

**SERMON NOTES:**

**Sermon:** *Returning to the Garden*   **Scripture:** *Hosea 14*



**Contact Us:**

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ALLEN AVENUE  
CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH



PASTOR MARK HOFMAN  
JUNE 29, 2025  
WORSHIP 10:00AM



## Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, June 29, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

### We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship

Leader: You, LORD, are the Most High over all the earth;  
you are exalted far above all gods.

**People: Let those who love the LORD hate evil,  
for he guards the lives of his faithful ones  
and delivers them from the hand of the wicked.**

Leader: Light shines on the righteous  
and joy on the upright in heart.

**People: Rejoice in the LORD, you who are righteous,  
and praise his holy name.**

\*Hymns of Praise

*Lord Most High*

*LUYH 593*

*How Great Thou Art*

*LUYH 553*

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

### We Are Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession ~ Hosea 13:9-13

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings, and our offenses against you.

**People: You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love.**

Leader: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we are ashamed and sorry for all we have done to displease you.

**People: Forgive our sins and help us to live in your light and walk in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon ~ Hosea 13:14

God's Rule For Our Lives ~ Psalm 1

Song

*The Tree Song*

*(Ken Medema)*

Children's Message

Kelly Dauser

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

Gord Peterman

### We Listen to God Speak

Song of Preparation

*Ancient Words*

*LUYH 762*

Scripture:

Hosea 14

Pew Bible Pg. #1300

Leader: "This is the Word of the Lord."

**People: "Thanks be to God"**

Message:

Returning to the Garden

Prayer of Application

### We Respond to God's Word

Offerings ~ General Fund

*[offerings may be given online at [allenavechurch.org](http://allenavechurch.org)  
or in the baskets at each entrance]*

\*Song

*There in God's Garden*

*LUYH 684:1,2,4,6*

### We Are Sent Out to Serve

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Parting Song of Praise

*The Trees of the Field*

*PsH 197*

\*Postlude

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

*Believe. Love. Evangelize.*

*Support Christian Instruction. Serve.*



## NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

6/29: Nursery: Renee Vlasma & Serenity Alphenaar

Children in Worship: Brian Schuitema & Judy Vaandering

Coffee Fellowship: Scott & Toni Schuitema

7/6: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & Maelin Vlasma

Children in Worship: Kristen Vlasma and Amber Johnson

Coffee Fellowship: Bob & Elaine Holwerda

7/13: Nursery: Carol Peterman & Hope

Children in Worship: Dale Johnson & Stephanie Hofman

Coffee Fellowship: Justin & Carolyn Wilson

7/20: Nursery: Amber Johnson & Violet

Children in Worship: Carol Peterman, Bob & Susan Vanderlaan

Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Laurie DeJonge

## ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



### **\*Pray for the \* Missionary this Week**

Stephan and Alicia Lutz – Kenya

Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries

### **\*Angel Community Church – Muskegon**

Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa

Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan



## ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

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

**\*Please call or send a card to "Care List Member," Ro!**

1249 Lakeshore Dr., Apt. 339, 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 beautiful summer Sunday. This week we begin a new sermon series about gardens,

water, and seeds. Pastor Mark will be preaching from Hosea 14. 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**

### **June Council Meeting Notes:**

1. Judy Vaandering reported on the June 3 meeting of Classis Muskegon.
2. Pastor Mark is planning a 4-week August sermon series, "Seeds, Soils, and Scatterers".
3. The council approved the worship committee's congregational survey that will provide input on enhancing our worship experience.
4. Church Bibles that are no longer being used and were kept in long term storage will be donated to "Project Bible Runners."
5. The next rotation of the district missionary contact schedule will be published this fall.
6. Tentative plans for a fall kick-off gathering that will be held instead of a summer church picnic this year.
7. Carpet Bonanza will begin installation on July 22.
8. Pastor Dan Wierenga will lead us in worship on July 13 and August 3.
9. Pastor Don Byker will lead us in worship on July 27.
10. The next council meeting is scheduled for August 27.

**The special offering for next Sunday, July 6, will be for Love, INC.** Love, INC mobilizes local churches to offer a holistic approach to caring for people in all areas of life: spiritual, mental, emotional, relational, material and physical.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

The **freezer ministry ladies are taking a break for the summer**. Stay tuned for when those delicious meals will start up again. You are the BEST, ladies!!!

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Thank you all for making my profession of faith so special! I appreciate all the support and love you all have given me over the years. - **Maelin Vlasma**

**Dear Allen Avenue CRC Deacons and Church Family,**

We received your donation of \$333 on 6/23/25 and are so grateful for your partnership with GEMS Girls' Clubs. You are impacting lives for Jesus, and your church's contribution ensures GEMS can continue living out our name and mission. So thank you!

Your offering helps us develop new programs, write new curricula, create resources, provide training opportunities for women, and expand the GEMS presence worldwide. We're a small staff, but we're eager to use our resources wisely to help mentor the next generation and show girls what it looks like to "act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with [their] God" (Micah 6:8).

We depend on offerings and gifts from churches, clubs, and individuals to meet a large portion of our financial needs. That's one of the reasons your faithfulness in this regard means so much. It's an honor to partner with you. Thank you again for your continued prayers and support.

Serving Him together,  
Jill Postma  
GEMS Global

**King's Kids**-bring our communities and neighbors together in unity of Spirit. May our offerings of time, love, monies, activities, singing, gatherings, gifts, foods, biblical teachings, organization, volunteer and prayer support bring more children and families together in the name of Jesus. This will take place at our church July 14-18.

Please continue prayers for **Jim Doornbos** as he continues to deal with abdominal pain. He had an ultrasound on Saturday. We pray for clear results and peace of mind during the waiting process.

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS



**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - As you celebrate the birthday of your country this week (Canada, July 1; United States, July 4), spend time praying for your country's leaders. Pray that they will lead with wisdom and act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly (Micah 6:8). Go for a walk this week, near a civic space or building if you're able, praying that your country will walk humbly with God.

**Laurie Slorf**- prayers for my sister and her husband Jeff as they experience their own health issues and are struggling with Jeff who is battling lung cancer.

We give thanks that **Jennifer Darling** was able to minister & serve this past weekend to a group of women in many different heartbreaking situations.

Please remember to keep **Nate, Becky, Simon, and Nora Schout** in your prayers with the recent homegoing of Nate's dad Gary. Bring comfort to them, their mom Dawn, and the entire Schout family in the days ahead, dear Father.

We care for **Clara and Tony** as they are currently homeless. We thank God for providing them a case manager who is securing a home for them soon and for the help they are receiving from Pastor Mark and our church family. We may not see them in church as they get moved in, but our prayers are so appreciated and their enthusiasm to grow and learn about Jesus is vital. Thanks for all you do to help those in need, Allen Avenue.

**Mike Fongers**- continued prayers for clear treatment plans. He had three tests which came out negative for stomach problems. Now they are thinking it may be dairy related, so he has discontinued all dairy.

We are filled with joy when God joins us together with other congregations as **He did with us in New Era last Sunday**. Many enjoyed the beauty of the drive, the friendship we have together with others, and the joy of being filled with a Spirit that binds us together.

We give thanks for **Love INC.** and for those who moved a ramp to another location during the heat on Monday. We praise God for the **Friday Guys** who are now working on Wednesday's at MCS. And those who are helping redo steps inside of **Angel Community church**. What a gift you give to so many!