

**Sunday,
July 13th,
2025**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, July 13th, 2025

Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Organist: Katie Hoogwerf
Pianist: Jodi Hoogwerf

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 73:23-28

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - PH 428 O Worship the King**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

Communion Prep

Song - PH 497 How Vast the Benefits Divine

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Navigators & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - RB 322 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah**

Scripture Lesson: **Genesis 37:12-36**

Text: **Genesis 37:12-36**

Message: **Hatred and Resentment: A Bitter Poison**

Prayer

***Song - RB 370 Be Still, My Soul**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 461 Beautiful Savior (Verse 4)**

Postlude

* Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: May our hearts overflow with love for God and for one another. Reach out in Christian love to welcome each other. We are pleased to have your presence today. Please stay for coffee and fellowship after the morning service.

Ushers for July: Gerald Feikema, Conner Gross; Alternate: Jerry Runia
Elevator Attendant for July: Marla Volkers

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship

This week is a preparatory with a view to celebrating the Lord's supper together next Sunday.

Prayer Concerns:

- May we continue to keep in prayer our shut-ins: Lawrence De Groot, Melissa Jansen, and Betty Vander Zee.

Announcements:

- **Congratulations to Bob and Katie Hoogwerf**, who will celebrate their **50th wedding anniversary** on August 8. In honor of their anniversary, the family will be serving cake to the congregation following the morning service today!
- **Women's Bible Study** will **not** be meeting this week as we normally do. We will meet next week Wednesday instead, same time, same place.
- **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.
- The Volga Christian School is requesting nominations to the **School Board** for a 3-year term. Per our Constitution, nominations must be submitted prior to our regular monthly meeting which is **July 15th**. Nominees must be confessing members, in good standing, of a Christian Church. The election will take place at the VCS annual society meeting on **July 28, 2025, at 7:00pm** at the school. Discussion will be held at the society meeting for amendments to our Constitution in regard to Article 4: VCS Board and Article 5: Officers. All society members are strongly encouraged to attend this annual meeting. Please submit nominations to any board member by July 15.

Looking Ahead:

- **Newsletter Info Deadline** - The deadline for information for the **August** edition of our church newsletter will be **Wednesday, July 23rd, at 12 PM**. Please send your information to Pastor Josh, Brenda Volkers, or Marge Kleinjan.
- **Food and Fellowship Wednesdays** - Next week (July 23rd) is this month's Food and Fellowship Wednesday! It will run from **5:30-7 PM**. Swing on by for some food and fellowship; bring a friend, a neighbor, someone we can share the light and love of Christ with! Carry-out will also be available. June Menu: Burgers, Hot Dogs, and Dessert.
- **Summer S'mores Night** - Our next Summer S'mores Night of the season is coming up in a couple of weeks on **July 27th!** 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!

- **Summer Lake Day** - Mark your calendars for **Sunday, August 3rd** as we'll be having a summer lake day up at Lake Poinsett. Come and go as you please starting at 3 PM. More details to come.
- **Congregational Meeting** - On **Sunday, August 17th**, we will be having our annual congregational meeting following morning worship.

Advance:

- **Dakota Sun Ministry for Aug 3rd:**
 - In charge: Ken Fideler & Will & Erica Davis / Christy VanHeerde (Musician)
 - To visit: Duane Walburg, Deb Landegent, Ulvestad's, VanHeerde's
- *If you are unable to attend your assigned day, please find someone to go in your place

Offering Schedule:

- July 13th: Navigators & Budget
- July 20th: Skavdahl's & Budget
- July 27th: Building Project & Budget
- Aug 3rd: VCS & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- July 13th: Davis Family
- July 20th: Kauk Family
- July 27th: Van Norden Family
- Aug 3rd: Fey 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:** volgacrccouncil@gmail.com

Kids Corner Devotions: God's Grand Story: Isaac: God's Promise - Check out this week's kids' devotion, "God's Grand Story: Isaac: God's Promise" at www.kidscorner.net. Get ready for an exciting journey with Abraham and Isaac as they discover how God always comes through, even when things feel uncertain! This powerful story will remind your family that you can trust God's promises no matter what. Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like the Kids Corner eBook Collection: Faith Practices.

This Week's Unfading Truth: Keeping the Law won't save you. All it does is make your sin more noticeable. Read the Bible with us each weekday to be reminded how much you depend on God's grace for your salvation at UnfadingTruth.com.

July 13, 2025 | Hatred and Resentment: A Bitter Poison | Genesis 37:12-36

Theme: Not letting _____ and _____ in our _____.

Passage Notes:

Application:

Weekly Reflection: Is there any anger or resentment that has been building up in your heart towards anyone? If so, may you ask the Lord to help you lay it at the foot of the cross, finding comfort, healing, and strength in Him.

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 Kent R. 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

“This was an astonishing barbarity, that they could quietly feast, while, in intention, they were guilty of their brother’s death: for, had there been one drop of humanity in their souls, they would at least have felt some inward compunctions; yea, commonly, the very worst men are afraid after the commission of a crime. Since the patriarchs fell into such a state of insensibility, let us learn, from their example, to fear lest, by the righteous anger of God, the same lethargy should seize upon our senses.” - John Calvin

“As if the truth of God could be subverted by the death of one man, they boast that they shall have attained their wish when they have killed their brother; namely, that his dreams will come to nothing. This is not, indeed, their avowed purpose, but turbulent envy drives them headlong to fight against God. But whatever they design in thus contending with God in the dark, their attempts will, at length, prove vain. For God will always find a way through the most profound abyss, to the accomplishment of what he has decreed.” - John Calvin

“As we have noted, Joseph had ample reason for self-pity, rage, anger with God, and revenge. He had immense reasons to become enslaved to victimhood. He had been relationally crippled by his father’s overweening favoritism. He had suffered from the “yours, mine, ours” relational pathology of polygamy. He had been monstrously abused by his brothers. The scars were there to stay—their homicidal rage, his beating and humiliation, their demeaning piercing epithets, the agonizing trip to Egypt, and his naked humiliation on the slave block in Egypt. What an opportunity for enslavement to victimhood. But there is not a “poor me” hint anywhere in the entire Genesis account of Joseph! And in Egypt his treatment would become even worse. What the writer wants us to see is that though enslaved, Joseph chose to reject the slavery of self-pity and victimhood.” - Kent Hughes

“We must never minimize such wounds or imply that they are unreal. There must be sympathy, reparations, and rapprochement, if possible. But we must never allow victimhood to enslave our souls. Enslavement to victimhood is neither biblical nor Christian.

Joseph’s life teaches us that life is full of inequities and unfairness and tragedies. But it also teaches us that we have a great God who works amidst the rich compost of human life to do his will. We must understand that as God’s children, we are called to give everything to him, even the bitter things of the past.” - Kent Hughes