

**Sunday,
Feb 1st,
2026**

Volga Christian Reformed Church

Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603

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Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Organist: Marge Kleinjan
Pianist: Christy VanHeerde
Praise Team

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 119:1-8

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - Come, Now is the Time to Worship (Screen)**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

God's Law

Song - At the Cross (Screen)

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Volga Christian School & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - PH 556 Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

Scripture Lesson: **Hebrews 12:1-17**

Text: **Hebrews 12:1-17**

Message: **Running the Race of Faith**

Prayer

***Song - RB 332 All the Way My Savior Leads Me**

*Heidelberg Catechism Lord's Day 15 (Q & A 37-39) & Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 320 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: The Psalmist wrote, "Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!" (Psalm 4:6-7) May that wonderful gladness be in the heart of each of us as we worship God and have fellowship together. Stay after the morning service for coffee and fellowship.

Ushers for February: Zach Post, Dan Runia; Alternate: Clyde Ulvestad
Elevator Attendant for February: Henrietta Molengraaf

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
10:45 AM Preschool-5th Grade Sing
10:45 AM Circle 3 Meeting
11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism
4:30 PM Winter Olympics
Mon: 7:00 PM Worship Committee Meeting
Wed: 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study
6:30 PM Cadets
7:00 PM Senior High Youth Group
Sat: 8:30 AM Men's Bible Study

Dakota Sun Ministry today, February 1st:

- In charge: Logan & Ashley Triebwasser / Geraldine Runia (Musician)
- To visit: Jodie Deen, Lyndsay Deen, Jerry Runia

*If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go in your place

Prayer Concerns:

- Please keep **Henry, Keith and Claudia's brother-in-law** in your prayers as he has a form of leukemia.

Announcements:

- **Circle 3** will meet in the back of the sanctuary at **10:45 this morning**, following the morning service.
- **Winter Olympics** - Our church's very own Winter Olympics are today! Come on out later this evening from **4:30-6 PM** for a good time of fun and fellowship together. We'll have different events for all ages along with a meal.
- **Worship Committee** will meet **tomorrow, 7 PM**, here at church in the office.
- **Women's Bible Study** meets this week **Wednesday** at 2 PM in the church basement. Pastor Josh will lead the next lesson, Lesson 15: Laws about Conflict. Come and enjoy spending time in God's Word and food and fellowship afterward. Lunch Provider: Fannie Jansen.
- **Senior High Youth Group** will meet this week Wednesday at **First Reformed Church** at **7 PM**. Bring a friend!
- **Men's Bible Study** will meet on **Saturday, February 7th**, in the church basement. A time of breakfast and fellowship will start at **8:30 AM** with the

lesson beginning at **9 AM**. Pastor Josh will lead the next lesson, Lesson 3: Do We Belong Here?

- **MIK + POST HIGH YOUNG SINGLE ADULTS:** Join us for A GAME NIGHT-Food, Fun, and Fellowship! Saturday February 7th at the Luverne MN Christian Reformed Church. Meal will begin at 6pm with games to follow! If you have any questions feel free to text me. Please, RSVP before Wednesday February 4th by texting Lee at 712-470-4244. Hope to see you there....and as always...bring a friend! ~Pastor Doug & Lee De Groot

Offering Schedule:

- Feb 1st: VCS & Budget
- Feb 8th: Cadets & Budget
- Feb 15th: Option 1 & Budget
- Feb 22nd: Building Project & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Feb 1st: Top Family
- Feb 8th: Triebwasser Family
- Feb 15th: Post Family
- Feb 22nd: Davis 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:** volgacrccouncil@gmail.com

Kids Corner Devotions: Patience: God is at Work in You - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "Patience: God is at Work in You," at www.kidscorner.net. Feeling impatient when things don't go your way? Remember, just like Paul in the Bible, God can help you be patient and trust His perfect timing! Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like Kids Corner Valentine's Day Cards.

Groundwork: The Biblical Meaning of Forgiveness - Telling someone to forgive is easy. Actually offering forgiveness can be a lot more difficult. Join Groundwork as we study Exodus 34:4-9, Matthew 6:12-15, Psalm 51:1-9, Hebrews 4:14-16, Colossians 1:9-14, and 1 John 1:5-10 to discuss the biblical concept of forgiveness by beginning with God's forgiveness and what it teaches us about God's character. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

February 1, 2026 | Running the Race of Faith | Hebrews 12:1-17

Theme: _____ the _____ of _____ through the Lord's _____ and _____.

1. Running _____:

2. Heeding _____:

3. _____ & _____:

Weekly Reflection: Where are you at in your race of faith? How does this passage and the rest of the Bible encourage you where you are at in your race?

Sermon Resources Used for Further Study:

- *Hebrews - An Anchor for the Soul (2 Vol.)* by R. Kent Hughes
- *Hebrews* by Richard D. Phillips
- *Commentary on the Epistle of Paul to the Hebrews* by John Calvin
- *Hebrews thru Revelation* by Mark L. Strauss
- *Impossible to Be Restored: Temptation and Warning in the Epistle of Hebrews* by Marcus A. Mininger
- *An Introduction to the New Testament* by D. A. Carson & Douglas J. Moo

“The writer of Hebrews suggests a far different context, namely, that Christians should think of themselves as “surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses” who bear testimony to faith in the Lord. If you are a believer, he says, this is the context in which you should see yourself. This is the body to which you belong, and whose approval you should court. This is the audience, as it were, before whom you live, a great arena filled with the beloved of God, the faithful of all ages, and now is the day when you are running your race to the sounds of their approval and encouragement.” - Richard Phillips

“But there is a great difference here, namely, that the writer of Hebrews does not see these as dead men to be remembered, but living witnesses to be heard. Though dead, they still live, and what was said of Abel can be said of them all: “Through his faith, though he died, he still speaks” (Heb. 11:4). John Owen writes, “All the saints of the Old Testament, as it were, stand looking on us in our striving, encouraging us unto our duty, and ready to testify unto our success with their applauses. They are placed about us unto this end; we are ‘compassed’ with them.”
- Richard Phillips

“Therefore let us flee temptation and oppose all sin. Sin is the agent of death in our world; it is the master of untold slaves; sin is never profitable, and the pleasures it offers the unwise are all filled with deadly poison. Even true believers, whose debts are paid by the blood of the Lamb, can scarcely afford sin, for we have a race to run, a course marked out by God for these few short years of our lives, and unless we actively shun sin we will quickly find ourselves distracted and entangled.” - Richard Phillips

“But if you are a Christian, you can fix your eyes on Jesus, glorified now in heaven, and see that God in his love sent a Savior to die for your sins. For Jesus, there was a cross before the crown. Though his cross took away your sins once for all, his pattern of trial before glory will be your pattern as well.” - Richard Phillips