

Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches – September 2021

Sunday Morning Worship times:

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



Obedient

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took Mary as his wife. (Matthew 1:24)

We are all pretty familiar with the story of Jesus' birth. We know about the trip to Bethlehem and the need for the baby to be born in the stable. We know about the shepherds and the angels that appeared to them. We know about the wise men from the east, and of course we know that Jesus' mother is named Mary and his earthly father was named Joseph. Of all these characters and events the one that has been shrouded in the greatest mystery has to be Joseph.

He is there to marry Mary, he is present at the birth, he shows up once during Jesus' childhood, and then he is gone. No more mention of Joseph. Did he leave? Did he die? Was he there but never mentioned by the Gospel writers. We just don't know.

What we do know about him, what we can take away from his legacy, is what we read in this month's verse. When God explained to him through an angel why Mary was pregnant, he did what was asked of him.

It could not have been easy. At a time when personal honor was highly prized, marrying someone who was already pregnant must have looked bad. Joseph understood the circumstances surrounding Jesus' birth, how God is the real father, but that is not the sort of thing that you can explain to others and expect them to believe it.

God expected a lot from Joseph, and while we don't know much about him we do know that when the time came, when he was put to the test, he was obedient to God's will. The world could use more men like Joseph.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Schwartz

Do-It-Yourself Bible Study

For our Bible study this month, let's look at the readings for September 19. If you find this intriguing, I hope that you will join others to go deeper.

The concept of justice seems simple enough, and is best summed up by that Old Testament saying, An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth. Trying to apply such thinking in situations is difficult, and often is not just.

Read Jeremiah 11:18-20.

Because the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah announced a message of repentance and doom he was often persecuted. Here he asks God to settle his score with his enemies. How do you feel about those times when someone feels the need for revenge?

James gets right to the core of what creates problems among people. He says it all comes down to wanting something that we do not have. That could be something material, but it could also be a desire for revenge or power. James offers a different approach.

Read James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a.

Instead of thinking about justice in terms of an eye for an eye, James proposes thinking about what will create peace. How does what James says run contrary to human thinking?

Our Gospel reading begins with Jesus telling the disciples for the second time in this book what will happen when they reach Jerusalem, how he must be betrayed, arrested, put to death, and then rise again. This is all lost on the disciples at this point, they are thinking about other things.

Read Mark 9:30-37.

Jesus talks about dying for the sake of the world while the disciples debate who is the greatest among them. What is Jesus saying by using a child as a visual example?

Church Councils will meet on Tuesday, September 7, 2021

Cross of Glory Church Council minutes from August 10, 2021

Present: Pastor Steve Schwartz, Jerry Morstad, Ron Bartness, Linda Brekke, Steve Bakken, Paul Lynne, Emily Wakefield, Jill Morstad, Martin Johnson (by phone), guest -Alvin Morstad

President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve offered prayer and then gave a report. He showed us the picture that was taken to be hung in the social hall. The picture needs to be framed. He stated Emily Carson of the Synod office will be giving the sermon in 2 weeks (August 22nd). Wednesday school for the kids is uncertain as of yet, waiting on what decisions are made by the schools regarding the current COVID situation. Movie night was held and enjoyed.

The secretary's report was read by Jill Morstad. 2 corrections to the minutes were noted. 1- Duane Spooner **replaced** the steps on the west side of the parsonage. He was assisted by Chris Johnson. 2- Glenn and Jerry have been talking about resuming joint council **meetings** in September. Paul Lynne made a motion to approve the minutes with those 2 corrections. 2nd by Steve Bakken. Motion passed with no opposition.

Linda Brekke gave the treasurer's report. It was noted that \$500 was placed in the office account last month but \$334 has already been used for toner replacement needed for the copier. Allyson Olson reported to Linda that the approved salary increases did start in June. Linda will clarify if the cost of the parsonage steps was our 1/2 or the total cost. We discussed the office account further noting that West Freeborn does a monthly payment that is budgeted and C of G has added to that account as needed. Linda will check into this further. A motion to accept the treasurer's report was made by Ron Bartness, 2nd by Paul Lynne and motion carried with no opposition.

Jerry then stated Alvin had asked to attend the meeting and he spoke of the duties he and Cindy have been providing to include not only basic cleaning but other needs with funerals and weddings and Christmas. The thermostat and AC and window cleaning that he has normally done. He also mentioned a concern with the downspout on the south east side of the church doesn't run in the tile it runs across the sidewalk and creates an ice problem in the winter. We discussed potential options. This will need to be pursued further.

The 2 trees on the parsonage lawn that have been discussed previously will be taken down by the end of August. Alvin and another fellow will be working on this and the wood will be taken by the person helping Alvin. Jerry requested that they let him know if more help is needed and he will get the word out. Al agreed to call for help if needed. Alvin continued with a comment about seeing some cemeteries that have a cross standing in them. He suggested that we think about putting one in, possibly metal. He mentioned that Freeborn cemetery has as example. Steve asked if he had mentioned anything to the cemetery board and stated there is a meeting planned for December and that Al should bring it to the board. Linda and all the council members present expressed appreciation for all that Al and Cindy do!

Old Business - The meeting continued with the topic of the Centennial celebration. Jerry Called Martin at this time to inquire as to updates. Martin stayed on the phone for the rest of the meeting. He confirmed that Doug Ohlman had accepted for September 19th. Jill had a sample invitation for former pastors and or family members that she and Cindy Christensen had worked on. She read the sample and it was approved. Cindy had found several addresses and planned to send the invitations. Ron had talked to Teresa Grubstad at the Red Leaf in New Richland and she is willing to cater a meal.

Ron will check further regarding options and cost. Council members and spouses will be needed to serve. It was discussed that we will need to have tickets purchased ahead of time and to make that clear on any advertising.

The painting for the entryway and social hall we would like to have done before the centennial.

New Business - The issues with the copier toner cartridges was discussed. Cindy has informed us that the cartridges aren't leaking at this time but she is needing to replace the cartridges and those from Office Depot are more costly. She had to order all 3 color cartridges and a black this past week at a cost of \$334. She reported in an email that Jerry shared with everyone that we have had the copier 17months and she has made 28,000 copies – approx. 1600 copies/month. Martin, Jerry, Jill and Cindi had discussed these issues in the past week. Martin had mentioned the different cartridges and brands and mechanical differences that can be present and very subtle but can cause problems even sometimes damaging the machine. Cindi is going to try to make adjustments to the color settings to conserve as well as reducing the use of colored items. We will continue to monitor the situations as the extended warranty gives us until Jan. or Feb. if there appears to be something we need to have evaluated. The next council meeting will be start with a joint meeting with WF. It will be held her at C of G. Motion to adjourn was made by Paul Lynne and 2nd by Steve Bakken, Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer by all.

Respectfully submitted by Jill Morstad –Deacon

West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council Meeting – Aug. 12, 2021

The West Freeborn Church Council met on August 12, 2021, via Zoom. Members present were Glenn Ausen, Steve Ausen, Pat Ehrich, Mike Ehrich, Pastor Steve and Becky Ausen. President Glenn Ausen, called the meeting to order. Pastor gave a prayer. He reported that he got his picture done and it is put in the church holder. He reported that Cross of Glory's 100th anniversary will be held on Sept. 19th. All are invited to attend. Becky read the secretaries report. Steve made a motion to approve the report as read. Mike seconded it. Motion passed. Pat read the treasurers report. Mike made a motion to pay the bills. Steve seconded it. Motion passed.

Old Business

- **Cemetery Stones:** Steve said we are on the list for the company to come out and look at them.
- **Paint in the Sanctuary Falling off of the Walls:** Glenn said we are waiting on Duane.
- **L.P.:** Corky contracted the other 2,000 gal. before the price went up.

New Business:

- **VFW Breakfast:** Albert Lea Legion will donate a \$1.00 back to the church for every breakfast bought. The breakfast is the 4th Sunday of each month. They will place a poster in the church on details.
- **Septic Tank was Pumped**
- **Joint Meeting with Cross of Glory:** This will be on Sept. 7th at 7PM.
- **Sunday School:** There will be a letter coming out about starting Sunday School up again. Sept. 13th at 9:00 AM will be the starting date.

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

Respectfully Submitted,
Becky Ausen, Secretary

Cross of Glory News

**Regretfully the Centennial Celebration that was planned
at Cross of Glory on September 19th has been cancelled
due to the increasing COVID concerns.**

*Invitations were mailed out to former pastors & their families & Cindi had heard back from 2.
Another letter will be mailed out stating that the event has been cancelled.*

West Freeborn Sunday School

Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 12th @ West Freeborn

Bibles will be presented at worship – 9:00 a.m.

Sunday School after church.

Children's Sunday School



West Freeborn Attendance: Aug. 2021 – Aug. 1 – 27; Aug. 8 – 20; Aug. 15 – 18; Aug. 22 – 20; Aug. 29 -24.

West Freeborn Ushers: September, 2021 - *Chris Dahl, Russ Engel, Holly Dahl

Statistics for Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

Date	General Fund	Improvement Fund	Mission Fund	Cemetery Fund
8-1-21	\$ 2,210.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
8-8-21	2,570.00	0.00	0.00	368.00
8-15-21	430.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8-22-21	1,965.00	20.00	0.00	0.00
8-29-21	915.00	20.00	20.00	20.00
TOTALS	\$ 8,090.00	\$ 40.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 388.00

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 - Glenn Ausen, West Freeborn President – 402-4287

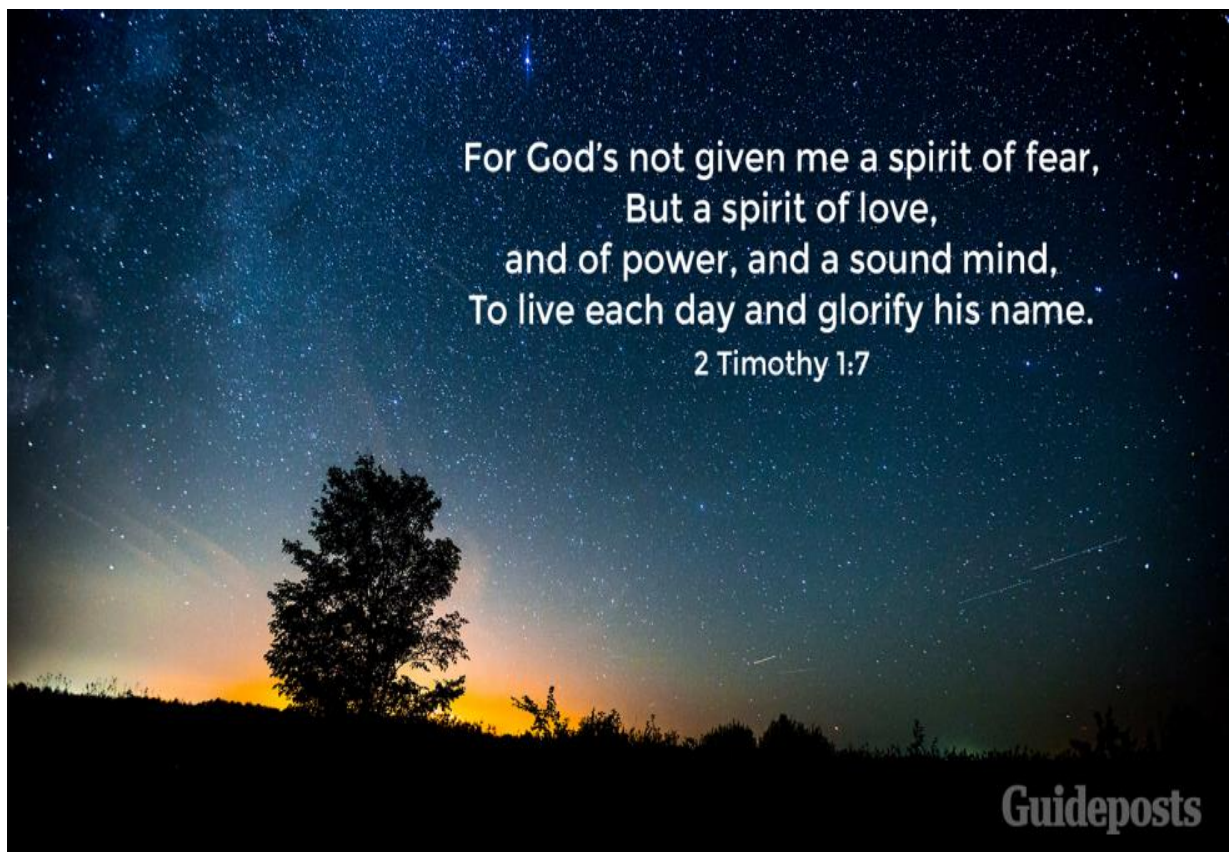
Church Office – 507-845-2818 – Fax # - 507-845-2732

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 (home) – 402-8612 (cell)



September - 2021 ✠ 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	2	3	4
5 WF – Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m. <i>Communion</i>	6	7 <i>Church Council meetings.</i>	8 Quilting @ WF 9:00 a.m.	9	10	11
12 WF – Worship – 9:00 a.m. <i>Sunday School starts today!</i> <i>Children will receive Bibles.</i> CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m.	13	14	15 Wednesday Worship 6:00-6:30 p.m. Confirmation – 7:00 p.m. <i>(see enclosed flyer)</i>	16	17	18
19 WF – Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m.	20	21	22 Wednesday Worship 6:00-6:30 p.m. Confirmation – 7:00 p.m.	23	24	25
26 WF – Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m. <i>Communion</i>	27	28	29 Wednesday Worship 6:00-6:30 p.m. Confirmation – 7:00 p.m.	30		

*West Freeborn Ushers – September, 2021: *Chris Dahl, Russ Engel, Holly Dahl*