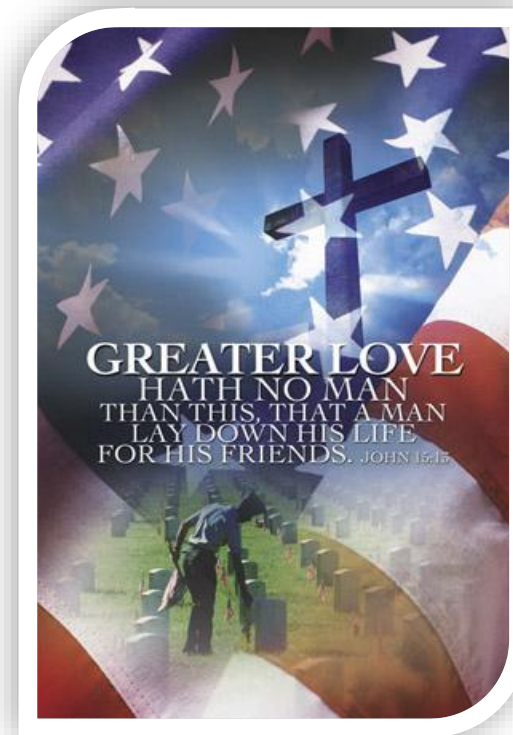


SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Genesis 32 :22-32 Pew Bible Page #47

Message: « Wrestling Face to Face »

**ALLEN AVENUE
CHRISTIAN
REFORMED CHURCH**



Contact Us:

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



(231) 722-6411



www.allenavechurch.org



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susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org

Pastor Mark Hofman
May 24, 2026
Worship 10:00am

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



5/24: Nursery: Jasmine Snyder & Tayla Vlasma
Children in Worship: Laurie DeJonge & Deb Anderson
Coffee Fellowship: Karen Alphenaar, Sarah Kleyn, Sonia Vazquez
5/31: Nursery: Becki Fisher & Asher Hofman
Children in Worship: Jill Schuitema & Carol Peterman
Coffee Fellowship: Sue Secord, Russ & Deb Vlasma
6/7: Nursery: Laurie DeJonge & August Hofman
Children in Worship: Kristen Vlasma & Judy Vaandering
Coffee Fellowship: Ro VerHeul's 100th Birthday Party!
6/14: Nursery: Beth VanRees & Aethan Hofman
Children in Worship:
Coffee Fellowship:



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) Wilma Doctor *Please call or send a card
- 2) **Ro VerHeul** to Care List Member, Ro!
- 3) Joel Stefanits C/O Christian Care Assisted Living, Room #319,
1530 McLaughlin, Muskegon, MI 49442

Heavenly Father, thank you for your great care for our loved ones on the care list. Today, we come to you and ask you to shine Your light into the lives of these dear people. Reveal Yourself as their Protector, Provider, & King. You overcame sin and death on the cross, and we pray that your victory will surround our loved ones and offer them hope and peace and Your love! Amen!



A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests and Members on Pentecost & this Memorial Day Weekend!

During Eastertide at Allen Avenue, we have been studying appearances (theophanies) of God in Genesis. This final week Pastor Mark takes us to Peniel where Jacob wrestles with God, gets a bum hip out of the encounter, receives a blessing, and proclaims, "I saw God face to face and lived to tell about it!" Stick around after the service to gather and fellowship with one another, get caught up on one another's week, and share where you have wrestled with God and where He took you from there! Be blessed!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Today we celebrate Pentecost, the festival when Jesus' promise to send his Spirit to all believers was fulfilled (Acts 2:1-41). This is a great time to celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the church. For ways in which you can celebrate as a family or with friends, download God's Big Pentecost Story: A Celebration for Families (DwellCurriculum.org/Home). Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

This past week, construction began on Apple Avenue to the south of Allen Avenue CRC's parking lot. This project will require some new driving habits and adjustments for all of us (i.e. turning on Allen Ave to get to church) In light of this challenge and opportunity, **Pastor Mark will begin preaching a series titled "Under Construction"** starting on May 31. In this series, we will be focusing on stories and sayings in scripture where God invites us to His work - *His* Spiritual work of building the body of Christ and sanctifying people who follow Jesus. Stories like Noah's ark, Solomon's temple dedication, Zerubbabel and Nehemiah's opposition, and the song of Psalm 127. New Testament passages will include Jesus' teaching about the temple, Peter and Paul's letters as well as the images of Hebrews 3. We are all people "under construction" and God's not done with us yet!

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

From AACRC Council: Back in March, Pastor Mark was asked about a temporary housing need. Alé and Caesar Jeronimo are sister and brother-in-law of the new church planter moving to New Era CRC (José and Kathy Lopez). The Jeronimos are moving to Muskegon and were intimidated about buying a home from across the country. José, who is a colleague of Pastor Mark from CA in the Oakland area, requested the possible use of the parsonage for his relatives while they prepare to purchase a home in Muskegon. Council has agreed to this request and will finalize the details of the facilities use (for up to two months) at our meeting this Wednesday.

Kids Corner Devotions: Stephen: Things Get Tough - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Stephen: Things Get Tough" at www.kidscorner.net. Learn how to be brave and keep trusting Jesus even when others are unkind. Discover that Jesus is always with you, giving you strength and reminding you that you are never alone. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Bible Story coloring pages available on the KC activities page.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

Ron Bol has a new phone number! Please add this new number to your new church directories: **231.666.4119**.

Mark Your Calendars: The AACRC Church Picnic is being planned for Sunday, August 2! More details to follow...it involves you wearing **RED-WHITE-BLUE!!!**

May 31 is the deadline for signing up for discounted tickets to the UNITY CHRISTIAN MUSIC FESTIVAL. The sign-up sheet is in the basement so be sure to get on the list today! The festival will be at Heritage Landing Aug. 5-8 and is Michigan's premier Christian event. Tenth Avenue North, for KING & COUNTRY, Cochren & Co, Crowder, Josh Wilson, Leanna Crawford, and We Are Messengers will all be there so you might as well be there too! Sign up today and get your money to Jill by May 31. If you have any questions, please get a hold of her.

Women's Break Away this Summer at Maranatha! Ladies, reserve your place now for Maranatha's summer session for women only on Thursday, July 16, from 9:30am-3:30pm. Join key note speakers Melissa Kruger and Lindsey Gray for an unforgettable day. \$50 includes the entire day of praise, worship, and speakers along with a Chik-fil-A lunch. Post card with more information is located by the coffee window in the lower level. Call or book online today at 231.798.2161 or MaranathaMichigan.org

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

- ♥ **Ro VerHeul** has a new address! Make sure you add this to your new church directory, so you can mail the almost 100-year-old a birthday card!!! C/O Christian Care Assisted Living, Room #319, 1530 McLaughlin, Muskegon, MI 49442.
- ♥ **Randy & Becki Fisher's mom, Nancy Tjapkes**, fell and broke her hip. She had successful surgery on Thursday, May 21, to repair it.
- ♥ **Sue Secord** -- Please pray for Jim as he had a CT scan on Thursday to check out some changes. Also, prayers of thanks for each day and for the cards and prayers.
- ♥ **Kelly Dauser** had an appendectomy and exploratory surgery on May 22. May God provide her comfort, peace, and hold her close as she recovers.
- ♥ **Our church council meets this Wednesday, May 27, at 6:00pm**, with Elders' and Deacons' meeting following. Pray for great wisdom, unity, and eagerness to serve everyone they minister to and love.
- ♥ A member of our congregation has donated a **blood pressure monitor** that is no longer needed. If this would be helpful to you in your home, please contact Barb Malda at 231.557.0778.
- ♥ We congratulate **new grandma Jennifer Darling**, as she welcomes grandson Asiyah Joel Darling (7 lbs. 15 oz, 21 in) into Moise and Mia's family on 5/22. Happy "Birth" Day to the newest Darling! 😊
- ♥ **Here's an update from Jim Malda's brother Bob:** "Free at last." This chapter in my life has come to an end. I met with my back surgeon on May 19 and he was very pleased. He set me free from most of my restrictions. The back brace is gone and that is a very good thing. We also met with my neurologist last week and she made some adjustments to my brain implant. My symptoms improved a little bit more. The left side of my body and my head are virtually tremor free and my right side is improving slowly. I will continue meeting with the neurologist to continue making adjustments. No more walker or wheelchair. Very few issues arose aside from scheduling pressures. Everything went well. Many prayers were answered. Thanks to all of you for your concern and support!