



# Allen AveNews

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Interim Pastor Stan Sturing  
695 Allen Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49442



March 2  
Lent Begins



March 13  
Daylight Saving Time



April 15  
Good Friday



April 17



## Special Collections

March 6  
World Renew

March 20  
Bethany Christian Services

April 3  
Muskegon Rescue Mission

April 14  
Community Encompass

April 24  
GEMS

Spring break! An opportunity to get away from winter in Michigan and travel somewhere warm. Some people even make a winter trip out of it and head north or out west to go skiing. People look forward to planning trips and vacations and then taking them and having fun together. Some families only get to plan and take one vacation a year. Others make multiple trips. Either way, the trips are something to look forward to.

I remember playing "road games" with my family in the car as we rode along together. We would play the "alphabet" game where we had to find words on billboards or road signs, words that started with the next letter of the alphabet. Or we would count tractors on our side of the car to see who got the highest number, and if we saw a cemetery, we would have to start over. Or we would sing songs together, either silly songs like "99 bottles of beer on the wall" or more meaningful songs like spiritual songs or hymns.

Have we even taken a religious vacation? The Hebrew people were expected to make three trips every year to Jerusalem. God laid out the plans for the trips in Deuteronomy 16:16.

*Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed...*

At the Passover, Pentecost, and the feast of Tabernacles. As the people left their homes, some traveled great distances to get to Jerusalem. Jerusalem sat up on the mountain at almost 2,500 feet. The people coming down the Jordan River Valley would start that climb from over 800 feet below sea level. Altogether, they would have to climb around 3,300 feet. As they walked the road or rode their donkeys, they would sing. There are songs in the Psalms known as the songs of Ascent. These songs the people would sing as they made their way up to Jerusalem.

We are coming up on that time of year when we enter Lent, heading toward Passover and the Crucifixion and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are told in Luke's gospel, "As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem" (9:51). Jesus and the disciples went there to celebrate the Passover. And yet at different times, Jesus told his disciples why *he* was going there—he was going to fulfill the prophecies that he must suffer, be killed, and raised to life again.

As Jesus went up to Jerusalem to fulfill those prophecies, he likely sang the Psalms of Ascent with all the other pilgrims heading there. As we go through Lent, we are going to journey with Jesus and we are going to sing with Jesus the songs of Ascent, Psalms 120-134, as he set out to save us. Would you plan to make this Lent season an extended Spring Break, a religious holiday (Holy Day) as we travel with Jesus singing the songs of Ascent as we journey together?

—Pastor Stan

Note: If you exchange assignments with someone,  
please email [aacrcsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:aacrcsecretary@gmail.com) or call  
231.722.6411

## From the CRC Website Our Vision

### Nursery Schedule

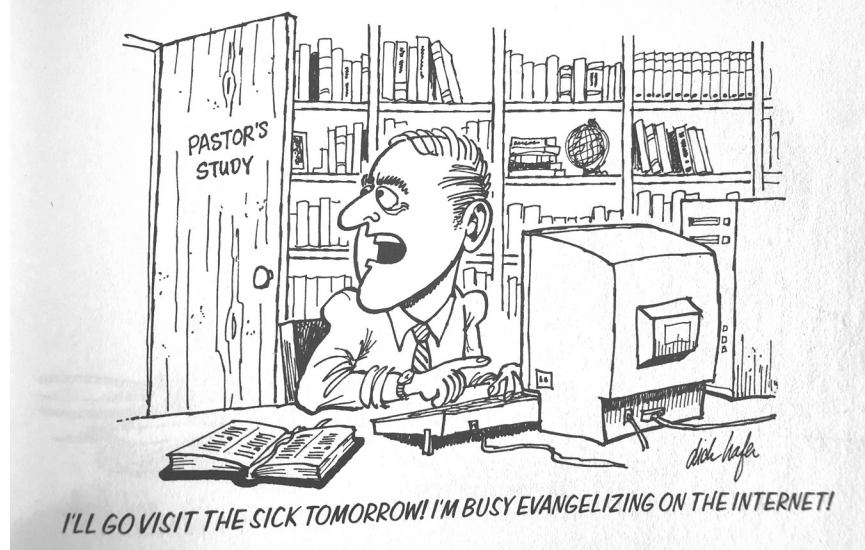
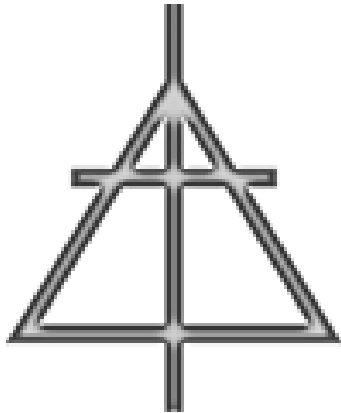


March	6	Nancy R, Maelin V
	13	Renee V, Taylor J
	20	Sue S, Emily S
	27	Barb M, Tayla V
April	3	Susan V, Sherrie W
	10	Toni S, Maelin V
	17	Karen A, Ashly S
	24	Carol P, Taylor J

The Christian Reformed Church is a diverse family of healthy congregations, assemblies, and ministries expressing the good news of God's kingdom that transforms lives and communities worldwide.

### Our Mission

As people called by God,  
We gather to praise God, listen to him, and respond.  
We nurture each other in faith and obedience to Christ.  
We love and care for one another as God's people.  
We commit ourselves to serve and to tell others about Jesus.  
We pursue God's justice and peace in every area of life.



# *Who's Who in the Pew*

## Darlene Peklar



Darlene began attending Allen Avenue about the time we started in person church after being shut down due to Covid.

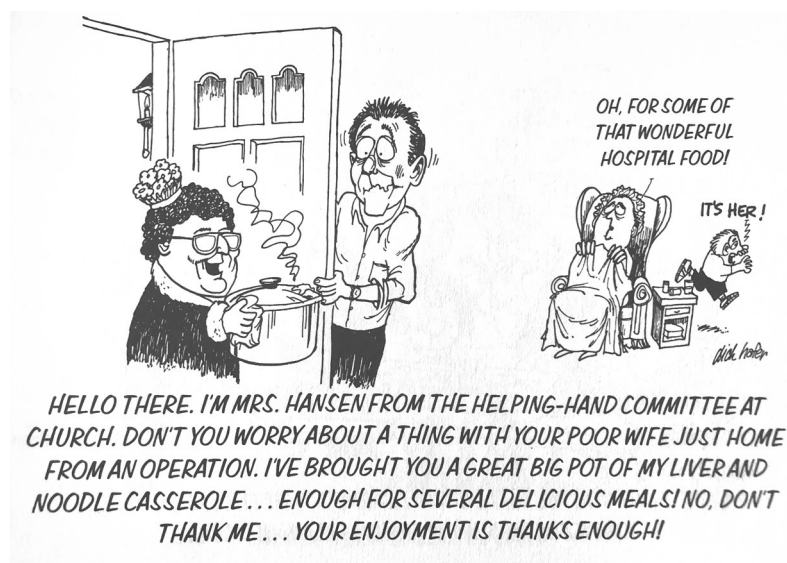
Darlene is a life-long resident of the Muskegon area. She attended Orchard View Public Schools. For more than 30 years she worked at Muskegon Community College as the Secretary to the Dean of Students. She did a lot of work with admissions, recruiting new students and accepting new applicants.

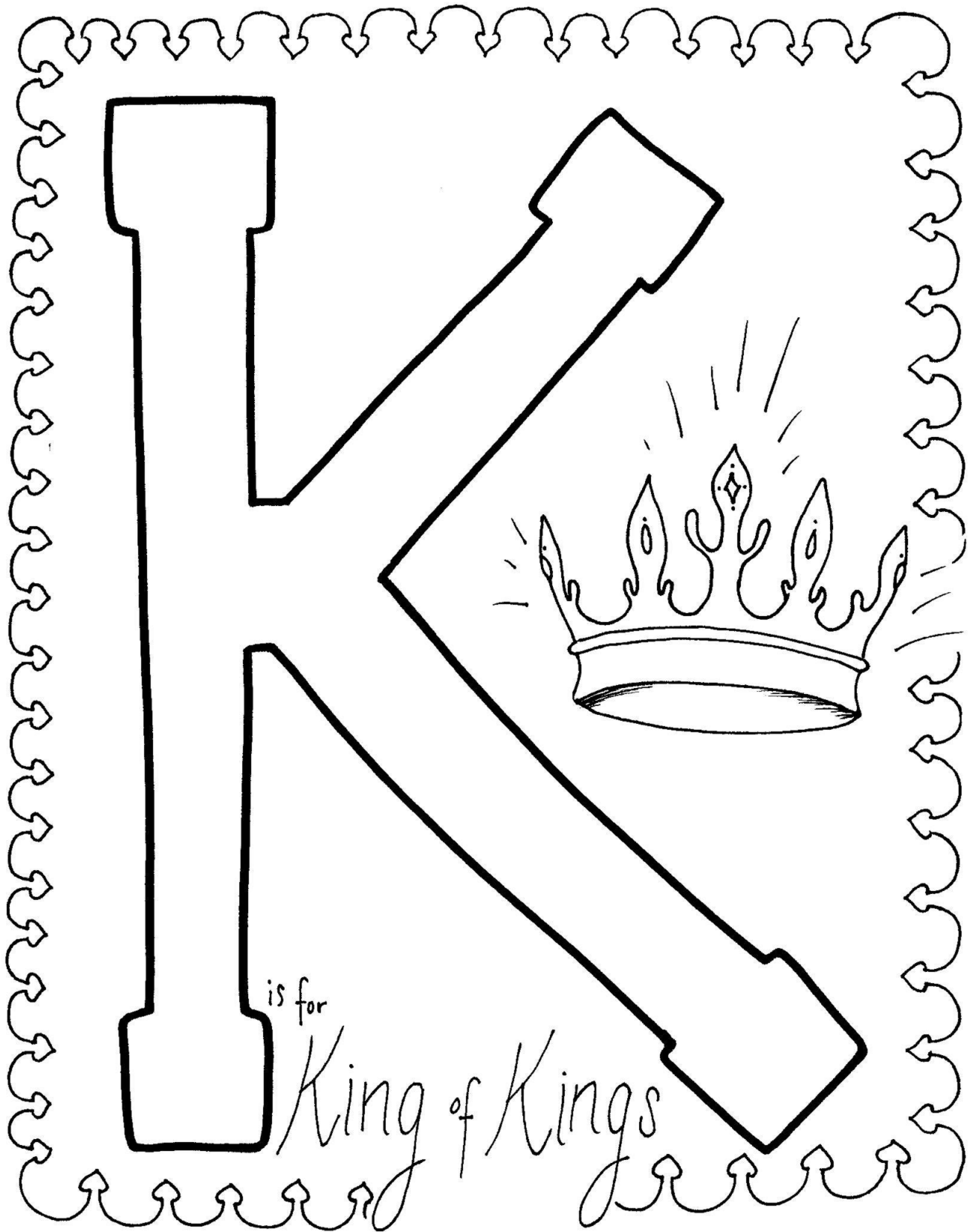
Darlene has a son, Mike, and daughter-in-law, Sarah. They have 2 children in Mona Shores Schools. She also has a daughter, Michelle, and son-in-law, Ramira Pena. They have 4 children between them, two attend Orchard View.

Since retiring, her full-time job is being grandma. Her grandchildren are involved in sports. She attends as many of their games as possible. Her oldest grandson is special needs. She takes care of him every Wednesday. Darlene also helps a friend who is in the beginning stages of dementia.

We are glad to have you as a friend at Allen Avenue!

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## Armor of God Word Search

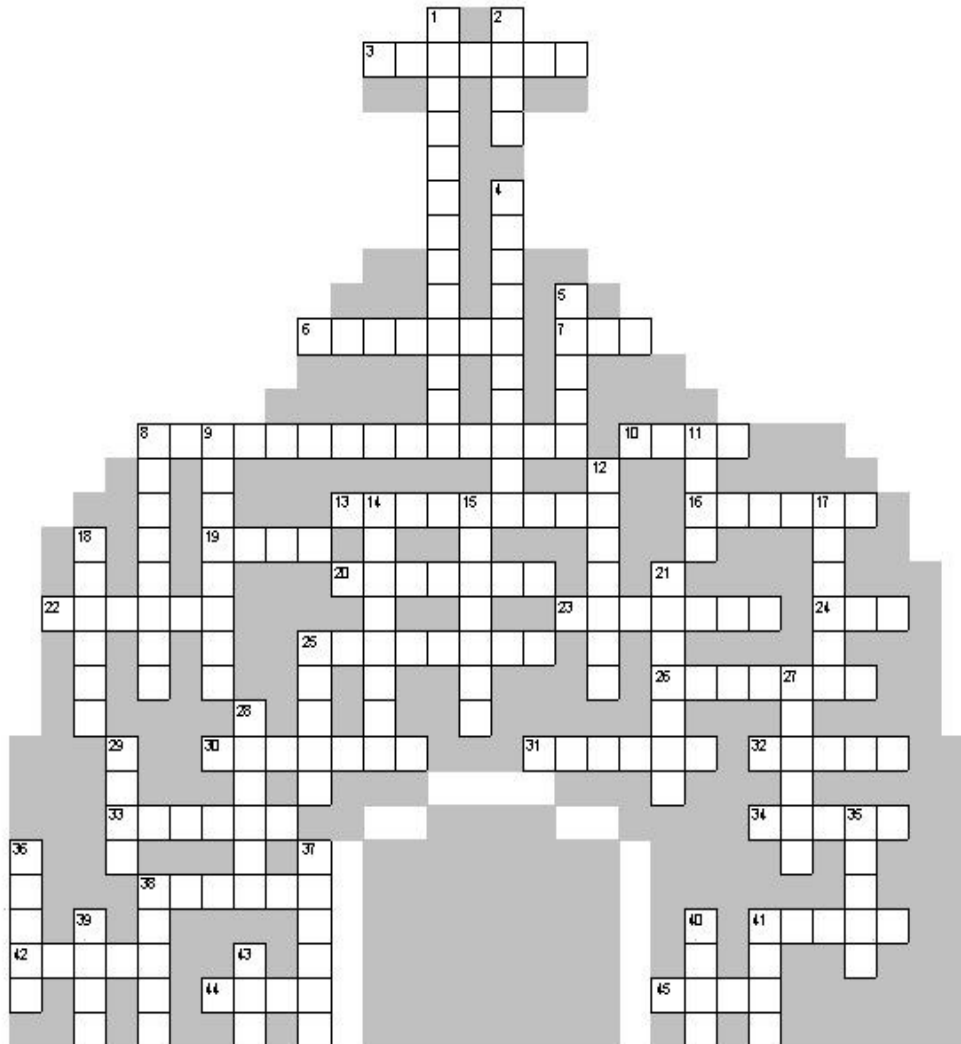
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BELT  
 DARTS  
 GOSPEL  
 PRAYER  
 SHIELD  
 SWORD

BIBLE  
 EPHESIANS  
 HELMET  
 RIGHTEOUSNESS  
 SHOES  
 TRUTH

BREASTPLATE  
 FAITH  
 PEACE  
 SALVATION  
 SPIRIT

## People of the Bible



Across		Down	
3. Title of the kings of Egypt	31. Thrown into the lion's den	1. First to see the risen Christ	27. A doubtful one
6. Deceives Samson	32. Swallowed up by a great fish	2. Killed Abel	28. Mary's husband
7. First woman	33. Jacob's eldest son	4. The handwriting was on his wall	28. Had a coat of many colors
8. Builder of Babylon; takes Jerusalem captive	34. A shepherd boy who God chooses to be King	5. A fisherman who walked on water	29. Mother of Jesus
10. First man	38. Destroys Jericho	8. Cupbearer to Artaxerxes I; rebuilds Jerusalem's wall	35. The promised son of Abraham
13. Father of John the Baptist	41. Betrays the Christ	9. Jacob's youngest son	36. Ruth's mother-in-law
16. Queen who helped Mordecai save the Jews	42. Led the Israelites out of Egypt	11. First murder victim	37. Lazarus' busy sister
19. Brother of Jesus	44. Built an ark	12. Son of Abraham and Hagar	38. The Christ; the Son of God and Savior of the world
20. A prophetess and judge of Israel	45. Marries Boaz	14. One of the three who survived the fiery furnace	39. Hairy hunter who sold his birthright
22. Aaron's sister who leads a victory song		15. Father of the faith	40. First king of Israel
23. Called out of his tomb		17. Was transported into heaven in a chariot of fire	41. Wrote the Book of Revelations
24. Afflicted by Satan		18. Brought Nathanael to Christ	43. Abraham's nephew; his wife turned to a pillar of salt
25. Saul's son; loved by David		21. A tax collector who became an apostle and an author of the gospel	
26. Paul's young "son in the faith"		25. Wrestles with an angel	
30. A king known for his wisdom			



# March 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4 Kyle Morris	5 Carla Kieft Trevor Schelske
6	7	8	9 Axel Johnson	10	11	12
13 Laurie DeJonge	14 Lis Miedema	15	16 David Miedema	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 Alan Wolffis Jack Wolffis	26 Devin Snyder
27	28	29	30 Travis Snyder	31		



# April 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Joanne Bishop	2
3	4 Kelly Dauser	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Renee Vlasma	12	13	14	15 Sydney Sytsema	16
17	18	19 Ron Vlasma Bob Workman	20	21	22	23
24 Taylor Johnson	25	26	27 Dave Johnson	28 Mike Fongers	29 Lois Grinwis	30