

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Luke 7:36-50 Pew Bible Page #1472

Message: Simon Said: He Would Know

**ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**



Contact Us:

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church
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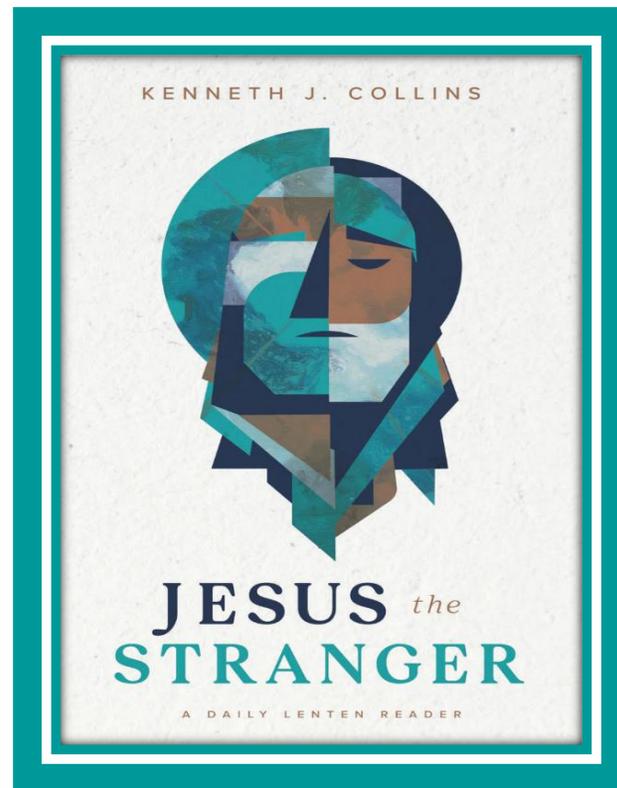


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Pastor Mark Hofman
Fifth Sunday in Lent
March 22, 2026--10:00am

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



3/22: Nursery: Becky Schout & Melisa Vlasma
Children in Worship: Judy Vaandering & Deb Anderson
Coffee Fellowship: Mike & Marcia Breuker
3/29: Nursery: Amber Johnson & Maelin Vlasma
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Ron Friday & Sandy Volkers
4/5: Nursery: Susan Vanderlaan & Beth VanRees
Children in Worship: Laurie DeJonge and Carol Peterman
Coffee Fellowship: Continental Easter Breakfast 9-10am
4/12: Nursery: Sue Sytsema & Tayla Vlasma
Sunday School/Catechism
Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Laurie DeJonge

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** *Please call or send a card
- 2) Ro VerHeul to Care List Member, Betty!
- 3) Joel Stefanits 1350 W. Hackley, Apt. 113
- 4) Wilma Doctor Muskegon, MI 49441

Dear Care List Members, This season is not wasted. Quiet moments can be powerful times for reflection, creativity, and connection with God and others in new ways. Hope is still alive. Even in stillness, life can surprise you with joy, beauty, and blessings. Remember today & always, you are loved!

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



We are so blessed to have you worshiping with us on this fifth Sunday of Lent. During Lent at Allen Avenue, we'll be reading stories of Jesus in the Gospels where he encounters disciples, family members, fellow Jews and religious leaders who all fail to understand who he really, truly is – the Messiah. Our own ways of being familiar with Jesus will be challenged, so that we might once again meet him as he greets us. We'll be reminded that to follow him takes a willingness to bear our cross; to put the sin in our flesh to death (Romans 8:13). We will be invited to once again be led toward the grace and power of Jesus' death and resurrection. And when we encounter Jesus in his resurrection appearances, we will meet him once again as the God who makes himself known in Jesus' face (2 Cor. 4:6). Please join us downstairs after the service for a time of reconnecting with the family of God here at AACRC and to buy some treats at the GEMS Bake Sale!!!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

The special offering on Sunday, March 29, is for Resonate Global Missions (formerly World/Home Missions). Resonate Global Mission seeks to help our congregations explore our community, discover where God is moving, and join God on mission. Read the letter below that we received on the Oh's behalf:

Dear Congregation of Allen Avenue CRC,

Thank you for helping to spread the gospel through your generous gift to Resonate Global Mission in February 2026 for the Charles Oh Family serving in Japan!

We are grateful for your heart for God's mission and your willingness to join us in our work. You are making it possible for Resonate missionaries, church planters, and campus ministers to share the love of Christ.

In a world where people face a lot of pain and challenges, thank you for taking a step into God's big story of redemption and renewal and shining the light of Christ. Together, we can help the good news go out so that all people and nations have an opportunity to learn about the hope, grace, and love of the gospel.

Serving with you, Kevin DeRaaf, Director, Resonate Global Mission

Heather House, Missionary Support Specialist

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Upcoming Church Calendar Dates:

1. Wednesday, March 25—Council Meeting 6:00pm/7:00pm
2. Sunday, March 29—Palm Sunday Service 10:00am
3. Thursday, April 2—Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm
4. Sunday, April 5—Easter Morning Continental Breakfast hosted by Congregational Life Committee 9:00-10:00am
5. Sunday, April 5—Easter Morning Worship Service 10:00am

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - This is the final week of Lent. Next week is Holy Week, during which Christians will mark the end of Jesus' journey to the cross. Those final hours of Jesus' life were extremely lonely, as Jesus was abandoned by family, friends, and even his heavenly Father. As Jesus' disciples today, we share in this suffering—but we are never alone. Colossians 3 describes the diverse community of believers, exhorting us to “bear with each other” as we support one another in faith. This week read and reflect on Colossians 3:11-14 and make time to connect with and encourage members of your church community.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Today is the day you have all been waiting for—the annual GEMS BAKE SALE!! Please check out the table of goodies in the basement after the service. For whatever size donation, you are encouraged to take home with you some yummy baked goods. The GEMS will use the money raised to pay for supplies, crafts, and fun outings. Thank you so much for your support!

CONNECT small group has started up again. We will meet every other week in the lounge off the kitchen from 11:30-12:30...see you on 3/29.

Men's Bible study will meet on Monday, March 23 at 6:15pm, Lesson 16.

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 2:50-4:30pm: April 13, and May 4 & 11.

Ladies: Sign up to paint spring whimsical tulips on canvas! This is a beginner painting with step-by-step instructions. Join us April 4 in the lower level of church at 10:00am. Brushes, canvas, paints and refreshments will be provided. Cost is \$5.00 per person to cover expenses. Pay when you arrive. Sign up by March 29 or call Laurie Slorf 736-9240. Invite a friend!

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

For our Care List Members: We pray for each one, that you may have God's presence and peace as you tackle each trial, pain and doctor's visits. May our prayers seep deeply into your souls so you may feel the love of God each step of the way. We pray for:

- 1) **Betty TenBrink** and her arthritic shoulder.
- 2) **Gloria Price** and her daughter **Nancy** who is beginning treatment for ulcers.
- 3) **Ro VerHeul** as she nears her 100th birthday & for **Laurie Slorf's** care for her.
- 4) **Joel Stefanits** as he lives with anxiety--may he find peace.
- 5) **Wilma Doctor** as her and Ken continue to fight health battles.

Prayers for **our military overseas**, particularly in the Middle East. May there be a swift conclusion to the conflict with Iran and that the lives of our soldiers and civilians would be spared. –An AACRC Congregation Member

Warmest congrats to **Travis & Jasmine Snyder** as they welcomed **Kacey Nicole** on March 17 at 10:34am, 7 lbs, 1 oz., 19 ½ inches long! They appreciate all of our prayers as Kacey was taken off everything including the oxygen tube and is doing great! The new little family came home on Thursday. **Phil & Charry Snyder** officially now have a Valentine's Day granddaughter and a St. Patrick's Day granddaughter!!! 😊

Update on Carol's Place & Mike Fongers: “I wanted to thank you for your prayers. We have our 1st guy moving in on Saturday. We have three more openings. So keep in prayer that the Lord would lead the right people to us. We are asking for continued prayer for our current plans on funding to come to fruition. God has been so good! Mike is doing well, so we are so thankful!”

Ron Friday is having another cardio version on March 23, and **Sandy Volkens** is having hip replacement on March 30. Pray for successful outcomes for both.

Prayers for all of our **college kids** as they finish up this year: 1) **Yeabsira Vlasma** – Grand Valley State University 2) **Emily Synder** - Grace Christian University 3) **Emma Peklar** – Michigan State University 4) **Dan Maat** - Cornerstone University 5) **Luke Maat** - Calvin University.