

Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches – October 2023

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



Congratulations to our Fall 2023 Confirmands!



ALL are welcome to a service of Holy Communion with Affirmation of Baptism/Confirmation

When – Sunday, October 8, 2023 at 10:30 a.m.

Where – Cross of Glory Lutheran Church in Hartland, MN

As we worship and celebrate this milestone in faith with **Melina Bell, Camryn VanMaldeghem and Quinn VanMaldeghem** and their families. All are invited to stay for a Lasagna Dinner (cost is a free will donation). **God bless you Melina, Camryn and Quinn on your Confirmation!**

Sundays and Mentors and ALL IN...Oh My! Fall and Faith Formation at Cross and West

A HUGE thank you goes out to Jade O'Byrne (West Freeborn) and Lacey Koopal (Cross of Glory) for your visioning, your organization and your readiness as we dig into Fall 2023 for Children, Youth and Families in our congregations! You know your families, your kiddos in both churches, and we are blessed by your enthusiasm and presence as fall children's programming unfolds.

Sundays at West – Look for some barely-noticeable tweaks, especially parents, as we plan to intentionally engage and **connect a many of our children's sermons to our Sunday School lessons** as possible. As we work to be more intentional in our overlap, remember parents and families that talking about our faith lessons often and outside of Sunday mornings helps them to stick for life-long faith development! (And you're doing a GREAT job!)

Wednesdays at Cross – you'll see a return of our monthly Pizza Nights, always coupled with a standing request for lemonade or beverages, sides that are healthy like GoGurt, Fruit Cups or fresh fruit, Veggies and dip, or even sweet treats for desserts. Watch for reminders and request as Pizza nights pop up in our schedule. (Our first on is Wednesday, October 25th)

Mentors and Mentor Nights for 3rd year Confirmation Students are new this year, so as we roll out our 3rd Year Confirmation expectations, you'll see these pop up about every other month. 3rd Year students **should be looking for a mentor** (preferably a congregation member from your congregation or our parish partner) who can be present with and for you as you go throughout the year. Remember to notify Pastor Marcia once you've chosen your mentor! **Our First Mentor Night of the year will be Wednesday, October 25th**, so as you work through some of your mentor packet together, share a pizza supper and get to know each other, we look forward to supporting you through the year to come. Tentatively, our 3rd year students are looking toward Confirmation Sunday on April 21st, 2024.

All In Nights- As we look to make space for the entire community, we're adding once a month Wednesdays ALL IN Nights, where our confirmation students through seniors in high school are welcome for an evening of fun, games, food/snacks and connecting faith lessons. One question posed to me already was "Is this also a Confirmation class night?" and my answer was YES. Though we'll step away from our curriculum in our Bible Overview year, we will be working on our community and team building skills as we welcome those confirmed already and our incoming students new to classes this year. We're excited to see how these changes help us connect to each other, to our Faith in God, and to our wider church community.

It's a Wrap! - Thanks again to all who have participated in reading and discussion around our two summer reads, focused on books written by Indigenous/Native American authors around the #truthandreconciliation studies and emphasis in the churchwide ELCA. Speaking on behalf of the group, we've learned and grown a lot, and we look to explore the next area of study and learning. God's blessings to you as you learn and grow, and if YOU have a suggestion of a book or topic that you're curious about, please connect with Pastor Marcia by calling the church at 507-509-3396 or by emailing pastor.cgwf@gmail.com.

Looking ahead – Save these dates - Sunday, October 1st – Communion at West, No Communion at Cross

Sunday, October 8th – Confirmation service WITH Communion at Cross of Glory at 10:30, with a Lasagna meal to follow (free will donation, no ticket sales), Also Blessing of the Quilts and (School) Kits at both Cross and West – thanks for all your hard work folks!

Sunday evening, October 8th – Tuesday, October 10th – Pastor Marcia Out of the Office at Fall Theological Conference.

Wednesday, October 18th and Sunday, October 22nd – No Wednesday Worship, No Confirmation, No Sunday School due to MEA school breaks. Classes resume Wednesday, October 25th (WW, Confirmation Mentor Night, All In AND Pizza night), and Sunday, October 29th.

From Cross of Glory Council - Re: Congregational Input related to Parsonage Proceeds

Following conversation regarding the sale of the Parsonage, discussions have focused what should happen with the proceeds from the sale of the parsonage. The primary idea that has surfaced repeatedly was that the Council would like input from the Congregation.

You're likely aware also that proceeds are in a short term CD, a safe investment, and you're also likely aware that as you look around the building there are "investments" that you see need to be made as well not only in structure but in mission and ministry. Here's where we'd like to hear from you...

What do YOU want funds from the sale of the parsonage to be used for?

As you think about the possibilities related to building and property needs, hospitality and worship related expenses (including Altar Guild needs), mission and ministry needs, children, youth and family ministry, there indeed many ways to utilize these funds. When ideas surface, please share them with the Congregational Council via the church email at cgwf@smig.net, or by using paper forms available on the offering table.

Ideas must be submitted before November 15th, as suggestions will be discussed at this year's annual meeting. Thank you all for your care and concern for Cross of Glory's mission and ministry, we look forward to hearing from you. Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Cross of Glory Congregational Council.

Cross of Glory Council Minutes - September 5, 2023

Present: Pastor Marcia Pedersen, Steve Bakken, Ron Bartness, Linda Brekke, Carol Light, Paul Lynne and Jerry Morstad. President Jerry Morstad called the meeting to order and Pastor Marcia led us in a prayer. Carol read the minutes of the August 8, 2023 meeting submitted by Jill Morstad. Ron made the motion to accept the Secretary's report and Matt seconded it. Motion carried. Linda gave the Treasurer's report. Matt made the motion to approve Treasurer's report as read and pay bills as funds allow. Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Marcia presented a detailed report to the council for the month of August. If you would like to see the report, there will be one in the office to view. Pastor Marcia gave a recap of the August events and services in her report.

Old Business: Pastor Marcia and Cindi researched four possibilities for a computer to replace the one in the office. The selection was narrowed down to the Dell Inspiron 3020 Intel package and the Dell Inspiron 27 inch Touchscreen. After a group discussion, Paul made a motion to purchase the Dell Inspiron 3020 Intel package for \$1049.98 plus the service plan. Steve seconded the motion. Motion carried. The cost of the computer will be shared with West Freeborn. Steve will continue to be in touch with Brandon Flatness regarding the church basement walls.

New Business: Repair or replacement of bathroom sinks is scheduled for Friday, September 8. Forms need to be signed this evening to move forward with this project. The broken basement windows have been replaced where glass was broken.

Pastor Marcia will be meeting with Kari Thostenson on September 6 regarding the use of the church facility for MSP/LIS for Rural Communities. This is a program that helps coordinate people with needs with resources in their community. Pastor Marcia invited any one from the council that is interested to attend this meeting.

Confirmation for Cross of Glory will be held on Sunday, October 8 at 10:30 am. A lasagna dinner will be served. A free will offering instead of tickets will be included. Kathy Spooner will work with the Confirmation students and leaders to make their own stoles for Confirmation. We will be purchasing gowns for Confirmation Sunday and will add to this selection each year as needed.

A form of communication is needed to gather information from members of the congregation as to what to do with money from the sale of the parsonage. Do we want a letter or a survey format? Should this be mailed or emailed or both? It was stated in the July minutes that we would like this feedback by November 15, so it would be ready to discuss at the annual meeting.

Paul made a motion to cut curb to the south and place an apron to the height of sidewalk. Also, repair curb on the north side of church with the apron to the height of the sidewalk. Ron seconded the motion. Motion carried. This will help with removal of snow.

Thank you for your financial support of Cross of Glory. It is much appreciated. Matt made a motion for adjournment and seconded by Ron. Motion carried. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting Date: Tuesday, October 3, 2023 @ 7 p.m. Respectfully submitted by: Carol Light, Secretary

West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council Sept. 05, 2023

West Freeborn Lutheran Church Council met via Zoom Sept. 05, 2023. Members present were Glenn, Kristin, Steve, Corky, Pastor Marcia and Becky. Glenn called the meeting to order. Pastor Marcia gave a prayer.

Pastor Marcia had sent each of the council members her report for the month on Aug. It will be posted on the church refrigerator. Becky read the secretaries report. Steve made a motion to accept the report as read. Kristin seconded it. Motion passed. Becky read the treasurer's report. We did not make budget this month again!!! 😞 Kristin made a motion to pay the bills. Steve seconded it. Motion passed.

Old Business:

- **Air Exchange Unit that was replaced:** No word on this at this time.
- **Cemetery project:** They have been working on the stones. Take a look at their progress.
- **Tech Update for Cindi's Computer:** Kristin made a motion to purchase a desktop computer for under \$1,500.00. Steve seconded it. Motion passed. The cost will be split with Cross of Glory.

New Business:

- **There was no new business.**

Next council meeting will be Tuesday Oct. 03

Steve made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kristin/Corky seconded it. Closed with the Lord's Prayer by Pastor Marcia.

Respectfully submitted, Becky Ausen, Secretary

Do-it Yourself Bible Study

For our Bible study this month, let's look at the scripture readings for October 15, 2023. If you find this interesting I hope that you will join others to go deeper. In Isaiah we are given a vision of the great feast to come, when God will wipe away death forever.

Read Isaiah 25:1-9.

After a hymn of praise acknowledging God as a shelter for the poor, the prophet portrays a wonderful victory banquet at which death was swallowed up forever. The prophet urges celebration of this victory of salvation.

Though writing from prison and facing an uncertain future, Paul calls on the Philippians to rejoice and give thanks to God no matter what the circumstance.

Read Philippians 4:1-9.

God's peace is with us and binds together our hearts and minds in Jesus Christ, especially when things around us do not seem peaceful. Do we feel bound together in today's world?

In Jesus' parable about a great banquet, those invited do not come, so the invitation is extended to others. In our liturgy God spreads a table before us.

Read Matthew 22:1-14

Jesus tells a parable indication that the blessings of God' kingdom are available to all, but the invitation is not to be taken lightly.

Even amid anxiety and hardship we rejoice in the peace of God which surpasses all understanding. With great joy we feast at the table of the Lord, and we go forth to share the wonderful invitation with others hungering and thirsting for the abundant life of God.

September Quilting @ West Freeborn - Wed. Oct. 11 & 25 - 9:00 a.m.



***Wanted: Looking for new/used sheets (medium to dark colors preferred) for tops and backs for quilts. Blankets (at least 60 x 80 inches – no fleece) for middles. Fabric (cotton/cotton blend preferred) for quilt blocks. Drop off at WF (in the quilt room) or the church office @ CG, or contact Karen Ausen for questions or pickup.**



Coffee hour at West Freeborn is in need of people bringing goodies and taking turns to help with the serving. I think all enjoy the fellowship that happens over a cup of coffee, juice or beverage of choice. A little sweet snack is also appreciated, as well as a savory one too!!! (Ex. cookies, donuts, cheese, crackers...the sky is the limit☺) Please sign up on the calendar on the island to help serve or furnish. Also, you can bring **PURCHASED** packages of cookies and place in the freezer for the Sundays where we need some extra treats!



West Freeborn Church Members

Mark your calendar for Sunday, November 19! We will be having our "**Annual Harvest Bazaar**". Get your crafts ready and start planning the goodies that you will bring for the auction! Stay tuned next month when more details will be available. ☺

Community Events

Tuesday, Oct. 10 – 6:00 p.m. - St. John’s Fountain Lake Chapel

Light dinner with an informal presentation followed by tours of St. John’s Lutheran Community. St. John’s was established over 60 years ago by 24 Lutheran Churches in Freeborn County. (See flyer on bulletin board or more information)

***Attendance for September, 2023- WF: Sun, Sept. 3-17; Sun. Sept. 10 - 24; Sun. Sept. 17 – 31; Sun. Sept. 24 – 46.
Attendance for September, 2023- CG: Sun. Sept. 3 – 27; Sun. Sept. 10 – 24; Sun. Sept. 17 – 35; Sun. Sept. 24 – not recorded.***

Ushers for WF – October, 2023: *Wayne Hendrickson, Adam Dahlen, Nanette Hendrickson, Ron Lageson.

Statistics for Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

Printing completed August totals:

	General Fund	Improvement Fund	Mission Fund	Cemetery Fund
8-6-23	\$ 2,505.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 50.00
8-13-23	1,400.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
8-20-23	Joint Service @ WF			
8-27-23	980.00	0.00	0.00	200.00
TOTALS	\$ 4,885.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 400.00
9-3-23	\$ 1,875.00	\$ 20.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 210.00
9-10-23	2,530.00	0.00	35.00	150.00
9-17-23	560.00	250.00	0.00	50.00
9-24-23 - not recorded at print time.				
TOTALS	\$ 4,965.00	\$ 270.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 410.00

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



October-2023 ✳️ 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 WF Worship – 9:00 a.m. Communion CG Worship – 10:30 a.m. No Communion	2	3 Church Councils meet	4 Confirmation Party @ CG – 7:00 p.m. No Wed. Worship	5	6	7
8 WF Worship – 9:00 a.m. <i>Quilt & Kit Blessing</i> <i>Confirmation @ CG – 10:30</i> <i>a.m. with Communion. Meal</i> <i>to follow</i>	9 Hartland Hi-Liners 4-H Club meets @ 6:30 p.m. @ CG <i>Pastor Marcia</i> <i>attending Fall</i> <i>Theological</i> <i>Conference-out of</i> <i>office</i>	10	11 <i>Quilting @ WF – 9:00</i> <i>a.m.</i> 6:00 p.m. Wed. Worship @ CG 7:00 p.m. Confirmation @ CG	12	13	14
15 WF Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG Worship – 10:30 a.m.	16	17	18 No Wed. Worship or Confirmation	19	20	21
22 WF Worship – 9:00 a.m. No SS today CG Worship – 10:30 a.m.	23	24	25 <i>6:00 p.m. Wed.</i> <i>Worship</i> <i>7:00 p.m. All-in Night</i> <i>Pizza!!!</i>	26	27	28
29 WF Worship – 9:00 a.m. CG Worship – 10:30 a.m. Communion	30	31				