**Volga Christian Reformed Church**

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

 **Sunday, March 3rd, 2024**

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

 Organist: Ellie VandenBerg

 Pianist: Christy VanHeerde

 Praise Team

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 67:1-3

Silent Prayer of Preparation

**\*Song - Here I Am to Worship (Screen)**

\*God’s Greeting

\*We Greet Each Other

God’s Law

**Song - How Deep the Father’s Love for Us (Screen)**

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Volga Christian School & Budget

Children’s Message

**\*Song - PH 279 O Word of God Incarnate**

Scripture Lesson: **John 8:12-20**

Text: **John 8:12**

Message: **“I AM…The Light of the World”**

Prayer

**\*Song - RB 330 He Leadeth Me**

\*Nicene Creed

\*God’s Blessing

\***Doxology: RB 584 God Be with You (Verse 1)**

Postlude

\*Please stand if you are able

**We welcome** Ezekiel James Carpenter, son of Pastor Joshua & Kayla to our church family! Ezekiel was born on Friday February 23, 2024. We extend a warm heartfelt welcome to each and every visitor with us today. Please join us after the morning worship service for coffee, cookies and a time of fellowship.

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

**Elevator Attendant for March:** Clyde Ulvestad

**Calendar:**

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship

 Following the service, Build Project informational meeting

 10:45 Sunday School

 11:00 Catechism Class

 11:00 Dakota Sun Ministry

 6:30 PM. Combined Lenten Service in our Church-refreshments following

Wed: 2:00 Ladies Bible Study:

 Pastor Josh leads lesson-“I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life”

 Lunch: Joan Bjorklund

 6:30 Cadets

 7:00 Sr. Hi Youth Group at First Reformed Church

Thurs: 9:00 Classis Minnkota Meeting in Pipstone MN CRC

**Dakota Sun Ministry this Sunday March 3**: In charge: Dan & Tiff Runia, Doug & Ginger Post, Marge Kleinjan – piano; To visit: Gerald Feikema, Henrietta Molengraaf, Keith & Claudia Tofte. If you are unable to go on your assigned week, please find someone to go in your place.

**Classis Minnkota meeting is Thursday March 7th** in Pipestone MN Delegates: Pastor Josh, Elder Larry Tjeerdsma, Deacon Dan Runia. Alternates-Elder Ron Gross, Deacon Sheldon Thompson.

**Next Sunday March 10th**  Daylight Savings Time begins, remember to set your clocks ahead one hour before you go to bed on Saturday.

**Marjorie Runia** will celebrate her 85th birthday on Tuesday, March 12th. Her family is hosting a card shower to help her celebrate. Greetings can be sent to Brookhaven Estates #108, 2400 Sunrise Ridge Circle, Brookings SD 57006.

**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.

**Prayer Concerns:**

1.  **Jerry Freeman** who has been a part of the men’s Bible Study requests prayer as he struggles with cancer.
2. **Please keep** in prayer our shut-ins and those who are unable to join us in person for worship

**Announcements**:

Thank you! - Kayla and I want to thank you all from the bottom of our hearts for all your prayers throughout Kayla’s pregnancy, and especially this past week as we welcomed our son, Ezekiel, into the world!  Thank you for all the love that has already been shown to little Ezekiel and us through your prayers, gifts, provisions of meals, and so many other ways.  We love you all immensely, and Ezekiel is so blessed to have such a wonderful spiritual family around him to help love and nurture him in the faith! - Pastor Josh, Kayla, and Ezekiel

1**. High school catechism** will meet today after worship over in the parsonage around 11am

**2. Today, Sunday March 3rd,** there will be a building project informational meeting after worship.

**3. Combined Lenten Services** - Continue 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 6:30 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 will be:

March 3 - Volga CRC  (Cookies and Coffee Fellowship)

March 10 - Volga CRC

March 17 - Calvary OPC

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

**4. There are extra calendars available.** If you would like one, it is a free-will donation that will go toward the youth group.  If you are interested, please see a council member.

**Our Offerings:**

Next Week: March 10: Option One & Budget

March 17 Chairs of Hope & Budget

March 24 Missionaries Brauning & Budget

March 31 Building Project & 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**

**Kids Corner: Living a Holy Life** - Check out this week’s kids’ devotion at www.kidscorner.net. Have you ever wanted to do something that you knew wasn’t right? We all wrestle with sin, but we need to take personal responsibility. We can’t blame Satan for our poor behavior (Ephesians 6:11-17). Check out all the great content at kidscorner.net, like KC’s Lent and Easter Collection.

**Thrive Faith Formation Tip** - Most of us are not naturally good listeners, and that can affect our relationship with God. Practice “listening prayer” this week. Find a quiet spot, calm your mind, and invite God to speak to your heart. Learn more at crcna.org/FaithPracticesProject

March 3, 2024 | “I AM…The Light of the World” | John 8:12

Theme: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

Passage Notes:

Application Notes:

Weekly Reflection: What are some other ways that Jesus being the light of the world impacts us in our day-to-day lives?  How does it impact us individually?  As a congregation?