

## Allen AveNews



October 13 Columbus Day



October 31 Reformation Day



November 2 Daylight Savings Time Ends



November 11 Veterans' Day



November 27 Thanksgiving Day



December 25 Christmas Day



December 31 New Years Eve

### **Special Collections**



October 5 WMC
November 2 World Renew
November 27
Thenks riving Envelopes

Thanksgiving Envelopes December 25 Love INC

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Pastor Mark Hofman 695 Allen Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49442

## Proper Theology is Practical

The year 2025 marks the 1700th anniversary of the First Ecumenical Council of Nicaea. This gathering of church leaders began a process which led to the writing of the Nicene Creed. Held in the year 325 AD, the council helped Christians confess what we believe about God as the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These bishops weren't obsessing over obscure dogma, they were following God's call to guide believers as witnesses to the Truth. What we confess with our mouths and believe in our hearts about Jesus as Lord and Resurrected Savior – this is the basis of salvation (Rom 10:9) and immensely practical for our life together in the church.





The Nicene Creed will guide our worship this October at Allen Avenue, as we recognize our heritage as Reformed Christians in the great tradition of the catholic and orthodox church. Saying, "we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church," means we share our identity with Christians around the world, trusting in God's providential care to sustain and preserve his people. Though we still long for visible unity,

our participation in the tangible marks of the Church of Christ give us hope to pray Jesus' prayer: "Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one." (John 17:11)

Over four Sundays, we will recognize God as <u>Maker</u>, <u>Mediator and Magistrate</u>, and the one from whose <u>Mouth</u> we have been given the words of life. We will learn about unique phrases in the Nicene Creed, including how God made "all things visible and invisible," how "his kingdom will never end," and how he "spoke through the Prophets."

This – practically speaking – will guide us in our continuing work, for the sake of God's mission and call, to live to bless. Who we say God is and what we say he has done is the basis for who we are and what we do. Proper words about God (theology or orthodoxy) is how we learn to live the way Jesus wants us to live (practice or orthopraxis)

If you want to prepare for our time together with the Nicene Creed, read more about it @ www.crcna.org/welcome/beliefs/creeds/nicene-creed

—Pastor Mark



Note: If you exchange assignments with someone, let Susan Vanderlaan know so she can have it right in the bulletin. susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org or 231.722.6411

### NURSERY SCHEDULE

### 5 October Laurie DeJonge, Karen Alphenaar

Susan Vanderlaan, Becki Fisher 12

19 Dale Johnson, Maelin Vlasma

Amber Johnson, Maelin Vlasma 26

2 Toni Schuitema, Asher Hofman November

> 9 Nancy Rop, Deb Anderson

16 Charry Snyder, Addie Maat

23 Karen Alphenaar, Mary Maat

30 Becki Fisher, Becki Schout

7 December Dale Johnson, Kristin Vlasma

> 14 Renee Vlasma, Sherrie Wolffis

21 Sue Sytsema, August Hofman

Toni Schuitema, Melisa Vlasma 25

28 Barb Malda, Violet/Hope

## COFFEE SCHEDULE



October 5 Sue Secord, Becki & Nate Schout

> Kristin & Ron Vlasma 12

19 Becki & Randy Fisher

26 Deb & Russ Vlasma

November 2 Sue & John Sytsema

Elaine & Bob Holwerda

16 Judy Vaandering, Sandy Volkers

Ron Friday

23

30 Carol & John Schuitema, April &

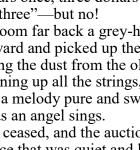
Sonja Lopez

December 7 Susan & Bob Vanderlaan

> 14 Barb & Jim Malda

21

28



Said, "Now what a I bid for the old violin?" And he held it up with the bow.

"A thousand dollars—and who'll make it three? Three thousand once—three thousand twice—

And going—gone!" said he.

The people cheered, but some of them cried,

And many a man with life out of tune And battered and scarred with sin, Is auctioned cheap to a thoughtless crowd. Much like the old violin

A "mess of pottage"—a glass of wine,

A game—and he travels on:

He's going once—and almost gone!

But the Master comes, and the foolish crowd

Never can understand

The worth of a soul and the change that's wrought

By the touch of the Master's hand.

By Myra Welch

Submitted by Betty TenBrink





'Twas battered and scared, and the auctioneer Thought it scarcely worth his while To waste much time on the old violin, But he held it up with a smile;

"What am I bid, good folks," he cried, "Who'll start the bidding for me? A dollar—one dollar—now two, only two— Two dollars, and who'll make it three? Three dollars once, three dollars twice, Going for three"—but no! From the room far back a grey-haired man

Came forward and picked up the bow. Then wiping the dust from the old violin,

And tightening up all the strings, He played a melody pure and sweet,

As sweet as an angel sings.

The music ceased, and the auctioneer With a voice that was quiet and low,

"We do not quite understand. What changed its worth?" Quick came the reply,

"The touch of the Master's hand."

## Connect Group Basic Christianity

### Tentative Schedule

Oct. 5 Oct. 12 Oct. 19 Oct. 26	Session #5 Session #6 Session #7 Session #8	Jesus: Supremacy of Christ Holy Spirit: Coming of the Spirit Holy Spirit: Promise of the Spirit Universal Church: Fellowship of Believers	Colossians 1:15-23 Acts 1:4-9, 2:1-4; 14-27 John 14:25–27 Acts 2:42-47
Nov. 2	Session #9	Universal Church: Body of Christ	Romans 12:1-8
Nov. 9	Session #10	Forgiveness: Mercy Bestowed	Mark 2:1-12
Nov. 16	Session #11	Forgiveness: Forgiving Others	Colossians 3:1-17
Nov. 23	Session #12	Life Everlasting: Promise of New Life	John 3:1-23
Nov. 30	Session #13	Life Everlasting: Resurrection Life	I Cor. 15:12-22, 51-58

We meet every Sunday from 4-5:45 p.m. whenever the basement of the church is not in use for other activities.

Connect Care Group is a unique style of Bible Study. It is a come as you are, whenever your schedule allows. It is open for all people and ages 15 years old or older.

Singles, Single Parents, Visitors from other churches, new comers to AACRC, church members, anyone looking to take the first steps in belonging to a Christian group, or for those with nothing better to do on a Sunday afternoon, you are welcome here!

Our mission is to provide a safe group/place where you can tell YOUR story. There are no books to purchase, no expectations of prior Bible/Church knowledge, and judgment free. We are here to grow with each other and fill in the holes of our understandings in who our loving Father is and HIS will for our lives.

Each session has a social/dessert and coffee time, an opportunity for your young children to meet other children and adults who share in the passion of Christ, and a starting point for your New Life.

The Group rotations are designed to meet the needs of those who desire a smaller group. No matter how big our group is, you will only be in a group of four people. This provides an opportunity for one-on-one meetings and intimate sharing. Each week, you may be in a different group and will be able to meet everyone in a less anxious environment.

For more information, contact: Charry Snyder 231-728-5170 or Denise Koetje 231-375-9417.

## Council Picnic at Fisher's Cottage

August 20, 2025













Council members: Jack DeJonge, Susan Vanderlaan, Mary Kortman, Scott Schuitema, Barb Malda, Judy Vaandering, Cam Vlasma, Charry Snyder, Amber Johnson, Nate Schout, Ron Vlasma, and Pastor Mark Hofman were invited to a picnic at the Fisher's for a steak dinner and numerous sides.

## Boat Ride with the Schuitema's





## Church Picnic



September 14, 2025



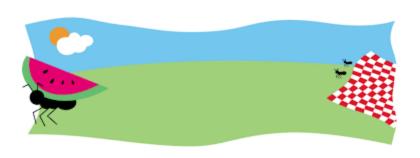
A delicious lunch of hot dogs, hamburgers, and chicken was provided along with potato salad, macaroni, chips, and baked beans.



We enjoyed an ice cream bar with all the toppings.

























































NAME:	DATE:	
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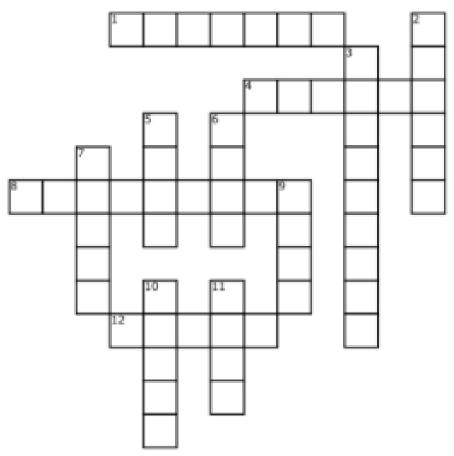
## Thanksgiving Day Word Find Puzzle

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S	i	j	f	1	d	r	q	d	k	X	w	g	٧	0	У	a	g	е	g	b	p	1
C	†	z	r	٧	k	e	g	s	e	V	w	f	r	i	†	m	r	e	0	y	z	k
I	i	i	i	i	d	h	a	r	y	b	g	0	Z	a	j	е	m	z	d	×	V	0
q	0	i	е	j	k	t	q	U	q	n	d	U	r	f	†	е	е	i	g	1	Z	b
n	n	У	n	9	У	а	f	h	m	m	h	g	h	s	0	i	k	p	k	e	a	t
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gathering	flowers		teepee
tradition	tofurky		turkey
gratitude	friends		thyme
thursday	voyage		wheat
wishbone	giving	0	god
worship	gobble		Al ana



## Christmas Luke 2:1-18



### Across

- Who followed a star to find Jesus
- who sang at Jesus' birth
- Who took care of the sheep at night
- Who was the wicked King that wanted to 'worship' Jesus

## Down

- 2. Who was Jesus' 'earthly' father
- What is the 'City of David'
- Who was Jesus' cousin that was born at approximately the same time
- Who was Jesus' Mother

- Who was born in a stable
- What lead the Wise Men to Jesus
- Where did Mary keep the memories she had of Jesus' birth
- Name one gift that was brought to Jesus





## September 2025

	Ţ	5	3 Don Green Katelyn Morris		5	
Daniel Maat	8 Randy Fisher	6	10 Courtney Vanderlaan Dale Johnson		12	13 Aethan Hofman
4	Jack DeJonge	1.6	17		7.9	20
I	2.2	23	24 25 Betty T	Betty Ten Brink	2.6	27
8 Kevin Rop Patrick Fisher		30 Jim Dornbos				

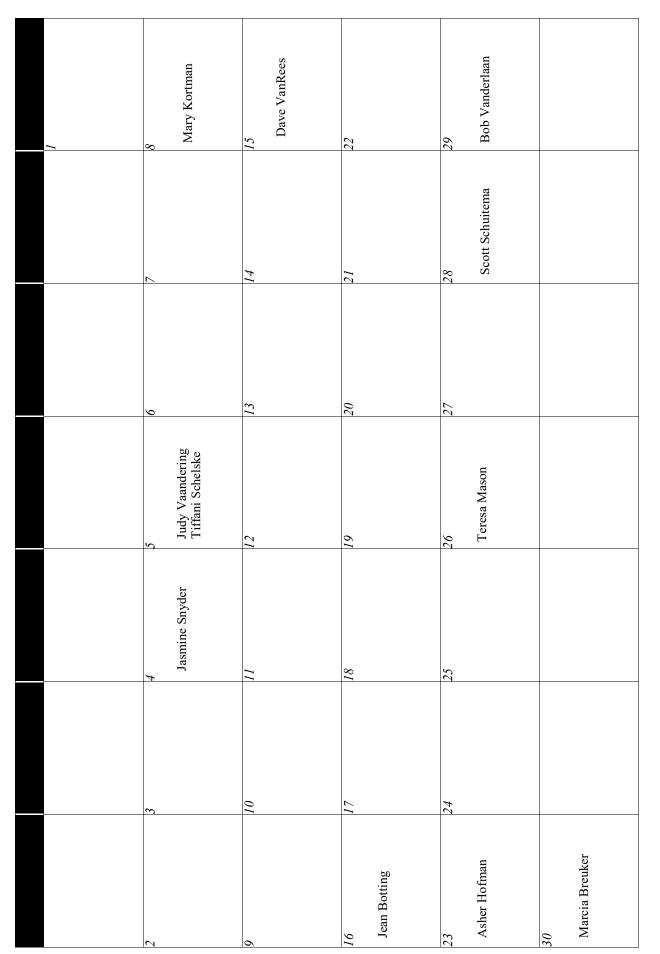




				2	3	4
			Loie VandenBosch		Emily Snyder	Gary Schelske Ron Friday
5 Jill Schuitema	9	7 Karen Alphenaar	8	konda Rop	10 Bob Botting	11 Shellby Schuitema
12		,	1.5	91		18 Beth VanRees
<i>19</i> Toni Schuitema	50	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Pat Madendorp	28 Deb Vlasma	33	30	31	

## November 2025







# December 2025



