



Allen AveNews

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



January 20
Presidential Inauguration



January 20
Martin Luther King Day



February 14
Valentine's Day



February 17
Presidents Day

Special Collections



January 26
Cadets International
February 9
Resonate Global Missions

Victims of Our Own De-Vices

"We are all just prisoners here of our own device..."

The Eagles' 1976 hit song "Hotel California" is known for its dark and troubling lyrics about stopping on the dangerous road of human vice. Most people who heard it on the radio in '76 didn't need to take a class on the vices to know what "being prisoners of our own device" was all about.

Vice is an ancient, Christian word. Taken from Latin for *defect, imperfection, or impediment*, vice lists or categories of sin became a powerful tool for followers of Jesus recognize their daily "falling short of the rye of God." (Romans 3:23)

Historically numbering from seven to nine es, and their antidote virtues, these teaching tools have been around from the time of early-church theologian Tertullian (c. 200 AD) to Lutheran pastor Martin Chemnitz (c. 1550 AD) Vice lists continue to guide Christian pilgrims on the narrow way of following the law of Christ.

In January and February of 2025 at Allen Avenue CRC, we're going to learn from the story of Israel in Exodus, Leviticus, and Numbers. And their vices will be on full display, revealing to us our own. We'll look at how "these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did...and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come." (1 Cor. 10:6 & 11)

The challenge of paying attention to our vices will be twofold:

- we can become preoccupied with vice's temptations and neglect the virtues
- we can become desensitized to vice's effects and end up minimizing their harms

Yet, thanks be to God, we have been saved so that we die to sin and live by grace alone through faith! It is through the virtue of Christ Jesus that we can be led by the Holy Spirit to live virtuously.

Paul's words in Romans 6:11-14 will prove timely: "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace law of Christ.

—Pastor Mark





Note: If you exchange assignments with someone, let Susan Vanderlaan know so she can have it right in the bulletin. susan.vanderlaan@allenavechurch.org or 231.722.6411



Coffee Schedule

January	5	Becki & Randy Fisher
	12	Elaine & Bob Holwerda
	19	Sherrie & Jack Wolffis
	26	Freezer Ministry Ladies
		Refreshments by Maryjean Schuitema Smith in honor of Mike
February	2	Susan & Bob Vanderlaan
	9	Congregational Life
		Hot chocolate bar
	16	Congregational Life
		Hot chocolate bar
	23	???

Nursery Schedule

January	5	Barb Malda, Emily Snyder
	12	Laurie DeJong, Deb Anderson
	19	Carol Peterman, Maelin Vlasma
	26	Amber Johnson, Becki Fisher
February	2	Susan Vanderlaan, Addie Maat
	9	Charry Snyder, Karen Alphenaar
	16	Renee Vlasma, Toni Schuitema
	23	Dale Johnson, August Hofman

Contact Susan Vanderlaan if you can do coffee fellowship on February 23.



Nursery



Creating Candles

Lori Slorf taught several of us how to make candles out of wood blocks. There were three sizes that made a nice grouping when we were finished.

Kelly Dauser was her assistant. We had a fun group of people to work with. You can see all of our finished projects and how they were displayed in a few homes.



Painting our candles



Using the glue gun



Putting on finishing touches



Apple cider
And Pumpkin Cupcakes



The Snyder's



The Slorf's



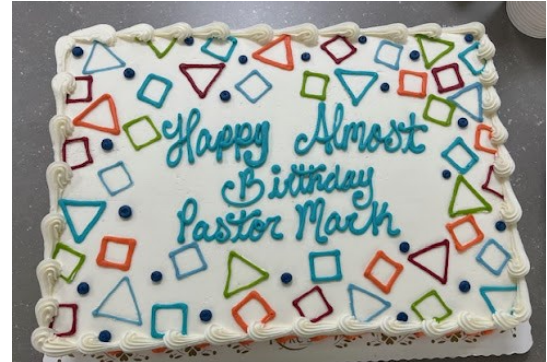
The DeJonge's



Volkers/Friday



Christmas at Allen Avenue



Happy Birthday, Pastor Mark!!!



The Hope Candle



The Peace Candle



The Joy Candle



The Love Candle



The Christ Candle

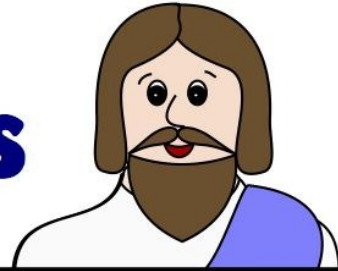




For the first time the Sunday School Program was on video



Search for Jesus' 12 Disciples



Can you find the names of the twelve disciples from the word box below?

ANDREW

BARTHOLOMEW

JAMES

JAMES

JOHN

JUDAS

MATTHEW

PETER

PHILIP

SIMON

THADDAEUS

THOMAS

BIBLE BOOKS WORD SEARCH



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

NAHUM
 MALACHI
 JOEL
 ECCLESIASTES
 DANIEL
 SAMUEL
 JOB
 SONG OF SONGS
 PROVERBS

ESTHER
 ZEPHANIAH
 KINGS
 NUMBERS
 JEREMIAH
 MICAH
 CHRONICLES
 LEVITICUS
 HABAKKUK

ZECHARIAH
 ISAIAH
 OBADIAH
 EZEKIEL
 DEUTERONOMY
 RUTH
 JONAH
 GENESIS
 HAGGAI

JUDGES
 LAMENTATIONS
 NEHEMIAH
 HOSEA
 JOSHUA
 PSALMS
 EXODUS
 AMOS
 EZRA





The

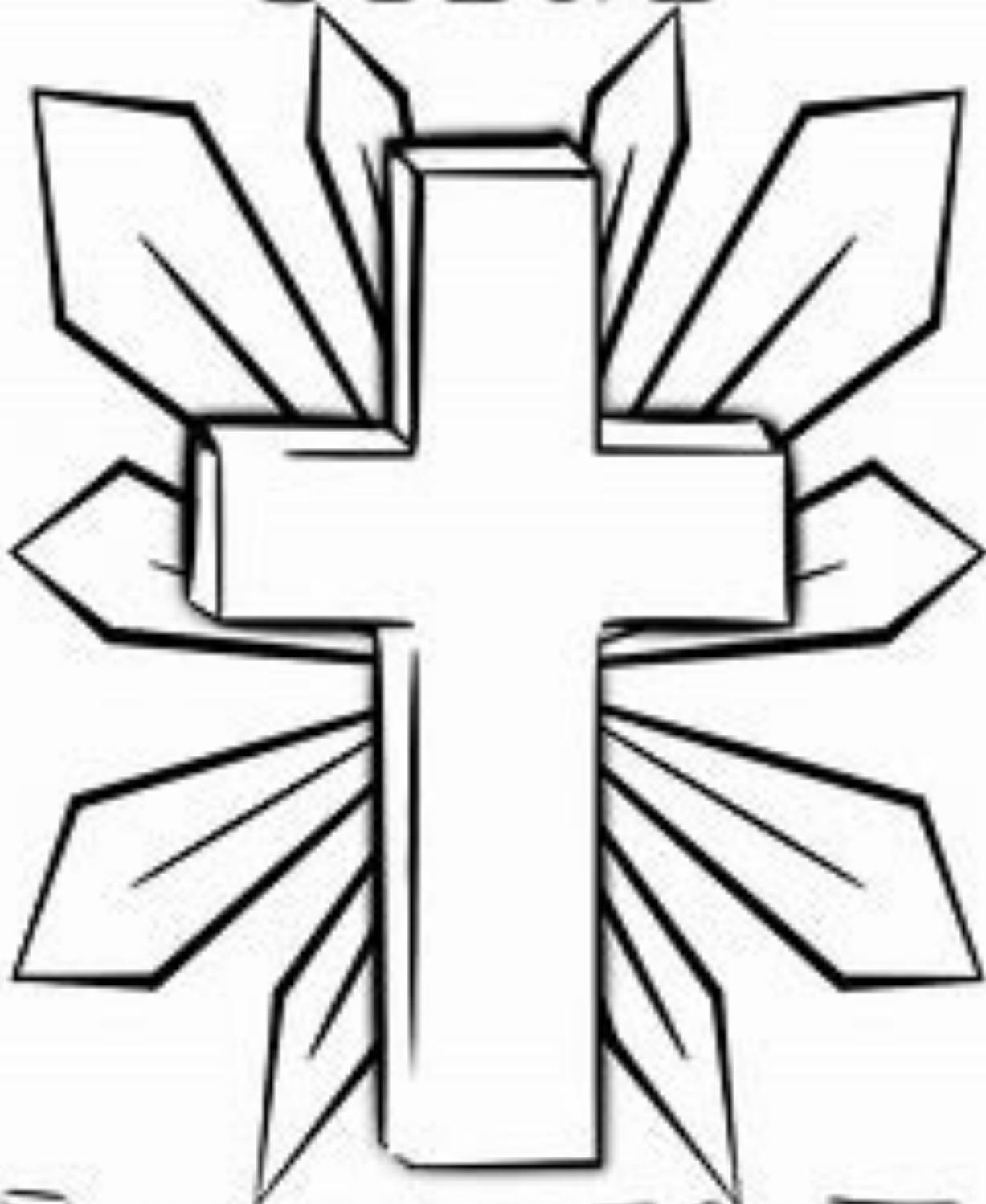
Joy

**of the
Lord**

is my strength

Nehemiah 8:10

JESUS



LOVES ME

GIANT BIBLE CROSSWORD

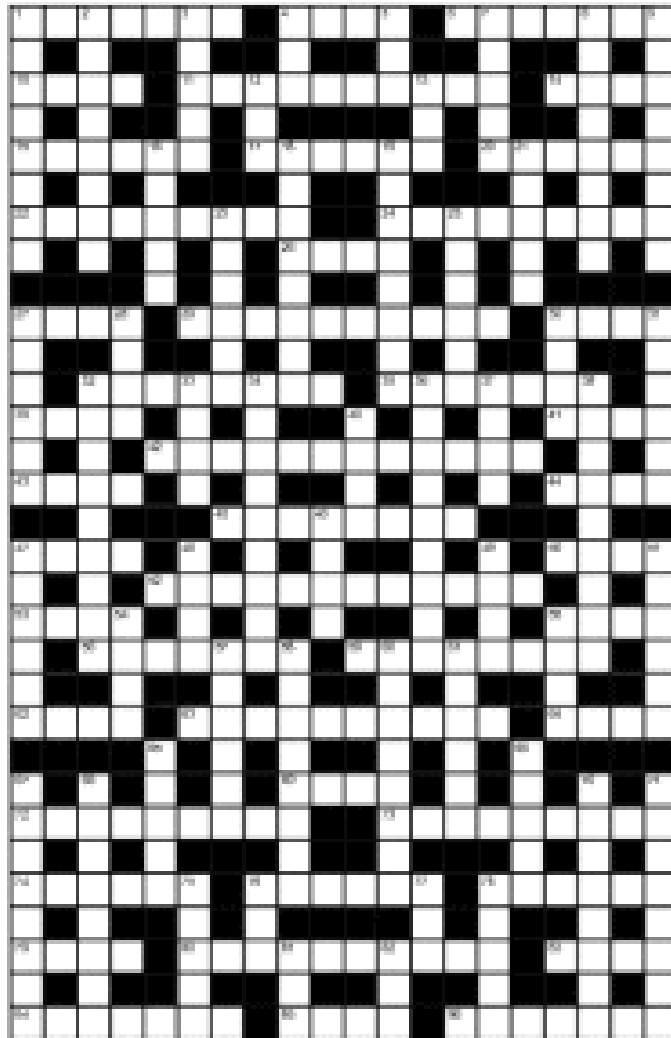
Across

- 1 Recollection (7)
- 4 Phoenician trading center (4)
- 6 Not fixed (7)
- 10 Word written on a wall (4)
- 11 Fruit bearing plant (6,4)
- 14 Urgent request (4)
- 15 Place of worship (6)
- 17 Where the Syrian army was made blind (6)
- 20 Climb (6)
- 22 Instruction (9)
- 24 Splendid (9)
- 26 Work hard (4)
- 27 Un able to speak (4)
- 29 Tattler (10)
- 30 One who raised Cain (4)
- 32 Swims (archaic) (8)
- 35 A disciple in Rome (7)
- 39 Came to an end (4)
- 41 Number of lepers who did not return to thank Jesus (9)
- 42 Old Testament ritual (4,8)
- 43 Burrowing mammal (4)
- 44 Refuse (4)
- 45 Hold back (8)
- 47 Verse writer (4)
- 50 Pesty insect (4)
- 52 Sources of rivers and streams (1,2)
- 53 Slimy gastropod (4)
- 55 Mix (4)
- 56 Have an inspiration? (7)
- 59 One of the openings in the walls of Jerusalem (4,4)
- 62 Attracted (4)

- 63 A remnant of the Amorites (10)
- 64 Bones (4)
- 69 Likewise (4)
- 72 Governor (9)
- 73 Reinstates (archaic) (9)
- 74 Reflexive pronoun, third person singular (6)
- 76 Help (6)
- 78 Persian queen (6)
- 79 Retain (4)
- 80 Can a camel pass through one? (7,3)
- 83 Snakes (4)
- 84 Suffered (7)
- 85 Mistle of the city (4)
- 86 English translator of the Bible (7)

Down

- 1 Forgave (8)
- 2 Poisonous (8)
- 3 Fruit of the vine (5)
- 4 Couple (3)
- 5 Consume (3)
- 7 Last letter (5)
- 8 Had faith (8)
- 9 Probes (archaic) (8)
- 12 Coft (3)
- 13 Fled (3)
- 16 Ananias and Sapphira for example (5)
- 18 Balm (8)
- 19 Field of blood (8)
- 21 Puzem interjection (5)
- 23 Babe (6)
- 25 The cross-bearer of Christ, Simon, came from this city (6)
- 27 Crown (6)
- 28 Shiny on top, like Elshal (4)
- 30 Prayer's end (4)
- 31 Woe (6)



by Philologist

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- 32 Prince of the devils (9)
- 33 Bound (4)
- 34 Respects (archaic) (9)
- 36 Hell (9)
- 37 Yearn (4)
- 38 Member of an Israeli tribe (9)
- 40 From a great distance (4)
- 46 Change (4)
- 47 Went by (6)
- 48 Site of Jesus' first miracle (4)
- 49 King of the Amalekites (4)

- 51 Birth place of the apostle Paul (6)
- 54 Got bigger (4)
- 55 Celestial body (4)
- 57 There were twelve of them in Israel (6)
- 58 Precious stones (8)
- 60 Biblical animal of great strength (8)
- 61 There people were among the Gentiles (6)
- 65 Seat (5)
- 66 Fake gods (5)
- 67 Spray (8)

- 68 A successful journey (8)
- 70 This place had a pool and five porches (8)
- 71 Sanctimonious person (8)
- 75 Fallside (5)
- 76 Cutting tool (3)
- 77 Part of foot (3)
- 78 Each (5)
- 81 A son of Jacob (3)
- 82 Transgression (3)



January 2025



							Ken Doctor
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	
	Kristen Vlasma Anita Ward	Russ Vlasma			Melisa Vlasma		
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	
					Tammy Shelske	Kayla Johnson	
26	27	28	29	30	31		John Kortman Mary Patton



February 2025



2	3	4	5	6	7	8			1
						Steve Morris			
9	10	11	12	13	14	15			
		John Sytsema							
16	17	18	19	20	21	22			
		Jim Secord		Carol Peterman		Wilma Doctor			
23	24	25	26	27	28				
			Val Morris		Gord Peterman Serenity Alphenaar				