

**Joshua — From Promise to Possession**.....continued from front page)

- **May 24**—To begin the service, the Worship Team will begin the service by leading the congregation in singing some hymns. Pastor Gary will likely conclude his series of messages on Joshua.
- **May 31**—The praise band will lead the congregation in singing some praise songs.

**GEMS Week is April 26-May 3**

GEMS, an acronym for **G**irls **E**verywhere **M**eeting the **S**avior, is a Christ-centered discipleship ministry for girls in grades 1-8. Girls build relationships, engage in scripture, work on badges and crafts, and learn to follow Jesus in everyday life. Our mission is to bring girls everywhere into a living dynamic relationship with Jesus. There are 476 clubs in the US and Canada serving 12,279 girls. GEMS also have clubs in four foreign countries. The Volga Gems has 17 girls.

The theme this past year has been *Walking on Water: Stepping Out to Trust our Faithful God*. Girls everywhere are battling the storms of life and are tossed and turned by waves of lies, doubt and fear. Many girls are simply treading water, looking to culture, social media, or peers to determine their identity and define truth. It is our prayer that the girls are really trusting the ONE more powerful than the wind and waves and live anchored to the unchanging Truth of Scripture!

**Vacation Bible School-**

**Snowball Mountain Challenge**—*I can do all things through him who strengthens me.* Philippians 4:13

Vacation Bible School will be held at Sioux Valley schools on May 26-29 from 6-8:15 p.m. Children age 4 by May 26 to current 6th graders are invited to attend.

Please register before May 1 on-line at: [myvbs.org/volgavbs2026](http://myvbs.org/volgavbs2026).

Daily offerings will be received to cover expenses and also donated to Sleep in Heavenly Peace.

A concluding program will be held on Friday, May 29 at 7:30 p.m.

# Glad Tidings

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

**Joshua — From Promise to Possession**.....

- **May 3**—To begin the service, the praise team will lead the congregation in singing some praise songs. The pre-kindergarten through 3rd grade Sunday School classes will be reciting their scripture memorization. The high school graduates will be recognized. Pastor Gary will continue his series of messages on Joshua.
- **May 10**—Mother’s Day! The mixed quartet will lead the congregation in singing some well-known hymns. The Congregational Care Team will serve muffins in honor of Mother’s Day. Pastor Gary will tell us more about Joshua. A group will be going to Dakota Sun at 11 a.m. to provide a short service and fellowship with the residents.
- **May 17**—The men’s group will begin the service by leading the congregation in singing some hymns. The 4th-8th grade Sunday School classes will recite their assigned memorization. The Sunday School teachers will be recognized. This is the last day of Sunday School until September. Again this week, we will be hearing more about Joshua.



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Your ongoing prayers for those in need of healing and those taking treatments would be appreciated: George Cotton, Whitney Goetsch, Gene and Lois Kleinjan, Jodi Koerner, Bernita Kooima, Dawn Lucas, Joel Schonewill, Lee Vande Weerd, Harold Van Hoepen, Amy Vandermeer

- Gina Vander Wal had a lung biopsy to find a solution to her shortness of breath
- Marilyn Kleinjan spent a few days in the hospital due to a blood clot
- Dawn Lucas had a surgical biopsy on her liver to gain clarity concerning treatment options going forward

### Upcoming Ministry Meetings

- May 11—Consistory
- May 12—Education Team at 6 p.m.
- May 12—MESA Team at 7 p.m.
- May 19—Worship Team

### Attention Graduates (and/or parents/grandparents of graduates)



If you will be graduating from the 8th grade, a university, college or technical institute, please let Susan know by Sunday, May 17 so you can be recognized in the June newsletter.  
High School Graduates—You have a form in your mailbox to fill out and return.  
Thank you.

### Sioux Valley Baccalaureate

Pastor Gary will be bringing the message to the 2026 Sioux Valley senior class on Wednesday, May 13 beginning at 7 p.m. The event will be held in the PAC. All family and friends of the graduates are invited and encouraged to attend.

### Looking Back Ten Years..... May 2016!

- The Mother/Daughter/Friend Tea was held on May 1. Dee Dee Raap from Sioux Falls was our guest speaker. She spoke on mother's values and the lasting legacy those values make in our lives. Values become personal assets.
- The Sunday School classes recited their memory verses during the morning services.
- The Volga Area Ministerial Association provided a baccalaureate service for Sioux Valley High School graduates. Pastor Dave Landegent gave the message to the graduates.
- FRC high school graduates were Tiffany Bjorklund, Cody Ferguson, Jenna Koerner, Carter Vander Wal and Collin Vander Wal

### Highlights of Last Month (April 2026)

- We celebrated the Lord's Supper at a Maundy Thursday service on April 2. The service concluded with a Tenebrae service.
- Some of the Sunday School youth presented the Easter Sunrise Service entitled "The Colors of the Cross". Approximately 85 people attended the breakfast organized by the Worship Team.
- Daniel and Heidi Ostrem accompanied the praise team and congregation by playing their trumpets on Easter Sunday morning.
- We celebrated the baptism of Wrenley Johnson on April 12 as well as welcoming her parents, Sterling and Chloe Johnson to the FRC family.
- A prayer for crops and industry service was held during the morning service on April 12.
- The youth groups held a taco fundraiser supper on April 8 realizing a profit of \$1651 to help defray costs for youth to attend Rocky Mountain High in July.
- Nick Vande Weerd gave an informative report on his mission trip to Guatemala.

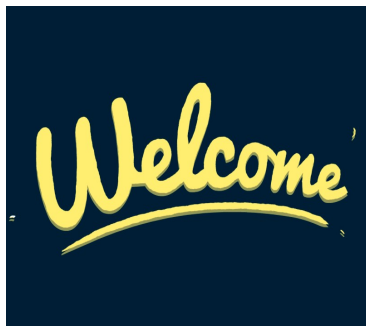
### Hy-Vee Receipts

If you turn in Hy-Vee (Brookings only) receipts to the basket along the north wall in the fellowship hall, you can be a 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.



As of **April 21** Dori has tabulated **\$72,249.08** in total receipts. (That's a gain of \$6,085.88 in a month!)

A REMINDER: Please bring in your gas receipts also. Keep eating, stay healthy and make every bite count.



Sarah Sneed joined the FRC family on March 29. We are thankful she has found her church home here with her daughter and son-in-law, Amanda and Michael Triebwasser and their two children. Sarah was born and raised in Houston, Texas. She lived in the Bay Area of California for twenty-four years and returned back to Houston.

She went to a 2-year college and had trade school training. Sarah worked for 15 years for Chevron Oil Corporation as a CAD operator. For a few years, she was a Kindergarten teacher/sub. She also has seven years of radiology tech experience at Methodist Orthopedic . She enjoys spending time with her family and grandchildren.

### **Don't Forget our Shut-ins!**

As we enter spring and summer, take some time to visit with those who are unable to join us on a regular basis. Marilyn Kleinjan and Carolyn Cotton are right here in Volga at Dakota Sun. Harold Van Hoepen and Adriana Kleinjan also appreciate visitors in their homes. If you want a good laugh, stop in at United Living Center and see Howard Rozendal. He'll always bring a smile to your face. Donald Langland's a little further away in Estelline, but he has fewer family members in the area, so visits are always extra special. These people value your presence and your visit can make a big difference in their week.

### **A Mother's Prayer**

Make me a wise mother, O God. Keep me calm and give me patience to bear the cares and worries of the daily routine of life.  
Let me not be too ready to guide my children's stumbling feet, but allow me to be ever near to bind their bruises.  
Give me a sense of humor that I may laugh with them but never at them.  
Let me refrain from preaching with words. Keep me from forcing their confidences, but give me a sympathetic ear when my children come to me.  
Make me teach them that life must not be filled with compromises, but must be replete with victories.  
Let me be humble. Keep my children close to me, O Lord, though miles may separate us. Amen

### **2026 National Day of Prayer**

The National Day of pray exists to mobilize unified public prayer for America The date set aside to remember the nation in your prayers this year is May 7. The theme this year is ***Glorify God Among the Nations—Seeking Him in all Generations.*** The theme verse is 1 Chronicles 16:24 (NASB) - *Tell of his glory among the nations, his wonderful deeds among all the peoples.*

### **Ascension Day—May 14**

Ascension Day recognizes Jesus' ascension into heaven. It occurs 40 days after his resurrection and serves as a reminder that our Lord completed his full mission to his heavenly throne.

### **Pentecost Sunday—May 24**

Fifty days after Easter, this Christian holiday commemorates the descending of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and marks the beginning of the Church's mission. Jesus Christ empowered His disciples to continue in His work.

### **Memorial Day—May 25**

Memorial Day is observed as a federal holiday to honor U.S. military personnel who died in service.

[Memorial Day by Annette Wynne](#)

Is it enough to think today  
Of all our brave, then put away  
The thought until a year as sped?  
Is this full honor for our dead?

Is it enough to sing a song  
And deck a grace: and all year long  
Forget the brave who died that we  
Might keep our great land proud and free?

Full service needs a greater toll  
That we who live give heart and soul  
To keep the land they died to save,  
And be ourselves, I turn, the brave!