

May

In the month of May the Church experiences another transition according to the Church year calendar. We celebrate Jesus' Ascension on May 9th and the Day of Pentecost on May 19th. Throughout the season of Pentecost the Church remembers that she and her members live a new life in God's Son through the gift of the Holy Spirit.

In chapter 2 of the book of Acts, Peter gives a sermon proclaiming God's plan of salvation in Christ. The day he gives this sermon is the Day of Pentecost. At the end of his proclamation the people ask this question, "Brothers, what shall we do" (Acts 2:37)? Peter responds, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38).

As we look forward to the summer months of "life in the Spirit" as God's forgiven, Spirit-filled, baptized children, let us consider some educational and devotional resources (in addition to the Bible) that can help us grow in our Christian faith and in our boldness to "give a reason for the hope that we have with all gentleness and respect" (1 Peter 3:15).

April Joys and Celebrations –

Following Easter Sunday Worship, more celebrations in worship have followed for both the congregations of West Freeborn and Cross of Glory! Here's a glimpse of some of our April celebrations...

Sunday, April 14th at West Freeborn, we rejoiced with both **Zack O'Connor** and **Sydney Rysavy** as they **Affirmed their Baptisms during the order of Confirmation** during 10:30 a.m. worship that day. Stoles were made by each of them, and they shared meaningful Faith Statements as they affirmed their Baptisms in the witness of family, friends and all gathered there to worship.



Sunday, April 21st at West Freeborn, we welcomed **Berklee and Quinlee Vanderploeg** as the newest members of West Freeborn in the waters of **Baptism** during morning worship!

Berklee and Quinlee are the daughters of Arielle Miller and Peter Vanderploeg, great granddaughters of Shirley Miller, and were absolutely beautiful reasons to worship and celebrate the day!

Sunday, April 21st at Cross of Glory, we celebrated the **Affirmation of Baptism** for five Confirmands including **McKenna Dolton, Brooks Gilliland, Caralee Koopal, Wyatt Larson and JP Lynne**. Students shared personal and incredibly moving Faith Statements, served as worship leaders reading prayers and scripture readings, and served Communion as well. Students made stoles as well, and worship was concluded by a meal in their honor.





Graduate Blessing at Cross of Glory

With joy we share that **Sunday, May 12th** during the **10:30 worship service**, we will **recognize and bless a Cross of Glory graduate Ned Bell**, son of Angela and Alex Bell, who will graduate from NRHEG as well as from Riverland with an AA and EMR Certification. His plans will take him many places, but we want you to hear that from him as he shares a bit about what's next. Please join us as we celebrate and bless him as he makes this big transition.

God bless you Ned and remember that no matter where you go, no matter what you do, God goes with you! Blessings to you on these next steps in life's journey!

Quilt and Kit dedication and blessing

Sunday, May 12th at both services, we will **bless and send our Quilts and Health Care Kits** that have been made and assembled by our congregations. Join us as we pray over, bless and send these gifts to be used by those who receive them as they are **distributed through partners with Lutheran World Relief**. A special thank you to all who contributed supplies for both our kits and our quilts, to those whose hands sewed, tied and assembled them, and those who have supported these mission ministries.

Summer Switch-up Reminder –

Be sure to **mark your calendars for Sunday, June 2nd** as worship times switch to reflect the following –

Cross of Glory worship begins at 9 a.m. each week.

West Freeborn begins at 10:30 a.m. each week.

Watch for announcements about changes in hospitality and other things worship related as well, and we'll see you on Sunday for this Switch!

Cross of Glory Council Minutes - April 2, 2024

Present: Pastor Marcia Pedersen, Steve Bakken, Ron Bartness, Linda Brekke, Matt Hoelscher, Martin Johnson, Carol Light, Paul Lynne, Jerry Morstad and Jill Morstad.

President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order and Pastor Marcia led us in a devotion and prayer. Carol read the minutes of the March 4, 2024 meeting. Secretary's report was approved as read. Martin made the motion to accept the report and Linda seconded the motion. Motion carried. Linda gave the Treasurer's report. The records show that special Lenten/Easter offering totals were: \$932.00 for Lutheran World Relief and \$422.00 for the Wednesday School Account. Lenten offering included all the Lenten weeks except for the meal the Wednesday School families served and the Easter Breakfast freewill donations. It was also clarified that cash or check donations in the white envelopes that are not designated for a special fund or purpose will go into the Cross of Glory General Checking Fund account. Matt made the motion to approve the Treasurer's report as read and pay bills as funds allow. Ron seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Marcia presented a detailed report to the council for the month of March. Five students will be confirmed on April 21. Pastor Marcia thanked the multitude of people that participated in one way or another during the Lenten season, Holy Week and Easter Sunday. If you would like to see the report, there will be one in the office to view.

Old Business: Building project updates include the following: After April 21, Jim and Dude's Plumbing Heating and Air Conditioning will be contacted to evacuate the gas for the air conditioners in social hall. To prepare for the basement project, Steve will be contacting the gas company regarding the disconnecting of the gas after April 21.

New Business: The special election in August and the general election this November for the City of Hartland and Hartland Township will be held in the Cross of Glory Social Hall. Matt reported that everything went well for the primary election. Cross of Glory gave the Synod \$3000.00 for the annual commitment for the 2023 fiscal year. The Synod sent a thank you for this monetary donation. Paul made a motion to give the Synod \$3000.00 for the 2024 fiscal year. Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried. Jill reported that the meal plans and work group for serving the Confirmation meal is coming together and gifts for the confirmands from the Cross of Glory congregation have also been purchased. Synod Assembly will be held on Saturday, May 11 at Mayo Clinic Health Systems Civic Center in Mankato. Delegates will be Ronnie Bartness and Mark Langrud. Pastor Marcia is exploring a format for Wednesday Worship. It is possible that May will host the first Wednesday Worship service. We will be transitioning to holding weekly worship services at 9:00 am beginning the first Sunday in June. This will continue for the coming year. Sunday, June 9 will be New Member Sunday. Coffee and rolls will be served following the service. The council accepted the resignation of Sunday School Superintendent, Lacey Koopal. We thank her for the many years of service in this leadership role. Spring cleanup of the church lawn will be April 13 at 9:00 am. A motion for adjournment was made by Martin and seconded by Steve. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer. **Next Council Meeting Date:** Tuesday, May 7, 2024 @ 7 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Light, Secretary

West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council April. 08, 2024

West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council met April 08, 2024, via Zoom. Members present were Glenn, Kristin, Steve, Corky, Pat, Mike and Becky. Glenn called the meeting to order. Pastor Marcia was unable to attend, but she had sent her Pastor's report to us earlier. This will be posted on the refrigerator at church. Becky read the secretary's report. Steve made a motion to accept the report as read. Corky seconded it. Motion passed. Pat read the treasurer's report. We made budget this month. 😊 Mike made a motion to pay the bills. Kristin seconded it. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- **Confirmation:** The food is ordered and everything should be ready for a good day for Sydney and Zach!
- **Window Updates:** The windows are in. These are for the back of the church hallway. Shirley Indrelie has paid for these windows. Matt will get them put in as soon as possible. Steve made a motion that we go ahead and order the windows for the social hall, as it can take some time to get them. Corky seconded it. Motion passed.
- **Roof Update:** Pat talked with Bob at Rightway Roofing. We are on the list to get it installed this spring.
- **West Freeborn Website:** We will talk with Dave Pederson about how this all works.
- **Fuel Contract:** There is 1,500 gals. left on the contract. Pat made a motion to pay the contract out. Kristen seconded it. Motion passed.

New Business:

- **Basement Bathroom Kitchen:** Do we cap it off and get rid of all the water down there. Put on hold until next winter.
- **Pumping the Septic Tanks:** Becky will have Dave get ahold of the Septic guy and tell them to pump when they are in the area.
- **Baptisms on April 21, 2024 for Berklee and Quinlee Vanderploeg:** These babies are Shirley Miller's great-granddaughters. The family is having a brunch after the service in which all members of the congregation are invited.
- **Cemetery:** Steve said that the company that cleaned the stones in the cemetery are wanting to come back because they have equipment now that they can straighten the bigger stones.
- **Lenten Services offerings:** Kristin made a motion to divide evenly the money from all the Lenten Services between all 3 backpack programs at the schools. Pat seconded it. Motion passed.
- **Tractor Blessing:** Pastor Marcia would like to do a "Tractor Blessing" for the farmers. This would also include Cross of Glory. This spring has already started with field work, so hopefully next fall before Harvest starts this could be done. Details to follow when time gets closer.
- **On June 02, 2024, the time for church service will change to 10:30.**
- **Next council meeting will be on Tuesday May 07, 2024, via Zoom.**

Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Pat seconded it. Motion passed. Closed with the Lord's Prayer by Corky.

Respectfully submitted, Becky Ausen, Secretary

West Freeborn Quilting News!

May Quilting Dates: Wed. May 1, 15, 29. Quilt Dedication & Blessing – Sunday, May 12th

The West Freeborn/Cross of Glory Quilters are excited to announce that they have a new name...after a vote that ended in a tie, the new name is "Peace by Piece" Quilters! Thanks to all who gave input to narrow down some great options!

Community Events

**“Throw Back to the 70’s” - Nostalgic Church Basement Ladies Luncheon @ First Lutheran Church, Albert Lea
Wednesday, May 8, 2024 @ 12:00 Noon
(see flyer on bulletin board for more info)**

**Lion’s Pie Day & Baked Goods @ Keen Bank in Ellendale
Free Will Donation – Friday, May 10th – 8:30 a.m. until gone
(see flyer on bulletin board)**

**“90th” Birthday Open House for Marvyl Kopperud
Saturday, May 11, 2024 – 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Whispering Oak Place – 903 Calverly Court, Ellendale, MN
Questions? Call Ellen at 507-402-1934**



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Attendance for WF – March, 2024: Sun. Mar. 3 – 44; Sun. Mar. 10 – not recorded; Wed. Mar. 13 -Lenten Service – 52; Sun. Mar. 17 – 20; Sun. Mar. 24 – 49; Mar. 29 – Good Friday – 30; Easter Sun. Mar. 31 – 54.

Attendance for CG – March, 2024: Sun. Mar. 3 – 34; Wed. Mar. 6 – Lenten Service – 57; Sun. Mar. 10 – 28; Sun. Mar. 17 – 39; Wed. Mar. 20 – Lenten Service – 50; Sun. Mar. 24 – 39; Maundy Thursday – 56; Easter Sun. Mar. 31 – 67.

Ushers for WF – May, 2024: *Tim Beyer, Jeremy Henke, Tim Peterson, Jim Heidemann.

Statistics for Cross of Glory

	<u>General Fund</u>	<u>Improvement Fund</u>	<u>Mission Fund</u>	<u>Cemetery Fund</u>
Sun. Mar. 3	1,793.00	100.00	70.00	0.00
Wed. Mar.	214.00 (Lenten)	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sun. Mar. 10	1,210.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sun. Mar. 17	645.00	0.00	0.00	20.00
Wed. Mar. 20	110.00 Lenten special offering			

Sun. Mar. 24	1,500.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Thurs. Mar. 28	240.00	Lenten special offering		
Sun. Mar. 31	1,200.00	100.00	0.00	0.00
TOTALS	\$ 6,912.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 70.00	\$ 20.00

Sun. April 7	2,875.00	500.00	100.00	0.00
Sun. April 14	875.00	130.00	25.00	150.00
Sun. April 21	675.00 + 264.00 (Confirmation meal) Total: \$939.00			
TOTALS	\$ 4,689.00	\$ 630.00	\$ 125.00	\$ 150.00

April totals were not complete at print time; will add them in the next newsletter.

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



May - 2024
Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches, Hartland, MN
Worship times: West Freeborn– 9:00 a.m. Cross of Glory – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Quilting @ WF 9:00 a.m.	2	3	4
5 WF - Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG - Worship – 10:30 a.m. Communion	6	7 WF Council 8:00 p.m. via Zoom CG Council 7:00 p.m.	8	9	10	11 Marion Springer Mathwig funeral @ WF – time to be determined
12 WF - Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG – Worship -10:30 a.m. Graduate recognition @ CG Quilt & Kit Dedication Sunday	13 Hartland Hi-Liners 4-H club meets at CG	14	15 Quilting @ WF 9:00 a.m.	16	17	18
19 WF - Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG - Worship – 10:30 a.m. Baptism @ CG	20	21	22	23	24	25

26 WF - Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG - worship – 10:30 a.m. Communion	27 Memorial Day (watch weekly bulletins for info on Memorial Day Program)	28	29 Quilting @ WF 9:00 a.m.	30	31	
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