

**SERMON NOTES:**

Scripture: Ephesians 3 :1-21  
Message: The Length of Everlasting Love



**Contact Us:**

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**ALLEN AVENUE CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH**



**Installation Service of Pastor Mark Hofman**



**PASTOR STAN STURING & PASTOR MARK HOFMAN  
WORSHIP SERVICE 10:00AM  
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
MARCH 12, 2023**

# Come...Now is the Time to Worship

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Lent

## Installation Service for Pastor Mark Hofman

### GATHERING

Prelude

Invitation to Quiet

Call to Worship

Leader: You have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.  
Before the mountains were born  
or you brought forth the whole world,  
from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.

**People: We praise and adore you, everlasting God.**

Leader: You surround us with compassion.  
Your unfailing love is all we need.

**People: We thank you, everlasting God. May we sing for joy all our days.**

\*Hymn of Praise      *Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)*      LUYH 693  
   *Forever*      LUYH 578

\*God's Greeting

\*We Greet One Another

### INSTALLATION

Installation of Pastor Mark Hofman      Psalter Hymnal pg. 992

Prayer

Song      *Not What My Hands Have Done*      Pastor Mark  
   Laura Hofman Watrous (sister of Pastor Mark)  
   Scott Hofman (brother of Pastor Mark)

Prayers of the People

Sherrie Wolffis

Children's Blessing (in unison)

***Jesus loves you.***

***His love is higher than the sky  
and deeper than the sea.***

***May you love Jesus,***

***as you worship him,***

***as you sing to him,***

***and as you pray to him.***

### PROCLAMATION

\*Song of Preparation      O God, We Kneel Before Your Throne      LUYH 680

Scripture Passage      Jeremiah 31 :1-9  
   «The Word of the Lord» « **Thanks be to God** »

Message:      The Length of Everlasting Love

Prayer of Application

### RESPONSE

Offering: General Fund and Western Michigan Christian MS & HS  
   [offerings may be given online at [allenavechurch.org](http://allenavechurch.org)  
   or in the baskets at each entrance]

\*Song of Response      *Father, Long Before Creation*      LUYH 687

\*God's Parting Blessing

\*Parting Song of Praise      *The Steadfast Love of the Lord*      LUYH 347

\*Postlude

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



## NURSERY & COFFEE FELLOWSHIP

- 03/12: Nursery: Amber Johnson/Dale Johnson  
Coffee Fellowship: Congregational Life
- 03/19: Nursery: Nancy Rop and Addy Maat  
Coffee Fellowship: Phil & Charry Snyder
- 03/26: Nursery: Renee Vlasma & Toni Schuitema  
Coffee Fellowship: Jessica W & Kristen V
- 04/02: Nursery: Karen Alphenaar and Lily  
Coffee Fellowship: Dean & Amber Johnson

## ALLEN AVENUE MISSIONARIES



- Stephan and Alicia – Kenya  
Rev. Jerry – Back to God Ministries  
Angel Community Church – Muskegon  
Zuni Christian School – Zuni, New Mexico  
Stan & Bessie – Philippines  
Eric and Judith – Western Asia  
Paul & Charlotte – Mission French Africa



## ALLEN AVENUE CARE LIST

- |                |                |               |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| Joann Deitz    | Wilma Doctor   | Jim Doornbos  |
| Vicky Fisher   | Lois Grinwis   | Pearl Kitchen |
| Joel Stefanits | Betty TenBrink | Ro Verheul    |
| June Walcott   | Tillie Witt    |               |

**-We love and pray for all the families on our care list** and for their care givers who so lovingly serve and help them...Bless them! Amen!



## WELCOME TO ALLEN AVENUE CRC

### **A Warm Welcome to Our Visitors, Guests, & Members to Installation Sunday for Pastor Mark Hofman & Family!**

We are so glad you have come to join us in worship today! If you are visiting, please fill out the Welcome card located in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate as you leave the sanctuary. **Join us in the Fellowship Hall in the lower level for the celebration dinner immediately following today's worship!**

**Live streaming** of our worship service is slated to begin at 9:55am on Sunday morning. The live stream will be located under the videos section of the YouTube page. The worship videos will continue to be available as a recording if you are unable to watch the service live.

## COUNCIL NEWS

**On Sunday, March 12, our special offering will be for Western Michigan Christian Middle School and High School.** Founded in 1948, WMC has been a part of the greater Muskegon community and Allen Avenue for decades, impacting multiple generations. Many of our members, spouses, parents, and children are graduates. Several of us are employees or former employees. Let's support the WMC's mission to "educate with excellence, integrate faith with knowledge, equip students to work and serve Christ in their communities."

**SAVE THE DATE:** Appreciation Gathering & Potluck for the Sturings is **Sunday, March 26**, following the worship service. Sign up on the clipboards downstairs.

**The deacons are thankful for February general fund offerings of \$13,548.** While this is significantly short of the budgeted \$21,600, we know that God is faithful. The deacons are also grateful for \$131 for Cadets and \$272 for Reach the Forgotten.

## COUNCIL NEWS

**\*\* Steve and Nancy Rop will be doing the bulletin for Sunday, March 19. \*\***

Please email Steve your announcements by noon on Thursday the 16<sup>th</sup> at

[swrop@yahoo.com](mailto:swrop@yahoo.com)

**Dear Friends at Allen Avenue CRC,**

On behalf of the staff of the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, **I wanted to take a moment to thank Allen Avenue CRC for your prayers, gifts, ministry shares, and support.** Your participation is a vital component of everything that the CRCNA does. We are so grateful for your partnership.

Whether it is missions in places that have been traditionally closed to the gospel, leading campus ministry across North America, developing resources to assist in the faith formation of children and young people, helping congregations prevent and respond to abuse, or any number of dozens of other activities, God is doing great things with and through the Christian Reformed Church. By joining with 1,000 other congregations across North America, you are a part of this ministry.

**Thank you again for being a valuable part of the Christian Reformed Church covenant community. --Kristen VanderBerg, CRCNA**

**Remember our Council Daily in Your Prayers** – Brian S, Bob V, Sherrie W, Stan R, Gabe V, Kelly D, Karen A, Jean B, Judy, Scott, Dave, Charry, and Pastor Mark. For **joy in their journey** and knowing that **God chose them** to be in leadership at such an exciting time in Allen Avenue's history! May God be honored by their service.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

**GEMS will meet in the basement on Wednesday, March 15- 6:00-8:00pm.**

We'll be having a badge night so be sure to bring your badge books, Bibles, and pens/pencils. Hope to see you all there!

**The GEMS will be having a sleepover in the church basement** from 7:00 Friday night (March 24) until 10:00 Saturday morning (March 25). All girls are asked to bring their own sleeping bags and pillows. Snacks and breakfast will be provided. Contact Jill Schuitema 231.740.2747 with any questions.

**ADVANCED NOTICE:** The GEMS will be holding their annual BAKE SALE after church on Sunday, March 26. Plan now on scooping up on some delicious baked goods and blessing the GEMS program at the same time.

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES & OPPORTUNITIES

**MCS needs supervision of staff children from 2:50-4:30pm on Monday, May 1 & 8.** If you can help in this way, please call Nate at 231.773.3221.

**Pastor Stan's Gospel Love: Grace, Relationships, and Everything that Gets in the Way** study will meet on March 16, 23, and 30. We plan to have a bite to eat together at 6:30 and then start the study.

**Hearts and Hands will hold their final work bee on Thursday, March 23, at 11:00am.** If you have questions or would like more information, please contact **Vicky Fisher at 231.740.6323.**

**Christian Care if having a Golf Scramble Fundraiser at Chase Hammond Golf Course on June 24, shotgun start at 9:00am.** The cost is \$250 for a four-person team or \$62.50 for individuals, which includes 18 holes and a cart. Please register by June 14. If you know of a business/groups/individuals who might like to sponsor a hole or donate a prize or cash towards the outing, please talk to Randy Fisher or call him at 231.750.8023. Check out the website at: [CHRISTIANCARELIVING.ORG](http://CHRISTIANCARELIVING.ORG) .

**Family and Friends of Allen Avenue,** I am engaging in a Senior service project to donate as many new toys as possible to our wonderful DeVos Children's Hospital in Grand Rapids. This organization is near and dear to my heart! I could use your help...are you willing to donate a new, unused toy (tags still attached) to a child at the hospital? Is so, here is a list of some suggested items given to me from the hospital:

- ♥ New tags on stuffed animals for boys and girls of all ages
- ♥ Toddler and preschool learning toys
- ♥ Craft activity kits for all ages
- ♥ New puzzles, Legos, and building sets
- ♥ Fun ChapStick and lip gloss packets

\*These are just suggestions and toys of all kinds are very much appreciated. They could also use donations for the families such as individually wrapped snacks and gift cards for food, gas, etc...If you can help, thank you! If not, I still thank you and ask for you to just offer up a simple prayer for these children and their families. A tote will be downstairs Sunday, March 19, and March 26 for your donations. My plan is to deliver them the first part of April. Thank you! --**Emily Snyder, WMC Class of 2023**

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

-Remember to keep **John Walhout's family** in your prayers in the days ahead as they said their earthly good-byes to their beloved father and grandfather. We as the family of God will dearly miss our favorite centurion who blessed us all!

-**Nancy Rop** is scheduled to begin four weeks of radiation therapy next Tuesday after her breast cancer surgery. It is scheduled for five days per week. Thanks for your continued prayers!

-**Carol Schuitema** asks for prayers that the progress being made on her breathing issues will continue. Please keep her, John, and the family in your prayers.

-**Mary Kortman's brother-in-law, Hubert**, is now on chemo treatments and is doing ok. But please keep his wife in your prayers as she now has covid. Prayers that he doesn't get it and peace and for ease of breathing.

-**Re'nee Vlasma's mom Peggy** is now home from Spectrum after many tests. There was no sign of a stroke. Please to continue to pray as the family helps to care for her. Pray for strength for each day for her children and husband Jerry.

-**Prayers for the Worship & Music Committee** as they plan the services for Lent-especially Charry Snyder, Mary Kortman, Pastor Stan, and Pastor Mark.

-**Prayers for Pastor Stan and Melody** as they begin to transition out of leadership at Allen Avenue. So thankful for everything they poured into the family of God here at Allen Avenue these past two years and for sharing their gifts, time, and talents with us. We have forever been changed and will never forget them! May the next adventure God has for them be full of joy and growth as they follow His leading and guidance.

-**Continue to lift WMC's Board and Search Committee** up in prayer as they are nearing the end of their search for the next Principal for the middle school and high school. Dave Miedema is serving on the search committee and would be happy to answer any questions you might have. Exciting times, for sure!

-**Many of our members and those we know are suffering from illnesses.** Please, Lord, heal them and bring them back to health and if that is not your will, be with them as they go through each minute of every day. May they know you are holding them close.

## PRAYER REQUESTS & THANKSGIVINGS

-Pray for Our Care List Member of the week – **Wilma Doctor**

-Allen Avenue Missionaries of the week – **Eric and Judith Tuls**

-**We pray for our school children of all ages**- Simon, Nora, Karrissa, Yeabsira, Tekalegn, Maelin, Tayla, Emily, Devon, Travis, Katelyn, Trevor, Tiffany, Molly, Kayla, Taylor, Danny, Luke, Adele, Joe, Matthew, Carlie, Daniel, Serenity, Lily, Riley, Jessica, Pao, Asher, August, and Aethan.

-**For MCS and WMC as well as all schools**, teachers-Lis, Dave, Nate, Becky, Stephanie

-**We rejoice in the arrival of Pastor Mark, Stephanie, Asher, August, and Aethan!** Now that moving truck must arrive SOON!!!

-**Remember to pray for Asher, August, and Aethan** as they start school at MCS and WMC. May their adjustment go well, they find good friends, their teachers help them transition easily mid-year, and they enjoy being back in the classroom again.

-**MANY thanks to Dave Bishop and ALL those** who worked so hard and long on making the parsonage beautiful once again! You have blessed not only the Pastor and family but each one of us! BLESS YOU!

-**We live to B.L.E.S.S.:** Believe; Love; Evangelize; Support Christian Education; Serve...may we as a congregation continue to dedicate our lives to this.

-**Pray that God brings us joy this Lenten season** as we are given the opportunity to continue to keep God's word alive in this sanctuary on Allen Avenue and for the neighborhood and city of Muskegon. We have truly been so blessed to be able to worship together in unity and share our God-given gifts to each other and this community for over 100 years! Thank you, Jesus our Savior, Lord, and Shepherd.

**Allen Avenue Prayer Ministry Prayer Time** is every Tuesday, from 7-8PM. Join us by selecting this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81035650227?pwd=cUhpVTdzTVlUbEMyVGs3UTBLWE5pQT09> Passcode: 573272 Meeting ID: 810 3565 0227



# Meet the Hofman Triple AAA's!

## ASHER



Asher is 13. His favorite color is green. He likes to play hockey, move through parkor obstacles, play video games, watch Godzilla movies, draw, and create stop animation videos. His favorite food is apples. He is learning the guitar. He is not sure what he wants to be when he grows up, but he knows he doesn't want a desk job.

## AUGUST



August is 10. His favorite color is red. His favorite food is lasagna. He likes to draw, ice skate as fast as he can, play video games, Star Wars, and Legos. He is learning the violin. He doesn't have a favorite subject in school. He use to want to be an archeologist and discover a dinosaur, but now he's not so sure.

## AETHAN



Aethan is 8. He is in the third grade. His favorite color is blue. He would like to be a DJ or an astronaut. He likes Legos, video games, music, parkor training (he does this in ninja warrior gymnastics). He would like to learn to do a flip. His favorite food is popsicles. Math and Spelling are his favorite subjects. He is learning to play the violin. He would really like to learn the guitar.