**Volga Christian Reformed Church**

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

**Sunday, July 7, 2024**

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

 Pianist: Christy Van Heerde

 Praise Team

**Prelude**

Welcome & Call to Worship - Ps. 96:1-4a; 7-9

Silent Prayer of Preparation

***Song - PH 624 Hear our Prayer, O Lord***

***\*Song - Beautiful One*** (Screen)

\*God’s Greeting

\*We Greet Each Other

God’s Law

***Song - Wonderful, Merciful Savior*** (Screen)

Congregational Prayer

Offering: Volga Christian School & budget

Children’s Message

***\*Song - Speak, O Lord*** (Screen)

Scripture Lesson: **Galatians 5:1-15**

Text: **Galatians 5:1-15**

Message: **Freedom in Christ**

Prayer

***\*Song - In Christ Alone*** (Screen)

\*Nicene Creed

\*God’s Blessing

***\*Doxology: My Friends May You Grow in Grace* (Screen)**

Postlude

 \*Please stand if you are able

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**Welcome:** With gladness we welcome all who have come to worship with us today. Let us join hands and hearts in love and acceptance of one another. Everyone is welcome to stay after the morning service for coffee and fellowship.

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

**Elevator Attendant for July**: Marla Volkers

**Calendar:**

Today: 9:30 AM Morning Worship

 11:00 Dakota Sun Ministry

Wed: 7:00 Elders Meeting

 7:30 Deacons Meeting

 8:00 Council Meeting

**Dakota Sun Ministry today:**  In charge: Steve & Christy Van Heerde, Logan & Ashley Triebwasser; To visit: Jodi Deen, Leslie Deen Lindsay Deen, Doug & Donna Wermedal, Jenn Volkers. If you are unable to go on your assigned date please find someone to go in your place.

**Congatulations** to Clyde & Cyndi Ulvestad who will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on July 12. Their family will be serving cake to the congregation in honor of their anniversary today.

**Prayer Concerns:**

1. **May we thank** and praise the Lord for both the rain and the sunshine He blessed us with this past week to replenish the earth!
2. **Gene Bjorklund** continues to improve.  He receives about 3 hours of therapy a day.  He enjoys visitors, but because of his therapy schedule, it's best if visitors come after 3pm.  Family is grateful for prayers.  We are hopeful he can come home July 15.

Announcements:

1. The **2024 Abide Project** convention will be held **July 30th-31st at First CRC, Sioux Center.**  The theme this year is drawn from Titus, “contend for the faith!” Join us for two days of instruction from God’s Word, fellowship and discussion. The cost is $100 for both days, which includes admission and all meals as well as lodging at Dordt for those who would like it. If you cannot make the entire convention, join us for our special public session with Dr. Jeff Wiema, Professor of New Testament at Calvin Seminary July 30th beginning at 7pm. He will be giving a talk on “The Sanctity of Sex. Living a Holy Life in a Sex, Saturated Society (1 Thess. 4:1-8)” This portion of the conference is free, and all are encouraged to attend! Please go to www.abideproject.org to register. We hope to see you there!
2. **July Summer Smores Night** - Next week Sunday evening, July 14, we’ll be having another smores night in the backyard of the parsonage.  We’ll also be expanding to have hot dogs available for roasting along with smores, so we’ll begin around 5:30 PM.  All you’ll need to bring is yourselves, some camping chairs, roasting forks.  Also, if you would like you can bring a side or additional dessert to pass.  We’re looking forward to having you all over once again!

 3. **Church Directory Update** - We’ve received a number of photo submissions

 already to the new church directory.  Please keep them coming!  If you have a

 photo you would like to submit, you can also send it

 VolgaCRCworship@gmail.comand we should be able to get that uploaded for

 you as well.

**Our Offerings:**

July 14: Option One & Budget

July 21: Local Missions & Budget

July 28: Building Project & Budget

**Our Council:**  Pastor Joshua Carpenter

Elders: Ron Gross, Greg Loss, Dale Algood

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

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

***World Renew DRS Response to Iowa Flooding***- After heavy rain and severe flooding in northwestern Iowa last weekend (6/22/24), World Renew DRS is making plans to help the homeowners and churches who were most affected to clean up and rebuild as the flood water recedes. Please pray for those who have lost their homes and possessions, for DRS volunteers and staff, and others working to assist people in need. You can help flood survivors in Iowa and across the U.S. with your financial gift at http://worldrenew.net/springstorms2024-donate, by calling 1-800-552-7972, or by mailing your check made out to World Renew DRS, with “Spring Storms 2024” in the memo line, to: World Renew, 8970 Byron Commerce Dr, SW, Byron Center, MI 49315.

  **July 7, 2024 | Freedom in Christ | Galatians 5:1-15**

Theme: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ has \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ us to walk in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_.

1. Freed \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_…

2. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ To…

Weekly Reflection: May we thank and praise the Lord for the freedom He has graciously given us in Chri