

# Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches

## Hartland, MN

**Sunday Morning Worship times: Cross of Glory service is each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School begins at 10:15 a.m.**

**West Freeborn service is each Sunday at 10:30 am. Please come early for coffee before the worship service.  
Sunday School begins at 9:15 a.m.**



*From: Pastor Mark Hillmer*

When I think of November I think of cold weather, cloudy skies, blustery winds. But November also conjures up Thanksgiving: Family get-togethers, turkey dinners (and all the trimming, of course) and a church service, often celebrated community-wide. At Cross of Glory-West Freeborn, it is a joint worship at 7:00 p.m. Wednesday, November 26<sup>th</sup> at Cross of Glory.

The national holiday is on the following day, but the wise women of our parish have some time ago decided that Thursday was for cooking. Praising God was best done on the day before Turkey Day, as has been somewhat materialistically renamed by some. Thanksgiving is the better term.

Why give thanks to God? Because when we think about all the things we enjoy: life, (and a purpose to it), love, health (when we have it), children, good food, vacations and the most powerful, most prosperous and freest country in the world, our enjoyment spontaneously overflows into praise.

And those who believe in God have the advantage of having *Someone* to praise. We are not just stuck with our inexpressible praise (and the greater the enjoyment the more inexpressible our joy become), but we have *Someone* we can "let it all out" to.

Praise almost seems to be inner health made audible. Have you noticed how the humblest and most balanced people praise the most, while the cranks, misfits and malcontents praise the least?

Why do we get together to give thanks? Because we not only praise what we value, we spontaneously urge others to join us in praising.

"Isn't she lovely?" ... "Wasn't it glorious?" ... "Don't you think that is magnificent?" Praise completes the enjoyment. Haven't you felt the frustration of seeing a really bright and complete rainbow with no one there to share it with? Of observing the full moon coming up dark orangish red and you are all alone? Of hearing the glorious song of a bird you've never heard before without someone to say to, "Listen to that. Do you know what kind of bird that is?"

Let's gather together on Thanksgiving Eve and share our praise in loud song to our Creator God. As an added extra, He comes nearer to us on the wings of our praise to Him.

## Cross of Glory Trustees and Deacons Meeting – September 2, 2014

Glenn Ausen called the second half of the meeting to order. Cathy Crowe led the council and deacons in prayer. Rachel Knudson read the secretary's report. Steve Bakken made a motion to approve the minutes as read. Cathy Crowe seconded.

Jon Stelter read the treasurer's report. Steve made a motion to approve the report and pay the bills as money allows. Matt Hoelscher seconded. There was also a motion to increase the amount of money approved for use in the parsonage renovations, especially since a big expense like anew kitchen cabinets will be forthcoming. Randy Light made a motion to increase the budget to \$30,000 (\$15K for our portion). Steve seconded.

### Old Business:

1. Steve offered to remind John Hullopeter about the cement project that hasn't been completed.
2. Regarding the continuing education funds Pastor Frank requested last month and we rejected, he talked with Glenn and informed him that he is entitled to those funds according to his contract and having worked half the year. Cathy Crowe made a motion to amend our decision since it is a contractual commitment and reimburse for the continuing education. Randy Light seconded.
3. We still have to get in touch with Brandon Flatness about the tile by the Sunday School room. Now the parsonage needs some tile work so hopefully we can combine jobs.

### New Business:

1. West Freeborn will be hosting their Harvest Bazaar on November 16<sup>th</sup>.
2. Matt Hoelscher has offered to remove the crab apple trees from the parsonage yard. Paul Wyrum will be able to remove the stumps.
3. It was suggested that the landscaping around the church needs to get cleaned up.
4. Next month, we will be meeting with the West Freeborn council again in a joint meeting, hosted at West Freeborn. It will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month.
5. We are scheduled to have a couple baptisms in the near future, which is always a joy.
6. Lori, Cathy, Angela Bell, and Robin Brekke will be helping as mentors during confirmation classes.
7. Jon Stelter announced that he is hoping to be done with his term as treasurer in November, at the end of the church year. He has offered to help the next treasurer with the transition.

Steve Bakken made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Randy Light seconded. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Rachel Knudson, Secretary

## Cross of Glory Trustees and Deacons Meeting – October 7, 2014

Randy Light, vice president, called the second half of the meeting to order. Glenn Ausen, Lyle Bird, Steve Bakken, Kyle Wakefield, and Paul Lynne were absent. Rachel Knudson read the secretary's report. The minutes were approved as read. Jon Stelter read the treasurer's report. Matt Hoelscher made a motion to approve the report and pay the bills as money allows. Cathy Crowe seconded.

### Old Business:

1. The cement around the bell tower hasn't been fixed yet.
2. The cabinets have arrived and will begin being installed on Wednesday.

### New Business:

1. West Freeborn will be hosting their Harvest Bazaar on November 16<sup>th</sup>. We will be switching worship service times.
2. We suggested some possible congregation members to approach to be on the transitional sub-committee to work on the church profile. We hope that people are willing to serve on this important committee during this significant time for our church.

Matt Hoelscher made a motion to adjourn the meeting. John Stelter seconded. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Rachel Knudson, Secretary

## **West Freeborn Lutheran Church Special Meeting – September 28, 2014**

The West Freeborn Church had a special meeting right after church on Sept. 28 2014. President Orlen Modene called the meeting to order. Thirty-nine members of the congregation were present.

Pat Ehrich, Dale Christopherson and Mark Broskoff have been getting estimates for all that we need for the handicap accessibility project.

This project would be done in two phases. Phase One would be to get the ramp across on the top level and convert the Sunday School rooms into the new social hall. Also frame up the lift area. Phase Two would be to install the lift.

Matt Staloch has submitted a bid of approximately \$25,800 for the labor. If we do the demolition of the Sunday School rooms ourselves we could save approximately \$2,400. Pat stated that we have enough money in the handicap fund for the labor bill, but would need to raise more for the materials and the lift. The lift is around \$16,000.

The kitchen area would cost approximately \$5,000 to install. We are hoping the women's fund would help with the cost of the new kitchen.

Plans have been sent to the "Planning and Zoning Office" to get the permit.

Pat had diagrams of what the new area would look like.

A vote was taken. There were 10 no's and 29 yes's. We will go ahead with the plans.

Oscar Ausen made a motion for the meeting to adjourn. Sue Bakken seconded it. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Becky Ausen, Secretary

## **Cross of Glory and West Freeborn Lutheran Church Joint Council Meeting October 7, 2014.**

The Joint Council meeting of Cross of Glory and West Freeborn Churches met on October 7, 2014 at 7:00 p.m. at West Freeborn. Nancy Pederson, Mark Broskoff, Lori Fleming, Cathy Crowe, Randy Light, Matt Hoelscher, Rachel Knudson, Pat Ehrich, John Stelter, Tim Bartness, Mike Ehrich, Bob Indrelie, Holly Dahl, Dale Christopherson, Pastor Mark and Becky Ausen were present.

Pastor Hillmer gave devotions. Cross of Glory Vice-President Randy Light called the meeting to order. Secretaries report was read by Becky Ausen.

### **Pastor's Report:**

- Bonnie is getting their house ready to sell in the cities.
- Could use Cindi Christenson one more day each week. Would like to have her on Wednesday also. The Joint Council will need to discuss.
- Pastor talked about how we move forward in calling a new pastor.

A "Transition Team" needs to be put together. Five to seven people, made up of members from both congregations would need to be on this team. No council members can be on this. These would be divided into three teams. 1. Congregation Assessment (history, etc.) 2. Staffing needs 3. Mission Vision.

Tonight we need to appoint a sub-committee for people willing to work on getting candidates for the "Transition Team". Pastor Hillmer would work with this committee.

### **Old Business:**

- Cupboards are in. Duane would like to install on Wednesday morning. They need help removing the old. Saturday, October 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. will be when the old ones will be removed. Spread the word to people. The water will need to be shut off to replace the sink. Dale will check on getting a shut off valve.

- So far for the parsonage project - \$16,843.35 has been paid out. West Freeborn has paid \$8,421.83 towards this.
- Bob Indrelie made a motion to hire Cindi Christenson for Wednesday which would add another 5 hours. Matt Hoelscher seconded it. Motion carried. Cathy will let Cindi know.
- Jon said that the City of Hartland bills are coming out at odd times. He will check into this. We will continue to pay for the landline telephone bill until the pastor gets settled.
- Matt will head up the tree removal committee.

Cathy Crowe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dale seconded it. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted  
Becky Ausen

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**CHURCH WOMEN:**

***\*\*Rachel Circle will meet on Tuesday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m.***

***Hostess : Pat Benson***

***Bible Study: Jill Demmer***

***\*\*Eunice Circle will meet on the Wednesday, November 19th at 1:30 p.m.***

***Hostess: Sonja Honstad***

***\*\* Congratulations to Eric & Brandi (Modene) Grunzke on the birth of their son, Easton Alexander Grunzke, born on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. Easton was baptized at West Freeborn Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 26, 2014. Grandparents are Orlen & Vicky Modene and Lowell Grunzke & Rebecca Martin.***

***\*\* An Open House Bridal Shower for Jenna Brekke, bride to be of Nick Christensen, will be held on Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Cross of Glory Church.***

***\*\* On Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, Richard Thunstedt from the Gideons will speak at both church services.***

***\*\* On Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> Tucker David Modene, son of Shannon & Kristin Modene will be baptized at West Freeborn.***

***\*\* Pastor Hillmer will be offering an evening text study during the Tuesday evenings of November, beginning on Tuesday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6:00 p.m. We will meet downstairs in the lounge at Cross of Glory.***

***\*\*It's time for the Annual Soup & Pie Supper at  
Cross of Glory - November 5<sup>th</sup>***



**4:30 – 7:00 p.m.**

***Serving Chili, Chicken Noodle, Hobo, and Ham & Potato soups, fresh baked bread and desserts. Each family is asked to bring a pie or dessert to the social hall by 3:00 p.m. This annual fund raiser is a wonderful time to work together as a church family. Your help is very appreciated! Contact Jill Morstad with any questions.***

***Coming up: Community Events***

***Saturday, Nov. 1*** – Time & Talent Bazaar at Ascension Lutheran Church in Albert Lea. Morning coffee will be served from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Lunch will be served from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Free will donation.

***Sunday, Nov. 2*** – United Methodist Church in Ellendale – Creamed Chicken Dinner 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

***Sunday, Nov. 2*** – First Congregational Church, New Richland, MN - Annual Fall Bazaar – 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

***Tuesday, Nov. 11*** – Emmons Lutheran Church – Lutefisk Supper – Servings at 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. & from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

***Saturday, Nov. 22*** – First Lutheran Church, Albert Lea – Coffee 8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Lunch 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Statistics for**  
**Cross of Glory Lutheran Church**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>IMPROVEMENTS</b>	<b>MISSIONS</b>
10-5-14	61	\$ 1,689.75	\$ 130.00	\$10.00
10-12-14	62	1,185.00	200.00	0.00
10-19-14	44	552.00	130.00	20.00
10-26-14	55	1,837.00	120.00	0.00
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$ 5,263.75</b>	<b>\$ 580.00</b>	<b>\$ 30.00</b>

Cemetery - \$.20.00

**West Freeborn Lutheran Church**

<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>ATTENDANCE</b>	<b>GENERAL FUND</b>	<b>BUILDING FUND</b>	<b>MISSIONS</b>
9-28-14	52	\$ 2,516.00	\$ 170.00	0.00
10-5-14		1,260.00	0.00	0.00
10-12-14		107.00	0.00	0.00
10-19-14		920.00	1,000.00	0.00
10-26-14		1,075.00	0.00	0.00
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>\$ 5,878.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,170.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

\*\*A note from Cindi: The deadline for the December mailer will be: Monday, November 24, 2014. If you have items or reports, please have them turned into the office by that date, or email them to me at : [cgwf@smig.net](mailto:cgwf@smig.net) Thank You ☺

**\*\*New office hours effective Nov. 1, 2014: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.**

Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Lutheran Churches contact information:

Church Office – 507-845-2818

Glenn Ausen, Cross of Glory President 845-2867

Cindy Stelter, Cross of Glory Sunday School 507-444-9727

Alvin & Cindy Morstad, C.G. Custodians 845-2813

Orlen Modene, West Freeborn President & Custodian 845-2832

West Freeborn Church phone 863-2436

Rev. Mark Hillmer, Parsonage Phone 845-2825

Pastor's cell phone 651-925-6509

