

September 26, 2021



The ARC Ministry Staff

Lead Pastor – Kevin Van Wyk

Equipping Adults Pastor – Doug Shotsky

Equipping Youth Director – Jessa Ter Beest

Equipping Children & Families Director – Adrea Daane

Office Administrator – Megan Vande Zande

N3697 County Road EE

Waupun, WI 53963

920.346.5505

office@altoreformedchurch.org

www.altoreformedchurch.org

We Approach God

Welcome & Announcements

Sonshine Singers – “For Your Glory”

Praise Singing

“Victory in Jesus” Hymn #430

“Because He Lives (Amen)”

Congregational Prayer

We Hear God’s Word

Children’s Message – Linda Mulder

Message – Tough Questions: Heaven, Rapture, & Cremation

Scripture – 1 Peter 1:3-4, 1 Samuel 28, Matthew 17:1-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, 1 Corinthians 15:52-54

We Respond to God

Prayer

“Hymn of Heaven”

Blessing

Memory Verse for Sept 29th

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters. - Colossians 3:23

Tough Questions:

Dog Gone, That's a Tough One



Tough Questions on Heaven, Rapture, and Cremation

Key Scriptures: 1 Peter 1:3-4, 1 Samuel 28, Matthew 17:1-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, 1 Corinthians 15:52-54

4 Questions:

1. Will we recognize people in Heaven?

1 Peter 1:3-4, 1 Samuel 28, Matthew 17:1-13

2. What age will we be in Heaven?

3. People say when you die your soul goes to heaven, but at a funeral it was said that those that have gone before us will be the first to receive in heaven. Which is it?

1 Thessalonians 4:13-17, 1 Corinthians 15:52-54

4. Is cremation wrong?

1 Samuel 31:11-13, Amos 2:1, Amos 6:8-10

Application:

1. Share the gospel with someone this week.
2. Study these further resources:
 1. Will we know each other in Heaven?

<https://www.gotquestions.org/family-heaven.html>

- b. What Age Will I Appear in Heaven?

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/what-age-will-i-appear-in-heaven>

- c. 2 resources on cremation:

<https://www.christianity.com/wiki/christian-life/what-does-the-bible-say-about-cremation.html>

<https://www.gotquestions.org/cremation-Bible.html>

Upcoming Events

- Sept 26** 9:30am – Pastor Doug, Sonshine Singers
10:45am – Sunday School, Discovering Membership Class
5:30pm – MS/HS Praise Team Practice
6:30pm – Middle School Youth Group
- Sept 27** 7:00pm – Deacon Meeting, High School Bible Study
- Sept 28** 8:00am – Prayer Meeting
6:00pm – ARC Informational Event
- Sept 29** 6:00pm – Intermediate Praise Team
6:20pm – Sonshine Singers, Jr Choir
6:30pm – Mixed Choir
6:45pm – Bible Class: *Bring a friend to bible class night!*
7:00pm – High School Praise Team
7:30pm – Men’s Chorus, High School Youth Group
- Oct 2** 7:00pm – Road Rally
- Oct 3** 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

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 – Tonight we're talking about Adam and Eve. What was the heart behind their decision to eat the fruit? Did God redeem their story? See you at 6:30!

Jr/Sr Praise Band Practice – 5:30-6:15 tonight and next week Sunday.

High School + 8th grade – We're watching The Chosen Season 2: Episode 2 tomorrow (Monday) from 7-8pm! See you there!

High School – How is our relationship with God changed when we choose sin over Him? Let's talk about it Wednesday at 7:30.

Harvest Festival is back this year and will take place October 9th 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: 9/26 Missionary Salary, 10/3 Regular Benevolence, 10/10 Waupun Food Pantry, 10/17 Missionary Salary.

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.

The Alliance of Reformed Churches (ARC) Informational Event: ARC is a new network of biblical, reformed congregations seeking to engage in mission together. Alto Reformed Church is in process of joining them. You are invited to meet Dan Ackerman, Director of Organizational Leadership, to learn more about the ARC; its convictions, its structure and its heart. You can expect to find out what is happening with the ARC and what to expect over the next few months. In addition, he will respond to your questions. This event is an in-person event and will not be streamed. Other congregations have been invited. Our intent is to encourage conversations with folks in Wisconsin and bordering areas who would like to hear from the ARC about what is happening. This informational event is for anyone who has an interest in the Alliance of Reformed Churches. When: 6:00 pm, September 28, 2021 Where: Alto Reformed Church

Congrats to Bob & Bev Kastein as they celebrate their 67th wedding anniversary on October 1st.

AMEN articles are due today.

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 16th 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, Alto Reformed Church 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 9th at 8:30am. If you're able to help with this, please bring a weed eater.

Opportunities to Get Involved

CCCD Mission Trip – If you are interested in going on the mission trip to the Caribbean Christian Centre for the Deaf in Jamaica on January 12-19, 2022, please sign-up at the Information Center by September 30th. Contact Marty Huizenga with any questions.

Fill up your gas tanks and dust off your flashlights - the annual Road Rally is back! Join us Saturday, October 2nd 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.

Golden Lifers will begin meeting every Wednesday at 9:30am starting October 6th – November 17th for a bible study on the book of John. On October 6th we will meet a Mateo's for brunch and the following weeks we'll meet in the church basement.

Women's Ministry Bible Studies:

Join us for our fall Bible studies! Below is additional information on each. Please sign up by September 29th so we can order supplies before the start dates. Thank you, and we can't wait to dig into each of these studies with you!

Mondays: "[Finding I Am](#)" by Lysa Terkeurst

Cost: \$10

Starts: October 4th, 2021 630pm for 6 weeks

Through this interactive, in-depth study, you will learn to:

Trade feelings of emptiness and depletion for a more personal fulfillment from knowing who Jesus is. Stop living like a slave to your circumstances by training your heart to embrace the life-giving freedom God wants for you. Gain a better understanding of how Jesus' words 2,000 years ago are so very applicable to the answers we are searching for today.

Tuesdays: "[In His Image](#)" by Jen Wilkin

Cost: \$10

Starts: October 5th, 2021 630pm for 8 weeks

In His Image explores ten attributes of God that Christians are called to reflect, helping readers discover the freedom and purpose in becoming all that God made them to be.

Wednesdays/Sundays: "[Delighting in God's Law](#)" by Jen Wilkin

Cost: FREE

Starts: October 6th and October 10th for 5 weeks

Why do the Ten Commandments matter and how do they relate to our daily lives as Christians? Join Jen Willkin, author of Ten Words to Live By: Doing and Delighting in What God Commands, over the course of ten days for video teachings that introduce each of the commandments, giving you a chance to reflect on their meaning and learn how they were meant to give us life.

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

Praise: Lord, we are overwhelmed with conflicting COVID information and contentious politics. We are weary of the debates and dissension. And so now we choose to give thanks for Your grace shown to us on the cross. We praise You as the ruler and King of our lives and world. We rejoice that we are in your hands and that we can trust you to provide, protect, heal, strength, guide and ultimately bring us to live with you in peace.

Repent: Forgive us for instigating and escalating divisions which carry little eternal significance. Forgive us for being set in our ways and being unwilling to hear, reflect and consider those with differing views.

THIS WEEK... Pray for healing for Laura Leonard's mom, Gail Bille. Pray for teachers and students.

Ask: We beg you to reveal truth and lies. Give us great discernment as we consider COVID, masks, vaccines, and politics. Help us be slow to speak, gentle in spirit, and yet bold in proclaiming 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. •Guide the RCA representatives as they prepare for the General Synod in October and the Classis representatives as they meet in November. •Help us remain faithful to You.

Yield: Today, we commit ourselves fully and completely to You as our Lord and Master. We will not let this divisive world deter us from trusting and serving You.

Healing: Friends and family with cancer, undergoing treatment, hospitalized, recovering from surgery or illness: Betty Benson, Ashley Bruins, Josie Buiters, Dusty Deming, Paul Elenius, Alvin Harmsen, Sharon Harmsen, Annice Hopp, Dave Rumley, Tim Tenpas, Azyrah Ter Beest, Carl VanderKooi, Jake Vande Zande, Ron 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 – CCCD, Mandy Kimes – His House Christian Fellowship, Andy Lickel – InterVarsity, Jersey & Preston Sheldon – Overland Missions, Randy & Wanda Potratz – SIM, Scott Ritzema – Youth for Christ