

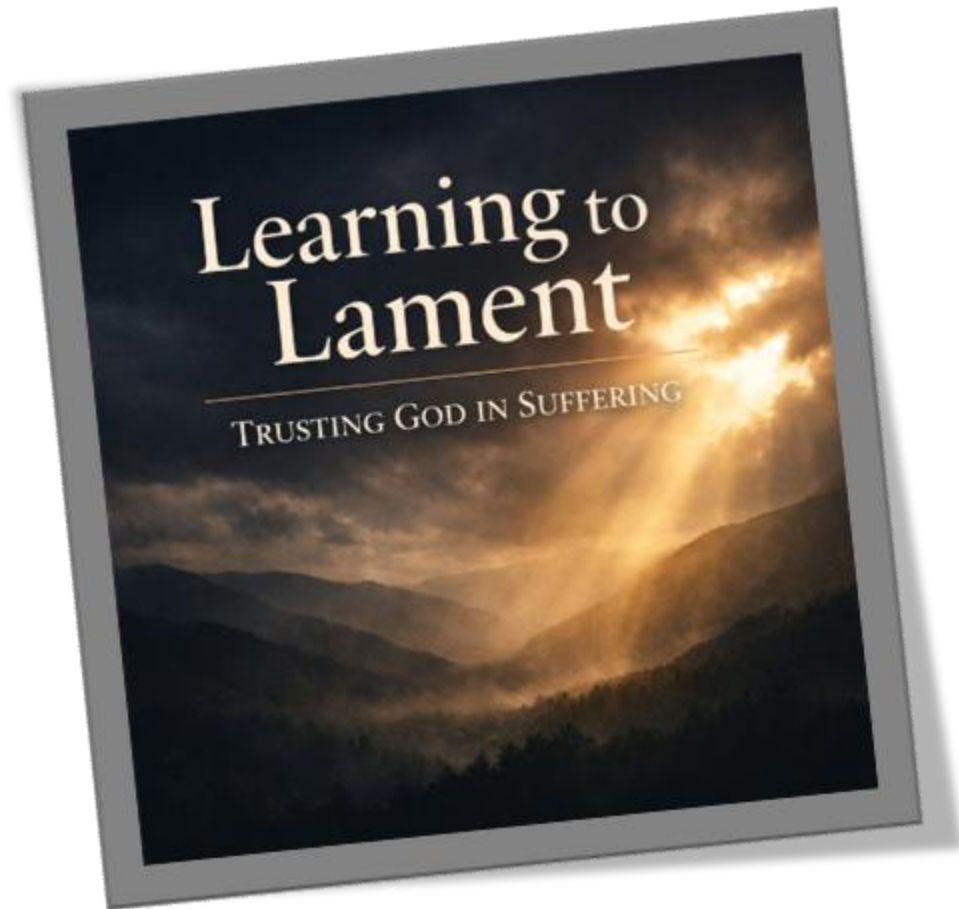
SERMON NOTES

Scripture: Lamentations 3:18-29 &
I Thessalonians 4:13-14

Message: *Hopeful Grief*

Pew Bible Page #1177
Pew Bible Page 1683

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church



Contact Us:

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church
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Pastor Mark Hofman

October 18, 2026

Worship 10:00AM

Come Now is the Time to Worship!

October 18, 2026
Pastor Mark Hofman

We Gather to Worship

Prelude
Welcome and Announcements
Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship

Leader: "Come to me all you who are weary and burdened, & I will give you rest.
People: Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart and you will find rest for your souls."

(Matthew 11:28, 29)

*Song of Praise *My Hope is Built on Nothing Less* LUYH 772
 When Peace Like a River LUYH 451 vs. 1-2

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Renewed by Grace

Call to Confession: Matthew 9:10-13

While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew's house, many tax collectors and sinners came and ate with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" On hearing this, Jesus said, "It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick. But go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

Prayer of Confession: (Romans 3 & 5, 1 Cor. 15)

Leader: Father, it was through one man that sin entered the world, and through sin - death also came. In this way death has come to us all because in him, we all sinned and have turned our own way. There is no one righteous, no one who does good, not even one.

All: Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us. You are the last Adam, the man who came to set us free from our slavery to sin. You are the Savior, who calls and heals and restores us. Thanks be to you,

LORD Christ, for your grace and righteousness. Hear our prayers, as we put our hope in you. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon John 11:17-37 Pew Bible Page #1529

Song *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* LUYH 898

Children's Blessing

**As you worship the Lord,
may he go with you, may his Spirit live in you,
and may his love fill you.
Praise him with thanksgiving.
Go in peace.**

Prayers of the People Sue Sytsema

God Speaks and We Listen

Song of Preparation *You Are My Hiding Place* LUYH 412

Scripture Lamentations 3:18-29 & Pew Bible Page #1177
 1 Thessalonians 4:13-14 Pew Bible Page #1683

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

Message *Hopeful Grief*

Prayer of Application

Sent Out to Serve

Offering General Fund
(offerings may be given online or placed in the baskets at each entrance)

*Song: *Day By Day* LUYH 437

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Praise: *When Peace Like a River* LUYH 451 vs. 3-4

*Postlude

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

Believe. Love. Evangelize.

Support Christian Instruction. Serve.



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



10/18: Nursery: Dale Johnson & Sonia Vazquez
Sunday School/Catechism: Stephanie Hofman & Dale Johnson
Coffee Fellowship: Justin & Carolyn Wilson
10/25: Nursery: Susan Vanderlaan & Maelin Vlasma
Sunday School: Kristen Vlasma & Jill Schuitema
Coffee Fellowship: Devin & Annabell Snyder
11/1: Nursery: Toni Schuitema & Jasmine Snyder
Sunday School/Catechism: Sue Sytsema & Justin Wilson
Coffee Fellowship: Travis & Jasmine Snyder
11/8: Nursery: Nancy Rop & Becki Fisher
Sunday School: Melisa Vlasma & Deb Anderson
Coffee Fellowship: Judy Vaandering's 80th Birthday Party!

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

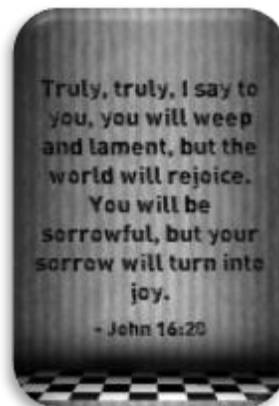
Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan



ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- 1) Wilma Doctor *Please call or send a card
- 2) Joel Stefanits to Care List Member, **Joel!**
OPTALIS – 1061 W. Hackley
Muskegon, MI 49441

Heavenly Father, thank you for your great care for our loved ones on the care list. Today, we come to you and ask you to shine Your light into the lives of these dear people. Reveal Yourself as their Protector, Provider, & King. You overcame sin and death on the cross, and we pray that your victory will surround our loved ones and offer them hope and peace and Your love! Amen!



A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests, & Members!

We are so glad you have joined us in worship today as we praise the Lord of the Harvest! Pastor Mark will continue to preach this month on how God's gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 13 (faith, hope, and love) guide us through lament, grief, and relational boundaries. *Faithful Lament, Hopeful Grief, and Loving Boundaries* cover many experiences that we all go through in life. God's Word provides guidance and encouragement to trust that he's with us and will show us his way through. We will hear from the Psalms, from Paul's letters, and Jesus' words that his yoke is easy, and his burden is light. Join us in the lower level after the worship service for a great time of fellowship with the family of God here at AACRC!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Third quarter giving statements have been emailed, mailed or put in your church mailbox. YTD giving through the end of September is \$216,618. Our annual budget is \$270,000. Thank you, for your generosity and support!

AACRC's next council meeting will be Wednesday, October 28, at 6:00pm, with the Elders' & Deacons' meetings to follow. Remember to pray for Pastor Mark and our council and they seek to lead and guide God's church well!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Muskegon Christian School has been very blessed with members from AACRC watching staff kids during Monday staff meetings and faith integration training. We are prayerfully looking for volunteers on the following dates from 3:00-4:30. Nov. 2 & 9, Dec. 7 and 14, Jan. 4 and 11 Please reach out to Nate Schout with interest. nschout@mchristianschool.com

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Another school year has begun and we have the opportunity to pray for our students, staff and principals again. All the names have been gathered, so we are ready for our 'People Pray-ers' for our school partners! Please look for the table in the Fellowship Room, so you can get a prayer partner for the coming year! New friends are waiting!!!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

“Deadline for the Allen AveNews is Sunday, October 25,” says Sandy! 😊

“Hearts on Fire” Women’s Bible Study will meet Thursday, October 15, from 1:30-3:00pm in the library with subsequent dates on the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month. Study Session 3 “Our Peace & Guarantee” pages 41-59.

Men’s Bible Study will meet on Monday, October 19, at 6:15pm, to study Lesson 22 in our Hebrews books pages 21-32, “A Martyr for His Faith.” There is still time to join, so see Brian Schuitema if you need a book.

GEMS meet in the church basement on **Wednesday, October 21, 6:15-8:00pm**, Please remember to wear your GEMS shirt and scarf and bring your Bible. See you Wednesday!

All women and girls are invited to celebrate at a luncheon shower for our new bride, Annabell Snyder, at 11:30 am on Saturday, October 24. To bless Annabell and Devin, please bring a cash gift to tuck inside the piggy bank that you will find as you enter the shower. Come enjoy sweet fellowship & help our friends save for something special. RSVP on the poster in the fellowship room.

Muskegon County Right to Life Annual fund-raising dinner is Tuesday October 27, 2026, at Fricano Place Event Center | 1050 W Western Ave, Muskegon. Special guest speaker is Dr Ben Carson, a Renowned Neurosurgeon , Bestselling Author and Pro-Life Advocate. Go to muskegonrtl.org or contact Ron Friday at [231-798-3845](tel:231-798-3845) for more information or to purchase tickets.

A Weekend of Faith, Fellowship & Spiritual Renewal Ladies from all Christian denominations and church backgrounds are warmly invited to join us for a special De Colores weekend centered on Jesus Christ on Thursday, October 29 – Sunday, November 1, 2026, at Shiloh Tabernacle. What Is De Colores? *De Colores* means “of colors” in Spanish. It celebrates the joy and beauty of life in Christ and the unity we share through Him. A De Colores weekend offers women an opportunity to step away from everyday distractions and spend meaningful time in prayer, worship, Christian fellowship, and spiritual growth. Our desire is to encourage women in their faith and send them home strengthened to serve the Lord in their families, communities, and home churches. Registration Information: Registration Fee: \$25 per person (Food, drinks, and fellowship are included.) If you need financial assistance with the registration fee, please reach out to Alexis Tjapkes at [616-312-9077](tel:616-312-9077) to discuss sponsorship and to get more information!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

The Angell Neighborhood Association is hosting their annual family-friendly **Trunk-or-Treat on Halloween night from 6:00- 7:00 pm at Angel Church.** All are welcome to join in the fun of passing out candy to our neighbors. Just arrive before 5:45 pm. Costumes, decorated trunks, and bowls of candy are all optional. Can't make it? You can help by donating candy. Look for the bins at each of our church entry doors. Thanks for your support of this community-building event.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

*****If you have exciting news to share, something to praise God for, or want the congregation to be in prayer for you or your family, please contact Pastor Mark or Susan Vanderlaan to include it in the bulletin!**

Sally Mokma asks for prayers for her **husband Bill** who suffered a heart attack and has been diagnosed with additional heart issues. Bill will undergo open heart surgery for the blockages on Thursday, October 29 at Trinity Hospital. Please lift Sally and Bill up in prayer in the uncertainty of things right now but may they be reassured God is holding them so close in the days ahead. Prayers also for Sally’s dad who had a pacemaker put in Tuesday, October 14 in Holland.

We as a congregation express our heartfelt sympathy to **Mary & John Kortman** with the homegoing of Mary’s mom, **Marilyn Jordan**, on Wednesday, October 7. Service of Celebration at Discovering Christ Church (previously Fifth Reformed) will be held Thursday, October 29, at 11am with visitation an hour before and Wednesday from 5-7pm at the Lee Chapel of Sytsema Funeral Homes. May the Good Shepherd and the Holy Spirit hold them close and comfort them in their time of lament and sorrow as they celebrate a life well-lived and the hope and peace knowing Marilyn is experiencing her eternal reward!

Dale Johnson is asking for prayers for **his wife Eva** who was recently diagnosed with ovarian cancer and will be undergoing chemotherapy treatments.

Betty Tenbrink has moved into Seminole Shores Assisted Living, 850 Seminole Rd, Norton Shores, MI 49441. We wish her all the best in her new home! She thanks the congregation for all the cards, calls, and visits after her back surgery.

Continued prayers for **Ron Vlasma** as he begins new chemo/ radiation. Cards, texts, or calls can be sent to: 1674 Montague Ave., Muskegon, MI 49441. Ron’s cell: 231.740.8971, and email is: ron.vlasma@gmail.com