

**Sunday,
Aug 3rd,
2025**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, Aug 3rd, 2025

Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Pianist: Joan Bjorklund
Praise Team

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 105:1-6

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - How Great is Our God (Screen)**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

God's Law

Song - Jesus Messiah (Screen)

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Volga Christian School & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - PH 420 Breathe on Me, Breath of God (Verse 1)**

Scripture Lesson: **Genesis 41**

Text: **Genesis 41**

Message: **To God Be the Glory!**

Prayer

***Song - RB 287 My Tribute (To God Be the Glory)**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 635 Glory Be to the Father**

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: We come with joy to worship our triune God today! We are very happy to have you present at this service of worship. It is here that we can find light for any darkness. It is here that we may find the blessings and comfort which God alone can offer. Please join us for coffee after the morning service.

Ushers for August: Gene Volkers, Zachary Post;

Alternate: Cade Gross

Elevator Attendant for August: Cyndi Ulvestad

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
11:00 AM Dakota Sun Ministry
3:00 PM Lake Day
Wed: 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study

Dakota Sun Ministry today, August 3rd:

- In charge: Ken Fideler & Will & Erica Davis / Geraldine Runia (Musician)
- To visit: Duane Walburg, Deb Landegent, Ulvestad's, Jerry & Geraldine Runia
*If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go in your place

Prayer Concerns:

- As we enter August and summer begins to wind to a close, please keep in prayer **teachers and students** as they prepare for a new school year ahead.

Announcements:

- **Lake day** is today! Boating, tubing, skiing, swimming and fishing are available. If water is not your thing, come enjoy lawn games, food, and fellowship. Sit, visit, and relax. Burgers and hot dogs provided; bring a dish to pass. **Today, Aug 3rd** starting at 3:00- come and go as you please. All happening at the Jerry Runia residence (2145 SE Lake Drive, Estelline). Google maps doesn't like the address so come in on 196th St. and go 4 houses north of 214 SE Lake Drive. Rain or shine we will still have supper and fellowship.
- **Women's Bible Study** meets this week **Wednesday** at 2 PM in the church basement. Pastor Josh will lead the next lesson, Lesson 3: The History of Deuteronomy. Come and enjoy spending time in God's Word and food and fellowship afterward.
- **Sunday School Superintendent** - We are currently looking for someone who would be willing to step into the role of Sunday School Superintendent and serve in this way. Please be prayerfully considering the opportunity. If you are interested, please reach out to one of the council members, and if you have any questions about the role, please feel free to reach out to Geraldine with those.

Looking Ahead:

- **New Member's Class** - Have you thought about making profession of faith, or reaffirming your faith and becoming a member of Volga CRC? If so, sometime this fall, Pastor Josh is hoping to have a new members' class where we'll talk about the Christian faith, what it means to be Reformed, and more. If you are interested in either making profession of faith or reaffirming your faith and becoming a member, please reach out to Pastor Josh and let him know.

- **Congregational Meeting** - On **Sunday, August 17th**, we will be having our annual congregational meeting following morning worship. At this meeting we will be voting on one new elder and two new deacons.
 - Elder Nominees: Jerry Runia, and Larry Top.
 - Deacon Nominees: Conner Gross, Anthony Kauk, and Ryan Van Norden.
- *Please prayerfully consider these nominees as well as be praying for them.
- **Mid-America CME Conference** - You're invited to **Mid-America Reformed Seminary's** annual Center for Missions and Evangelism Conference on **October 3-4, 2025!** This year's theme is Gossiping the Gospel: Everyday Evangelism, featuring pastors, church planters, and faculty from the Seminary. Come be encouraged and equipped, and register today at: midamerica.edu/cme/conference

Offering Schedule:

- Aug 3rd: VCS & Budget
- Aug 10th: Option 1 & Budget
- Aug 17th: Brauning's & Budget
- Aug 24th: Local Missions & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Aug 3rd: Fey Family
- Aug 10th: Runia Family
- Aug 17th: Top Family
- Aug 24th: Triebwasser Family

Our Council: Pastor Joshua Carpenter

- Elders: Ron Gross, Ashton Fey, Doug Post, Dale Algood
- Deacons: Will Davis, Logan Triebwasser, Dan Runia, Keith Tofte
- **e-mail address for council:** volgacrcouncil@gmail.com

This Week's Unfading Truth: Why does the Gospel grow in some but not others? (Hint: there's nothing wrong with the seed). Join us each day this week (you can read or listen) as we dig deep into Jesus' parable of the sower at UnfadingTruth.com.

Theme: _____ God the _____ in _____ that we _____.

1. _____ of every _____ :

2. Keeps us _____ and _____ :

3. Serve as a _____ :

Weekly Reflection: What opportunities do you have in your day-to-day life to give God the glory for the gracious gifts He's given you? Take some time and glorify Him for all He's done for you this week.

Sermon Resources Used For Further Study:

- *Commentary on the First Book of Moses Called Genesis* by John Calvin
- *Genesis thru Numbers* by Tremper Longman III
- *Genesis - Beginning and Blessing* by R. Kent Hughes
- *The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament* “Chapter 10: The Book of Genesis” by Michael A. Grisanti
- *NIV Application Commentary: Genesis* by John H. Walton

“Wherefore, let us also learn, from the example of holy Joseph, to honour the grace of God even among unbelievers; and if they shut the door against the entire and full doctrine of piety; we must, at least, endeavour to instil some drops of it into their minds. Let us also reflect on this, that nothing is less tolerable than for men to arrogate to themselves anything as their own; for this is the first step of wisdom, to ascribe nothing to ourselves; but modestly to confess, that whatever in us is worthy of praise, flows only from the fountain of God’s grace. It is especially worthy of notice, that as the Spirit of understanding is given to any one from heaven, he will become a proper and faithful interpreter of God.” - John Calvin

“Joseph does more than he had been asked to do; for he is not merely the interpreter of the dream; but, as fulfilling the office of a prophet, he adds instruction and counsel. For we know that the true and lawful prophets of God do not barely predict what will happen in future; but propose remedies for impending evils. Therefore Joseph, after he had uttered a prophecy of the changes which would take place in fourteen years, now teaches what ought to be done; and exhorts Pharaoh to be vigilant in the discharge of his duty. And one of the marks by which God always distinguished his own prophets from false prognosticators, was to endue them with the power of teaching and exhorting, that they might not uselessly predict future events.” - John Calvin

“No meltdown here! Joseph was all steel. Observe carefully that he told Pharaoh (who himself was considered to be a god incarnate) that God (ha Elohim, “the God”) would explain his dream. Thus, to Pharaoh’s face Joseph asserted that his God was superior to and sovereign over the gods of Egypt. Joseph’s theological knowledge rose high against the face of worldly power. Joseph’s speech to Pharaoh was the same here as it was to the prisoners in the pit. In prison he had declared, “Do not interpretations belong to God? Please tell [your dreams] to me” (40:8). Here he declared, “It is not in me; God [ha Elohim] will give Pharaoh a favorable answer” (v. 16). Joseph had not changed one whit in his trip from the pit to the palace. Those thirteen years of preparation were now paying huge dividends. Through Joseph, God was advertising and asserting himself in Egypt.” - R. Kent Hughes