**Volga Christian Reformed Church**

**Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - phone 269-271-8603**

 **Sunday, March 17, 2024**

**Morning Worship 9:30 AM:** Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter

 Organist: Marge Kleinjan

 Pianist: Joan Bjorklund

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 23

Silent Prayer of Preparation

**\*Song - PH 23 *The LORD, My Shepherd, Rules My Life***

\*God’s Greeting

\*We Greet Each Other

Summary of God’s Law by Jesus (Matthew 22:37-40)

**Song - RB 114 *Jesus Paid It All*  (Verses 1, 3, & 4)**

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Chairs of Hope

Children’s Message

\***Song - PH 276 *Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth* (Verses 1-3)**

Scripture Lesson: **John 10:11-21**

Text: **John 10:11-21**

Message: “**I AM…The Good Shepherd”**

1. He Lays Down His Life for the Sheep | 2. He Knows and Gathers His Sheep

Prayer

***\*Song - RB 338 Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us***

Lord’s Supper (PH Pgs. 978-982)

\***Song - RB 156  *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross***

\*God’s Blessing

\***Doxology: PH 473 *To God Be the Glor*y (Verse 1)**

Postlude

\* Please stand if you are able

**This morning**  we are privileged to celebrate the Lord’s Supper together. All who are truly sorry for their sins, who sincerely believe in the Lord Jesus as their Savior, and who desire to live in obedience to him as Lord, are invited to come with gladness to the table of their Lord.

**Welcome** to each person worshipping with us today. As we remember Jesus’ suffering during this season of Lent, it is good for us to come together for worship. As we do so let us remember that he suffered for each of us when He hung on the cross and died there.

**Our offering today is for Chairs of Hope.** A little note from Chester Vander Zee says we have been doing this for nearly 21 years now. Currently we have 4 workers. So far we have refurbished 6550 chairs. They are delivered to over 109 countries. Your help is appreciated!

**Ushers for March:** Jerry Runia, Connor Gross, Alternate: Gene Volkers

**Elevator Attendant for March:** Clyde Ulvestad

**Calendar:**

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship

 10:45 Sunday School

 11:00 Catechism Class

 6:30 PM. Combined Lenten Service in Calvary Presbyterian Church

Wed: 2:00 Ladies Bible Study. Pastor Josh leads lesson 7, “I AM The True ‘

 Vine Lunch: Kayla

 6:30 Cadets

 5:30-7:30 Youth Group Taco supper fund raiser in First Reformed

 Church

Fri: 6:00 Painting on Silence Music Studio recital .See information below

Sat: 5:00 PM 40th wedding anniversary celebration for Gene & Brenda

 Volkers at CC’s Bar and Grill. RSVP to Jenn at 605-690-0369

**Prayer Concerns**

**1.** Please keep in prayer **Cathy Robeson**, relative of **Karen, Joan, and Vonda**, as she was recently diagnosed with breast cancer.  She had surgery this past Tuesday.  Please pray for healing and a speedy recovery for her after her surgery.

2. Betty Scott underwent surgery on Tuesday this past week for her knee.  The surgery went well, and Betty is now home.  Please pray for healing and a speedy recovery for her.

**Announcements:**

**1.** High school catechism will meet today after worship in the parsonage about 11 AM.

**2.** Combined Lenten Services - Continuing this week, we have the blessing and privilege of joining together once again with Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian Church and First Reformed Church for combined Lenten services in the evenings leading up to Easter at a6:30 PM each Sunday.  This year’s theme that we’ll be exploring is titled “The Prophetic Sufferings of Jesus,” exploring how various Old Testament passages point us forward to Christ’s suffering for us.  Three times throughout these combined services, we will enjoy cookie and coffee fellowship times all together, one at each church.  The schedule is as follows for which church will host each week and when fellowship meals will be:

March 17 - Calvary OPC (today)

March 24 - First Reformed Church (Cookie and Coffee Fellowship)

**3. Advance Notice;** We will have a **Good Friday service** in our church with the Lord’s Supper, on Friday, March 29 at 7:00 PM.

**4.**  On the morning of **Easter Sunday, March 31st**, there will be a **fellowship breakfast** before our Easter service.  The breakfast will begin at 8 AM.  This breakfast will be open to the public.  Please invite people to come for both the breakfast and the service.

**Youth Group Fundraiser** Everyone is invited to a Taco Supper at the First Reformed Church on Wednesday, March 20th from 5:30-7:30pm. This is a fundraiser to support all youth group activities, but especially for the Jr. High trip to “Power Connection”. They will be serving tacos, taco salads, walking tacos, and desserts.\

**Painting on Silence Music Studio** will host its music recital in our church, on Friday March 22nd at 6:00pm. The public is invited to attend. Desserts and snacks will be served after the recital. Bailey VanHeerde and Vonda Bjorklund will be performing.

**Gene and Brenda Volkers** are celebrating their 40thWedding Anniversary on Saturday March 23rdat 5pm at CC's Bar & Grill. You are invited to come and celebrate this milestone with them with cupcakes and camaraderie. Let your presence be your present. RSVP to Jenn Volkers 605-690-0369

**"First Reformed Church w**ould like to invite our congregation to their Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, March 28 at 7 p.m.

As part of this service, they will be celebrating communion by intinction (coming forward and dipping the bread in the cup).  There will be cut pieces of bread rather than tearing from a loaf to keep things more sanitary. Also, the service will end with a modified Tenebrae service which usually involves extinguishing of the candles while the passion narrative is read. If you have never experienced a Tenebrae service, you will want to attend. It is rich with meaning and very memorable."

**Notes from Council Offerings received**

Budget: received: $15,530.55 Disbursed: $15,481.07

Cadets - $532.00; Local Home Missions: $180.00; The Navigators: $611.00

Volga Christian School: $667.00

1. The new safe has been delivered

2. Council decided to replace the doors on the south side of church.

**Our Offerings:**

March 24 Missionaries Brauning & Budget

March 31 Building Project & Budget

April 7: Volga Christian School & Budget

April 14: GEMS and Budget

**Our Council**: Pastor: Joshua Carpenter

Elders: Ron Gross, Greg Loss, Larry Tjeerdsma, Dale Algood

Deacons: Will Davis, Logan Triebwasser, Dan Runia, Sheldon Thompson

**e-mail address for council: volgacrccouncil@gmail.com**

**Advance Notice: Dakota Sun Ministry for April 7**

Sunday School K-5, Christy Van Heerde, Ashton & Kacey Fey, Gene & Lois Kleinjan, Marge Runia, Logan & Ashley Triebwasser, Darrel & Melissa Jensen (If you are unable to go at your scheduled time please find someone to go in your place

**Cornerstone Prison Church** Council, Board and Congregation would like to invite you to our Annual Benefit Banquet Monday, April 1, 2024 at Trinity Christian Reformed Church, Rock Valley, IA Doors will open at 6:00 p.m. and the banquet begins at 6:30pm.  Save your spot by Sunday, March 24 by calling Trinity CRC at 712-476-5292 or go to our website [www.cornerstonepcsd.org](http://www.cornerstonepcsd.org/). A free will offering will be taken as an opportunity to financially support Cornerstone's ministry. We look forward to seeing you! If you are unable to attend, you can send your donations to:
Cornerstone Prison Church c/o Dave Vande Kamp PO Box 88708 Sioux Falls, SD 57109