

# Allen AveNews

Allen Avenue Christian Reformed Church, Pastor Mark Hofman  
695 Allen Avenue, Muskegon, MI 49442



July 8-12  
Kings Kids



**Special Collections:**

July 7  
Reframe (Back to God)

August 4  
Christian Care

## The Ship of Zion

Look on Zion, the city of our festivals; your eyes will see Jerusalem, a peaceful abode, a tent that will not be moved; its stakes will never be pulled up, nor any of its ropes broken. There the Lord will be our Mighty One. It will be like a place of broad rivers and streams. No galley with oars will ride them, no mighty ship will sail them. For the Lord is our judge, the Lord is our lawgiver, the Lord is our king; it is he who will save us. [Now] your rigging hangs loose: The mast is not held secure, the sail is not spread. Then an abundance of spoils will be divided and even the lame will carry off plunder. No one living in Zion will say, "I am ill"; and the sins of those who dwell there will be forgiven. Isaiah 33:20-24

This summer at Allen Avenue, we've been continuing to hear about lighthouses. God's word is filled with images of his light and how he calls people back to himself through the light of the gospel.

Less often in scripture, God chooses the imagery of ships to communicate to lost and fallen people. Yet, when saving Noah and his family, calling his disciples to be "fishers of men," and reminding us that the sign of Jonah would be the only sign for a sinful generation—God spoke both warning and hope to those tossed about like waves on the sea (James 1:6). In Isaiah 33, the image we're given of Zion—the city of Jerusalem—might seem odd. It's an image of a ship. Settled on top of inland hills next to the desert, God's chosen dwelling place on earth is compared to a tent that can't be moved with ropes that can't be broken. Even though the "ship" of Jerusalem has a "mast [that is] not held secure," and "the sail is not spread," God still paints a triumphant picture of a future Jerusalem. At that time, Zion isn't under siege but becomes a war ship that "will carry off plunder."



This ship of Zion, which will become sea-worthy again, is not like the war-horses of Egypt or the plundering armies of Assyria. It's festivals and laws are not what saves it; it's true king will bring about this future. A future with healed diseases and forgiven sins. A future that will draw all peoples to the light of God's eternal dwelling. Where the sea will be no more. Where there will be no more sun by day or moon by night, "for the LORD will be your everlasting light."

May we hoist our sails and follow course to this coming kingdom of God, in whom Jesus Christ himself dwells as our eternal King and LORD.

—Pastor Mark

Note: If you exchange assignments with someone, let Susan Vanderlaan know so she can have it right in the bulletin. aacrcsecretary@gmail.com or 231.722.6411

**Nursery Schedule**



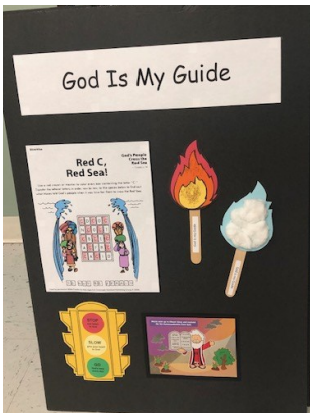
July	7	Laurie DeJonge Karen Alphenaar
	14	Charry Snyder, Addie Maat
	21	Amber Johnson Jasmine Snyder
	28	Dale Johnson Tayla Vlasma
August	4	Lis Miedema, Asher Hofman
	11	Sherrie Wolffis August Hofman
	18	Toni Schuitema Aethan Hofman
	25	Sue Sytsema Serenity Alphenaar

**Coffee Schedule**



July	7	Sandy Volkers, Ron Friday Judy Vaandering
	14	Carolyn & Justin Wilson
	21	Laurie & Jack DeJonge
	28	Theo Hightower
August	4	Kristen & Ron Valsma
	11	Barb & Jim Malda
	18	Jill & Brian Schuitema
	25	Sue & John Sytsema

**KING'S KIDS VBS**



Thank you, Allen Avenue, for your strong support of the King's Kids VBS program that we share with our brothers and sisters of Angel Community Church. Your commitments to pray for God's guidance, distribute fliers, invite kids, register students, provide refreshments, and serve on our staff show that you live to BLESS.

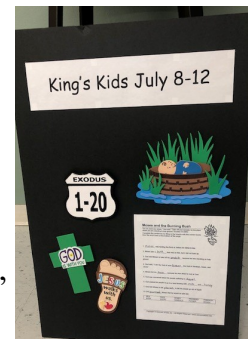
Please continue to ask the Lord to lead us through our final preparations before we open the doors to students at Angel Church on Monday evening, July 8.

Through banners, postcards, fliers, picnic displays, and personal conversations, many parents have been invited to send their kids to VBS. Pray that the Holy Spirit will prompt them to want their kids to hear the stories of Moses and to learn that "God is my Guide."

May many children come.

Please ask the Lord to give us a week blessed with praise, learning, friendship, and safety. Pray for a heart full of love for each person who connects with the students.

Before the Bible lesson is presented every VBS evening, each class will pray, "May the Holy Spirit come into our hearts as the words of the Bible come into our ears." Please join us in this prayer. Thank you, dear congregation!



—Barb Malda

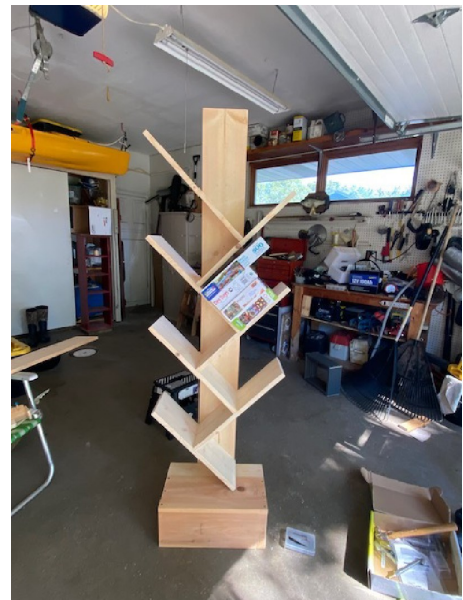
# Puzzle Library

Puzzling has become a new hobby in our home this past winter. Little did I know how many hours I could spend looking for the right shape, color, design in tiny pieces. My mom does this daily and I began sitting with her and would find a piece now and then to put in the puzzle. The intrigue began and I started growing my own pile of puzzles.

I noticed another church had a puzzle swap and so of course, I thought Allen Ave needed a puzzle swap too. Rog took on the project of making the puzzle racks that are now in the fellowship hall in the church's lower level.

This invitation is for everyone to check out our new Puzzle Swap at Allen Ave. Help us fill the shelves with puzzles that you are willing to donate to start this project up. As the cooler months set in and the doors and windows close up, we will have a wide variety of puzzles at our disposal. Object is to bring a puzzle to church and swap it out for another puzzle to work on. We can puzzle the hours away sharing puzzles! We hope you find much enjoyment in this Puzzle Swap!

—Rog and Laurie Slorf

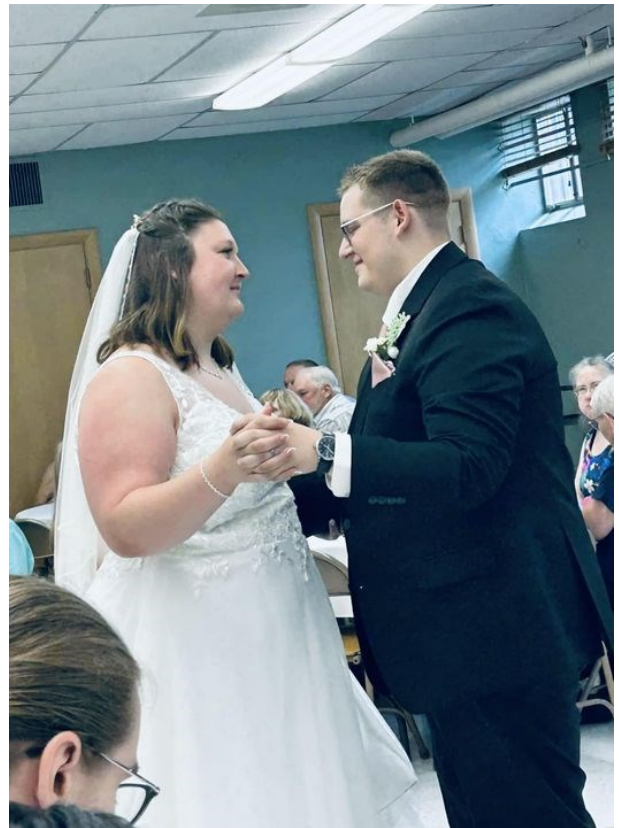


# Congratulations!



Danny Maat  
2024 Graduate of  
Western Michigan  
Christian High School

Jasmine and Travis Snyder  
June 15, 2024



# Stations of the Cross



Walk with Jesus from the arrest to the tomb.



Rejected by the religious leaders of the day.



Carrying His own cross to the place of the skull.



Pilate had them weave a crown of thorns to put on His head.



Simon of Cyrene was forced to carry the cross for Jesus.



Jesus asked John to care for his mother..



When they came to the place of the skull, they crucified



When Jesus died, the sun darkened and the temple veil was torn in half from the top to the bottom.



The deep red of the roses represents Jesus blood.

# Gems Sunday



Thank you to Jill Amber, Charry, and Renee for all their hard work leading the GEMS

A belated congratulations to Jasmine on her baptism.

May God bless you!



# Allen Avenue CRC and Love INC

Several years ago the Allen Avenue deacons, along with many other area churches, entered a relationship with Love INC called “Neighbors Helping Neighbors.”

One of the many ways in which Love INC impacts our community is by helping those with immediate financial needs for medical costs, housing, transportation and other concerns. Previously Love would reach out to area churches to help with a specific situation. Now, with the Neighbors Helping Neighbors setup, area churches “pre-fund” Love so Love can act quickly and efficiently with assistance.

Recently \$400 of the “pre-funding” from Allen Avenue was used to purchase 20 new bicycles. (Yes, you read that right. Twenty new bicycles!) The Bicycle Ministry at Love gives bikes to adults who do not have any other means of transportation. In most cases, these bikes allow them to get back and forth to work.

By financially supporting the ministry of Love INC, Allen Avenue is helping Love INC in its mission to serve families and transform lives In the Name of Christ.

Allen Avenue is proud to partner with Love INC with both our financial gifts and our prayers

—AACRC Deacons



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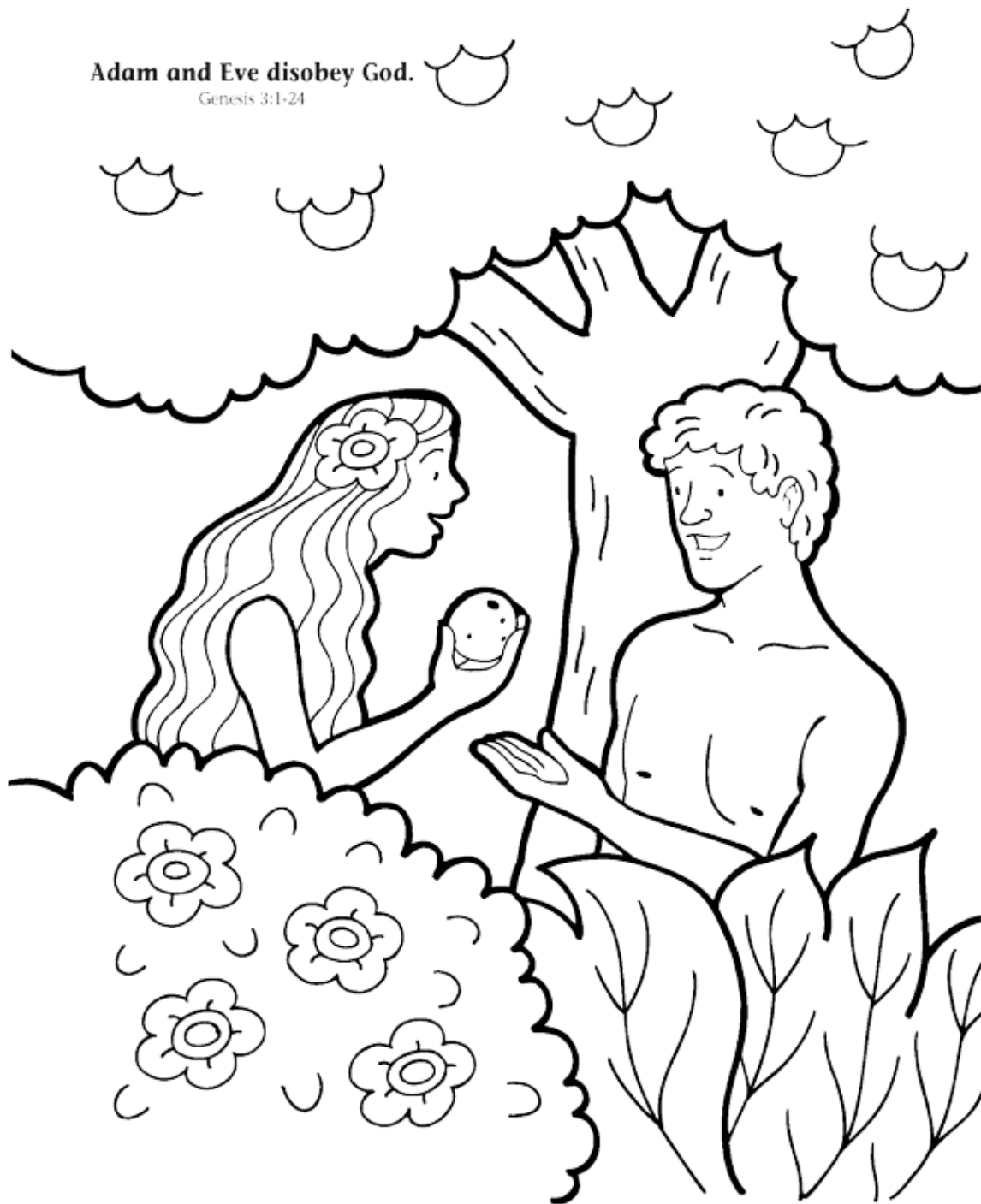
Sunday School did the devotional “The Gift of The Cross” by Brandon Helder. It is a devotional that is meant to be done on the Sundays of Lent and/or Holy Week. Each week we did two or three blocks and went over the corresponding lessons. Special thanks to John Sytsema for cutting the blocks for Sunday School. The students drew the pictures on the blocks and built the crosses up as the lessons continued. Easter Sunday is when the cross is turned around and the empty tomb is revealed on the back of the first block on of the cross. The crosses pictured are the 2nd to 6th grade student’s. The 7th grade through high school aged students also participated in this curriculum, but I don’t have a picture of their crosses. I thought it would be neat for people to see the beautiful crosses the children made in Sunday School in the Allen Avenue News.



—Stephanie Hofman

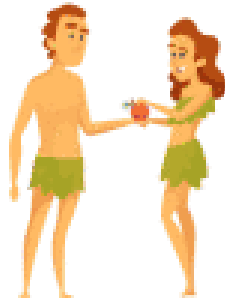
**Adam and Eve disobey God.**

Genesis 3:1-24



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# Genesis

## Bible Word Search

Q	U	K	N	L	T	S	B	E	N	J	A	M	I	N
M	R	M	R	E	N	B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N	G
N	O	I	T	A	E	R	C	V	F	A	M	I	N	E
J	B	S	N	R	P	C	O	V	E	N	A	N	T	N
S	R	A	T	S	R	R	G	L	E	N	J	D	F	A
O	O	A	W	I	E	G	Y	P	T	V	D	H	K	M
N	T	C	L	R	S	S	X	I	P	M	E	A	U	O
D	H	L	E	M	A	H	A	R	B	A	F	Z	Y	W
O	E	I	B	R	S	M	A	E	R	D	P	D	I	S
O	R	G	A	J	O	S	E	P	H	A	R	A	O	H
L	S	H	B	R	A	I	N	B	O	W	A	W	H	S
F	L	T	N	I	A	C	N	O	O	M	A	B	F	I
N	A	M	T	R	E	E	O	F	L	I	F	E	E	N
G	A	R	D	E	N	O	F	E	D	E	N	A	V	L
S	A	B	B	A	T	H	J	A	C	O	B	E	W	T

Bible Word Search by BiblePuzzles.com

- ABEL
- ABRAHAM
- ADAM
- ARK
- BABEL
- BEGINNING
- BENJAMIN
- BROTHERS
- CAIN
- COVENANT
- CREATION

- DREAMS
- EGYPT
- EVE
- FAMINE
- FLOOD

GARDEN OF EDEN

- ISAAC
- ISRAEL
- JACOB

- JOSEPH
- LIGHT
- MAN
- MOON
- PHARAOH
- RAINBOW
- SABBATH
- SARAH

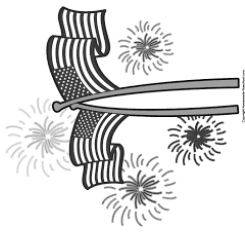
- SERPENT
- SEVEN DAYS
- SIN
- STARS
- TREE OF LIFE
- WOMAN



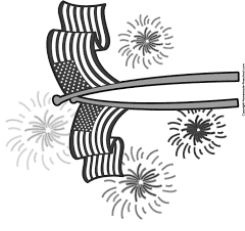


THIS IS THE DAY  
THAT THE LORD HAS MADE;  
LET US REJOICE  
AND BE GLAD IN IT.

*Psalm 118:24*



# July 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4 Gabe Vlasma	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12 Deb Green	13
14	15 Sue Secord	16	17	18	19	20
21 Fernando Vergara	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Vicky Fisher	30	31			

# August 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
4	5 Sue Sytsema Peg Rop	6	7 Norm Boeve Laurie Slorf	8 Amber Johnson	9	10 Dean Johnson
11	12	13 Retha Johnson	14	15	16	17 Carol Schuitema
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Sandy Volkers Nate Schout	26	27	28	29	30	31