

**Sunday,
Sep 6th,
2026**

Volga Christian Reformed Church
Pastor: Joshua Carpenter - Phone: 269-271-8603
Sunday, Sep 6th, 2026

Morning Worship 9:30 AM: Worship Leader: Pastor Joshua Carpenter
Organist: Ellie VandenBerg
Pianist: Leah Van Heerde
Praise Band

Prelude

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 111

Silent Prayer of Preparation

Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord

***Song - Forever (Screen)**

*God's Greeting

*We Greet Each Other

God's Law

Song - Grace Like Rain (Screen)

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Volga Christian School & Budget

Children's Message

***Song - PH 279 O Word of God Incarnate (Verse 1)**

Scripture Lesson: **Psalm 136**

Text: **Psalm 136**

Message: **"Give Thanks to the Lord"**

Prayer

***Song - PH 182 Give Thanks to God, for Good Is He**

*Apostles' Creed

*God's Blessing

***Doxology: PH 635 Glory Be to the Father**

Postlude

*Please stand if you are able

WELCOME: We come with joy to worship our triune God today! We are very happy to have you with us. Please join us for coffee and cookies after the morning service.

Ushers for September: Dan Runia, Gerald Feikema; Alternate: Gene Volkers
Elevator Attendant for September: Henrietta Molengraaf

Calendar:

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship
11:00 AM Dakota Sun Ministry
Wed: 7:00 PM Senior High Youth Group
Thurs 3:45 PM GEMS

Dakota Sun Ministry today, Sep. 6th:

- In charge: Henrietta Molengraaf / Joan Bjorklund (Musician)
- To visit: Knevelbaards', Gerald Feikema, Marge Runia

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

Prayer Concerns:

1. Please keep **Darryl Jensen** in your prayers in the coming weeks as on the **15th** he'll be having a heart procedure.
2. May we keep everyone traveling over this holiday weekend in our prayers.

Announcements:

- **Youth Group:**
 - **Senior High Youth Group** - Senior High Youth Group meets this week, Wednesday at First Reformed Church, starting at **7 PM**. Hope to see you there and bring a friend!
 - **Youth Group Meal Sign-Ups** - With youth group starting back up, we usually provide a meal the third Wednesday of each month for the youth group. If you are interested in serving in this way, there's a sign up sheet out on the coffee counter in the church lobby. Thank you for your consideration!
 - **Thunder Road** - For this semester's combined youth group fun night, Junior and Senior High are looking at going to Thunder Road in Sioux Falls on **September 30**. \$10 will be given to each person making the remaining cost \$16 per person, plus any spending money. Further details on time will be determined in the next couple of weeks. If you are interested in going, please make sure to sign up at youth group. Drivers are also needed, so if you are available and interested in serving in this way, please reach out to any of the youth leaders.
- The **Volga GEMS** will hold their kick off meeting, **Thursday, Sept. 10, 3:45-5:30**. All girls grades 1-8 are invited to join us. The GEMS girls will be selling greeting cards, and other misc. items again as their annual fund raiser. We appreciate your support.
- The **Volga GEMS** are seeking a counselor for the upcoming season. If you are willing to work with this girls ministry, please contact Geraldine Runia. (605-690-5446)

Looking Ahead:

- **New Member's Class** - Have you thought about making profession of faith, or reaffirming your faith and becoming a member of Volga CRC? If so, sometime this fall, Pastor Josh is hoping to have a new members' class where we'll talk about the Christian faith, what it means to be Reformed, and more. If you are interested in either making profession of faith or reaffirming your faith and becoming a member, please reach out to Pastor Josh and let him know.
- **Young Adult Groups** - Have you wanted a group in a similar stage of life as you, where you can get together to fellowship and grow in your faith? This fall, we'll be starting up a couple of young adult groups for couples and singles! From having some time to get to know one another, fun events, and especially digging into God's Word together, there's a lot we're looking forward to! Keep an eye out for further details.

- **Sunday School Kick-Off** - The start of the school year has arrived, and right around the corner is the start of our Sunday School Year! Our kick-off will be **Sunday, September 13th**. Following morning worship, the kids will gather downstairs for some opening Sunday School activities, after which will follow hamburgers and hot dogs outside with bounce houses, yard games, another opportunity to dump some water on Pastor Josh with the dunk tower, and other fun activities! Come on out for a great time of fun and fellowship as we celebrate the beginning of another year growing in the Lord together!
- **Sunday School Notes:**
 - Room Assignments:
 - **Preschool/Jr. K** – Jane A. & Natalie K. (Basement Cubicle)
 - **K/1st** – Jenn V. (Balcony Room)
 - **2nd/3rd** – Ashley T. (Back-Room Cubicle)
 - **4th/5th** – Kacey F. (Main Basement)
 - **6th – 8th** – Larry T. (Cadet Room)
 - **High School** – Pastor Josh (Parsonage)
 - Preschool - 5th grade will meet in the basement for music and opening exercises with Christy Van Heerde until 11:00. Grades 6th-8th will meet in the front of the sanctuary for music with the Praise Team on the 2nd Sunday of each month.
 - The Church School offerings for 2026-2027 will go to the Brookings Harvest Table. This is a community outreach program that provides a free hot meal to anyone every Monday evening at 5:30. It is hosted at the First United Methodist Church Community Life Center. It also offers fellowship, children's activities, and basic items like diapers and groceries.
- **Adult Sunday School** - Along with kids Sunday School and Catechism, Adult Sunday School will be starting up again as well! Led by Doug Wermedal, each week the group will gather in the council room downstairs for fellowship and lessons on different topics. Come on out and spend some time with fellow believers growing in your faith and walk with the Lord together during the Sunday School hour!
- **CADET KICKOFF** will be **Sept 16 at CRC at 6:30**. Cadets is a boys ministry for boys grades 2-8. We look forward to the new season experiencing "Mountains of Blessings", as that is our theme this year. Please invite all boys grades 2-8 to Cadets. If you have any questions, call/text Steve 690-6316
- The **Tri-Valley Barbershop Chorus** from Centerville, SD area will present a concert Sunday afternoon, **September 20 at 4 p.m.** at the **First Reformed Church** in Volga located at 601 E. 1st Street. This chorus is a large group of men who love singing a cappella harmonies in the barbershop style. You will hear many well-known hymns, some patriotic songs, and other favorites. Everyone is invited to stay for a meal with the choir. Invite a friend for this rare opportunity in our area.

Offering Schedule:

- Sept 6th: VCS & Budget
- Sept 13th: Navigators & Budget
- Sept 20th: Skavdahls & Budget
- Sept 27th: Building Project & Budget

Nursery Schedule:

- Sept 6th: Knevelbaard Family
- Sept 13th: Kauk Family
- Sept 20th: Van Norden Family
- Sept 27th: Fey Family

Our Council: Pastor Joshua Carpenter

- Elders: Ashton Fey, Doug Post, Jerry Runia, Larry Top
- Deacons: Connor Gross, Ian Edwards, Keith Tofte, Ryan Van Norden
- **e-mail address for council:** volgacrccouncil@gmail.com

September 6, 2026 | “Give Thanks to the Lord” | Psalm 136

Theme: _____ out _____ to the Lord.

Passage Notes:

Application Notes:

Weekly Reflection: What are you thankful to God for in your life? Take some time this week to think it through and spend time in prayer thanking the Lord.

Sermon Resources for Further Study:

- *Commentary on the Book of Psalms* by John Calvin
- *Psalms thru Song of Songs* by Tremper Longman III
- *The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament* “Chapter 40: The Book of Psalms” by Michael A. Grisanti
- *Psalms-Song of Solomon, ESV Expository Commentary* by John Collins
- *Christ’s Psalms Our Psalms Vol. 4* “Psalm 136” by Clarence J. VanderVelde

“Psalm 136 calls on God’s people to give thanks to the LORD for who he is and what he does. The psalmist speaks of God as the Creator and the Redeemer. In all this, the poet brings to the foreground by way of the recurring refrain what is characteristic of God: his steadfast love.”

- Clarence VanderVelde

“The OT is often at pains to remind God’s people that the God who has redeemed them is also the very God who created the world. Sometimes that reminder is given to reassure the people of God’s power; sometimes (as here) that reminder is given so that the people will see their own lives in relation to God’s continuing commitment to his creation.” - C. John Collins