

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church West Freeborn Lutheran Church

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Send info for newsletter to cgwf@smig.net

February 2014

Cross of Glory & West Freeborn Newsletter

March 5 is Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.



Our congregations will worship at a joint service each week in Lent, and the first will be hosted by Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. The service will include Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes. A choir from both churches will sing for worship.

Our midweek Lenten services will alternate between the two churches each Wednesday.

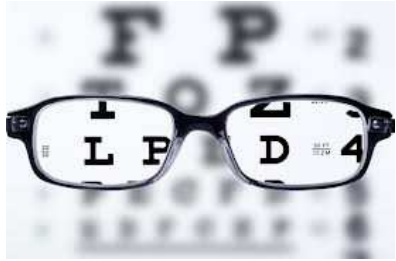
You are invited to begin your Wednesday evening with a **light supper** to be served at the church from 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. each night beginning with Ash Wednesday. (Free will offering.) We hope this will fit busy schedules and enable your whole family to attend midweek.

Worship will start at 7:00 p.m. and will normally be about 45 minutes. Pastors from the New Richland area will share pulpits.

Confirmation students should attend at 6:00 p.m. so they can join their adult mentor in a discussion activity during the light supper. They will complete the activity at 7:00 p.m. and then join their families at worship.

Please make the Lenten season a priority in your house and come with the whole family to worship and learn from our Lord!

Thank You, Lord



If you look up in a dictionary the term *perspective*, you will find the following definitions: “To look through, see clearly; the capacity to view things in their true relations or relative importance.” To have perspective means to see and understand what’s real and vital.

It is with such a point of view that an anonymous believer took a look at life and wrote this prayer titled “Thank you, Lord:”

Even though I clutch my blanket and groan when the alarm rings each morning, *thank you, Lord*, that I can hear. There are those who are deaf.

Even though I keep my eyes tightly closed against the morning light as long as possible, *thank you, Lord*, that I can see. There are many who are blind.

Even though I huddle in my bed and put off the physical effort of rising, *thank you, Lord*, that I have the strength to rise. There are many who are bedridden.

Even though the first hour of my day is hectic, when socks are lost, toast is burned, tempers are short, *thank you, Lord*, for my family. There are many who are lonely.

Even though our table never looks like the pictures in the magazine and the menu is at times unbalanced, *thank you, Lord*, for the food we have. There are many who are hungry.

Even though the routine of my job is often monotonous, *thank you, Lord*, for the opportunity to work. There are many who have no work.

Even though I grumble and gripe and bemoan my fate from day to day and wish my modest circumstances were not quite so modest, *thank you, Lord*, for the gift of my life.

Women of the Church

Circle meetings
For February:



Rachel Circle will meet on Tuesday, February 18 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cross of Glory church. Carol Light is hostess.

Eunice Circle will meet on Wednesday, February 19 at 1:30 p.m. at Senior Court in Albert Lea.

Senior Choir at Cross of Glory: We will rehearse on Wednesday, Feb. 5, 19, and 26 at 7:00 p.m. We will sing for worship on Sunday, February 9 at 10:30 a.m.

Combined West Freeborn and Cross of Glory choirs will rehearse together at Cross of Glory on Wednesday, February 26 at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and learn an anthem for our Ash Wednesday joint service on March 5 (see the cover of this newsletter.)

Looking ahead: Both of our congregations will be serving the **Sunday Coffee at St. John’s Lutheran Home** in March. Cross of Glory will host on March 16; West Freeborn will host on March 23.

Did you know...In 2013, Lutheran World Relief sent \$14.3 million worth of quilts and kits to more than 841,000 people in 21 different countries. Thank you for your part in collecting, sewing, and packing quilts and kits. You help make this good work happen!

Folding Chairs – Would you like to have some worn but useable metal folding chairs for your family or group? Cross of Glory will give you some. Please contact our custodians, Alvin and Cindy Morstad at 845-2813.



Come One, Come All

What: Soup and Sundae Supper

Where: West Freeborn Lutheran Church

When: Sunday, February 9, 2014

Time: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Free Will Offering
Chili and More
Questions? Call Orlen
(Corky) Modene
507-383-4306



The annual assembly of the Blue Earth River Conference of the Southeastern Minnesota Synod – ELCA will be held Sunday, February 9 at First Lutheran Church of Glenville, MN.

Registration opens at 1:00 p.m. and the meeting begins at 2:00 p.m. Our congregations will be represented by our delegates to the synod assembly and our pastor.

Mission Interpreters – In January, Pastor Frank and Kristen attended a training session at Grace Lutheran in Waseca with other mission interpreters from area congregations. Our SE MN Bishop Steve Deltzer began the story sharing with his own experience of food insecurity and why this issue is so important to folks in SE Minnesota. (You can see an outline of his vision in the January Newsletter.)

Cross of Glory and West Freeborn are still in need of a mission interpreter. Please talk with Pastor Frank about this opportunity. As one of our leaders, Shirley Gangstad, put it, “We don’t need a special title to be excited about the work of our church and to share the stories that we hear from a variety of sources. As we share the stories, our enthusiasm shines through and that enthusiasm is contagious. Soon others are telling the stories that they have heard from us! And that is how all this works.”

WEST FREEBORN LUTHERAN CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING -- JANUARY 08, 2014

Present: Nancy Pederson, Milo Madson, Dale Christopherson, Curt Miller, Pat Ehrich, Pastor Frank, Dave Ausen, Doug Jacobs, Bob Indrelie, Orlen Modene, Mark Broskoff and Becky Ausen.

President, Doug Jacobs called the meeting to order. Pastor Frank gave devotions. There was no Secretary’s report as last month there was not a quorum at the meeting. Orlen did talk about how in December the few that were at the meeting did talk about having the Chili and Soup Supper with Ice Cream on Feb. 09. Also Doug had talked with Viola Krogsgaard about using some of the Women’s Funds to help with the heating bill. Treasurer’s report was given by Pat. A motion to accept the report as read was made by Milo, seconded by Curt. Motion carried. Pat stated how we had made budget this past year with an anonymous donation in December from someone in the church. She also brought up how we had received a check from the Clothes Closet in Wells. This money is to be used for a family with a hardship. They would like it to be used to purchase gift cards for things like food or gas. If anyone knows of someone who needs this, let the Pastor know.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. The council went over the budget for 2014. The benevolence was changed to nothing with the congregation deciding what they want to do with it for the year 2014. Dale made a motion to accept the budget and take to the Annual Meeting for congregation approval. Bob Indrelie seconded it. Motion carried.
2. Bob Indrelie made a motion to give \$150.00 to 8 organizations that we have supported in the past and to prepay \$1,200.00 towards L.P. for the heating bill. Dale seconded the motion. Motion carried.
3. Two C.D.’s are coming due. Dale made a motion to leave the C.D.’s the same. Dave seconded it. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Orlen brought up that on Sat. July 19th the group Shine Fest would be holding their annual tractor ride. They would like to stop at West Freeborn Church in the afternoon for a coffee break. All thought this would be fine. More details will be coming later.
2. Dale made a motion to get a new refrigerator for the parsonage. Dave seconded it. Motion carried. *Continued...*

3. The council went over the agenda for the Annual Meeting. It was decided that the handicap accessibility for the church needed to be put on the agenda for Annual Meeting.
4. There was discussion on the handicap sidewalk. Dale will bring ideas to the Annual Meeting for the congregation to look at.
5. Nancy Pederson talked how she and Dave will be gone next year at Harvest Bazaar time. People from the congregation will need to step up to help. Nancy has already booked the polka band. We will bring this up at Annual Meeting.

Milo made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dave seconded it. Motion carried. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Acting Secretary, Becky Ausen

Cross of Glory Trustees Meeting January 7th, 2014

President Glenn Ausen called the meeting to order. Lyle Bird and Tim Bartness were absent. Jodie Reed was also present from the deacons.

Pastor Frank led the council in prayer and devotions based on John 1:43.

The secretary's report was read by Rachel Knudson. Jodie Reed made a motion to approve the minutes. Matt Hoelscher seconded.

Jon Stelter read the treasurer's report. Paul Lynne made a motion to pay the bills as money allows. Tim Siewert seconded.

Old Business:

1. The doors on the Altar Guild and acolyte rooms have been installed.
2. The sump pump is being worked on in the boiler room.
3. The painting of the Sunday School rooms is currently in progress.
4. Pastor Frank reported some leaks in the parsonage. He has a call in to a plumber.

New Business:

1. As long as Russell is around for painting, we decided to have him paint the bathrooms in the narthex. Steve Bakken made a motion and

Randy Light seconded. After discussion about the bathrooms, Jodie Reed made a motion to install one taller toilet in the women's restroom. Randy Light seconded. While they are working on the toilet, the plumbers can also fix the valves that have been getting stuck ever since the town changed the water treatment.

2. Jodie mentioned that the city would like to get an easement for the street that runs in front of the church. They need to lay a pipe underneath it as they run new pipes to Freeborn from the water plant. A couple of people mentioned that they thought we had already done a quick claim deed to the city for that street but if it wasn't done, we are still interested in doing that. Randy made a motion to approve the easement and quick claim deed. Paul seconded.

3. There are many hangers on the coat rack in the narthex that are broken. We are going to look into our options for replacing them.

4. Hunter VanMaldeghem has been hired to shovel the sidewalks. Jodie made a motion to approve a \$10/hour salary. Paul seconded.

5. The parsonage refrigerator is quite old and has been leaking water onto the floor frequently. It has been fixed multiple times and has probably reached a point that it is unrepairable. Further, the age of the appliance means that it is rather inefficient. Jodie Reed agreed to go to Sorenson's in Geneva to pick out a new fridge. West Freeborn would need to vote on this also.

6. Lenten season will be right around the corner, though it is late this year. We discussed that we like having the evening services with West Freeborn, alternating host churches, and serving a light meal before worship.

7. West Freeborn has their annual meeting on January 19th. We will have to switch worship times so they can have the late service to be followed by a potluck and meeting.

8. Someone has offered to buy the church a programmable thermostat. West Freeborn has had a couple so we will check with Corky Modene about his opinion.

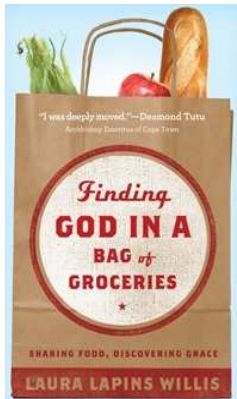
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9. There is money in the memorial fund if we want the computer and projector that were discussed at the annual meeting. We will check with Dave Pederson, since he knows more about technological specifications.

10. We also discussed having a church website since many people look to the internet for finding a church. Glenn offered to get some more information.

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

Rachel Knudson, Secretary



Councils as Leaders in the Church Event
 2:00-5:00 on Sunday, March 9 at Zumbro Lutheran Church in Rochester.

***This event is for all officers and council members of our congregations, and any other members interested in the mission of our churches.*

Come hear stories as Laura Lapins Willis shares her journey of discovering what it means to care for ALL in God's family, especially those struggling with poverty and food insecurity. Her stories shed light on the impact each act of grace provides to both those who give and receive. They highlight how we can be "the hands of Jesus" in our own communities.

Working with those in our communities struggling to provide nutritious food is not simply a practical issue (i.e. how do we help provide and advocate for those in need). This work gets to the heart of the Christian faith: Love your neighbor as yourself. Attendees will have time in small groups to be challenged to consider how their local leadership can both care for the hungry and renew their congregations through serving God in this way.

At Council As Leaders, each congregation will receive a copy of Laura's book, Finding God in a Bag of Groceries: Sharing Food, Discovering Grace, compliments of the SEMN Synod Congregational Renewal Table.

Statistics for January 2014

CROSS OF GLORY LUTHERAN CHURCH				
SUNDAY	ATTEN-DANCE	GENERAL FUND	IMPROVE-MENT	MISSIONS FUND
Dec 29	32	\$ 310.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 60.00
Jan 5	Service cancelled due to weather			
Jan 12	49	1,465.00	5.00	10.00
Jan 19	43	1,096.00	0	0
Cemetery fund = \$ 10.00				
WEST FREEBORN LUTHERAN CHURCH				
SUNDAY	ATTEN-DANCE	GENERAL FUND	BUILDING UND	MISSIONS FUND
Dec 29		\$ 588.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 0
Jan 5	Service cancelled due to weather			
Jan 12		3,663.00	100.00	270.00
Jan 19		854.00	0	45.00

Looking Ahead: Worship Assistants for the Month of March 2014

Cross of Glory:

Ushers: Randy Light, Earl Lynne
 Acolyte: Lillian Bell, Aaron Fleming
 Communion Server: Kyle Wakefield

West Freeborn:

Ushers: Steve Ausen, Dave Ausen, Steve Hannegrefs
 Acolyte: see schedule in narthex
 Communion Server: Dave Ausen

Each month you can find reading materials in the church narthex to take with you: Copies of *The Lutheran* magazine, and devotionals, *Scripture Union Bible Study* and *Christ in Our Home*. There are also copies of our Southeastern Minnesota Synod monthly newsletter.

An enlarged copy of the Sunday worship bulletin can be provided for you. Please let Pastor Frank know if you would like one each week.

When the weather on Sunday looks bad...You can listen to KATE Radio, 1450 AM for church closings, or you can call the church office (845-2818) for a recorded message if services or Sunday School have been cancelled.

February 2014 ✦ Cross of Glory & W. Freeborn Lutheran Churches, Hartland, MN

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
Cross of Glory Ushers: Shawn Larson Communion Servers: Cathy Crowe Acolytes: John Hoelscher Kallie Spooner		West Freeborn Ushers: *Chris Dahl, Mark Langrud, Jim Heidemann, Doug Morrison Communion Servers: Mark Broskoff				1
2 9:00 a.m. Worship at West Freeborn 9:00 a.m. Cross of Glory Sunday School 10:00 a.m. West Freeborn Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship at Cross of Glory	3 9:30 a.m. Week Day Bible Study at Cross of Glory	4 7:00 p.m. Cross of Glory Trustees Board	5 7:00 p.m. Sr. Choir rehearses at CG 7:00 p.m. Confirmation class at Cross of Glory	6 7:00 p.m. West Freeborn Church Council	7	8
9 9:00 a.m. Worship at West Freeborn 9:00 a.m. Cross of Glory Sunday School 10:00 a.m. West Freeborn Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship at Cross of Glory 2:00 p.m. Blue Earth River Conference meets at First Lutheran in Glenville 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Soup & Sundae at WF	10 9:30 a.m. Week Day Bible Study at Cross of Glory	11	12 7:00 p.m. Confirmation class at Cross of Glory	13	14	15
16 9:00 a.m. Worship at West Freeborn 9:00 a.m. Cross of Glory Sunday School 10:00 a.m. West Freeborn Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship at Cross of Glory	17 9:30 a.m. Week Day Bible Study at Cross of Glory 7:00 Cross of Glory Deacon Board	18 1:30 p.m. Rachel Circle will meet at Cross of Glory	19 1:30 p.m. Eunice Circle will meet at Senior Court in Albert Lea 7:00 p.m. Sr. Choir at CG 7:00 p.m. Confirmation class at Cross of Glory	20	21	22
23 9:00 a.m. Worship at West Freeborn 9:00 a.m. Cross of Glory Sunday School 10:00 a.m. West Freeborn Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship at Cross of Glory	24 9:30 a.m. Week Day Bible Study at Cross of Glory	25	26 10:00 a.m. Quilting at WF 7:00 p.m. WF & CG Choirs rehearses at CG 7:00 p.m. Confirmation class at Cross of Glory	27	28	