

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: 2 Timothy 1:1-7

Message: Fan the Flame

ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED
CHURCH



Contact Us:

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PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM
SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

“Come...Now is the Time to Worship”

Pastor Mark Hofman- Sunday, September 17, 2023

GATHERING

Prelude
Invitation to Quiet

PRAISING

Psalm 11 *How Firm a Foundation* *LUYH 427*
*God's Greeting
*We Greet One Another

COMMISSIONING

Litany: Called to Serve

Leader: At the celebration of baptism, we pledge ourselves to nurture one another in the faith. You, as teachers, leaders, and helpers, carry a particular joy and responsibility. You were chosen from among us here at Allen Avenue to teach us and our children. You are charged to represent the gospel of our Lord. Let the Spirit guide your words and your witness. Through your ministry, our faith will be nurtured and deepened. Be used by God to equip us and our children to live faith-filled lives. (Please respond to the following questions with the words, “We do, by the grace of God.”) Do you promise, by the grace of God, to give yourselves to this calling with the diligence, energy, and love, and to be guided by the Spirit and the Word of God?”

Teachers/Leaders: “We do, by the grace of God.”

Leader: (Congregation, please respond to the following questions with the words, “We do, by the grace of God.”) Do you, by the grace of God, pledge to support these fellow believers and encourage them as co-workers with you in the service of our Lord?

Congregation: “We do, by the grace of God.”

Leader: Servants of Christ, I charge you to accept the service with which you have been entrusted. Do not neglect the gift that is within you. Present yourselves to God as approved workers, ever faithful to the Lord. Remember, too, that Jesus called you friends as well as servants. Attend to prayer, for without God, you can do nothing. Let us pray for those who lead us:

Spirit of the Living God, in every age you have appointed teachers to tell your power, justice, and love. We thank you for brothers and sisters in faith committed to teaching us your ways and your Word. We give thanks for the evidence of your Holy Spirit that we and our children experience in the community of learning. We commend these your servants, the teachers, leaders, and helpers here at Allen Avenue, for your constant love and guidance. Fill them with your grace and grant them the strength and peace of your Spirit. In your name we pray, Amen.

Song of Dedication *Spirit of the Living God* *LUYH 749*

Children's Blessing (in unison):
God is Good. He never stops loving you. He never gives up on you. He will always be with you. Gladly worship Him today.

INTERCESSING

Prayers of the People Susan Vanderlaan

LISTENING

*Song *Shine on Us*

Scripture Passage: 2 Timothy 1:1-7
(Leader: “This is the Word of the Lord” **People: “Thanks be to God”**)

Message: Fan the Flame

RESPONDING

Offering: General Fund
[offerings may be given online at allenavechurch.org
or placed in the baskets at each entrance]

*Song *Start a Fire (Unspoken)*

GOING OUT

*God's Parting Blessing
*Parting Song of Dedication *Jesus, All For Jesus* *LUYH 738*
*Postlude

We Live to B.L.E.S.S.
Believe. Love. Evangelize.
Support Christian Education. Serve.



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

- 09/17: Nursery: Lis Miedema & Maelin Vlasma
 Coffee Fellowship: Education Committee
 09/24: Nursery: Sherrie Wolffis & Mary Patton Maat
 Coffee Fellowship: Randy & Becki Fisher
 10/01: Nursery: Laurie DeJonge & Tayla Vlasma
 Coffee Fellowship: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan
 10/08: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & Beth VanRees
 Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Laurie DeJonge



ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES

***Pray for the * Missionary this Week**

- Stephan and Alicia – Kenya
 Rev. Jerry – Back to God Ministries
 Angel Community Church – Muskegon
 Zuni Christian School – Zuni, New Mexico
 Eric and Judith – Western Asia

***Paul & Charlotte – Mission French Africa**



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Joann Deitz | Wilma Doctor | Jim Doornbos | |
| Vicky Fisher | Lois Grinwis | Pearl Kitchen | |
| Joel Stefanits | Betty TenBrink | *Ro Verheul | June Walcott |

***Send "Care List Member" Ro a card this week!**
1249 Lakeshore Dr., Apt. 339, Muskegon, MI 49441

We love and pray for all the families on our care list and for their care givers who so lovingly serve and help them...Bless them! Amen.

WELCOME TO ALLEN AVENUE CRC

A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests, And Members on Kick-Off Sunday for our Church's Education Programs!

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us in worshipping our amazing Savior today! This Sunday we are beginning a new sermon series "Fan the Flame" based on II Timothy. After the worship service, please join us for the potluck downstairs. During this time, we will be celebrating the many years of service of Gord & Carol Peterman and Deb Vlasma in the Sunday School and Catechism programs, and Dale Johnson in the Cadet Program. THANK YOU!!!

CRC DENOMINATION & AACRC COUNCIL NEWS

-Remember to pray for the nomination of our new Elders and Deacons and who God would have serve our congregation on Council. The nomination forms are by the front and side entrances. Please return your nomination form in a sealed envelope with your name on it and place it in the baskets by Sunday, September 24.

Join us in the church-wide study on the workings of the Holy Spirit in our lives by using the book "Still Day One - Living in the Day after the Day of Pentecost". The daily readings for the study begin on Sunday, September 17 with the first after church discussion group meeting on September 24. The new study books will be available after the morning worship service in the front of the sanctuary. Please look for Steve Rop. The cost of the book is \$15.00. If you are not in a small group and would like to participate in this study on Sunday mornings after the morning worship service, please sign up. Sign-up sheets for this group are in Susan's office and downstairs by the coffee window.

The special offering for next Sunday, September 24, will be for **CRC Office of Safe Church.**

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

A Cadet Coordinator is still needed. If you think this is something you could do, please let Jill Schuitema know as soon as possible.

The Prayer Partner heaven-made matches are made!! Let the prayers and friendships begin! Thank you!

The Discipleship Committee invites everyone to join our next discussion meeting on September 24. The question we will be discussing is: "What is God's intention and call for us for the Sabbath?"

We are inviting everyone to participate in another Suppers for Six-ish.

If you haven't joined yet but are interested, please let a member of the Discipleship Committee know (Lis Miedema, Kay Lindsay, Judy Vaandering, David Miedema, and/or Brian Schuitema). If you were already a part of a group this summer, please connect with your group to determine who will host and when you will host. We hope groups can meet sometime in either late-September or October. Our prayer is to grow deeper relationships with each other so we may live to BLESS!

Muskegon Christian School is prayerfully looking for volunteers on the following dates from 2:50-4:30pm: October 9, November 6, and December 4 to watch our staff children during teachers' meetings. We are also searching for some new volunteers to help with the SCRIP program. The commitment would be once every other week for about 3 hours. The current day is Wednesdays, but potentially switching to Friday mornings in the future. Please reach out to Nate Schout with interest. nschout@mchristianschool.com

CROP WALK - DID YOU KNOW?? The walk supports First Congregational Church's Saturday morning breakfast - they serve 335 people on some Saturdays with all volunteers. The walk also supports Mission for Area People which also serves meals to many people! That is a fabulous gift to the neighborhoods - worthy of our support through the walk!

Ladies Bible Study: We will be studying "Matchless-The Life and Love of Jesus" by Angie Smith, author of "Seamless." We will start on September 21, at 1:30pm-2:30pm. The books can be picked up in the office...just put your \$10 in the envelope. Still want to join? Talk to Marcia Breuker or Laurie DeJonge!

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

-Pray for our Council - for vision, wisdom, leadership, steadfastness, and unity...for Brian Schuitema, Bob Vanderlaan, Sherrie Wolffis, Stan Rop, Gabe Vlasma, Kelly Dauser, Karen Alphenaar, Jean Botting, Pastor Mark, Judy Vaandering, Dave Miedema, Scott Schuitema, and Charry Snyder.

-John and Sue Sytsema give thanks that John's knee replacement surgery on Monday went well. Please pray for a good recovery as he starts rehab.

-Sandy Volkers also gives thanks that her knee replacement surgery on Tuesday went well. Please continue prayers for good healing with little or no pain!

-We are excited to welcome back to Allen Avenue exchange students **Lily and Jessica** from Vietnam. They are staying with the Synders. We welcome **Joel**, who is an exchange student, also. Joel is living with the Maat Family. Prayers for you, that you may feel God's love here. May you find happiness and build solid friendships. We pray for your families back home, too, as we know that they are missing you!

-Roger Slorf asks for continued prayers for his **brother Ed** who had a stroke that paralyzed his left leg. He's encouraged that he is able to walk with a walker.

-Please keep **neighbor Kaylee** in your prayers. She is starting a new job and moving but will try to be at church on September 17. Pray for all these life changes for her and that God gives her the peace and wisdom needed to overcome all these changes.

-Please keep **Kari and Fernando Vergara** in your prayers as they are so far away from us in Chili. May God be very close to them.

-Jim Secord - Pray that the appeal will go through after insurance denied back surgery, for the appointment with the pulmonologist next week, answers on tests, and his discouragement with this long process. Thanks!

-Pray for our church's mission trip to Kentucky in October as they make final preparations and for the work they will do.

-Grateful hearts to **Judy Vaandering** and **Charry Snyder** for leading Catechism, **Stephanie Hofman** and **Sue Sytsema** for leading Sunday School, AND thanks to **Stephanie** for also taking on the Sunday School Coordinator role.