

Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches – April 2023

Sunday Morning Worship times: Cross of Glory – 9:00 a.m. West Freeborn – 10:30 a.m.



Holy Week and Easter from Bridge Pastor Marcia...

Thinking back to three years ago, to April 2020...nothing was as it was planned to be. A microscopic virus that we couldn't even see was spreading and we were only just learning how as a global society, so many people were dying at high numbers, news reports from Italy and other countries so quickly and harshly affected by SARS CoViD 19 were disturbing, frightening and heart breaking. For me and my family, it was a rude awakening into the fact that our very breathing could mean death for someone near us that we may not even know...

As you've heard during that time, we had our own awakening...to life with Cancer in the middle of a global pandemic...so our fear and frustration took on a new level. We learned firsthand what it meant to be truly vulnerable and at the mercy of another thing that we couldn't see, in the midst of widespread uncertainty...we also were reminded that we too were one of the many whose fear met the reality of our own human frailty.

The reality is that between March and April of 2020, much of the way we had always done things stopped, and had to abruptly change...and as individuals and as a collective society, we had to adapt on the fly during a time when we thought we knew and understood Covid 19...but we really didn't. And we cannot change any of that, but we can learn from it...and we did. We made changes all along, adapting as we knew more, and as we experienced more...

From the Gospel of John chapter 11 and the story of Lazarus, I took consolation that though it felt like we were isolated, and many of us truly were, God never left us...that even in the face of death and dying, Jesus was present as well...weeping along with us, never abandoning us.

This year, 2023, will be the first "normal-ish" year to observe, to worship and to celebrate Holy Week and the Resurrection...and I think you'll see that though some traditions from the before times (before Covid, that is) will be met with some adaptations that are more cautious than in the past. But we are able to gather as a community, and that is a wonderful thing!

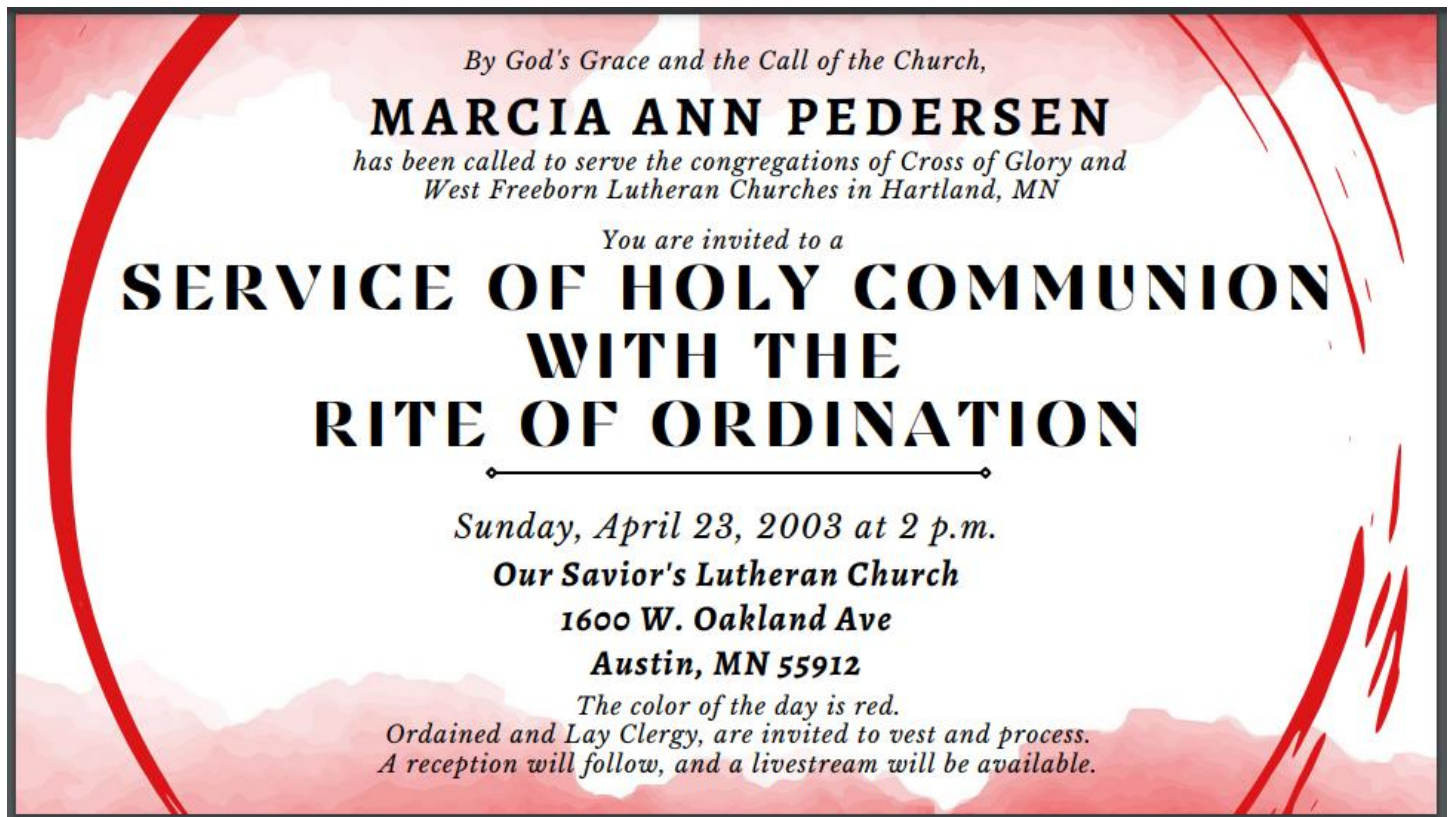
As we approach and enter Holy Week and the Great Three Days, we enter with eyes open, with ears peaked to hear, and with hearts ready to worship as church communities in the ways that we have done...but we do it together in God's presence, in our Sanctuaries with people around us...and as we worship, we do this as

people who have adapted, endured, and hopefully learned from our experiences in the last few years, not taking for granted those who have gone before us to ensure that we have a place to gather to worship, to praise God and to partake in the Sacraments.

For me the best part is that this for me is new...the first Holy Week and Easter with you all, as your called (almost) pastor!

Thanks be to God...for your welcome into your congregations, for your support as we begin anew, and for your presence together as we worship in the weeks ahead!

Holy Week blessings to you all from Bridge Pastor Marcia Pedersen



By God's Grace and the Call of the Church,
MARCIA ANN PEDERSEN
*has been called to serve the congregations of Cross of Glory and
West Freeborn Lutheran Churches in Hartland, MN*

You are invited to a
**SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
WITH THE
RITE OF ORDINATION**

Sunday, April 23, 2003 at 2 p.m.
**Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1600 W. Oakland Ave
Austin, MN 55912**

*The color of the day is red.
Ordained and Lay Clergy, are invited to vest and process.
A reception will follow, and a livestream will be available.*

Cross of Glory/West Freeborn Joint Council Meeting Minutes - March 7, 2023

Present: Pastor Marcia Pedersen, Cross of Glory Members present: Steve Bakken, Ron Bartness, Linda Brekke, Carol Light, Paul Lynne, Jerry Morstad, Jill Morstad. West Freeborn Members present: Becky Ausen, Glenn Ausen, Steve Ausen, Mike Ehrich, Pat Ehrich, Corky Modene, Kristin Modene. President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order and Pastor Marcia led us in an opening prayer. Becky read the minutes of the June 7, 2022 joint meeting. Corky made the motion to accept the Secretary's report and Ron seconded it. Motion carried.

New Business: Parsonage Update: The ceiling tile in the basement has been removed. Wiring outlets in the basement are not up to code. Duane Spooner is planning to do a walk-through of the parsonage with the realtor, Matt Johnson. Corky and his son-in-law will resume fixing the east side steps of the parsonage when weather allows. The joint council took a vote to sell the parsonage; the council unanimously voted to sell the property.

Completion of the call process and compensation: The compensation and benefits guidelines received from the Synod for Bridge Pastor Pedersen were reviewed. Motion was made by Paul to accept this total package and Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried. Ordination is set for Sunday, April 23, 2023 at 2:00 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Austin, MN. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Holy week schedule: Maundy Thursday Worship: Cross of Glory - 6:00 PM - West Freeborn - 7:30 PM

Good Friday Worship: Joint service at West Freeborn - 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday Worship: Cross of Glory - 7:00 AM - West Freeborn - 9:00 AM

Monday, April 10: Office will be closed

Vision/Future Planning: A congregational assessment plan meeting is scheduled for March 14. After an assessment has been completed, an action plan will be put in place.

Synod Assembly: Saturday, May 6, 2023 at Mayo Civic Arena in Mankato, MN - Representatives: Ron Bartness, Cross of Glory and Mark Langrud, West Freeborn.

It was decided to schedule joint meetings as needed as the year progresses. Corky made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Linda seconded it. The meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Light, Cross of Glory Secretary

Cross of Glory Council Minutes - March 7, 2023

Present: Bridge Pastor Marcia Pedersen, Steve Bakken, Ron Bartness, Linda Brekke, Carol Light, Paul Lynne, Jerry Morstad, and Jill Morstad. President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order and Pastor Marcia led us in devotion and prayer. Jill read the minutes from the February 26 congregational meeting. Paul made a motion to approve the minutes as read and Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried. Carol read the minutes of the February 7, 2023 meeting. Jill made the motion to accept the Secretary's report and Paul seconded it. Motion carried. Linda gave the Treasurer's report. Paul made the motion to approve Treasurer's report as read and pay bills as funds allow. Jill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Marcia presented a detailed report to the council for the month of February. If you would like to see the report, there will be one in the office to view.

Parsonage Update: Minutes from joint council meeting: The ceiling tile in the basement has been removed. Wiring outlets in the basement are not up to code. Duane Spooner is planning to do a walk-through of the parsonage with the realtor, Matt Johnson. Corky and his son-in-law will resume fixing the east side steps of the parsonage when weather allows. The joint council took a vote to sell the parsonage. The council unanimously voted to sell the property.

Old Business: Jill and Jerry have repaired the kitchen counter following the Valentine's brunch. Thank you! The 2023 handbook has been distributed. Thanks to Jill for spearheading and seeing this project through. Jerry and Ron met with the Grinnell Insurance representative on February 9 to review the church's coverage and premiums.

New Business: Easter breakfast details will be highlighted in the April newsletter and future bulletins. There was a discussion when our next confirmation class will get confirmed. Families will be contacted by Pastor Marcia to discuss possible dates. Members of the council will serve supper at the March 22 Lenten service. Ordination of Bridge Pastor Marcia Pedersen will take place on Sunday, April 23 at 2:00 PM at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Austin. The Synod's Councils as Leaders Event will be on March 19 from 1-4 PM at First Lutheran in Albert Lea. This will be held online and in person. All are invited to attend. Pastor Marcia will be one of the presenters. Cross of Glory will host the Blue Earth River Conference Text Study during the month of April. Meetings begin at 11:00 AM with approximately 12 participants in attendance.

Financial Support: Thanks to everyone for your fiscal support of Cross of Glory. It is much appreciated. Paul made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Steve. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. **Next Council Meeting:** April 11, 2023 @ 7:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Light, Secretary

Freeborn Lutheran Church Council Meeting – March 07, 2023

The West Freeborn Church Council met on March. 07, 2023, after the joint council meeting at Cross of Glory. Members present were Glenn, Pat, Mike, Kristin, Steve, Corky, and Becky. Glenn called the meeting to order. Becky read the secretaries report. Steve made a motion to accept the report as read. Kristin seconded it. Motion passed. Pat read the treasurer's report. Unfortunately, we did not make budget in February. 😞. Mike made a motion to pay the bills as possible. Steve seconded it. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- **Repair of the walls in the Church:** To be continued.
- **Parsonage Update:** Steps will be put in during April.
- **Fuel:** Hopefully we will have enough for the rest of the season. Corky will check on the price.

New Business:

- **Last Lenten Supper:** Council will serve supper on March 29 for Lenten Service.

Kristin made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve seconded it. Closed with the Lord's Prayer
Respectfully submitted, Becky Ausen, Secretary

Reminder to Cross of Glory Members about Offering Envelopes

Please fill out the information on your offering envelopes & specify which fund you'd like your offering to be designated for. It will make the Financial Secretaries' job much easier!! We appreciate their dedication to keeping the offering all straight & in the correct funds. If you put in loose offering, please designate where that should go as well. Thank You 😊

A special donation gift was received from the Diane (Janowitz) Meyer family to Cross of Glory Church.
We thank them for their donation.

Blue Earth River Conference Spring Event

Saturday, April 29, 2023 - First Lutheran Church – Albert Lea

Registration - \$10.00

(See flyer on bulletin boards for more information)

Sunday April 30th - Installation Sunday

There will be a meal after worship at West Freeborn following Pastor Marcia's installation.

Everyone Welcome!! 😊

April Quilting @ West Freeborn - Wed. April 5 & Wed. April 19 - 9:00 a.m.



Community Events

Salad Luncheon at Hartland Lutheran Church - Saturday, April 15, 2023 – 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Salads, Open Face Sandwiches, Bars & Beverages

\$10.00 – Adults - \$5.00 Children 5-12

4 yrs. & under are Free



Geneva Cancer Mini Auction & Pancake Breakfast
 Sat. April 1 – 8:00 a.m. to noon – Pancake Breakfast
 Auction begins @ 2:00 p.m.
 Geneva Bar & Grill

Blue Earth River Conference Spring Event
 Saturday, April 29, 2023
 First Lutheran Church – Albert Lea
 Registration - \$10.00
 (See flyer on bulletin boards for more information)

West Freeborn Ushers for April: *Wayne Hendrickson, Gene Cichos, Richard Bakken, Mark Broskoff, Nanette Hendrickson.

Attendance for March, 2023 – WF: not available at print time.

Attendance for March, 2023 – CG: Mar. 3 – 28; Mar. 12 – cancelled; Mar. 19 – 41; Mar. 26 – 29.

Printing February, 2023 again –wasn't complete in the March newsletter
Statistics for Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Mission Fund</u>	<u>Cemetery Fund</u>
Feb. 5, 2023	\$ 2,585.00	15.00	0.00	10.00
Feb. 12	1,240.00	0.00	30.00	0.00
Feb. 19	895.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Feb. 26	1,439.00	500.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	\$ 6,159.00	\$ 515.00	\$ 30.00	\$ 10.00
Mar. 5, 2023	1,926.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mar. 8 (Lenten)	50.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mar. 12 – services cancelled				
Mar. 19	1,586.00	0.00	50.00	0.00
Mar. 22 (Lenten)	391.00			
Mar. 26	2,607.73	35.00	0.00	620.00
TOTALS	\$ 6,560.73	\$ 35.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 620.00

Cross of Glory email address: cgwf@smig.net - Cross of Glory Website: www.crossofglory.weebly.com

West Freeborn Website: www.westfreebornlutheranchurch.weebly.com

Pastor Marcia Pedersen – Office Hours: M-TH – 9:30 – 5:00 p.m. Cell # 507-509-3396.

Jerry Morstad, Cross of Glory President 507-373-0085 - Glenn Ausen, West Freeborn President – 402-4287

Church Office – 507-845-2818 – Fax # - 507-845-2732 - Stacie Madson, West Freeborn Custodian 845-2525

Cindy Morstad – contact for funerals, etc. 845-2255 (home) – 402-4577 (cell) - Alvin Morstad, Grounds keeper & boiler maintenance – 845-2813 (home) – 402-8612 (cell)

Kristin Malmberg – Custodian – 612-816-3271

April-2023 ✂ Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches, Hartland, MN

Worship times: Cross of Glory – 9:00 a.m. West Freeborn – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2 <i>Palm Sunday</i> Worship – CG – 9:00 a.m. Worship – WF – 10:30 a.m. Communion	3	4	5 Quilting @ WF – 9:00 a.m. No Wednesday Worship or Confirmation	6 <i>Maundy</i> Thursday Service @ CG - 6:00 p.m. 7:30 p.m. @ WF (1 st Communion)	7 <i>Joint Good</i> Friday Worship @ WF – 7:00 p.m.	8 2:00 p.m. Baptism for Riggs Nielson @ CG
9 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 7:00 a.m. Sunrise Worship @ CG – Brunch to follow 9:00 a.m. Easter Worship @ WF – Rolls before worship	10 Church Office closed today.	11 Church Councils meet 7:00 p.m.	12 6:00 pm. Last Wed. Worship 7:00 p.m. Confirmation @ CG	13	14	15
16 Worship – CG – 9:00 a.m. Worship – WF – 10:30 a.m.	17 Hartland Hi-Liners 4-H Club meeting @ CG – 6:30 p.m.	18	19 Quilting @ WF – 9:00 a.m. 7:00 Confirmation @ CG – last class. Pizza Night!	20	21	22
23 Worship – CG – 9:00 a.m. Worship – WF – 10:30 a.m. Communion 2:00 p.m. Pastor Marcia's Ordination @ Our Savior's Lutheran in Austin.	24	25	26	27	28	29

Sunday, April 30 – Worship @ CG – 9:00 a.m. Worship @ WF – 10:30 a.m. Meal @ WF following worship.