

SERMON NOTES:

Sermon: "Fruitful Harvest:" 30-60-100 Fold (Good Soil)

Scripture: Matthew 13:16-30

ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



Contact Us:

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church
695 Allen Ave. Muskegon, MI 49442



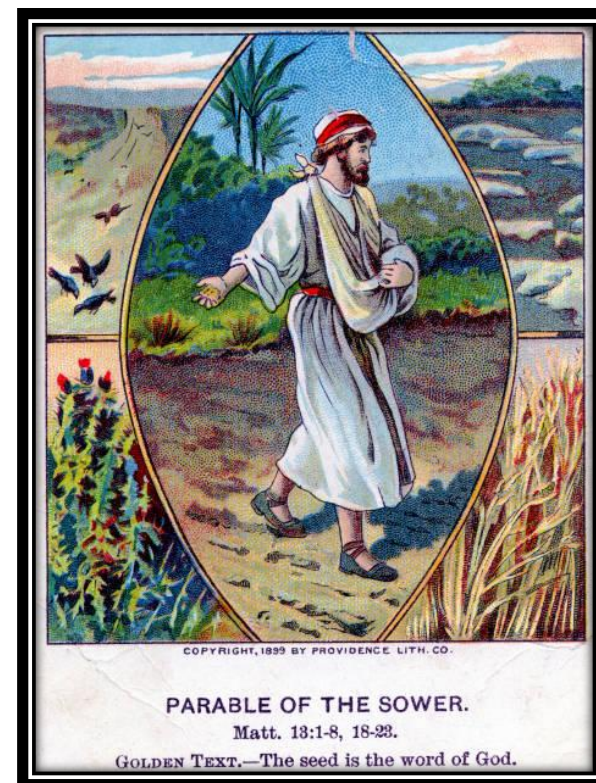
(231) 722-6411



www.allenavechurch.org



pastor@allenavechurch.org
susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org



PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
AUGUST 31, 2025
WORSHIP 10:00AM

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, August 31, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship (Psalm 67)

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us

People: and make his face shine on us—

Leader: so that your ways may be known on earth,
your salvation among all nations.

**People: May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.**

Leader: May the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you rule the peoples with equity
and guide the nations of the earth.

**People: May the peoples praise you, God;
may all the peoples praise you.**

Leader: The land yields its harvest;
God, our God, blesses us.

**People: May God bless us still,
so that all the ends of the earth will fear him.**

*Song of Praise *May the Peoples Praise You* (Getty Music)

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Mission Team Commissioning

Song *Cry of My Heart* SNC 81

Children's Message

Sherrie Wolffis

Children's Blessing

Jesus loves the little children of the world.

May his blessing be upon you.

May his love surround you.

May his joy fill you.

Go in Peace

Prayers of the People

Pastor Mark

We Listen to God Speak

Song of Preparation *Purify My Heart (Refiner's Fire)*

Scripture Matthew 13:16-30 Pew Bible Page #1392

Leader: "This is the Word of the Lord." **People: "Thanks be to God."**

Message "Fruitful Harvest:" 30-60-100 Fold (Good Soil)

We Are Sent Out to Serve

Prayer for the Mission of the Church

*Parting Song of Praise *For the Fruit of All Creation* LUYH 265 – vs. 1,2

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

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Praise *For the Fruit of All Creation* LUYH 265 – vs. 3

*Postlude

We Live to B.L.E.S.S.

*Believe. Love. Evangelize.
Support Christian Instruction. Serve.*

NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

8/31: Nursery: Kristen Vlasma & Beth VanRees
Children in Worship: Stephanie Hofman & Deb Anderson
Coffee Fellowship: John & Sue Sytsema
9/7: Nursery: Sherrie Wolffis & Dale Johnson
Children in Worship: Bob & Susan Vanderlaan and Beth VanRees
Coffee Fellowship: ???
9/14: Nursery: Deb Anderson & Maelin Vlasma
Children in Worship: Barb Malda and Sherrie Wolffis
Coffee Fellowship: Education & Congregational Life Committees' Kick-Off
9/21: Nursery: Nancy Rop & Tayla Vlasma
Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship:

***** We need more folks to sign up to help with Coffee Fellowship on the clipboard downstairs by the serving window...THANKS!**

ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



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

Eric & Judith Tuls – Operation Mobilization
Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries
***Pastor Jeffery Hough – Angel Community Church**
Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa
Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Betty TenBrink | 4) Lois Grinwis |
| 2) Joel Stefanits | 5) Ro VerHeul |
| 3) Wilma Doctor | 6) Jim Doornbos |

***Please call or send a card to "Care List Member," Joel!**
1061 W. Hackley, Muskegon, MI 49441

Dear Care List Members, Every time we think of you, we say a prayer that the day will be a gentle one for you...a day that brings you plenty of comfort, reasons to smile, and lots & lots of reminders how very loved you are!

A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests & Members!

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us in worship on this Labor Day Weekend as we conclude our series on "**Spiritual Composting**" (The Parable of the Sower, Seed & Soils). Pastor Mark will be teaching from Matthew 13:16-30 - "Fruitful Harvest: 30-60-100 Fold (Good Soil). After worship, please join us in the lower level for a time of gathering, celebrating, and conversation as we live to B.L.E.S.S. and share life as brothers and sisters in Christ!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

The special offering on Sunday, September 7, is for ReFrame (formerly Back to God). ReFrame creates contextual media resources that proclaim the gospel, disciple believers, and strengthen the church throughout the world in ten major languages.

Last year, the deacons hosted a summer food drive for Love INC. We contacted Love and they said their biggest need is in their baby pantry so we would love to help with that. **The deacons are sponsoring a baby pantry drive on Sunday, September 7, and Sunday, September 14.** The supplies received at church will be brought to Love INC for the need in our community. The following has been suggested by Love INC:

*****Diapers (especially sizes 4, 5 and 6), Baby wipes, and Formula.*****

Let's find all the deals and fill the front of the church with supplies for our neighbors in need.

*****It's "Baby Week" at Meijer's 8/24-9/2...check out their great prices on the above needed items!!!**

Council Meeting Notes from August 27 -- We reviewed several reports from committees and had a lot of discussion on several topics including:

- Potentially cleaning the carpets in our sanctuary.
- Potentially pursuing air conditioning for our sanctuary.
- Potential use of the parsonage after the Hofman's have completed their move.
- Ongoing security issues. How to be open and inviting, yet provide a safe environment for worship in the challenging world we live in.
- Discussion on a schedule for Council nominations and a new budget for 2026.

We passed three motions:

- Approved spending \$6,000 for additional cameras and installation, providing a more comprehensive upgrade to our current system. This will give us a more reliable, effective and easily managed security system.

- Approved spending \$1,500 to replace the TV screen in front of the sanctuary, (used by the worship team) with a new large screen TV mounted near the back of the sanctuary.

- Approved increasing our future ministry shares pledge for the Christian Reformed Church in North America. This will be reflected as a 1% increase in the 2026 Budget.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Save the Date: Our “fall kick-off & church picnic combo” will be held on Sunday, September 14, right after the morning worship service. More details to come...stay tuned!

Thank you to everyone who has partnered in prayer for our students, teachers, and principals this past year! Such an amazing ministry that you are all excellent at! We have the opportunity to begin again as our students start a new school year. If you have a student, you will find a table in the Fellowship Room that has a short form that we would appreciate you filling out. Then in a few weeks for will set up our 2025-2026 Prayer Partners.

The 45th Annual **Muskegon Crop Hungry Walk** is Sunday, October 5. We will be walking for world hunger around the world and four local agencies. Those Muskegon agencies are the Hope Project, Mission for Area People, Fruitport CRC's pantry, and First Congregational Church's Saturday Breakfast and garden. We would love walkers and donations to support this wonderful cause. Please talk to Deb and Russ - who have been faithful walkers for many, many years!

It's Allen Avenue's turn to assist the residents of Christian Care with their worship and Lord's Supper on Wednesday, September 17. If you are able to serve with Pastor Mark in this meaningful way, please talk to him.

Advanced Notice: The deadline for the fall edition of **The Allen AveNews** is Sunday, September 21. Get your newsworthy items to Sandy Volkers by then!

The **Muskegon County Right to Life** chapter is hosting a “Focus on Life” Benefit Dinner on October 28, 2025, at Bella Maria's Event Center in Norton Shores. Randy Heckman, Executive Director of The Grand Awakening, will be the main speaker. Individual Allen Avenue members are encouraged to attend or combine to sponsor a table. Please contact Ron Friday with any questions or check out the flyer on the fellowship hall bulletin boards.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Ladies Bible Study will kick-off on Thursday, October 2, at 1:30pm. More exciting details to follow when we unveil our new study...all our welcome & invite friends!

We are excited to announce the upcoming presentation from ***Protect Young Eyes*** that will happen here at Allen Avenue CRC on **Tuesday, October 14, from 6:00-8:30pm.** (Childcare will be provided.)

Here is the live link for online registration which is required:

<https://www.tickettailor.com/events/protectyouneyes/1750404>

If you would like to hear more about it, here is the link for a promotional video:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dTpUlaXc06goFRmj9OEajJnE7oyUoDA3/view?ts=68af73b6>

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Sherrie Wolffis at slwolffis@gmail.com or 231.744.5455.

A while back the Mission Committee encouraged our congregation to contact our missionaries by writing letters, sending cards, or sending emails of encouragement and praying for them for those months. We are going to repeat that for this September/October. Please check the bulletin board for your district.

District 1: Eric and Judith Tuls 817 Central Ave Spring Lake, MI 49456 (Operation Mobilization) Eric 1-616-251-8780 , eric.tuls@om.org
Judith 1-616-251-9003 judith.tuls@om.org

District 2: Charles and Hensel Oh (Resonate Global Mission) Best to use email because they are moving to Japan in July after 11 years in the Philippines
- coh@crcna.org

District 3: Paul and Charlotte Mpindi (Mission French Africa)
- 2221 Ridgewood Ave S.E. Grand Rapids, MI 49546
contact@missionfrenchafrica.org P.O.Box 120191 Grand Rapids, MI 49528-0104

District 4: Jeffery Hough 1064 Wood St., Muskegon, MI 49442
(Angel Community Church) 1-231-215-3510 pastorjah@angelcc.org

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Prayers for **all of our college kids** as they start college:

Yeabsira Vlasma – Grand Valley State University
Tekalegn Vlasma - Palm Beach Atlantic Christian University
Emily Synder - Grace Christian University
Emma Peklar – Michigan State University
Dan Maat - Cornerstone University
Luke Maat - Calvin University