

## **Parish of Kerenzen**

### **The church in Obstalden**

The church in Obstalden is first mentioned in documents in 1444. As a subsidiary church of the Augustinian monastery Schänis, Obstalden was originally subordinate to the diocese of Chur. Politically belonged Obstalden in the Middle Ages to the Gaster district, since 1415 Kerenzen formed together with Bilten an election *Tagwen*.

In 1528, the Kerenzer population converted to the Reformation. In 1593 they bought themselves from Schänis and formed the independent parish of Kerenzen. From the beginning, the church of Obstalden was a parish church for all three communities in Kerenzerberg (Filzbach, Obstalden and Mühlehorn). From 1760, the church members of Mühlehorn built their own church, but only on the occasion of the split of the *Tagwen* in 1885/87 they separated their church completely from Obstalden. After that, Obstalden formed together with Filzbach a separate parish and Mühlehorn formed its own parish.

### **The church in Mühlehorn**

The community Mühlehorn is a relatively young village. It was not until the beginning of the 17th century that it was developed. Until around 1800, it was part of the scattered Obstalden, where at the latest since the first half of the 14th century, the parish church of the Tagwen Kerenzen was located. The way from Mühlehorn and the hamlets on the lake to the church in Obstalden was cumbersome and long, in winter dangerous or even impassable.

In view of this laborious church and school route, the people of Mühlehorn, Mühletal, Tiefenwinkel and Vortobel decided on 18 April 1759 to build an own church in Mühlehorn with the corresponding rectory. They granted a building sum of 4,000 guilders.

### **The fire of the rectory in Obstalden 1834**

The parish of Obstalden suffered a loss that could hardly ever be redressed. In 1834, when the rectory burned, all church books went up in flames there. A few gaps in the records could be supplemented because the first pastor of Mühlehorn created for his own parish an excerpt from the parish books of Obstalden and also subsequently a copy of the oldest church book was found, so the actual gaps exist only for the years 1700-1800. Nevertheless, in most cases these gaps make it impossible to compile coherent extracts until the end of the 16th century as it is normally the case in Glarus.