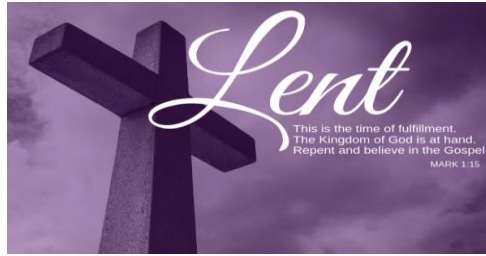


Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches – March 2022

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



I have made the decision to retire at the end of May of this year. That will be the completion of 41 years for me as a pastor. Add in the 4 years spent at college, three years of seminary, a year at a funeral home and an internship year it all adds up to fifty years on this journey.

For our Wednesday evening Lenten services this year we will be looking at what the Apostle Paul says in Ephesians 6:10-18 about the armor of God. All services will be at 7 p.m.

The Whole Armor of God

March 2 - Ash Wednesday - West Freeborn

The Belt of Truth

Isaiah 59:12-16

John 8:31-38

March 9 - Cross of Glory

The Breastplate of Righteousness

Isaiah 51: 1-9a

Matthew 6: 25-34

March 16 - West Freeborn

Shoes of Peace

Isaiah 57: 1, 2, 14-21

John 16: 17-33

March 23 - Cross of Glory

The Shield of Faith

Isaiah 1: 18-26

Matthew 21: 18-22

March 30 - West Freeborn

The Helmet of Salvation

Isaiah 49: 5-13

Luke 19: 1-10

April 6 - Cross of Glory

The Sword of the Spirit/the Word of God

Isaiah 55: 1-13

John 17: 6-19

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Schwartz

Do-It-Yourself Bible Study

For our Bible study this month, let's look at the parable of the Good Samaritan. If you find this intriguing I hope that you will join others to go deeper.

That Jesus used stories to teach is well attested to in the Gospels. It is worth noting that Jesus used stories extremely well, and the stories he told, the parables, still serve as powerful teachings

Read Luke 10:25-29.

It is not unusual for the Gospel writer to include a context in which the parable was told, and this is the context. According to Luke the question, "Who is my neighbor?" was asked by the lawyer to justify himself. How would he be doing that?

We turn to Jesus' response to this question, the parable of the Good Samaritan. In the context, then, this parable intends to answer the question posed by the lawyer who wants to know what he must do to inherit eternal life. Love your neighbor. Well, who is my neighbor?

Read Luke 10:30-37.

In any parable it is a good approach to ask yourself where do you see yourself fitting in. The challenge here is to know that when Jesus told this parable the Jewish people would never identify with the Samaritan, which leaves the victim to identify with. How does this story answer the lawyer's question?

As a sort of counter-balance to the parable of the Good Samaritan, this account of Mary and Martha presents a differing point of view.

Read Luke 10:38-42.

One could read the parable of the Good Samaritan and come away believing that we are saved by our good works. If that does not apply in Martha's case, what are we expected to be doing for God?

Church Councils will meet on Tuesday, March 8, 2022
Joint Meeting @ 7:00 p.m. @ West Freeborn.
A representative from the Synod will be present at the meeting.

Cross of Glory Council Minutes - February 1, 2022

Present: Pastor Steve, Steve Bakken, Ron Bartness, Linda Brekke, Matt Hoelscher, Carol Light, Paul Lynne, Jerry Morstad, Jill Morstad and Emily Wakefield. President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order. Pastor Steve led us in devotion and prayer. Pastor Steve reported that Wednesday school and confirmation classes have gone to mostly hybrid model due to rise in COVID cases. When students are present, most parents are also represented. Parents will be asked to help shovel snow on Wednesday evenings.

Carol discussed items in the secretary's report. Report was approved as read with no additions or corrections. Matt made the motion to accept the secretary's report and Jill seconded it. Motion carried. Linda gave the treasurer's report. Report was approved as read. Paul made a motion to pay bills and Steve gave a second to the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business: The heat register in the social hall has been repaired. For Rachel Knudson's many years of service, a gift has been purchased. Past plans for our church's centennial celebration were discussed. We are possibly going to have the celebration in September.

New Business: Snow Removal: Alvin will not be available to do snow removal in the coming weeks. Steve will ask Brandon Flatness if he will make a path on the backside of the church. It is our responsibility to keep this open. Steve will also help with snow removal.

Lenten Services: The pastor checked to see which congregation is to host Ash Wednesday Service and it was determined that West Freeborn hosts this year. Meals will be served before Lenten services, excluding Ash Wednesday. Cross of Glory will be responsible for the March 9, 23 and April 6 evening meals. More discussion will take place at the March council meeting.

Insurance Policy: The policy ends on February 15. There are very few changes anticipated.

Lenten Outreach: Possible ideas for Lenten outreach were discussed. Some possibilities include: NR Food Shelf, specifically the backpack program and sending greetings to shut-ins.

Luther League Account: The Luther league account will be closed and the monies will be moved to the Sunday school account. Motion was made by Ron and seconded by Paul to complete this transaction. Motion carried.

Joint Council Meeting: The March meeting will be held at 7:00 PM on March 1 at West Freeborn.

Steve made a motion for adjournment, seconded by Jill. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by: Carol Light, Secretary

West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council Meeting – Feb. 01, 2022

The West Freeborn Church Council met on Feb. 01, 2022, via Zoom. Members present were Glenn Ausen, Steve Ausen, Pat Ehrich, Mike Ehrich, Corky Modene, Pastor Steve and Becky Ausen. President Glenn Ausen, called the meeting to order. Pastor gave a prayer. Pastor Steve let us know that it is our turn to host Ash Wednesday, which will be March 01, 2022. Cross of Glory has decided they will be doing suppers before Lenten services on their Wednesdays.

Becky read the secretaries report. Mike made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Steve seconded it. Motion passed. Pat read the treasurer's report. Corky made a motion to pay the bills. Mike seconded it. Motion passed. We had a very nice donation this past month, which helped us make budget. Once again, we would like to thank all members who help our church finances 😊

Old Business:

- **Update on Furnaces:** They are being installed and they will be twinning them together. See a council member on what this means if you don't know.
- **Paint and Wall Repair in Sanctuary:** Glenn will be contacting Kevin Ohman and Troy Newman and see if they would like to do the job. Actually, Troy Newman will be coming this Saturday, Feb. 05 at 9AM to take a look at the walls. Corky will get ahold of Matt Staloch. Between these three men, we hope to get some bids and get this taken care of.
- **Windows in Social Hall:** Corky and Glenn will be also asking Troy and Matt about the social hall windows.
- **Plaques for Sanctuary Windows:** Pat will look up who the names are that donated money to have these windows redone. Mike will contact a company and get the plaques made so we can get them put on the windows.
- **Update on Synod Response for Call Committee:** Glenn and Jerry are going to contact the Synod mid-February and at the March joint council meeting this will be discussed.

New Business:

- **Ash Wednesday:** West will be hosting Ash Wednesday this year, which will be on Wed. Mar. 02, 2022. There will be NO supper before that service.
Lenten Services: Cross of Glory will be doing suppers before the services. The council decided that we would also host a light supper before our other two services. Those Weds. will be March 16th and Mar. 30th. Becky will let the Activity Committee know.
- **Joint Council Meeting in March at West Freeborn:** This will be on March 1st at 7pm.
- **Other New Business:** It was decided that the piano in the downstairs Choir Room would be brought up if there was ever a time that church would need to be held in the Social Hall. Also, Mike and Pat will look into getting 2 coat trees made for the Social hall so people could hang their coats on them instead of putting them on the chairs. This way they can be moved to wherever they are needed. Pat made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Steve seconded it. Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted, Becky Ausen, Secretary

Minutes of Cross of Glory Annual Meeting - December 12, 2021

President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order and asked for an adoption of the agenda. No objection was voiced and the agenda was adopted as listed. Jerry led us in prayer as Pastor Steve was leading service at West Freeborn.

Jill Morstad read the secretary's report from the 2020 Annual meeting (the secretary's position has been open for several months). There were no additions or corrections to the secretary's report. Hearing none Jerry stated the report was approved as read.

Treasurer Linda Brekke gave the treasurer's report referring to the balance sheet as well as the profit and loss Budget vs Actual. The Paycheck Protection Program loan of \$ 11,920 and the forgiveness of that loan was stated as well as the cost of the boiler replacement that was paid in Dec of 2020 at a cost of \$22,311 with a rebate received of \$1,840.

Donation was received from L&D Ag and a stock share dividend from Hartland Manchester Telephone of \$4,000. Net Income for the year was - \$1,993.85. Total assets are staying steady around \$141,000.

Linda expressed much thanks to Kathy Spooner and Jane Crowe for their assistance as Financial Secretaries and also many thanks to Allyson Olson (accountant) and Cindi Christenson (office secretary) for their efforts! The proposed budget for 2022 was then reviewed and it was stated that the council had approved a pastor's salary increase of 3% and this is represented in the budget. Jerry stated it wouldn't be effective until approved at West Freeborn's annual meeting. It was also noted that the budget for the custodian allows for some flexibility as that was a salaried position in the past and now is paid on an hourly rate. It was also stated that Alvin Morstad is continuing to do lawn mowing and snow removal as a donation. Ann Lynne encouraged everyone to express their thanks to him for this generous gift.

Paul Lynne made a motion to accept the treasurer's report and the proposed budget as listed. 2nd by Earl Lynne. Motion carried. Thank you was expressed by those present for Linda's work with the financials

Jerry read the president's report as was printed in the annual report. Jerry expressed thanks to Duane Spooner for replacing the parsonage steps and also for his assistance in painting the peaks on the social hall and the canopy over the sidewalk. This painting was a donation. Zach Jacobsen stated he hoped to be more involved now that he is mostly finished with his home building. No report of activities were offered from any groups.

No Old Business was discussed. No New Business was raised. The slate of officers for 2022 was presented.

President – Jerry Morstad - **Vice President** – Ron Bartness - **Secretary** – Carol Light - **Treasurer**- Linda Brekke

(Allyson Olson- -accountant) - **Financial Secretaries**- Kathy Spooner and Jane Crowe - **Head Usher**: Earl Lynne

Trustees: Matt Hoelscher; Tim Bartness, Zach Jacobsen, Paul Lynne, Steve Bakken.

Deacons: Martin Johnson, Jill Morstad, Emily Wakefield.

Ann Lynne made a motion to accept the unanimous ballot. Motion seconded by Virgil Thofson. Motion carried. Appreciation was stated by Jill and Jerry Morstad for all who were willing to remain on the council and Jerry expressed gratitude for those of younger age to commit to these positions. Thankfulness stated that this year went as well as it did. Allyson Olson's help was again expressed. Thanks was expressed to Jerry and to all the officers.

Financial statements were discussed and it was decided that Kathy and Jane would send statements out for what they have record of. If checks are brought to the office or directly to the bank they don't have record of those. The statements will be provided from December to December.

A question was asked as to what the opinion was from those present regarding a Centennial celebration. Jerry had mentioned in the president's report that a further plan as to when to have this celebration was uncertain. Interest was questionable. Zach expressed that he felt it was important and the possibility of having something outside was discussed briefly. It was determined to keep it in mind. Hearing no further business Jerry asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Arlene Thofson and 2nd by Paul Lynne. Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully submitted by Jill Morstad (Deacon)

West Freeborn Sunday School following Sunday worship



Quilting @ WF - Wed. March 2nd, March 16th & March 30th – 9:00 a.m.



Wednesday Night Youth Worship @ Cross of Glory – Wednesday's – 6:00

NO CONFIRMATION CLASSES DURING LENT

Daylight Saving Time begins Sunday, March 13th!



West Freeborn Attendance: January, 2022: Jan. 2 – No church; Jan. 9 – 24; Jan. 16 – 36; Jan. 23 – 12; Jan. 30 – 15.
February, 2022: Feb. 6 – 18; Feb. 13 – 38; Feb. 20 – 15; Feb. 27 – 20.

West Freeborn Ushers for March, 2022: *Roger Bakken, Kaleb Bjornstad, Dave Ausen, Steve Hannegreffs, Sue Bakken.

Cross of Glory Attendance: February, 2022: Feb. 6 – 22; Feb. 13 – 17; Feb. 20 – no attendance recorded; Feb. 27 – no attendance recorded.

Statistics for Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

Date	General Fund	Improvement Fund	Mission Fund	Cemetery Fund
2-6-22	\$ 1,775.20	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
2-13-22	805.00	150.00	0.00	10.00
2-20-22	1,070.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2-27-22	2,655.00	640.00	0.00	200.00
TOTALS	\$ 6,305.20	\$ 790.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 210.00

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 – contact for funerals, etc. 845-2255 (home) – 402-4577 (cell)

Alvin Morstad, Grounds keeper & boiler maintenance – 845-2813 (home) – 402-8612 (cell)

March -2022 ✘ 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 <i>Council meetings rescheduled for March 8th.</i>	2 Quilting @ WF – 9:00 a.m. Wed. Night Worship for Youth – 6:00 p.m. – CG *Ash Wednesday service @ WF - 7:00 p.m. No supper before. *No Confirmation	3	4	5
6 WF – 9:00 a.m. Worship Sunday School following Worship CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m. Communion	7	8 Church Council meetings. Joint meeting @ 7:00 p.m. @ WF. Synod Representative will be at the meeting.	9 Wed. Night Worship for Youth – 6:00 p.m. – CG *Lenten Service @ CG 7:00 p.m. Supper before service 6:00 p.m. *No Confirmation	10	11	12
13 WF – 9:00 a.m. Worship CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m. *Daylight Savings begins! Spring forward ☺	14	15	16 Quilting @ WF – 9:00 a.m. <u>NO Wed. Night Worship for Youth @ CG</u> *Lenten Service @ WF 7:00 p.m. Supper before service 6:00 p.m. *No Confirmation	17	18	19
20 WF – 9:00 a.m. Worship Sunday School following Worship CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m.	21	22	23 Wed. Night Worship for Youth – 6:00 p.m. – CG *Lenten Service @ CG 7:00 p.m. Supper before service 6:00 p.m. *No Confirmation	24	25	26
27 WF – 9:00 a.m. Worship Sunday School following Worship CG – Worship – 10:30 a.m. Communion	28	29	30 Quilting @ WF – 9:00 a.m. Wed. Night Worship for Youth – 6:00 p.m. – CG *Lenten Service @ WF 7:00 p.m. Supper before service 6:00 p.m. *No Confirmation			