

SERMON NOTES:

Sermon: "Philip vs Simon Magus (the Sorcerer)"

Scripture: Acts 8:9-40

ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



Contact Us:

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PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
SEPTEMBER 14, 2025
WORSHIP 10:00AM

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, September 14, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

Gathered to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship (Revelation 5:11-14)

Leader: Then I looked and heard the voice of many angels, numbering thousands upon thousands, and ten thousand times ten thousand. They encircled the throne and the living creatures and the elders. In a loud voice they were saying:

People: "Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!"

Leader: Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and on the sea, and all that is in them, saying:

People: "To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!"

Leader: The four living creatures said, "Amen," & the elders fell down & worshiped.

*Songs of Praise *Power in the Blood*
 Holy Forever

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Commissioned to Serve

Commissioning Litany

Leader: God of Creation, you have gifted these men and women with teaching skills, creativity, and curiosity. We pray you would fill them with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit. Fill them with energy and insight into your Word, the story of Your faithful heart.

Teachers, Leaders & Helpers: You have not called us to be perfect You have called us to be faithful. You have not called us to be all-knowing You have called us to believe. We dedicate ourselves to the call and task of teaching. Grant us wisdom, patience and joy in our preparation and teaching of your Word.

Congregation: God of hope, guide each teacher, leader and helper as they share your Word. Strengthen the gifts you have given them and energize their compassion. Remind us to find ways to support and encourage them throughout the year. May we share in their joy and in times of difficulty. ALL: We commit ourselves, each to our part, in this joyful task. May your steadfast, faithful, covenant love guide all we do. Amen

Song *Here I Am, Lord* LUYH 869:1,2

Children's Message Deb Vlasma

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 Judy Vaandering

God Speaks

Song of Preparation *Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak* LUYH 754

Scripture Acts 8:9-40 Pew Bible Pg. #1562

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

Message Profiles in Mission: "Philip vs Simon Magus (the Sorcerer)"

*Song *Oh, to See the Dawn* LUYH 177

Sent Out to Serve

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

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song *Jesus, All For Jesus* LUYH 739

*Postlude

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

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



NURSERY & 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: Mike & Marcia Breuker, Kellie
9/28: Nursery: Karen Alphenaar & Becky Schout
Children in Worship:
Coffee Fellowship: Dave & Beth VanRees
10/5: Nursery: Renee Vlasma & Beth VanRees
Sunday School
Coffee Fellowship: Nate & Becki Schout, Sue Secord

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 |

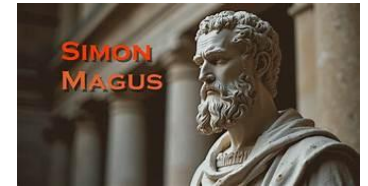
***Please call or send a card to "Care List Member," Lois!**

Christian Care #212, 1530 McLaughlin Ave., Muskegon, MI 49442

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!

"This is the day that the Lord has made...let us rejoice and be glad in it!" If you are seeking love, joy, friendship, & encouragement in your Christian walk, you have come to the right place here at Allen Avenue. This Sunday we are continuing a new sermon series on "Profiles in Mission" from the book of Acts.



September 14 – Acts 8:9-40 "Philip vs Simon Magus (the Sorcerer)"

September 21 – Acts 18:18-28 "Priscilla & Aquila vs Apollos"

Immediately after worship, please join us in the lower level as we gather for our fall kick-off & church picnic event starting with appetizers, grilled hamburgers, hot dogs, and chicken, accompanied by tasty side dishes, and followed by make-your-own sundaes! Even if you forgot to sign-up, we will have plenty, so please join us for the gathering. –Your Education Committee & Congregational Life Committee

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

The nomination forms for the upcoming Elder & Deacon election are included in today's bulletin with extra forms located by each exit. Please complete form, place in a sealed envelope with your signature on the outside, and return it to the labeled baskets near the sanctuary doors by **Sunday, September 28.**

Today is the last day to bring in **diapers (especially sizes 4, 5 and 6), baby wipes, and formula** for Love, INC's Baby Pantry Drive put on by our Deacons. Thank you to all who donated so generously to this much-needed ministry.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

CONNECT group will meet this Sunday at 4:00pm...**all are welcome!**

Notice new time: Tuesday 1 pm – 2pm Google Meet Prayer Time. Please talk to Stan or Peg Rop if you have questions.

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!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

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 Angell Neighborhood Association invites the members of our church to a seminar titled "Psychological First Aid" to be held at Angel Community Church on Monday, September 15, at 5:00 pm. Specialists from HealthWest will be there to help attendees explore their basic needs and try to reduce stress levels. Call our church neighbor, Vivian Stokes, at (231) 769-8385 for more information.

It's Allen Avenue's turn to assist the residents of Christian Care with their worship and Lord's Supper on Wednesday, September 17 at 1pm. If you are able to serve with Pastor Mark in this meaningful way, please talk to him.

The 45th Annual Muskegon Crop Hungry Walk is Sunday, October 5. We will be walking to raise money to help the hungry around the world and for four local agencies. Please consider walking with us - or donating to this important cause. See Deb and Russ Vlasma to sign up or for more information.

Classis Muskegon is pleased to announce the upcoming presentation from Protect Young Eyes scheduled for October 14, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm at Allen Avenue CRC, 695 Allen Avenue, Muskegon 49442. "Mental Health & Tech: Understanding Fabulous and Fragile Brains with Protect Young Eyes" should prove to be very informative, insightful and inspiring for everyone connected to kids. Youth and children's ministry leaders, parents, grandparents, caregivers, and teachers will benefit from this presentation. Of course the real beneficiaries are the kids that we care so much about. Child care is available for kids from babies to age 11 years old. Note that reservations are required through the following link: <https://www.tickettailor.com/events/protectyouneyes/1750404> Contact: muskegonsafechurch@gmail.com or Sherrie Wolffis with questions.

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.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Ladies Bible Study will kick-off on **Thursday, October 2, at 1:30pm**. Find the table in the Fellowship Hall to claim your "When You Pray" study books and for more information...we look forward to growing in the Word together! Ladies of all ages are warmly invited...bring a friend! See Susan Vanderlaan for more info.

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

Laurie Slorf-Jeff's surgery on Monday went well and the surgeons are pleased. We are so thankful for all the prayers, men and women who study medicine and our Father, or great Physician for carrying Nancy and Jeff through this storm.

Sarah Kleyn-Praises that **my son, Dillon**, who was in the ER for appendicitis, is recovering well from his surgery.

Ron Friday is having a pace-maker put in on Friday, September 12.

Gloria Price (friend of Betty TenBrink's)-**Gloria's great grandson, Curtis** was in an induced coma, and it is a miracle that he is now awake and talking! Her **brother Walt** is now under hospice care for his cancer at his daughter's home.

Father, we cry out for peace & unity in our land...may it begin with us!