

Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches

June 2020

Sunday Morning Worship times:

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



For the sake of my relatives and friends
I will say, “Peace be within you.”
For the sake of the house of the Lord our God,
I will seek your good.
(Psalm 122:8 & 9)

There is no question that this pandemic has disrupted our normal way of worship. Many of the major events we look forward to each year had to be canceled, things like our Holy Week services and Easter, first communion for our fifth graders and more. But our losses simply reflect the many things that have been lost around us from the disruption of businesses to the cancellation of community gatherings.

We have tried to follow the advice of the experts who are concerned with our ability to deal effectively with this crisis. We continue to have to live with the changes, but now as we are told that many of the restrictions are being lifted or merely adjusted we have the opportunity to change some more.

As I write this we are told that as a house of worship we have the opportunity to begin gathering once again for worship, but only after we put certain protocols into place. I have reviewed those recommendations and for the most part they are nothing we have not been hearing all along. Maintain proper social distance, wash your hands, disinfect commonly touched surfaces frequently and so on. These recommendations need to be carefully reviewed and plans need to be put into place to make our church gatherings safe.

Our church leaders at this point need to figure out how best to deal with common worship activities like offering collection and handling of hymnals and bulletins, not to mention communion practices. In other words, while we are now allowed to gather once again we need to figure out how we can do it safely.

What I do know is that you have been generous in your support of your church and that the posting of worship videos will continue for the sake of those reluctant to gather. Please be patient and we will let you know when it is believed that we are prepared to gather once again.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Schwartz

Do-It-Yourself Bible Study

For our Bible study this month let's look at the story of creation from the book of Genesis.

We are dealing with a familiar account, and because it is familiar it raises problems when we want to study it. We may think we know it because it is familiar. So we need to try to hear it anew. Let it speak to you as you read.

Read Genesis 1: 1-13

Wondering which is correct, science or Genesis, misses the point. The story of creation in our Bible seeks to reveal a different sort of truth. As you read this passage, what impression do you get to explain why God creates?

Like our scientific explanations the creation story of the Bible describes our existence as a series of events, but here it is all done under the direction of a supreme creator God. This is creation with intention, but we are never exactly told what God's intention is.

Read Genesis 1: 14-25

It was often the practice of ancient civilizations to worship the sun and moon as divine powers. According to this account, what is the purpose of the sun and moon?

All through this account you get the impression that we are to distinguish between the creator and the creation. It is wrong to worship any part of the creation itself, because it is always creation and not the creator. So far what God has created is not likely to have to deal with this problem, but that is about to change.

Read Genesis 1: 26-2:4a

Only humans are created in the image of God, and only humans are given any sort of dominion over what has been created. Everything has purpose, but only people have dominion. What does it mean to you that we have dominion over creation?

West Freeborn will resume worship on Sunday, May 31st at 9:00 a.m.

Cross of Glory plans to resume worship services on Sunday, June 7th.

Effective June 7th, service times will switch.

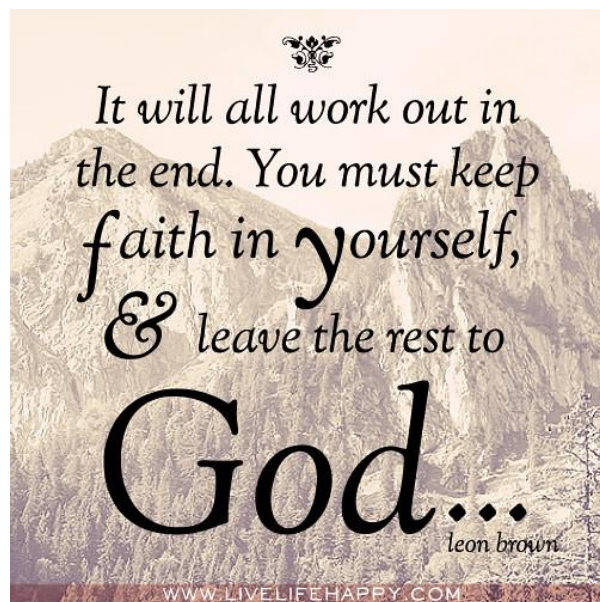
Cross of Glory – 9:00 a.m. - West Freeborn – 10:30 a.m.

The Cross of Glory Council will meet on Tuesday, June 2nd @ 7:00 p.m.

Please call Cindi in the office – 845-2818, if you have activities that you want to resume. She will keep everyone updated on Facebook & through emails.

Will resume the monthly calendars in the July newsletter.

Office Hours: M-W-F – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.



West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council Meeting – May 06, 2020

The West Freeborn Church Council met on May 06, 2020, with our second Zoom meeting. Members present were Glenn Ausen, Steve Ausen, Corky Modene, Pat Ehrich, Mike Ehrich, Sonja Honstad, Pastor Steve and Becky Ausen. President Glenn Ausen, called the meeting to order.

Becky read the secretaries report. Sonja made a motion to approve the secretary's report as read. Steve seconded it. Motion passed. Pat read the treasurer's report. Once again Pat said that this congregation really steps up to the plate. We are looking pretty good right now. Corky did make a motion to pay all the bills. Steve seconded it. If more money is needed Mike made a motion to take money out of the building fund to pay all the bills. Steve seconded it.

Old Business:

- **Cement Pad for the L.P. Tanks:** The gravel is there for the cement pads. Corky will get ahold of Eric Grunzke to get it started. Pat made a motion to pay \$700 as a down payment for the work he will be doing. Steve seconded it.

- **PPP Loan:** Allyson Olson got in on time for the second round of the PPP loan program for West Freeborn. This is a paycheck protection program which will help with salaries for our church staff. The amount will be what we would qualify for. The check will go directly into our Farmers State Bank account. This is to be used pay wages of the staff.
- **Copier Bill:** Pat will check with Jerry on what we owe for the new copier.
- **Parking lot:** This needs attention in the front so we don't have lake-shore property again like last summer. Some of the council men will check on this.

New Business:

- **Communion:** Sat., May 09 Pastor Steve will be having communion up at Cross of Glory. You need to call the church office. They are doing them in 10-minute sequences. Pastor will be doing this at West Freeborn also. Becky will send out a text message.
- **Time Change:** June 07 will be when we change service times. Cross of Glory will have the 9 AM service, West Freeborn will be 10:30 AM.
- **Tuck Pointing:** The east wall at the back of the church needs some work. The council will look into different options on what to do with it.
- **Round Church Window and Tree Stumps:** Becky will check with Dave on when the men will be getting the round window finished. Also, if he is going to take the tree stumps out.
- **Parsonage Windows:** Glenn will make calls on getting those finished up.

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

Side Note: Since the governor has opened up so that MN churches can start having church, we will begin on Sunday, May 31 at West Freeborn. If you don't feel comfortable coming to church, Pastor will still have his service on the Facebook site. Please do social distancing, wear masks, wash your hands and NO hugging!!! Stay safe!!!

***Always remember that your present situation is not your final destination.
The best is yet to come!!!!***



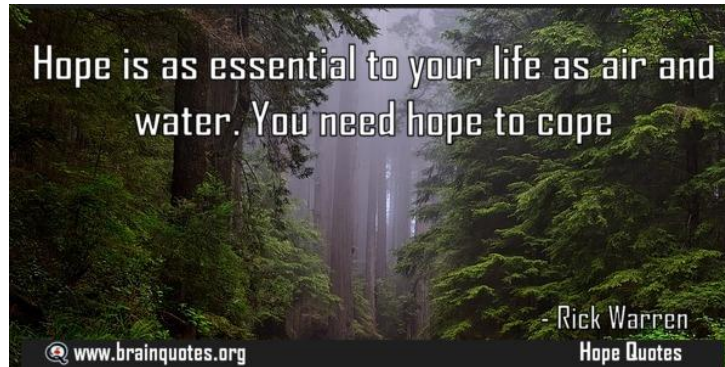
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS @ Cross of Glory

*Please stop by the church & pick up your financial statements.
Office hours are M-W-F – 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.*

Stats for West Freeborn: Year to date: Not available at print time

Statistics for Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

There were no regular worship services in May. However, this is the total of deposits that Cindi made to the bank for the month of May - \$ 1,382.72. Thanks so much for continuing to support the church during these uncertain times.



West Freeborn Usher List – 2020

June - *Roger Bakken, Orlen Modene, Mark Evenson, Sue Bakken

July - *Omer Emstad, Bill Goette, Steve Ausen, Mike Erlandson

August- *Tim Beyer, Dave Pederson, Rich Honstad, Lyle Helm

September- *Chris Dahl, Russ Engel, Holly Dahl

October - *Wayne Hendrickson, Ron Lageson, Dale Indrelie, Adam Dahlen, Nanette Hendrickson

November - *Casey Madson, Dale Christopherson, Jane Christopherson, Mike Ehrich

December - *Omer Emstad, Glenn Ausen, Steve Hoelscher

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

West Freeborn Website: www.westfreebornlutheranchurch.weebly.com

Jerry Morstad, Cross of Glory President 507-373-0085 - Dave Ausen, West Freeborn President – 863-2165

Church Office – 507-845-2818 – Fax # - 507-845-2732

Stacie Madson, West Freeborn Custodian 845-2525

Pastor’s cell phone: 507-250-6694 - Parsonage Phone – 845-2825

Cindy Morstad, C.G. Custodian - 845-2255 (home) – 402-4577 (cell) - Alvin Morstad, C.G. Custodian – 845-2813



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