

Financial Report Update

Cross of Glory Members,

Year to date income for the general fund, which includes dollars for the building mortgage, is \$ 38,921.67, while expenses have been \$ 48,136.62. As you can calculate quickly, we are behind in our needed goal of \$ 3,639.22 weekly to maintain our budget (\$ 43,670.64 for the first 12 weeks).

We are asking that those that are behind in their pledges, get back to being current, and anyone that can offer additional funds to help offset the shortfalls, would be greatly appreciated.

We will continue to provide updates monthly for transparency purposes, as well as communicate in other ways, so everyone understands what is needed in order to cover the basic needs of the congregation and keep operating on the positive side of the checkbook.

January income - \$ 9,721.00	January Expenses - \$ 16,194.81
February income - \$ 10,648.50	February expenses - \$ 11,984.43
March Income - \$ 18,552.17	March Expenses - \$ 19,957.38

As I presented during services on April 8th, the income and expenses reported here only pertain to our budget. It does not include items that are non-budgeted, examples being rent paid by our tenant Grow in Christ, or expenses to cover repairs to our sprinkler system that took place in March, Easter flowers, etc..

Please prayerfully consider where we are at from a financial standpoint, and if you are able to offer additional gifts to help offset our shortfalls, it would be greatly appreciated.

Jeff Kinsel
Council President

Call Process News

While I know many of us are eager to find our new Pastor, many leaders within our congregation and our Interim Pastor Karri have been working to "lay down the tracks" so-to-speak. Many of you might wonder what this whole Year of Renewal and the Listening Sessions have to do with the Call Process. But all of these processes are related and are working towards the same goal: finding our new Pastor and becoming a stronger and more vibrant church within our community.

The Year of Renewal has a committee of leaders (Pastor Karri Anderson, Kolleen Olson, Becky Redding, Dawn Saros-Kirk, and myself) who work exclusively with Synod leaders to help us. This relationship is amazing because the Synod is willing and able to give us resources and advice throughout our journey to find our next Pastor. So far, they have been helpful and responsive to all of our requests.

There will be three Year of Renewal Cohorts that we have with several other congregations in the area that the Synod leads. Our first cohort focused on the listening sessions and looking within the walls of our church. And since that meeting, we have recruited a total of 13 listeners to get to know many of you within our congregation. If you have not yet been contacted and would still like to have your dreams/opinions/concerns heard, feel free to reach out to Pastor Karri or myself. Once we have completed our goals for listening sessions, which are well on the way, all of the trained listeners will come together to discern what is really important as a whole and what items in general members find important.

The second cohort is Saturday, April 28th, where we will learn more about how we can engage and listen to the community around us. This will be instrumental in us finding our new Pastor because we can use trends and commonalities from what members of our congregation find important to the needs of the community. All of this information will help guide the Call Committee in what to look for in our new Pastor. Our new Pastor should be a good fit for us and a good fit for him/her! This way we can actually KNOW what we are looking for!

Several weeks ago, the congregation was asked to fill out a Vitality Survey. Trust me, this has not been forgotten. Pastor Justin Grimm from the Synod will be delivering the results to us on Sunday, May 6 (which was his first available Sunday back in February). This Vitality Survey will significantly help the Mission Profile Committee as we begin our search for our new Pastor. Council is finalizing the people who will be part of the Mission Profile Committee and we plan to have them schedule a meeting shortly after the May 6th debriefing session to keep moving in our call process.

After our Mission Profile is complete, we will move on to the Call Committee. Council is also finalizing the people who will be part of this process. The anticipated plan is to have this team schedule meetings once the Mission Profile Committee has started and is almost complete. Not only will Pastor Karri be a huge resource to us during this process, so will Pastor Justin Grimm and others from the Synod. They are at our disposal and council and other leaders in our congregation intend to use them!

If you have any questions about this process, please do not hesitate to contact Pastor Karri, myself, or any of the Year of Renewal team. We are here to help! While this time of transition can be difficult, it will also help us grow as a congregation and most importantly, in our relationship with God.

Melissa Emerson - Council Secretary - Year of Renewal team

Treasurer's Report

March 2018

	Mar - 18	18 YTD
Income		
Current / Benevolence	\$ 18,040.17	\$37,132.67
Mortgage	\$ 512.00	\$ 1,789.00
Sunday School	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Sub Total	\$18,552.17	\$38,921.67
Transfers/Specials	\$ 502.18	\$ 3,018.18
Roof Funding Appeal	\$ 1,321.00	\$ 2,692.50
Rental Income	\$ 775.00	\$ 2,210.00
Sub Total	\$ 2,598.18	\$ 7,920.68
Total Receipts	\$ 21,150.35	\$ 46,842.35
Checking Account		
Beginning Balance	\$ 637.07	\$ 5,587.36
+ Receipts	\$21,150.35	\$ 46,842.35
Paid Budgeted Expenses	\$19,957.38	\$ 48,136.62
Paid Non Budgeted Expenses	\$ 0.00	\$ 2,463.05
= Total Expenses	\$19,957.38	\$ 50,599.67
Ending Balance	\$ 1,830.04	\$ 1,830.04

FINANCIAL REPORT



ROOF ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$ 26,832.61
Receipts	\$ 0.00
Paid	\$ 886.00
Service Charge	\$ 5.00
Ending Balance	\$ 25,941.61

- ♥ Thank you to Jeff Kinsel for getting up early and letting in Pastor David.
- ♥ Holy Week was such a success. Thanks to everyone who volunteered/participated.
- ♥ Thank you to everyone who helped set up the Saturday before Easter.
- ♥ Huge thank you to Matt Verkuilen for leading the choir/orchestra performances.
- ♥ Thanks to all of the Easter Breakfast volunteers and youth. It was delicious!
- ♥ Thanks to Dawn Saros-Kirk and all the volunteers who helped with all the Holy Week bulletins.
- ♥ Thank you to Paula Reed and Linda Lemke for the decorations to the flower boxes outside.
- ♥ Thank you to all the sweet roll volunteers - we look forward to Sweet Roll Sundays!
- ♥ And thank you everyone, for all you do for Cross of Glory every day!

Affirmations



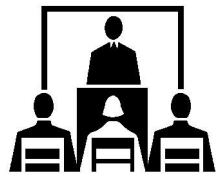


Sweet Roll Sundays

A huge thank you to the congregation for helping support our campers through Sweet Roll Sundays. The Sweet Rolls are gone as soon as they are frosted! There is one left on May 20, so start saving your bills for sweet rolls. :) Thanks to all the campers who have helped with the sales and baking. The campers are also collecting beverage cans. Please put those in the green trailer in the parking lot. Thanks to Alan Johnson and Kevin Gaylor for helping with the cans.

FMSC Packing Session

Cross of Glory Singles are once again teaming up with Thrivent for a packing event at Feed My Starving Children in Coon Rapids. We have reserved 20 spaces on Wednesday, May 16 from noon to 2:00pm. Watch for a sign-up sheet and Thrivent t-shirts in the narthex soon. FMSC asks that you not wear jewelry and no children under six. Seated jobs are available if you have difficulty standing for long periods of time.



Toastmaster Open House

North Side Toastmasters invites you to their Open House on Wednesday, May 16 at 7:30am. Our meetings last an hour and are fun, yet structured. We include coffee, juice, fruit and muffins at our Open House. It's a great introduction to Toastmasters to come and watch and enjoy. Anyone is welcome anytime to attend. Contact Jackie Flaherty at 763-784-1960 for any questions or to find out more.

Thrivent Choice

Did you know members of Thrivent may be eligible to designate funds for charitable outreach through Thrivent Choice? More than \$370 million has been distributed to churches and non-profits since 2010! Check with your Thrivent representative for more information.



It's hard to believe the school year is coming to an end again. It feels like the new year just started. The last day of Sunday School is May 20.

Weather permitting, the kids will make May baskets and distribute them on May 6 to some of our neighbors. I think our neighbors are pleasantly surprised to receive these as this tradition has been lost over the years. For next year, please consider serving as a Sunday School teacher, substitute or a classroom helper. Questions? Please see Deb Loesch or Dani Gow.

Time to start thinking about Cross of Glory's annual Jumbo Sale! The dates this year are August 9th, 10th, and 11th. We will begin accepting donations on June 1st. Just leave your donations on the benches in the Sunday School hallway and we will take care of them!



A planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 1 at 7:00pm. If you want to work, donate or shop, please attend this meeting! We will need volunteers to set up tables in the classrooms one night before Memorial Day - exact date and time will be determined at the meeting. We will also decide which night of the week we will be sorting donations. One problem we will have this year is that our source for the very popular fresh-baked cookies is no longer available. If you or someone you know can provide us with a possible supplier, please let us know!

~ With Sympathy ~

Please keep Jeanne Boyle and her family in your prayers. Jeanne's sister passed away in April. May our prayers sustain them and God's grace bring them peace.

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Our Mission: "Connecting people to Jesus Christ and to each other."

Worship Schedule

Sundays at 8:15 & 10:45am
Education Hour at 9:30am

Summer Worship Schedule

begins Sunday, May 27
Worship at 9:30am through
Labor Day Weekend
No Education Hour

CROSS OF GLORY

"Connecting people to Jesus Christ and to each other."



MAY 2018

Connections



Blessings in Community

A friend of mine had a quote scrolling across her computer screen a few years ago that said: "How many times do we miss God's blessings because they are not packaged as we expected?" That quote has stuck with me over the years and I have found that it helps to remember it when I'm feeling busy or overwhelmed. It seems that too often when I'm busy I forget to slow down and take time to look around me and see the blessings that God continually grants.

Soon we will be thrown into the middle of another summer...and with it come the joys of sunshine, family vacations, freedom celebrations and no school! We try to find time for extra rounds of golf, family gatherings, a trip to the beach or an afternoon in the garden. We enjoy bright sunshine, cool evening breezes and a summer's rain shower. In a time that most people associate with vacations and relaxation, we can also find ourselves the busiest; arranging child care for kids who are out of school, endless planning for vacations, packing the car for a weekend at the beach, preparing meals for large groups of people, or for some of us hours will be spent planning and arranging for things like the Jumbo sale! As we move into the summer months our Mission Site Profile Team and the Call Committee will begin many hours of meetings to accomplish their tasks as well. All of these things demand our time, energy and attention.

In the midst of all of this, we must find time to pause and recognize the blessings that are all around us. One of the greatest blessings we have is the gift of community; in Genesis 2 we see God's intention for creation to be in community. God, looking over creation, said, "It is not good for the man to be alone." The only thing in all of creation that was not good was Adam's solitude. Through the creation of Eve, another human being, God created the first true community. In this we can see God's intention for all of us...and that need for community remains today.

Community is a foundational part of God's design for all of us. It follows, then, that it is also foundational to the church. Throughout the New Testament we hear of Jesus' teachings to love *one another*, honor *one another*, live in harmony with *one another*, and to accept *one another*. The church is the culmination of all of God's plans for us. Our church allows us to come together as a community, bound by a shared history and identity in Christ, to worship, share fellowship and serve our neighbors.

My prayer is that we will all find time in the busy-ness of this coming summer for church - for our community; to worship on Sunday mornings, for fellowship and discovering what God is calling Cross of Glory to for the future. Let us come together to discover and celebrate the blessings in community that God has showered upon us.

Blessings,
Pastor Karri