

## SERMON NOTES:

Sermon: "Leaves of Healing" Scripture: **Ezekiel 40:1-4; 47:1-12**



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### Contact Us:

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# ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH



**PASTOR MARK HOFMAN**  
**JULY 20, 2025**  
**WORSHIP 10:00AM**



# Come...Now is the Time to Worship!

Sunday, July 20, 2025

Pastor Mark Hofman

## We Gather to Worship

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship (from Psalm 96)

Leader: Sing to the LORD a new song;  
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

**People: Sing to the LORD, praise his name;  
proclaim his salvation day after day.**

Leader: Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad;  
let the sea resound, and all that is in it.

**People: Let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them;  
let all the trees of the forest sing for joy.**

\*Hymns of Praise      *This is My Father's World*      LUYH 21  
   *For the Beauty of the Earth*      LUYH 19:1,2,5

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

Ministry Celebrations      King's Kids 2025      Jill Schuitema  
Songs

Offerings ~ General Fund  
*[offerings may be given online at [allenavechurch.org](http://allenavechurch.org)  
or in the baskets at each entrance]*

Children's Message      Sherrie Wolffis

Children's Blessing

***Jesus loves the little children of the world.  
May his blessing be upon you. May his love surround you.  
May his joy fill you. Go in Peace.***

Prayers of the People

Pastor Mark

## We Listen to God Speak

\*Song of Preparation      *There is a Balm in Gilead*      LUYH 706

Scripture ~ Ezekiel 40:1-4; 47:1-12

Leader: "This is the Word of the Lord."

**People: "Thanks be to God"**

Message: "Leaves of Healing"

Prayer of Application

Song of Response      *Your Mercy Flows*      LUYH 700

## We Are Nourished at God's Table

\*Song      *My Jesus, I Love Thee*      LUYH 366:1,2

## We Are Sent Out to Serve

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Parting Song of Praise      *My Jesus, I Love Thee*      LUYH 366:3,4

\*Postlude

**Heartfelt thanks to the following folks  
who enhanced our worship this morning!**

Piano: Joanne Bishop  
Vocals: Roger, Peg, Mary  
Media Shout: Steve Rop  
Projection: Stan Rop  
Sound: Dave Bishop

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

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



## NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

7/20: Nursery: Susan Vanderlaan & Violet  
Children in Worship: Carol Peterman & Bob Vanderlaan  
Coffee Fellowship: Jack & Laurie DeJonge  
7/27: Nursery: Becky Schout & Tayla Vlasma  
Children in Worship: Beth VanRees & Laurie DeJonge  
Coffee Fellowship: Phil & Charry Snyder  
8/3: Nursery: Amber Johnson & Serenity Alphenaar  
Children in Worship: Sue Sytsema & Sherrie Wolffis  
Coffee Fellowship: Karen Alphenaar & Sophia  
8/10: Nursery: Karen Alphenaar & Becki Fisher  
Children in Worship: Jill Schuitema & Dale Johnson  
Coffee Fellowship: Pastor Mark & Stephanie Hofman

## ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



### **\*Pray for the \* Missionary this Week**

#### **\*\*Stephan and Alicia Lutz – Kenya**

Rev. Jerry An – Back to God Ministries  
Angel Community Church – Muskegon  
Paul & Charlotte Mpindi–Mission French Africa  
Charles & Hensel Oh – Japan



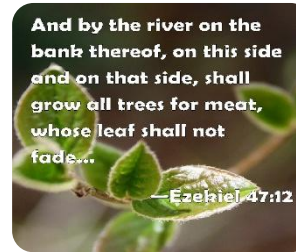
## ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- |                          |                 |
|--------------------------|-----------------|
| 1) Betty TenBrink        | 4) Lois Grinwis |
| 2) <b>Joel Stefanits</b> | 5) Ro VerHeul   |
| 3) Wilma Doctor          | 6) Jim Doornbos |

\*Please call or send a card to **"Care List Member," Joel!**  
SKLD, 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!*



—Ezekiel 47:12

We are rejoicing that you have come to join us in worship on this beautiful summer Sunday! This week we will resume our sermon series about "Gardens, Water, and Seeds." Pastor Mark will be preaching from Ezekiel 47. After worship, please join us in the lower level for a time of gathering, celebrating, and conversation as we live to B.L.E.S.S. and share life as brothers and sisters in Christ!

## **COUNCIL & DENOMINATION NEWS**

Next week we welcome to our pulpit, **Pastor Don Byker**, who will lead us in worship. **Pastor Mark, Stephanie, and the Triple A's** will be on vacation from July 27 through August. If a need arises, please contact your district elders and deacons.

**The Council and Building Committee** wishes to remind the congregation that our new carpeting will be installed this week. We are grateful to those who facilitated this and that God provided the monies to fund this project!

*"So those who were engaged in the work labored, and the repairing went forward in their hands, and they restored the house of God to its proper condition and strengthened it." --2 Chronicles 24:13*

**A "Council Appreciation Picnic" is being planned by the Congregational Life Committee** for our council members (& spouses) on Wednesday, August 20, at Randy & Becki Fisher's cottage on West Lake. Please sign up on the clipboard in the council room if you are able to attend. We look forward to showing you our heartfelt appreciation and gratitude for your selfless hours of service to our congregation and our Lord! More information to follow...

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Eugene Peterson paraphrased part of 1 Corinthians 12 in The Message by saying, "Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people! The variety is wonderful. . . ." Think of a family member or friend. Have a discussion, write a note, or draw a picture for them about how you have seen God work through them. Brought to you by Thrive: [crcna.org/Thrive](http://crcna.org/Thrive)

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

**John and Carol Schuitema** are offering an open invitation for a pontoon boat ride up the Grand River (weather permitting) on Tuesday, July 22, from 11am-2pm or 3pm. Please bring your own lunch or snacks, and we will furnish beverages. We have room for 10 passengers and will leave from Spring Lake. Info as to where to meet will follow. Please call John at 231.557.9829 to **put in your reservation by Sunday, July 20.**

**Kids Corner Devotions: God's Grand Story: Miriam Matters** - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "God's Grand Story: Miriam Matters" at [www.kidscorner.net](http://www.kidscorner.net). Discover how brave, quick-thinking Miriam played a big part in God's plan to save her baby brother, Moses! This encouraging story shows that even when we feel small or unseen, God sees us and has something special for each of us to do. Check out all the great content at [kidscorner.net](http://kidscorner.net), like the Kids Corner Ebook Collection: Faith Practices.

**Attention All Sportsmen:** the Calvinist Cadet Corps is hosting the eleventh annual Sporting Clay Shoot to benefit the Cadet Ministry. The event will be held on Saturday, August 16, at Blendon Pines Gun Club in Zeeland, Michigan. For more information, call the corps office at 616.241.5616, or check out the cadet website under the "events" tab. Everyone is welcome! Registration is available at our website: [www.calvinistcadets.org](http://www.calvinistcadets.org). Lunch will be served at 11:30am. Join us for a fun-filled day! If you can't make it out for the day but still want to be involved, we are looking for businesses or individuals willing to sponsor stations or pledge for a participating shooter.

## 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.

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

**We have had a fantastic week at King's Kids!!** The kids have been enthusiastically joining in the praise and worship time and celebrating Christmas in July. A big THANK YOU to all the teachers, helpers, music leaders, ice cream sundae topping providers, and ice cream sundae servers. It's easy to see that Allen Avenue has a heart for this VBS ministry. Thank you, too, for all the prayers for this week. We have seen God's blessing over our time with these kids, and our prayer continues to be that God will water the seeds that have been planted these past couple of days. May His kingdom grow right here in our neighborhood!

**Praise that the Cadets had a wonderful, safe trip** at their Camporee on the Muskegon River. Many special memories were made and lives were touched!

"We praise and thank God—today we received our visa to Japan! Thank you for all your prayers and support. Japan, here we come!" --from our missionaries **Pastor Charles & Hensel Oh**

We welcome **Ron Bol** to the family of God here at Allen Avenue! Here is Ron's information for you to add to your church directory:

**Address:** Ron Bol, 1764 E. Apple Ave., Apt. 913, Muskegon, MI 49442

**Phone:** (616) 215-8152. **Email:** [ronbol12006@yahoo.com](mailto:ronbol12006@yahoo.com)

Warmest congrats to **Gord & Carol Peterman** with the safe arrival of little Owen Gordon to daughter Rachel & Tyler Cebulla on July 12! Big brothers Eli & Liam are pretty smitten with him! Thank you, Lord, for this precious gift from YOU!

**Ron Friday's nephew TJ** made it through his surgery for the removal of MERSA from his spine. They were not able to get it all, so he is facing another surgery to remove the rest of the infection when he gains a little strength. Continue to pray!

Our thoughts and prayers are with the communities down in **Texas** where the devastating flood occurred. Please be with the rescue efforts and heal the broken hearts.

Continue to lift up **Jim & Sue Secord** as they face daily challenges with Jim's health. Thanksgiving that they were able to continue the 40-year camping tradition with their many family and friends and that Jim was present for it!

Reminder from last Sunday's sermon: **"Be full of BOTH truth AND grace!"**

**Gratitude** for the beautiful state we live in and the relaxing days of summer fun!