

An Evening of Music and Praise

The Ministerial Association is sponsoring an evening of music and praise on Sunday evening, June 14 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at FRC. Please come out and join us as we praise our Lord through music and song. The Ministerial Association will be providing refreshments following the service.



Patriotic Poem Contest at Sioux Valley Schools

Blaike Volkers entered the Patriotic Poem Contest (3rd grade) at Sioux Valley Schools earlier this spring. She won first place in the district and 2nd place in the state!

Blaike gave her presentation at the recent Memorial Day program.

Permission was granted to include her poem in this newsletter! Thank you Blaike! Congratulations!!

America

*America is my home. It's great you see.
The soldiers fought so we could be free.
The stars on the flag twinkle so bright.
I know that I'm safe all through the night.*

*In America they let us use our voice.
In America we have an equal choice.
Maybe if we all come to unite.
Maybe less will die in the fight.*

*I think we should come together and celebrate
Because America is so great!
America is great in every way,
So let's celebrate this beautiful day!*

First Reformed Church, Volga, SD

June 2026

Glad Tidings

"I bring you glad tidings of great joy..."
Luke 2:10

Upcoming Worship Services

- **June 7**—To begin the service, the praise team will lead the congregation in singing some praise songs. Collin Vander Wal will be bringing a message from God's Word.
- **June 14**—We will be celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The mixed quartet will lead the congregation in singing some well-known hymns. A group will be going to Dakota Sun at 11 a.m. to provide a short service and fellowship with the residents. An evening of music and praise sponsored by the Ministerial Association will be held at 6:30 p.m. here at FRC. A time of fellowship will follow.
- **June 21**—It's Father's Day! The men's group will be leading us in singing some hymns to begin the service. Another sacrament will be celebrated this week —the sacrament of baptism!
- **June 28**—As we begin the morning worship service, the praise band will lead the congregation in praise songs.





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, Tammy Mullett, Joel Schonewill, Lee Vande Weerd, Bill Van Beek, Harold Van Hoepen, Gina Vande r Wal and Amy Vandermeer

George Cotton had a new hip installed on May 26. Pray that all goes well in his recovery.

Russ Raatz had his appendix removed on May 26. The surgery went well and we are praying for good pathology reports.

Upcoming Ministry Meetings

- June 9—Consistory
- June 10—6 p.m. Float Build at — Place TBD

Our Sympathy to:



- Sandi and Larry Franklin on the death of Sandi's brother, Larry Smith.
- Vern Lathrop, children and grandchildren on the death of Shirley Lathrop.
Our sympathy to Deanna and Bill Santema (Shirley was Dee's sister).

May the God of all comfort be near to you in the loss of your family members.

Prayer Requests from the Alliance of Reformed Churches

- Seth Sundstrom, the network pastor will be taking a sabbatical from May 29 through August 14 after ten years of serving in network leadership through a denominational transition, the formation of the ARC, and the ongoing work of walking with churches and pastors.
The sabbatical is intended for rest and renewal.
- Brenda Van Beek, network clerk is dealing with breast cancer. She remains optimistic and would appreciate your prayers.
- Seth Sundstrom has Parkinson's Disease.
- Pray for church leaders, network leadership and Alliance leaders.
- Pray for churches searching for pastors.
- Pray for older church members and leading them to a new purpose in their life.

Looking Back Ten Years..... June 2016!

- 'IncrediWorld Amazement Park/ VBS was held at Sioux Valley Schools
- Circle 3 was in charge of the beef sandwich/pie booth at Volga Old Timer's Day festivities.
- A community worship service was held at 11 a.m. at Sioux Valley Schools as a conclusion to Volga Old Timer's Day weekend.
- Seth Sundstrom was the guest speaker at a Father/Son/Friend supper.
- Claire Vande Weerd, daughter of Justin and Michelle was baptized on June 26.

Highlights of Last Month (May 2026)

- Pastor Gary preached a series of messages entitled "Joshua—from Promise to Possession."
- Sunday School classes shared their memorization of Proverbs 22:6, Psalm 100, The Apostles' Creed and books of the Bible.
- Sunday School teachers were recognized and thanked for teaching this past year.
- High School graduates were recognized with a devotion booklet and words of encouragement from Roberta Volkers
- Pastor Gary gave a message to the Sioux Valley graduates at the Baccalaureate service held on May 13.
- Volga Christian School 8th grade graduation was held here at FRC. Rebecca Olson was one of the graduates.

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 **May 21** Dori has tabulated **\$76,172.83** in total receipts. A REMINDER: Please bring in your gas receipts also. Keep eating, stay healthy and make every bite count.



Congratulations!

Rebecca Olson was among the 8th grade graduates from the Volga Christian School.



Marcus Olson, son of Justin and Melissa Olson was among the 63 Sioux Valley graduates who graduated on May 17. Marcus has an older brother, Mathew and a sister, Rebecca. Marcus plans to work on a farm this summer. He does not have college plans at the present time.

One of Marcus' comforting verses is Job 8:7—*Your beginnings will seem humble, so prosperous will your future be.*

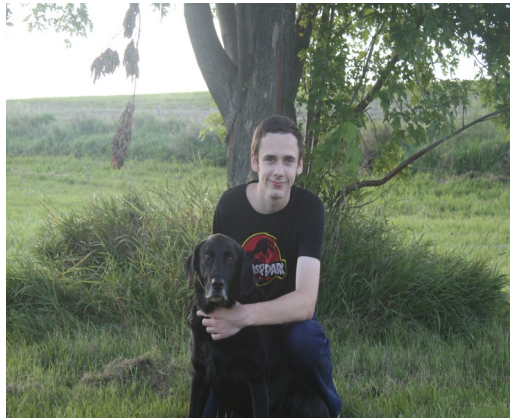
He finds comfort knowing that God is telling him that he will prosper in the future. It may not seem like it now, but we have to trust Him.

Garrett Vander Wal is the son of David and Melanie Vander Wal. He has a sister, Grace. Garrett graduated from Vander Wal Christian Academy.

He plans to continue working at his current job at Tail Wagg N Cutts in Brookings. His summer plans also include going to a camp.

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 provides encouragement to him every time he sees the verse.

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstance, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.



Justin Peters, son of Doug and Ruth Peters graduated from Madison High School on May 17.

He is the youngest in the family of two brothers and one sister.

This summer, he will be working for the family business, Green Acres Equipment, and looking for additional part time employment.

Justin plans to attend SDSU in the fall and major in finance.

A favorite verse for Justin is John 3:16 (NIV) - *For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*

Olivia Hove, daughter of Jason and Laura Hove graduated from Brookings High School on Sunday, May 17. She has a brother Andrew.

Olivia will be teaching swimming lessons in Brookings this summer and will be attending the National FCCLA Leadership Conference in Washington, DC in July. She plans to attend South Dakota State University in the fall to major in Family and Consumer Science and Special Education.

A favorite Bible verse for Olivia is Ephesians 4:32 which serves as a reminder to treat each other with kindness and compassion.

Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.



May the Lord continue to guide you on your journey and bless you with every success, happiness and hope for the future.