

SERMON NOTES:

Sermon: "Mediator - Through Him All Things Were Made"

Scripture: John 1:1-14 (Pew Bible Pg. #1509)

ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



Contact Us:

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



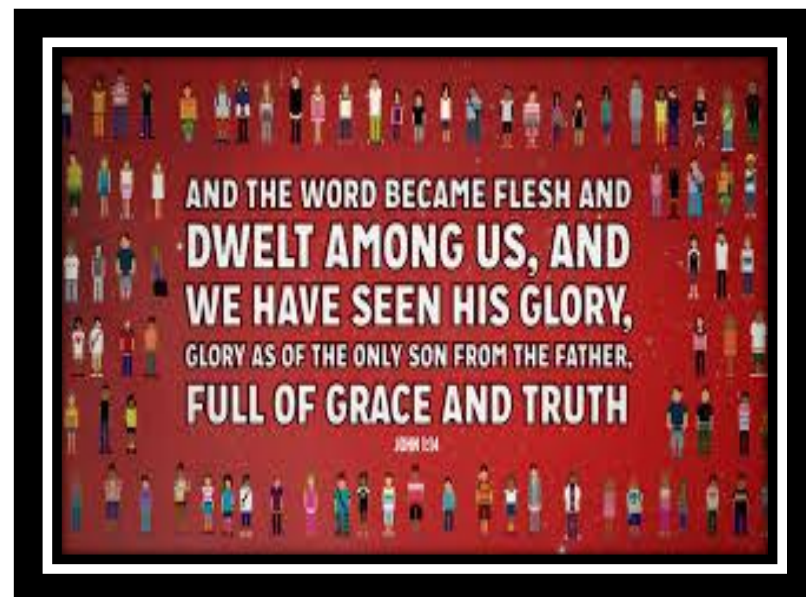
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PASTOR MARK HOFMAN
OCTOBER 12, 2025
WORSHIP 10:00AM

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

Gathered to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship (John 8:12 & 1:5)

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life."

All: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

*Songs of Praise

*Here I Am to Worship
Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*

LUYH 567
LUYH 667:1

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Renewed in God's Grace

Call to Confession ~ 1 John 1:5-10

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

Gracious God,

***Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo.
Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear,
and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment.***

***Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which
we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your
likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.***

Assurance of Pardon ~ 1 John 2:1-2

Song

Oh, How Good is Christ the Lord

LUYH 192

(those who would like to play rhythm instruments are invited to come forward)

Children's Blessing

The Lord is good to all.

He made the world.

He takes care of it.

He also takes care of you and me.

Go and worship him with thankful hearts!

Prayers of the People

Charry Snyder

We Listen to God Speak

Song of Preparation

Shine On Us

Scripture

John 1:1-14

Pew Bible Page #1509

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

Message

"Mediator - Through Him All Things Were Made"

Prayer of Application

*Song

The First Place

LUYH 15

We Are 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 of Praise

Across the Lands

LUYH 775

*Postlude

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



10/12: Nursery: Susan Vanderlaan & Becki Fisher
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Schuitema's 65th Anniversary Celebration
10/19: Nursery: Dale Johnson & Maelin Vlasma
Children in Worship: Amber Johnson and Carol Peterman
Coffee Fellowship: Randy & Becki Fisher
10/26: Nursery: Amber Johnson & Tayla Vlasma
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Russ & Deb Vlasma
11/2: Nursery: Toni Schuitema & Asher Hofman
Children in Worship:
Coffee Fellowship: John & Sue Sytsema

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
- 2) **Joel Stefanits**
- 3) Wilma Doctor
- 4) Ro VerHeul
- 5) 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!

"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!

During the month of October, Pastor Mark will be continuing his series on The Nicene Creed:

October 12 – John 1:1-14 "**M**ediator - Through Him All Things Were Made"

October 19 – Isaiah 9:6-7 & Rev. 11:15-19 "**M**agistrate - His Kingdom Will Never End"

October 26 – John 16:12-15 "**M**outh – He Spoke Through the Prophets"

Immediately after worship, please join us in the lower level as we celebrate John and Carol Schuitema's 65th Wedding Anniversary. There will be special cookies from Ryke's (along with other goodies) during the fellowship time. Please join us in thanking God for His many blessings they have enjoyed over the years.

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

The Planning & Visioning Committee would like input from the congregation about Allen Avenue's worship ministry. An electronic survey has been submitted to council by the Worship & Music Committee and was emailed with the bulletin on October 12. The survey will also be available in printed form. Your feedback is important and will be considered carefully as we seek to build a vibrant worshipping community at Allen Avenue CRC.

On October 25 and 26, Angel Church will be celebrating its 25th year anniversary. Classis would like to invite the CRC Churches of the Muskegon to join us in this celebration. Watch for a more formal invitation coming soon.

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Council Meeting Notes from October 1:

1. Pastor Mark will lead in worship on Monday evenings at The Village at Park Terrace senior apartments twice a month for the remainder of 2025.
2. The Building Committee needs more feedback regarding possible air conditioning.
3. The Council expressed thanks to the Congregational Life Committee and the Education committee for the fall kickoff meal provided to all.
4. Many new members have signed up to attend Women's Bible Study.
5. Technology Committee has begun work on installing a video monitor at the rear of the sanctuary to replace the one on the front row of the pews.
6. The Worship and Music Committee will distribute their worship survey soon.
7. Pastor Mark and Barb Malda were delegates for the October 2 meeting of Classis Muskegon.
8. Treasurer Amber Johnson presented the first draft of the 2026 budget.
9. Council approved a structure of 6 elders and 6 deacons for 2026.
10. The council member nomination list was finalized. Two new elders and two new deacons are needed for next year.
11. Council meets again on October 22.

During the last Council meeting, we began a discussion on potentially pursuing air conditioning for our sanctuary. We are asking for your input regarding the possibility of this major expense. The cost would be around \$85,000. We would likely secure significant pledges from the congregation before beginning a project like this. **We are asking you to share your opinion with us. Please speak with Jack DeJonge (dejonge.jack@gmail.com) or any other council member. If we receive significant input in favor of pursuing AC, we will continue with our work on this.** Then, after careful investigation, the Council would vote on whether to approve the project. If approved, a proposal would go before the congregation for the final approval vote.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

We had a wonderful CROP Hunger Walk last Sunday - it was warm weather, but we were blessed with a lovely breeze as we walked! Thank you to our ten walkers: Karen and her friend, Sherri, Sarah, Pastor Mark, Stephanie and her mom, Lynne, Gabe, Sue, and Russ and Deb. Prior to the walk, Karen and Sarah held a successful mum plant sale to generate donations, and they are already discussing doing that again next year! Thank you, Allen Avenue, for your donations to this important cause of hunger. We totaled \$1225 this year - so awesome!!

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

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

We are thrilled that our students and staff all have adults praying for them!

Thank you to each of you who have volunteered to pray! May God bless all the prayers and connections made through this ministry!

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. 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>

The 13th annual Trunk-or-Treat for the families of the Angell Neighborhood will be held on Halloween night from 6:00- 7:00 pm at Angel Church. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun by sharing treats from the trunk of your car. Just arrive by 5:30pm and bring your own candy or help distribute what's been donated by local churches and businesses. Decorations and costumes are fun but not required. Can't make the event? There are bins inside both of our entry doors for dropping off donated candy. Donation deadline is Sunday, October 26. Thanks to all who support this community building event.

Muskegon Christian School has been very blessed with members from AACRC watching staff kids in the past during Monday staff meetings and faith integration training. We are prayerfully looking for volunteers on the following dates from 2:50-4:30pm: October 13, November 3 & 10, December 1 & 8.

Men's Bible Study will resume meeting on Monday, October 13 at 6:30pm here at church. We will continue our study, "God, I Need Some Answers." If you would like more details talk to Brian Schuitema or call him at 231.557.0714.

Ladies Bible Study will meet on **Thursday, October 16, at 1:30pm.** Complete Session 2 pages 15-43 in your "When You Pray" study book. 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. Contact Marcia Breuker if you still need a book...there is still time to join us! 😊

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

GEMS will meet in the basement of church Wednesday, October 15, 6:15-8:00pm. Remember to bring your Bible and your scarf. See you Wednesday!!

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

Save the Date: District 2 & 4 will be having a potluck all together on Sunday, **November 9**, after coffee time in the fellowship hall. The main course and beverages will be provided...you just need to bring a dish to pass! There is a sign-up sheet downstairs for you to RSVP and what dish you would like to bring.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Ron Vlasma- we lift him and his family in prayers of strength, encouragement and wisdom as they deal with Ron's diagnosis of throat cancer. He had a PET Scan on Thursday and has been feeling better due to the nourishment given. They also want to thank the congregation for their continued prayers, support, calls and texts. We are so thankful for the army of support that has been shown thus far.

Anita Ward fell and broke some ribs two weeks ago. She is staying with her son until she heals. Let's shower Anita with cards of encouragement and love! Anita Ward, 302 Terrace Point Circle, Muskegon, MI 49440.

Rusty and Amanda-heartfelt prayers for their family with the recent homegoing of his **Uncle Gordon Palmer and for God to hold his wife Pam very close.**

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Lois Grinwis gained her eternal reward on Tuesday. Memorial service will be held at the Lee Chapel of Sytsema's on Friday, October 17, at 2:00pm with visitation one hour before. Memorials: Rescue Mission and Heartland Hospice. May God hold the Grinwis family very close in the days and months ahead.

Jack DeJonge-Continues to rest and medicate at home for the swelling and pain after he developed a blood clot in this thigh last week Tuesday. Please keep Jack and Laurie in your prayers as they wait on God's timing and patience for healing.

AAACRC wishes to express our sympathy **to Gloria Price (Betty TenBrink's friend).** Gloria's brother **Walt** passed away from bone cancer this past week.

Ron Bol has been experiencing weakness in his legs and suffered a couple of falls.. Asking God to heal him and give him direction as to the cause of this and to keep him safe.

Continue to pray for our council for wisdom, guidance, unity, and joy in their journey as they lead the flock at Allen Avenue guided by the Holy Spirit:

Pastor: Mark Hofman

Elders: Jack DeJonge, Mary Kortman, Barb Malda, Scott Schuitema, Judy Vaandering, Susan Vanderlaan

Deacons: Amber Johnson, Nate Schout, Charry Snyder, Cam Vlasma, Ron Vlasma

OUR MISSION STATEMENT IS: WE LIVE TO B.L.E.S.S.

We are called by God to:

Believe – We Believe in One Triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We Believe that the Bible is the true and inspired Word of God. Our belief is reinforced by our active, wholehearted worship as the body of Christ.

Love – We Love and care for one another in unity as the body of Christ. As children of God, we show and express that love to those around us.

Evangelize - We Evangelize by sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with our neighbors, coworkers, friends, and those we meet. We support and participate in mission efforts locally, nationally, and across the globe.

Support – We Support Christian instruction of both adults and children, in the church, in the home, and in our Christian schools with our gifts, prayers, and time.

Serve - We Serve those around us with the compassion of Christ allowing opportunities to meet their physical and spiritual needs.