

SERMON NOTES:

Scripture: Proverbs 11:2-11 (Pew Bible pg. #917)

Message: "Righteousness in the City"



Contact Us:

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ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

Pastor Mark Hofman
February 1, 2026
Worship--10:00am

Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Pastor Mark Hofman

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship

Leader: In the midst of the congregation I will praise you.

***People: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous,
and give thanks to God's holy name!***

Leader: I will extol you, my God and King,
and bless your name forever and ever.

***People: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised;
God's greatness is unsearchable.***

—from Psalm 22:22; 97:12; 145:1, 3, NRSV

*Opening Hymn of Praise *Cornerstone
Knowing You, Jesus*

*God's Greeting

*We Greet One Another

Ministry Highlight Allen Ave. Cadets

Song *Living For Jesus* *PsH 292*

Children's Blessing

**The Lord loves you.
He promises to go with you.
Praise him for being so good.
May he bless you as you worship him.**

Prayers of the People

Steve Rop

GOD SPEAKS TO US

*Song of Preparation *God of This City* *LUYH 277*

Scripture Passage Proverbs 11:2-11 Pew Bible Pg. #917

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

Message « Righteousness in the City »

Prayer of Application

Response of Faith —Heidelberg Catechism, Q&A 56

***I believe that God,
because of Christ's satisfaction,
will no longer remember
any of my sins
or my sinful nature
which I need to struggle against all my life.
Rather, by grace
God grants me the righteousness of Christ
to free me forever from judgment.***

WE ARE SENT OUT

Our Offerings

*[offerings may be given online at allenavechurch.org
or in the baskets at each entrance]*

*Song *Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me* *(stanzas 1-3)*

*God's Parting Blessing

*Parting Song of Dedication *Yet Not I, But Through Christ in Me* *(stanzas 4-5)*

*Postlude

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

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



NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP



2/1: Nursery: Susan Vanderlaan & Addie Maat
Sunday School/Catechism

Coffee Fellowship: Congregational Life Hot Chocolate Bar

2/8: Nursery: Jasmine Snyder & Karen Alphenaar

Children in Worship: Beth VanRees & Barb Malda

Coffee Fellowship: Congregational Life Hot Chocolate Bar

2/15: Nursery: Toni Schuitema & Renee Vlasma

Sunday School/Catechism

Coffee Fellowship: Jim & Barb Malda

2/22: Nursery: Dale Johnson, Violet & Hope

Children in Worship: Kristen Vlasma & Kelly Dauser

Coffee Fellowship: John & Sue Sytsema, Katelyn Overkamp

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) Ro VerHeul |
| 2) Joel Stefanits | 5) Jim Doornbos |
| 3) *Wilma Doctor | |

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

3637 Whispering Woods Dr., Muskegon, MI 49444

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, and Members on Cadet Sunday!

We are so blessed to have you worshipping with us this snowy Sabbath Sunday! In our new sermon series, Pastor Mark has been

taking us through the book of Proverbs as we journey on to greater wisdom in our Christian pilgrimage. Today we will be looking at Proverbs 11:2-11 "Righteousness in the City." Please join us downstairs after the service for our third annual & delightful Hot Chocolate Bar served by your Congregational Life Committee! 😊

January/February Sermon Series: "Resolute - A Study in Proverbs"

- ♥ February 8 – Proverbs 12:1-4 & 31:10-31 "Nobility Crowned"
- ♥ February 15 – Proverbs 13:24 & 17:1-17 "Household Wisdom"

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

Today is Cadet Sunday. Heartfelt thanks to our cadet counselors who so willingly give of themselves to the boys that God has brought into our Cadet program. May they grow in grace into the men God is calling them to be. **Our special offering today will be for Cadets International.** Cadets is helping boys grow more Christlike in all areas of life all over the world with clubs in Kenya, Uganda, South Sudan, and Ukraine.

Council Notes from January 28:

1. Gratitude was expressed for the faithful financial support of our church family in 2025.
2. The need for Freezer Ministry leadership was discussed.
3. The membership of Brittany Schuitema Bean was transferred to Calvin CRC.
4. Our church will host the Classis Muskegon Meeting on February 26. Pastor Mark and Jack DeJonge will attend. Bob Holwerda will serve as elder alternate. Deacon delegate to be determined.
5. District leaders divided up to discuss the best ways to communicate with their members and how to welcome frequent worship attenders into their district fellowship.
6. Council meets again on February 25.

COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS

This Sunday after the morning service, **Pastor Mark will be concluding the class on making profession of faith** and joining Allen Avenue as a member of the congregation. Come join us for conversation about how you are a vital part of Allen Avenue's mission.

Valentine bags will be available for our five college students beginning Sunday, 2/1 through Sunday, 2/8 in the basement of church. Please feel free to fill with goodies and cards, so we can show our love and support. Our current college students are:

- ♥ **Emma Pekar** is in her 4th year at Michigan State University majoring in Human Development & Family Studies with a minor in Women's Study.
- ♥ **Yeabsira Vlasma** is in his final year at Grand Valley State University and will be graduating this spring with his bachelor's degree in finance.
- ♥ **Emily Snyder** is in her junior year at Grace Christian University studying Human Services.
- ♥ **Danny Maat** is in his sophomore year at Cornerstone University and is pre-seminary in the Ministries Program.
- ♥ **Luke Maat** is in his freshman year at Calvin University & joined ROTC.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

If you ordered any subs and croissants on the order form in the basement, your sandwiches are here today. Please see Jill or Amber. Also, if you haven't paid for your order, today would be a good day to take care of that as well. Again, please see Jill or Amber.

The GEMS would like to thank everyone who purchased subs and croissants. Your support of our ministry shows, and we want you to know that we really appreciate it. Enjoy your sandwiches and thank you for keeping the GEMS in your prayers.

GEMS will meet in the church basement On Wednesday, February 4, From 6:15 - 8:00pm. We will learn how and why Jesus came to earth. Hope to see all of you there!

"Hearts on Fire" Women's Bible Study will meet on Thursday, February 5, from 1:30-3:00pm. Prepare Session Five in our personal Bible study on pg. 103-137.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

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: February 2 & 9, March 2 & 9, April 13, and May 4 & 11.

CONNECT Group will start back up on Sunday, February 8. We are joining Pastor Mark's class for this final week. Interested in what CONNECT is? Contact Charry Snyder or Denise Koetje!

"Hi, Allen Ave! Emily Snyder here! I'm doing a fundraiser called the "BIG FREEZE" to earn some money to put towards my college tuition. I will be taking a plunge in freezing cold water. Money donated will go directly towards this scholarship opportunity and essentially my tuition. Thank you for your consideration! If you would like to donate, here is my link to donate online:"
<https://my.onecause.com/fundraiser/organizations/0c2e730a-7a8e-49b3-b19b-6eed7ffb9382/fundraisers/fundraiser:16e65094-6b83-4738-a15f-da07abb3f410/personalfundraisers/personalfund:d7dca28f-921e-4900-8314-ba2c97b0bd64>

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Mike Fongers and Carol were so thankful to all who participated in their bake sale. "Your church baked their hearts out. Mike saw friends he hadn't seen for a while. We were so impressed with the turn out. Thanks for your prayers."

Jim Doornbos's niece Becky was at U of M hospital with his sister Mary. Becky was treated for spinal fluid headaches and is home.

Tati had the baby on Thursday. 3Lbs 7 ozs., Both mom and baby are doing fine as of a last week. Congrats to great uncle and aunt **Randy & Becky Fisher!**

Thanks that **Rusty Palmer's mom, Jo's** surgery went well with no complications. She is now home and is cancer-free.

Charry Synder's father Orven has been diagnosed with prostate cancer. Charry had surgery on her foot once again to repair what let loose from the last surgery. May God give the Snyders peace daily.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Melisa Vlasma-continued prayers for her father, Steve Rinks, as they design a treatment plan. Prayers for peace and strength.

Ron Vlasma-continued prayers for him and Kristin, Joe, and Matthew as they journey through this cancer together. May Ron feel God's continued presence.

Pastor Mark's Uncle Jim-continued prayers as he, too, fights this cancer. May each day bring healing.

Denise Koetje-asks for prayers as she deals with back pain from shoveling.

Continued prayers for the **Secord family**: **Jim** with his lung issues, **Megan** with her ongoing headaches, and **Sue** as she cares for them both.

WMC-Chris Ruiter-- staff, students, parents- prayers for this new semester and praises that we have two new students starting this semester.

MCS-Nate Schout—pray for staff, students, parents- We are thankful for a great board meeting last night, all the support from the Friday Crew/AACRC and that we've have improved health through the school.

Heartfelt sympathy to **Pastor Jeffery & Evelyn Hough** from Angel Church with the recent passing of Evelyn's sister **Edna**. May God hold them very close in the coming days as they say goodbye to a precious Kingdom worker. Cards of sympathy can be sent to:

Pastor Jeffery & Evelyn Hough, 446 Ada Ave., Muskegon, MI 49442.

Roger and Laurie Slorf ask for prayers for a former member **Paul Matz**, son of Bob and Sandy, who has been diagnosed w/ an aggressive form of colon cancer.

Sherrie & Jack Wolffis have moved to Jenison to be closer to their children & grandchildren. We wish them blessings in their new home and community and thank them for their many years of selfless giving and ministry to AACRC. Their new address is: 8735 24th Ave., Jenison, MI 49428. Please come back to visit!

Ron Friday had an echocardiogram/cardio version last week. Continue prayers of healing for Ron and his brother, **Tom**, who had back surgery last week.

PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

Ron Bol completed his rehab at Medilodge in Grand Haven and has now returned home to continue healing. Please pray a full recovery and that he would have the stamina and perseverance to continue his therapy on his own at home.

Prayers for children in Sunday School & Catechism. We would love more children! Prayers for Dale Johnson & Stephanie Hofman as they teach one Sunday and Justin Wilson and Sue Sytsema who teach two weeks later. We are thankful for Barb Malda's beautiful lessons that fill in the other Sundays for Children in Worship with many willing, wonderful teachers who Jill Schuitema schedules.

Cadets: We have a busy stretch. We are meeting at Unity Reformed Church Wednesday to work on a project together. Saturday, January 31st is the Cadets Winter Derby and February 1st is Cadet Sunday. Please pray that through all the busyness and fun activities that we all develop a deeper relationship with our Lord and Savior.

GEMS: Prayers for all the girls that come. May they come to have a personal relationship with Jesus.

Appreciation and prayers for AACRC's Council as they serve & minister:

Pastor: Mark Hofman

Officers: President--Jack DeJonge; Vice President--Bob Holwerda, Clerk—Barb Malda, Assistant Clerk--Bob Botting, Treasurer--Amber Johnson, Assistant Treasurer--Cam Vlasma

Elders: Jack DeJonge, Mary Kortman, Barb Malda, Bob Holwerda, Bob Botting, Susan Vanderlaan

Deacons: Amber Johnson, Nate Schout, Cam Vlasma, Karen Alphenaar, Dale Johnson

Prayers for **Susan Vanderlaan** as she has been having headaches for the past 4 weeks. She was in the ER Monday and had testing to rule out any brain bleeds/tumors and find any causes for these headaches. Pray for healing and that the new medications will break the cycle & relieve her pain.