

**Sunday,
Aug 23rd,
2026**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, Aug 23rd, 2026

Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Organist: Ellie Vandenberg
Pianist: Geraldine Runia

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 122

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - PH 242 Come, All You People, Praise Our God**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

God's Law

Song - RB 137 Rock of Ages

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Navigators & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - PH 282 Break Now the Bread of Life (Verses 1 & 4)**

Scripture Lesson: **2 Samuel 7 & Psalm 132**

Text: **Psalm 132**

Message: **Our Covenant Keeping God**

Prayer

***Song - PH 132 God of Jacob, Please Remember**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 620 By the Sea of Crystal (Verse 3)**

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: We are so glad you have chosen to join us today as we worship the Lord together. We pray you feel inclined to share your joys and struggles with those around you. Please stay for coffee and fellowship downstairs following the service.

Ushers for August: Jerry Runia, Brenda Volkers; Alternate: Zachary Post
Elevator Attendant for August: Marla Volkers

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
11:00 AM Congregational Meeting
Wed: 7:00 PM Junior High Youth Group

Prayer Concerns:

1. We want to extend our sincere Christian sympathies to **Doug and Donna Wermedal** and the rest of their family in the passing of Doug's mom, **Lorna**. May the Lord bless them with His peace that passes all understanding.
2. May we keep in prayer all those battling various illnesses this time of year.

Announcements:

- **Congregational Meeting - Today**, we will be having our annual congregational meeting following morning worship. At this meeting, we will be voting on a few things:
 - One new elder and one new deacon.
 - Elder Nominees: Anthony Kauk, and Jerry Runia.
 - Deacon Nominees: Ian Edwards, and Kees Knevelbaard.
 - **Please prayerfully consider these nominees, as well as praying for them.
 - Building Project Proposal. This will require a 75% yes vote to move forward.
 - The annual budget
 - Missionary Selection
- **Newsletter Info Deadline** - The deadline for information for the **September** edition of our church newsletter will be **Wednesday, August 26th, at 12 PM**. Please send your information to Pastor Josh, Brenda Volkers, or Marge Kleinjan.
- **Youth Group:**
 - **Junior High Youth Group** - This week, **Wednesday, August 26th**, the Junior High Youth Group will meet to kick off the new year with some pizza and water games over at **First Reformed Church at 7 PM**. Bring a friend, and come prepared to get soaked!
 - **Youth Group Meal Sign-Ups** - With youth group starting back up, we usually provide a meal the third Wednesday of each month for the youth group. If you are interested in serving in this way, there's a sign up sheet out on the coffee counter in the church lobby. Thank you for your consideration!
- The Volga GEMS are seeking a counselor for the upcoming season. If you are willing to work with this girls ministry, please contact Geraldine Runia. (605-690-5446)
- Copies of the Sep/Oct "**Today**" **Devotionals** are on the shelf back by the church mailboxes. Please help yourself to one!

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.
- **Sunday School Kick-Off** - The start of the school year has arrived, and right around the corner is the start of our Sunday School Year! Our kick-off will be **Sunday, September 13th**. Following morning worship, the kids will gather downstairs for some opening Sunday School activities, after which will follow hamburgers and hot dogs outside with bounce houses, yard games, another opportunity to dump some water on Pastor Josh with the dunk tower, and other fun activities! Come on out for a great time of fun and fellowship as we celebrate the beginning of another year growing in the Lord together!

Advance:

- **Dakota Sun Ministry for Sept 6th:**
 - In charge: Henrietta Molengraaf / Joan Bjorklund (Musician)
 - To visit: Knevelbaards', Gerald Feikema, Marge Runia
- *If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go for you
- **Ushers for Sept:** Dan Runia, Gerald Feikema; Alternate: Gene Volkers
- **Elevator Attendant for Sept:** Henrietta Molengraaf

Offering Schedule:

- Aug 23rd: Navigators & Budget
- Aug 30th: Building Project
- Sept 6th: VCS & Budget
- Sept 13th: Navigators & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Aug 23rd: Post Family
- Aug 30th: Davis Family
- Sept 6th: Knevelbaard Family
- Sept 13th: Kauk Family

Our Council: Pastor Joshua Carpenter

- Elders: Ashton Fey, Dale Algood, Doug Post, Larry Top
- Deacons: Connor Gross, Keith Tofte, Ryan Van Norden, Will Davis
- **e-mail address for council:** volgacrcouncil@gmail.com

August 23, 2026 | Our Covenant Keeping God | Psalm 132

Theme: _____ in God's _____ to His _____.

1. The _____

2. God's _____

Weekly Reflection: What promises of God have you experienced in your own life? May we ever thank and praise the Lord for His amazing faithfulness to us!

Sermon Resources For Further Study:

- *Christ's Psalms Our Psalms Vol. 4: Psalm 132* by Clarence Bouwman
- *Commentary on the Book of Psalms* by John Calvin
- *Psalms thru Song of Songs* by Tremper Longman III
- *The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament* "Chapter 40: The Book of Psalms" by Michael A. Grisanti
- *Psalms-Song of Solomon, ESV Expository Commentary* by John Collins

“Like the pilgrims of Israel who travelled annually to Jerusalem, the NT saint is a pilgrim en route to the new Jerusalem (1 Peter 2:11). No matter where the child of God looks in this broken life, he sees the enduring wreckage resulting from our fall into sin, even - painfully - in church. That reality can get so discouraging. But the LORD gives abundant encouragement in the OT promise to place an incorruptible son on David's throne (Ps. 132:11-12), a promise that has been fulfilled in the victory and ascension of Jesus Christ. The reality of Jesus' enthronement gives the discouraged believer of the NT confidence to persevere in the struggles of faith and optimism concerning the outcome of his pilgrimage.” - Clarence Bouwman.