

BAPTISM

We welcomed into the Lord's family, Oliver Benson Viger, son of Derick and Rachel Viger. Oliver was baptized on Sunday, June 24. Please keep Oliver in your prayers as he begins his new life in Christ.

Connections Mailing Changes

In an effort to save on postage expenses, and take advantage of today's technology, we will stop mailing the monthly *Connections* newsletter, and have it available on the World Wide Web (internet) for your review on both our website and Facebook page.

If you need to have a paper copy mailed to you, please fill out the Welcome to Worship brochure with your information so we can ensure you do get it. Please note you have to OPT in, in order to receive a paper copy. We will discontinue the bulk mailing in the next couple of months.

Jeff Kinsel
Cross of Glory Council President

Many, Many THANKS!!

Thank you to everyone who purchased sweet rolls on Sweet Roll Sundays. Because of your generosity (and hungry stomachs!), sales totaled \$759.71. Pop can collection totaled \$227.98. There are seven week long campers, who will receive \$254.80 each, and two weekend Seeds campers, who will each receive \$102.00 towards camp costs. **WOW!**

A special thank you to Becky Redding, Roberta Olson and Cheryl Saunders for all their help coordinating/baking and to all the campers that helped.

Please remember to continue to drop off pop cans in the green trailer in our parking lot. Thank you!

COG - Listening Sessions

We've completed our Individual Listening Sessions as part of our Year of Renewal. Thank you to everyone who participated! Listed below are some of the common comments. If you'd like to see the entire list, please ask Pastor Karri or Dawn for a copy.

WHY ARE YOU PART OF THIS CONGREGATION?

- Small size
- Long-time member
- Fellowship
- Community/People/Extended Family

WHAT IS GOING WELL?

- Music
- Choir
- Caring for each other.

WHAT IS HARD?

- How do we attract new members?
- How to maintain existing members?
- Feeling disconnected (lack of communication)
- Length of time to find a new Pastor
- Why can't Pastor Karri be our new Pastor?
- One service (some happy/some not)
- Fear we won't make it.
- Community Meals no longer running.

WHAT IS GOD'S PURPOSE FOR US (WHAT DO WE DO THAT NO ONE ELSE DOES)?

- Bring us together.
- Serve our community.
- Sharing the word, connecting the word, spreading the word.

Drop off Jumbo Sale donations on Tuesday nights from 5:00-7:30pm.



JULY 2018

CROSS OF GLORY

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

Connections



Shared Ministry

In Philippians 1:3-6 Paul writes:

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

From the very beginnings of the Christian faith, sharing the work of the gospel has been a central tenet. Even Jesus himself did not see his ministry as solo work, but instead relied on the 12 disciples and many other followers to assist in the work of the kingdom.

Of course, that has changed dramatically through the ages. With differing theologies and priorities, the development of different denominations and a movement towards seeing churches as competitors, churches have tended to develop their own programs and ministries and to function independently of others. But that is changing as the church itself is seeking to redefine itself in the 21st century. More and more congregations are reclaiming a shared ministry model, not only within their denominations but ecumenically as well.

Shared ministry is not a new concept for Cross of Glory. For some time now Atonement and COG have shared their confirmation programs. This past year, Abiding Savior joined the partnership. We also have worked together sharing the ministries of VBS and our Thanksgiving Eve services.

But over the last several months, Cross of Glory and Atonement, Abiding Savior and Christ the King have been having deeper conversations about what shared ministries we may be missing. We have discussed what opportunities already exist and what possibilities are out there that we haven't looked at yet.

It is important to note that shared ministry does not mean merger. Our individual congregations will continue to function independently in many areas, but will work together in those places where we are interested in the same things and can make better use of our resources by sharing.

By incorporating New Brighton and Mounds View we came up with the name **Brightview** as the moniker for the shared ministry that we will be doing together. The intent is that when you see the *Brightview* name attached to something you will automatically know it is shared between the congregations.

As we continue these conversations we would love to hear any input and ideas people may have about what shared ministry might look like for Brightview. We look toward the future with excitement and hope as we discover the possibilities God has in store for all of us in shared ministry!

With joy and anticipation,
Pastor Karri

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

Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays at 9:00am
No Education Hour

Praise and Potluck

Wednesday, July 18, 6pm

Council Meeting Highlights

JUNE 2018

Year of Renewal/Call Process Update: Mission Profile Committee has begun! The Committee met on 6/13 and selected Jason Emerson as the Committee Chair. Committee Members include Dawn Saros-Kirk, Victoria Eastham, Jeanette Lundgren, and Jaime Verkuilen. Advisors are Pastor Karri Anderson and Matt Verkuilen. Their goal is to complete the Mission Profile by the end of the summer. Congregational Listening Sessions have been completed and debriefed. A condensed summary is included in this newsletter for everyone to see. Moving forward, we'll be reaching out into the community to ask members of our community what the needs are for our area. **Council Meeting Minutes Summary:** Pastor Joe Lees, from the St. Paul Synod, joined us to discuss what it means to be part of a Parish/Shared Ministry.

Treasurer's Report

MAY 2018

	May - 18	18 YTD
Income		
Current / Benevolence	\$ 9,991.55	\$58,663.03
Mortgage	\$ 325.00	\$ 2,659.00
Sunday School	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Sub Total	\$10,316.55	\$61,322.03
Transfers/Specials	\$ 4,536.15	\$ 9,783.57
Roof Funding Appeal	\$ 935.00	\$ 4,842.00
Rental Income	\$ 660.00	\$ 2,870.00
Sub Total	\$ 7,026.15	\$ 19,050.57
Total Receipts	\$ 17,342.70	\$ 80,372.60
Checking Account		
Beginning Balance	\$ 2,737.12	\$ 8,969.36*
+ Receipts	\$17,342.70	\$ 80,372.60
Paid Budgeted Expenses	\$16,738.42	\$ 80,155.51
Paid Non Budgeted Expenses	\$ 296.56	\$ 2,759.61
= Total Expenses	\$17,034.98	\$ 86,297.12
Ending Balance	\$ 3,044.84	\$ 3,044.84

*includes stock transfer no in checking account

Affirmations

- ♥ Thank you to Pastor Joe Lees from the Synod for stopping by our Council meeting,
- ♥ Thank you to all the Jumbo Sale volunteers and continued donations!
- ♥ Thank you to Tom Thomalla for the extra work to get to the bottom of the phone panel issue.
- ♥ And thank you to everyone for all you do for Cross of Glory every day!



FINANCIAL REPORT



ROOF ACCOUNT

Beginning Balance	\$ 25,050.61
Receipts	\$ 0.00
Paid	\$ 886.00
Service Charge	\$ 5.00
Ending Balance	\$ 24,159.61



Financial Update

June 19, 2018

Cross of Glory Members,

Year to date income for the general fund, which includes dollars for the building mortgage, is \$61,322.03, while expenses have been \$80,155.51. We are consistently falling behind in our needed goal of \$3,639.22 weekly to maintain our budget (\$76,423.62 for the first 21 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

February Income - \$10,648.50

March Income - \$18,552.17

April Income - \$12,083.81

May Income - \$10,316.55

January Expenses - \$16,194.81

February Expenses - \$11,984.43

March Expenses - \$19,957.38

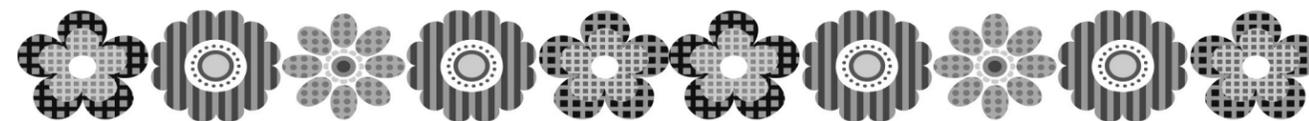
April Expenses - \$15,280.47

May Expenses - \$16,738.42

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. We continue to use designated funds to stay current with our expenses and have sold some stock that we were holding for a rainy day. What this means is that we are using monies designated for other things, like our roof fund to pay our bills. To date we owe the roof fund \$4,842.00 alone. Your council are always looking at options to reduce our expenses, however this pattern is becoming unhealthy.

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



2018 Flower Sale Recap

Fellow Cross of Glory Members,

We wanted to thank all of you that participated in the Cross of Glory Annual plant sale fundraiser, and a special thank you to those that helped with the distribution on pick up day.

Unfortunately this year, Gertens arrived later than expected, and we were rushed to get flowers checked in and orders filled before the scheduled pick up time. The crew we had this year did an outstanding job in the stressful situation and we managed to pull it together.

There were a few issues with the flowers Gertens sent us. They did not have a couple of the baskets we offered, as they ran out of stock and substituted something similar. We apologize if you were one of those impacted by this and are appreciative that you were able to adjust.

We purchased and distributed over 700 plants, and after expenses, raised \$1,500.00 for the congregation.

Again, Thank you to everyone who participated in all aspects of the project.



Bob Reed & Jeff Kinsel

