

**Sunday,
Nov 16th,
2025**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, Nov 16th, 2025

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 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - RB 278 O for a Thousand Tongues**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

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

Song - PH 383 O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Skavdahls & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - RB 303 Open My Eyes That I May See (Verse 1)**

Scripture Lesson: **1 Kings 21**

Text: **1 Kings 21**

Message: **Contentment vs. Covetousness**

Prayer

***Song - PH 591 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

Lord's Supper (PH Pgs. 978-982)

***Song - PH 557 My Jesus, I Love Thee**

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 473 To God Be the Glory (Verse 1)**

Postlude

* Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: On this beautiful fall Sunday, we lift up our praises of thanksgiving to God, our Father. We reflect on all that He has done in our lives and the numerous blessings that surround us. We feel grateful to worship together today. Please stay for coffee and fellowship after the service.

Ushers for November: Dan Runia, Gene Volkers; Alternate: Jerry Runia
Elevator Attendant for November: Cyndi Ulvestad

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
10:45 AM Preschool-5th Grade Sing
11:00 AM Sunday School & Catechism
4:30 PM Game Night
Wed: 2:00 PM Women's Bible Study
6:30 PM Cadets
7:00 PM Senior High Youth Group
Thurs: 3:45 PM GEMS
Fri: 6:00 PM Singles Senior Supper

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. There is a small dish of gluten free bread in the center of each tray.

Prayer Concerns:

- May we keep in prayer the **Skavdahl family** as they continue in their work and ministry in Bongolo, Gabon.
- With Thanksgiving right around the corner, may we keep everyone who will be traveling over the holiday in prayer.

Announcements:

- **High school catechism** will meet today after worship in the parsonage around 11 AM.
- **Game Night - Tonight**, from **4:30-6 PM**, we will have a church game night here in the church basement. Come on out for a fun evening of fellowship as we enjoy playing some games together! Food will be provided (hot ham & cheese, dessert).
- **Women's Bible Study** meets again this week, **Wednesday** at 2 PM in the church basement. Pastor Josh will lead the next lesson, Lesson 10: Worshiping God. Come and enjoy spending time in God's Word and food and fellowship afterward. Lunch Provider: Marge Kleinjan.
- **Senior High Youth Group** will meet this week Wednesday at **First Reformed Church** at **7 PM**. Bring a friend.
- **"Keep your heart with all vigilance..."** - As a council, we recently received correspondence concerning certain materials available for check out in school libraries that are not spiritually edifying for our children. The Lord reminds us in His Word to "Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life" (Prov. 4:23). As under shepherds of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is our duty to care for and guard the souls of His flock, and so we wanted to make you all aware of these

materials, encouraging everyone to be conscientious of what is being checked out from libraries and being taken in by our kids. If you have any further questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to anyone on council.

Looking Ahead:

- **MARS Fall Lectures** - Mid-America Reformed Seminary invites you to the 2025 Fall Faculty Lectures with Dr. James Eglinton, Meldrum Senior Lecturer in Reformed Theology at the University of Edinburgh. Dr. Eglinton will present a three-part series on the theological distinction between God's perfect self-knowledge and our creaturely understanding—a central theme in Reformed theology from Junius to Bavinck. Join us **Nov. 20–21**, in person or via YouTube livestream. **Admission is free!** Visit www.midamerica.edu for more information and to register if you wish to be on campus.
- **Single Senior Thanksgiving Supper** - On **Friday, Nov. 21**, Kayla and I want to extend the invitation once again for the widows, widowers, and singles sixty-five and up in our congregation to celebrate Thanksgiving together here at the church to enjoy some time of food and fellowship. Please let us know if you plan to attend so that we can plan accordingly how much food we will need. Doors will open at 5:30 PM, and the meal will be served at 6 PM. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to either Kayla (269)-532-6893 or myself (269)-271-8603.
- **Annual church bowling** night is Nov 26th from 7-9 PM. If you have a Bobcat Band Card, you can get one hour of bowling free. The going rate for bowling is \$30/hr. no matter how many people you have on the lane. Let Vonda know if you plan to attend so we can reserve enough lanes. She also has access to some Bobcat Cards. Shoes will be free.
- **Thanksgiving Day Service - Thursday, Nov. 27**, at **9:30 AM**, we'll gather together on **Thanksgiving Day** to worship our Lord together, coming before Him to praise His name, to express our gratitude and thankfulness to Him!

Offering Schedule:

- Nov 16th: Skavdahls' & Budget
- Nov 23rd: Hope Haven & Budget
- Nov 30th: Building Project & Budget
- Dec 7th: VCS & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Nov 16th: Kauk Family
- Nov 23rd: Fey Family
- Nov 30th: Runia Family
- Dec 7th: Top 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

This Week's Unfading Truth: It is not by the merits or strength of man, but by the free mercy of God that man does not totally fall away from God and perish. Man, left to himself would surely perish eternally, but God never deserts His chosen ones nor revokes His eternal purpose. Be reminded that you're firmly held in God's grip, and that His grace is stronger than you are as we read the Bible together this week at UnfadingTruth.com.

November 16, 2025 | Contentment vs. Covetousness | 1 Kings 21

Theme: Being _____ with God's _____ _____ to us.

Passage Notes:

Application Notes:

Weekly Reflection: In what ways are you content with God's good gifts to you? In what ways are you tempted towards being discontent and coveting what others have? May we ever ask the Lord to show us where we slip into discontentment and coveting, while also asking Him to help us to grow in contentment.

Sermon Resources Used For Further Study:

- *The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament*
“Chapter 19: The Books of 1 and 2 Kings” by Eugene H. Merrill
- *1 Kings* by Philip Graham Ryken
- *1 Kings - Power, Politics, and the Hope of the World* by John Woodhouse
- *1 Samuel thru 2 Kings* by Tremper Longman III

“Here God used the second-person singular to hold Ahab personally responsible—not only for coveting, but also for murder. Naboth’s blood was on his hands. God also used just the right verb (“sold”) to describe Ahab’s ultimate allegiance. When Ahab made money his master, he was selling his soul.” - Philip Ryken

“The royal couple of Samaria thus serves to warn us of the danger of an unspiritual marriage. If we are married, we are called to sanctify our spouse. This is true even if he or she is not yet a Christian. Love him, love her with the love of Christ and at the same time pray for his or her salvation.” - Philip Ryken