage the new elders and deacons. Guide the Consistory in every decision that Your mission will be pursued with dedication.
- 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.

**Yield:** I dedicate my life to You! I will make every effort to confirm my calling and election. 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.

**THIS WEEK...** Pray for Donna Bruins as she recovers from foot surgery.

**Healing:** Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery/illness, etc.: Paul Bruins, Betty Daane, Elaine Daane, Sharon DeMotts, Barbara Gordon, Alvin Harmsen, Faye Janey, Melene Kraemer, Jim Parrish, Dave Rumley, Jean Stelsel, Jim Stelsel, Jodi Vande Berg, Ron Vande Zande, Harold VanRuiswyk, and Mark Zeatlow.

### **Military Personnel:**

Aaron Zeatlow, stationed in Las Vegas;  
Sebastian Hoenisch, stationed in San Diego, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder;  
Matt Saunders, stationed in east Africa, nephew to David Grulich & Rosemary Tschinkel  
Cyler Ruis, stationed in California, nephew to Joel & Pamela Ruis

**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:** Elaine Daane, Sharon Harmsen, Dayton TerBeest, Kay Vande Zande, Marilyn Westerveld  
**Home:** Margaret Hoekstra, Julie Medema, Marion Tolsma,  
**Christian Homestead:** Betty Bruins  
**Harbor Haven:** Don Vande Zande  
**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