

**Upcoming Worship Services** (continued from back page)

- **October 23** — The praise band will begin the worship service with praise songs. Ministry of praise will be given by Carol Kleinjan.
- **October 30** — The men’s group will begin the service by leading us with some hymns. Travis Mans will be presenting praise ministry. A joint Reformation service will be held in the evening. Be watching for more details.

**Meet the Mulder Family (Pastor Gary, Robyn and Dylan)**

As you know, Robyn is Pastor Gary's wife and Dylan is their son. Robyn spends her time doing freelance editing part-time, writing her blog at [robynmulder.com](http://robynmulder.com), working on a book about depression, and playing in the craft room many of you saw during the open house. Dylan recently graduated from Northwestern College in Orange City, Iowa with a degree in Computer Science. He's currently seeking employment.

**October is Pastor Appreciation Month**

A pastor’s heart is **P**rotective  
And guards his flock from Satan’s snares.  
A pastor’s heart is **A**ttentive  
And seeks to know his people’s cares.  
A pastor’s heart is **S**acrificial  
And for his sheep will give its all.  
A pastor’s heart is **T**ender  
And listens to the Spirit’s call.  
A pastor’s heart is **O**bedient  
And heeds the Master’s commands.  
A pastor’s heart is **R**eflective  
And considers he is but a man.

- Deanna Malawy, Okawville, Illinois

**First Reformed Church, Volga, SD**

**October 2022**

**Glad Tidings**

*“I bring you glad tidings of great joy...”*  
**Luke 2:10**

**Upcoming Worship Services**

Here are details about our services in the month of October at First Reformed Church.

- **October 2** — We will celebrate Worldwide Communion Sunday. Gina Vander Wal will be singing *In Remembrance of Me*. We will begin our first Prayer Night at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Ostrem.
- **October 9** — A praise team will lead us in some singing. Praise ministry will be brought to us by Paisley Raml. The pre-primary through 5th grade Sunday School classes and their teachers will be singing at Dakota Sun at 11 a.m. Parents are welcome to attend with their children.
- **October 16** — Pastor Gary and Robyn will be using their continuing education week at a pastor’s conference at the Billy Graham Training Center in Asheville, NC. Lay leader, Wayne Fischer from Arlington will be leading in worship. Ministry of praise will be given by John Mills.





The following members needed medical care recently and appreciate your prayers:

- Jodi Koerner, Dawn Lucas, Bernita Kooima, Edward Vander Wal—treatments

### Meet the Ostrem Family

Daniel was born and raised by his parents, Tim and Kari, on a farm near Centerville, SD. His father continues to farm with Daniel's uncle and cousin. He has two older sisters living with their families outside of Centerville and Grand Forks, ND.

Heidi was born and raised by her parents, Warren and Trudy Quail, on an acreage near Sinai. Both of Heidi's parents taught for many years at Sioux Valley. Her older brothers currently live with their families in Vermillion and Lennox.

Daniel and Heidi met at the University Lutheran Center at SDSU. Dan has a master's degree in Agriculture Engineering, while Heidi has a degree in Mathematics, specializing in education. Heidi taught 7th grade math at West Central (Hartford, SD) for one year before they married and Heidi joined Daniel in Great Falls, MT. Daniel worked 3 years for the Montana NRCS (Natural Resources Conservation Service) and Heidi was a substitute teacher before Evelyn was born. When Evelyn was 6 months old, they moved to Dan's family farm. After 9 months there, they moved to Mitchell where Dan had a short experience with SDSU Extension before an engineering position opened with NRCS in the Mitchell office. Heidi stayed at home with the kids until James started preschool, when she started subbing again. A job opening in the Brookings NRCS office helped them return to the SDSU area where they first met. Daniel is currently a member of the NRCS Ag Nutrient Management Team, and Heidi works at Sioux Valley with students that need to take a course online. Dan recently finished his National Guard obligations and is looking forward to more time with family and being more involved with the church.

Evelyn is currently a 3rd grader. She loves to run, draw and read. She enjoyed her first year of 4-H and softball. James is a 1st grader and recently started his first year of flag football. He loves sports and being active outside.

While their time for hobbies has decreased as the kids get older, Daniel loves to share his interests with the kids. This leads to hiking, camping, boating and even some rock climbing. He also likes to stay busy with house projects. They enjoy staying active, and you'll often see one of them running around town in the morning. Heidi also loves reading, gardening, sewing and searching for unique decor (aka "junk") at rummages sales, antique or thrift stores. They love to cheer on the Cossacks and Jackrabbits, too!

*They want to thank you for the kind welcome into the church and are excited to grow in their faith.*

### Looking Back Ten Years.....2012

- Doris Van Maanen was recognized for many years of serving as an organist and pianist as well as scheduling organists and pianists for each service
- Family Night began with a potato bar meal served by MESA for the cost of a contribution. After the meal, everyone was invited to join a group to grow in their faith.
- Stephanie Ludens, Carter Vander Wal, Collin Vander Wal and Mariah Vander Wal became confessing communicant members on October 21. Jane Price joined FRC via transfer of membership.
- A Community Reformation Service was held on October 28 at FRC.
- Began a valet service for those needing the service

### Highlights of Last Month (SEPTEMBER)

- An afternoon and an evening Men's Discipleship group are meeting to study the book of 1 Timothy
- A post card invitation for kick off events (designed by Baylea Lucas) was sent to all Volga resident addresses
- Bibles were presented to 3rd grade students: Michael Lemberg, Evelyn Ostrem and Ruby Replogle
- The praise band presented an evening of praise and worship on Sunday evening, September 11
- About 70 people attended the open house at the parsonage on Sunday evening, September 18
- Robyn Mulder, Dylan Mulder, Daniel Ostrem, Heidi Ostrem were welcomed as communicant members as well as baptized members Evelyn Ostrem and James Ostrem.
- Funding for the newly formed ARC is a concern as assessments won't be coming in until 2023. The consistory encouraged a special offering be taken on September 18 for the ARC denomination. Offering received totaled over \$10,000.

### Upcoming Team Meetings

- October 4—Worship Team
- October 10 OR 11 —Consistory

**Sunday School Kick Off**

Sunday School Kick Off was held on Sunday, September 11 with cookies served outside on a beautiful morning. Everyone tried their best to get their target (Pastor Gary) wet with a water balloon.



Bibles were presented to three third graders: Michael Lemberg, Evelyn Ostrem and Ruby Replogle.

Classroom instruction began on September 18.

The teaching staff this year is:

- Preschool: Co-teachers Michelle Vande Weerd and Vickie Vander Wal
- K-1st Grade: Susan Vander Wal, Melissa Olson—sub
- 2nd-3rd Grade: Heidi Ostrem, Michelle Vander Wal—sub
- 4th-5th Grade: Ellie Koerner, Jodi Koerner—sub
- Middle School: Co-teachers Justin Olson and John Sapp
- High School: Dean and Polly Vander Wal, Kelly Vander Wal—sub
- Adults—Pastor Gary
- Superintendent: Vickie Vander Wal
- Assistant Superintendent: Ellie Koerner
- Music: Nichole Franklin assisted by Hattie Clapp, Nate Clapp and Nick Clapp

*Train up a child in the way he should go,  
and when he is old he will not turn from it. Proverbs 22:6*

**Hy-Vee Receipts**

If you turn in Hy-Vee (Brookings only) receipts to the basket along the north wall in the fellowship hall, you can be part of a MESA fund-raiser. When we reach **\$200,000** in receipts, Hy-Vee will donate \$1,000 toward a MESA project yet to be determined.

**Hy-Vee has notified us that receipts will no longer be provided for online orders.**

As of September 19, Dori has tabulated \$141,083.50 in total receipts.

A REMINDER—please bring in your gas receipts also.

Keep eating, stay healthy and make every bite count!

**Consistory Nominations**

At the end of the month, all confessing members will receive a ballot to nominate new consistory members for 2023. Since we need two elders and one new deacon, you can nominate four people for elder and two people for deacon. Tom Kleinjan and Kelly Vander Wal are the retiring elders. Don Jones is the retiring deacon. The congregational meeting is scheduled for December 4.

**Youth Group Meetings in October**

Senior High Youth Group -

October 5

October 12—the group will be going to Fields of Faith at SDSU  
(change from original schedule)

October 19

Junior High Youth Group

October 12— (this will NOT be a combined meeting as per the schedule)

October 26



Welcome to our recent new members:  
Robyn Mulder, Dylan Mulder,  
Daniel, Heidi, Evelyn and James Ostrem

Articles about them are included on other pages  
in the newsletter.