

**Sunday,
Aug 10th,
2025**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, Aug 10th, 2025

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

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ephesians 2:1-10

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - Behold Our God (Screen)**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

Communion Prep

Song - Boldly I Approach (Screen)

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Option 1 & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - Word of God Speak (Screen)**

Scripture Lesson: **Genesis 42-44**

Text: **Genesis 42-44**

Message: **God's Sovereign Grace**

Prayer

***Song - Grace Like Rain (Screen)**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: The Blessing (Screen)**

Postlude

* Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: As brothers and sisters in Christ, let us rejoice together in worship of our God. We extend a warm welcome to all who are worshipping together today. Stay after the morning service for coffee and fellowship.

Ushers for August: Gene Volkers, Zachary Post;

Alternate: Cade Gross

Elevator Attendant for August: Cyndi Ulvestad

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship

5:30 PM S'mores Night

Wed: 8:00 PM Council Meeting

Prayer Concerns:

- Please keep **Claudia's sister** in your prayers. An MRI revealed she's had a couple strokes, and tests haven't revealed what caused them.
- **Ephraim Katz** had surgery this past week on his right lung. Please keep him in your prayers as he recovers from that surgery.

Announcements:

- **Summer S'mores Night** - Our final Summer S'mores Night of the season is **tonight!** Come on out for some food and fellowship at the Carpenters. Fire will be going around **5:30 PM**. Hot dogs and s'mores components will be provided. Feel free to bring a dish to pass, but don't feel obligated either. Hope to see you there as we wind down the summer!
- **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** - Next **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

Advance:

▪ **Dakota Sun Ministry for Sep 7th:**

- In charge: Delores Bothun & Gert Dykhouse / Marge Kleinjan (Musician)
- To visit: Edwards', Henrietta Molengraff, Marge Runia, Gerald Feikema
*If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go in your place

Offering Schedule:

- Aug 10th: Option 1 & Budget
- Aug 17th: Brauning's & Budget
- Aug 24th: Local Missions & Budget
- Aug 31st: Building Project & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Aug 10th: Runia Family
- Aug 17th: Top Family
- Aug 24th: Triebwasser Family
- Aug 31st: Post 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

Groundwork: God Longs to Restore His People - Amidst all the judgment in Hosea, God reveals the tender ache of a father's heart, and we find powerful images of restoration. Join Groundwork as we study Hosea 11 and 14 and discuss how this ancient prophecy still calls us back to the heart of God and offers us a roadmap for restoration. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

Thrive Faith Formation Tip - Psalm 19 exclaims, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands" (v. 1, NIV). Throughout your week make a point to observe the sky—whether storm-filled, clear and sunny, brilliant blue with fluffy clouds, or full of stars. How does observing creation remind you of God's glory and good works? Brought to you by Thrive: crcna.org/Thrive

This Week's Unfading Truth: Our salvation must be credited to God alone, who chose us in Christ, called us, granted us faith and repentance, rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brings us into the kingdom of His Son. Read or listen along each weekday at UnfadingTruth.com. Text JOIN to 833-273-2136 for a daily reminder.

August 10, 2025 | God's Sovereign Grace | Genesis 42-44

Theme: God's _____ .

1. _____ points us to God's _____ :

2. God's great grace _____ :

Weekly Reflection: How has God's great grace impacted your life? Take some time and praise the Lord for His amazing, great, and sovereign grace 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

“Now, as we take up chapter 44, we will witness a life-altering transformation of the brothers that will variously involve conscience, repentance, enlarged sympathies, intercession, sacrifice, and substitution—all wrapped in a growing brotherly love that speaks of Christ.”

- R. Kent Hughes

“And that is what godly sorrow would effect in Joseph’s brothers. Godly sorrow is a grace because it leads to repentance.” - R. Kent Hughes

“True guilt is a grace because it brings the guilty to seek forgiveness and to repent. It is especially a grace in a day when Freudian analysis has dismissed conscience and guilt as mere safety devices, collectively created to protect civilized order—an illusion of narrow minds.”

- R. Kent Hughes

“Moses begins, in this chapter, to treat of the occasion which drew Jacob with his whole family into Egypt; and thus leaves it to us to consider by what hidden and unexpected methods God may perform whatever he has decreed. Though, therefore, the providence of God is in itself a labyrinth; yet when we connect the issue of things with their beginnings, that admirable method of operation shines clearly in our view, which is not generally acknowledged, only because it is far removed from our observation.”

- John Calvin