

**October 3, 2021**



**The ARC Ministry Staff**

Lead Pastor – Kevin Van Wyk

Equipping Adults Pastor – Doug Shotsky

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## **We Approach God**

Welcome & Announcements

Mixed Choir – “This I Believe Medley”

Apostle’s Creed

Praise Singing

“We Believe”

“Cornerstone”

Congregational Prayer

## **We Hear God’s Word**

Message – Tough Questions: Why We Disagree about the Bible

Scripture – 2 Timothy 3:12-16

## **We Respond to God**

Prayer

Communion

“Seek Ye First” vs 2

Blessing

### *Memory Verse for October 6<sup>th</sup>*

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.



# Tough Questions:

# Dog Gone, That's a Tough One

## **Tough Questions: Why We Disagree About the Bible**

*(2 Tim. 3:12-16)*

### **Biblical Authority & Interpretation**

1. What is the history of how the Bible came into being?
2. Why does the Catholic Bible have more books? Can we read them to be true?
3. How do we know the bible is inerrant?
4. How do people misuse scripture?
5. When scripture is interpreted by several Greek linguists/scholars, and they come up with different meanings.....how can that happen?
6. What is the significance of Romans 14 as it addresses differing beliefs of Christians?

### **Complementarianism**

7. How can someone say the Bible says women should not be elders/ministers?

### **Gender/Homosexuality**

8. How come the Church is so worried about homosexuality as a sin, but doesn't talk about other sins - such as seeing married people having affairs & breaking up families?

9. Do homosexuals go to hell?

10. Why do other Christians want to condone and even embrace this practice?

### **Communion**

11. Some Catholics want to deny communion to President Biden and others for being pro-choice. Who should be allowed to take communion?

### **APPLICATION:**

#### **GREAT RESOURCES AVAILABLE IN THE LIBRARY**

"Knowing Scripture" by R.C. Sproul (2016) is a clear and concise overview of how to interpret the Bible. It is a great introduction to essentials for understanding the meaning and application of Scripture.

"Embodied: Transgender Identities, the Church, and What the Bible Has to Say" by Preston Sprinkle is an in-depth guide for Christians who want help navigating issues related to the transgender conversation. It challenges conservatives and progressives to understand what people are facing and what the Bible has to say.

"People to be Loved" is a comprehensive book on homosexuality by Preston Sprinkle. It is tremendously practical, relevant and Biblical. It will challenge you to re-evaluate your understanding and response to LGBTQ+.

"Grace//Truth" 1.0 & 2.0 includes videos (on RightNow Media) and two small books (with DVDs). They are from Preston Sprinkle and address the issues in his books "Embodied" & "People to be Loved." The videos raise tough questions about LGBTQ while the books give more answers and provide questions for discussion.

"Parent Resource Guide: Responding to the Transgender Issue" is an informative, well-documented, 60-page article helping parents navigate the cultural pressure coming from the transgender voices. There are a couple copies on in the library or you can get it here...

<https://genderresourceguide.com/>

#### **GREAT RESOURCES AVAILABLE ONLINE**

Christian Apologetics and Research Ministry at [www.Carm.org](http://www.Carm.org) provides thousands of answers to biblical questions and supposed contradictions and errors.

"[Searching for the Truth In Dr. James Brownson's Bible Gender Sexuality](https://dialogos-studies.com/?page_id=299)" is a response to the RCA professor's book which progressives have widely applauded. This article meticulously debunks Brownson's arguments. Find it here... [https://dialogos-studies.com/?page\\_id=299](https://dialogos-studies.com/?page_id=299)

"What Would You Say" are videos from the Colson Center on LGBTQ and other political/religious issues. A good place to start is "If Conversion Therapy Is Bad, Why Is Sex Reassignment Good?" [www.youtube.com/watch?v=1miVuv8\\_SkM](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1miVuv8_SkM) or "Jesus Never Condemned Homosexuality | What Did Jesus Say About Homosexuality?" [www.youtube.com/watch?v=y\\_PM5ndG00Q](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y_PM5ndG00Q)

"Homosexuality: Texts and Hermeneutics" is a power message from Dr. Christopher Yuan, telling his story of being gay, in prison, and now professor of [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5US\\_vq6DA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P5US_vq6DA).

## *Upcoming Events*

- Oct 3**
  - 8:30am – Prayer Meeting
  - 9:30am – Pastor Kevin, Mixed Choir
  - 10:45am – Sunday School
  - 1:30pm – Classis Meeting with Consistory
  - 2:00pm – Congregational Meeting with Classis Reps
  - 3:00pm – Classis Meeting with Pastor Kevin
  - 5:30pm – MS/HS Praise Team Practice
  - 6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group
  - 7:00pm – Executive Committee Meeting with Nominees wishing to decline
- Oct 4**
  - 6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study – “Finding I Am”
  - 7:00pm – High School Bible Study
- Oct 5**
  - 8:00am – Prayer Meeting
  - 1:30pm – Women’s Mission Circle – *Bible Study #9*
  - 6:30pm – Women’s Bible Study – “In His Image”
  - 7:00pm – Elder Meeting – If you are interested in baptism or membership, please contact Pastor Kevin.
- Oct 6**
  - 9:30am – Golden Lifers Brunch at Mateo’s
  - 6:00pm – Intermediate Praise Band
  - 6:20pm – Sonshine Singers, Jr Choir
  - 6:30pm – Mixed Choir, 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Meeting
  - 6:45pm – Bible Class, Women’s Bible Study – “Delighting in God’s Law”
  - 7:00pm – High School Praise Team
  - 7:30pm – Men’s Chorus, High School Youth Group
- Oct 8**
  - 7:00pm – Road Rally
- Oct 9**
  - 5:30pm – Harvest Festival
- Oct 10**
  - 8:30am – Prayer Meeting
  - 9:30am – Pastor Doug, Jr Choir
  - 10:45am – Sunday School, Women’s Bible Study – “Delighting in God’s Law”
  - 6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group

### **Who May Participate In Communion?**

“We welcome all those who are displeased with themselves because of their sins, but who nevertheless trust that their sins are pardoned and that their remaining weakness is covered by the suffering and death of Christ, and who also desire more and more to strengthen their faith and to lead a better life. Hypocrites and those who are unrepentant, however, eat and drink judgment on themselves.” (Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 81; 1 Cor. 10:19-22; 11:26-32)

Paul challenges believers to participate in communion in a manner that is sincere and authentic. He writes to the church in Corinth... *“Eat the bread or drink the cup of the Lord in the right way. Don’t do it in a way that isn’t worthy of him. If you do, you will be guilty. You’ll be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Everyone should take a careful look at themselves before they eat the bread and drink from the cup.” (1 Cor. 11:27-28 NIRV)*

So, we welcome any who are trusting in Jesus to forgive their sins to participate in the Lord’s Supper. If your child understands the above statement, they too are welcome to the table. As well we want to

urge those who trust Jesus to join with us in ministry as active confessing members. Check out "Discovering Membership" online or at the information table.

## *Youth News*

**Middle School** – "You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives." Genesis 50:20. Joseph's story is a great reminder of the redeeming power of God to take bad circumstances and turn them into something good. Let's talk more about Joseph's story tonight, 6:30-8pm. Bring your tough questions tonight for next week's Question and Answer night!

**High School + 8th Grade Monday Night Bible Study** – Join us for The Chosen Season 2: Episode 3

**High School** – Wednesday is question and answer night! We've got some great questions about the end times, sin, ghosts, mental health and several more that Erin, Marlaina, and Jessa can't wait to answer for you! See you at 7:30!

**Wednesday is Bring Your Bible to School Day!** You're encouraged to bring your physical Bible with you (instead of just the app) and read it during silent reading time, WIN, lunch, etc. Encourage others to also!

**Harvest Festival** is back this year and will take place October 9<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30pm at the Alto Community Center. We'll have food, silent and live auctions, hay rides and fun! This fundraiser will support the high school mission trip to Jamaica in June 2022. If you have something to donate for the auction, please drop it off in the church office any time.

## *Bulletin Board News*

**Offering** may be placed in one of the three white offering boxes located in the lobby. Upcoming benevolent schedule: 10/3 Regular Benevolence, 10/10 Waupun Food Pantry, 10/17 Missionary Salary, 10/24 Christian Home Chaplain.

**CCCD Van Fund** – We are collecting donations for a new van for the Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf. The goal is to collect a total of \$20,000. Donations should be labeled CCCD van fund (on the envelope or check memo) and may be placed in the offering boxes in the lobby.

**Please plan to attend the congregational meeting that will take place on Sunday, October 3, 2021 at 2:00 p.m to meet with representatives from the RCA.** The meeting is scheduled to last no more than two hours, but may be completed earlier. After hearing a brief summary of both sides of the issue and a time to ask questions, all of the confessing members of Alto Reformed Church will vote on the petition to withdraw from the RCA by secret ballot. Absentee ballots are available at the Information Center. Please read the instructions on the ballot carefully and place your ballot in the sealed envelope in the box marked 'Absentee Ballots' prior to the congregational meeting.

**Congrats** to Duane & Colleen Bille as they celebrate their 52<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary today.

**Congrats** to Kay Vande Zande as she celebrates her 84<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Pork Chop Dinner Fundraiser** – The mission team going to CCCD in Jamaica will be hosting a pork chop dinner at the Alto Community Center on Saturday, October 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:30-6:30pm. The meal is carry-out only and includes a pork chop, baked potato, corn, applesauce, roll, and beverage. Ticket cost is \$10 and can be purchased from Marty Huizenga, Jim Nummerdor, ARC office, or any person going on the mission trip. There are a limited # of tickets available so get yours early!

**Old Stone Church Fence Line Clean-up** – Volunteers are needed to help with clean-up of the fence lines at the Old Stone Church (N4042 Amity Rd) on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30am. If you're able to help with this, please bring a weed eater.

### *Opportunities to Get Involved*

**Fill up your gas tanks and dust off your flashlights (Date Change!)** - the annual Road Rally is back! Join us Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm, beginning at church. Come and be a part of this fun and exciting time of fellowship! Find a team of 4 and sign up on the information desk or contact Jenna Bille or Katie Mueller. Need help finding a team? Let us know! Cost is \$5 per person.

**OCC Packing** – Information for packing boxes and donation items for Operation Christmas Child are located in your mailboxes and at the Children & Families Resource Center. We'll be having our annual packing party on November 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30-7:30pm. We hope you'll join us. If you decide to pack your own box at home, they are due by November 7<sup>th</sup> and shipping costs should be placed in the shipping donations box. Any questions contact Adrea.

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

**Praise:** Lord, we are so grateful to have the Bible accessible to us in the pew, in our home and on our phones. We rejoice that you have given us the truth. Your Word guides us in your ways and assures us of salvation through your Son. We rejoice!

**Repent:** Forgive us for neglecting your Word; for choosing Facebook, sports and the news over your life giving Word. Forgive us for being set in our ways and being unwilling to hear, reflect and consider how you are convicting and directing us.

**Ask:** We ask that you would feed us from Your Word, that we would so encounter you as we read that we do not want to stop.

Teach, encourage and strengthen us to be a people who are renewed and refreshed by the truth. •We ask for healing, strength and peace for those listed below as they face challenges each day. Renew their hearts, minds, and bodies to continue to live faithfully in this

world. •Guide us through the process of transferring from the RCA to ARC. May the meeting today bring you honor. •Help us remain faithful to You.

**Yield:** Today, we commit ourselves fully and completely to You as our Lord and Master. We will open the Bible daily and obey your Word.

**THIS WEEK...** Pray for continued healing for Missy Ter Beest, Gail Bille, Darren & Rachel Kamphuis, and many others recovering from covid. Pray for Kay Vande Zande as she recovers from knee replacement surgery. Pray for the family of Ron Kastein, Nancy Heeringa's brother, as he passed away this past week. Pray for Carter Kraemer as he recovers from surgery to remove a bump from his neck.

**Healing:** Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery or illness: Betty Benson, Ashley Bruins, Josie Buiter, Dusty Deming, Paul Elenius, Alvin Harmsen, Sharon Harmsen, Annice Hopp, Dave Rumley, Azyrah Ter Beest, Carl VanderKooi, Jake Vande Zande, and Silas Willey.

### **Military Personnel:**

Aaron Zeatlow, stationed in New Mexico; Sebastian Hoenisch, stationed in the San Diego, grandson of Larry & Gloria Mulder; Mitch Miller, (former youth group student) Marine deployed to the Middle East

**Shut-ins:** Members in assisted living, nursing homes or those confined to their home: **Anchor Communities (Brandon):** Dale Kastein **Barrett House:** Lowell Glewen **Beaver Dam Memory Care:** Cora Hemp **Christian Home:** Sharon Harmsen, Gladys Kastein, Helen Straks, Junice Vande Zande, Kay Vande Zande **Christian Homestead:** Warren Vande Zande **Evergreen:** Glen Loomans **Hillside Manor:** Harvey Daane **Home:** Margaret Hoekstra, Dayton Ter Beest **Maple Meadows:** Arlene Henning **Marvin's Manor:** Eleanor Loomans **Prairie Ridge:** Annice Hopp

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