

In The Loop

January 8th, 2012

Our Welcome Statement

"Cross of Glory is Your Welcome Place! At Cross of Glory Everyone Is Welcome. That is one of our Guiding Principles. And we mean everyone – people of every race, gender, class, denomination, ability, and sexual orientation are welcome here. You are welcome no matter who you are, where you've been, or what you've done. We promise to welcome you and make you feel right at home."

We ask those of you visiting with us for the first time to please stop by the Welcome Table and pick up an information packet.

Cross of Glory is Growing in Every Direction

Our Vision

Like a tree, a healthy church is a *church that is growing in every direction...*

DOWN (roots) through *Worship*
UP through *Discipleship*
TOGETHER through *Fellowship*
OUT through *Outreach*

The Welcome Place Preschool Open House and Registration

The Welcome Place Preschool is in their 10th year of teaching children here at Cross of Glory. This is a wonderful ministry of Cross of Glory and we hope to continue this for many more years. There will be two open houses this year: Monday January 31st and Thursday April 26th, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. At the January 31st open house you have the option of also registering for the Fall Session. The program has classes for 3 and 4 year olds, and they have to be that age by Sept 1st.

Those that have had children in the program before or are members of Cross of Glory can take advantage of, Early Registration starting on January 9th. You can find more information on our website at www.crossofglory.com/preschool.

Worship...
Growing Down Roots
Council Member: Dan Skowron

Christmas Pageant Video

The Cross of Glory's 2011 Children's Christmas Pageant Video is now available for viewing on our website at <http://crossofglory.com/2011-12-18/>

Discipleship...Growing UP
Council Member: Sally Beller

Register NOW for Spring Youth Programs

Youth classes start at the end of January. Registration forms are available in the Welcome Room. You must register by January 15th

Spiritual Education Experience (S.E.E.): Educational program for children from 4-years old through 5th grade on Wednesday nights from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Students break up by grade, and then Bible stories are taught to the children in a fun, learning environment through games, skits, songs, and fellowship.

Holy Communion: Six-week class offered in the spring for children in grades 2 and up. Children learn about Communion and the Lord's Supper – why we do it, what it means, and how we do it. Classes take place during S.E.E.

RISEN: Cross of Glory is a place where everyone is welcome. That includes people with special needs. **RISEN** is a 60 minute educational/social experience. The hour is conducted through a structural format using a visual schedule. In addition, **RISEN** is supported by individuals with experience in special education with both youth and adults. During the hour session we strive to have a designated buddy/volunteer for each participant. **RISEN** runs alongside S.E.E.

Teen Education for Lifelong Leadership (T.E.L.L./Confirmation): Educational program for youth from 6th through 12th grade on Monday nights from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. 6th graders have their own special class where they learn about faith and do projects together. 7th and 8th graders participate in our **Confirmation Class** which covers the basics of the Bible and of our faith tradition. It is designed to help our youth own their faith for themselves. Our high school teens spend time interacting with each other to experience God through games, food, and conversation.

Fellowship...Growing Together
Council Member: Lori Anderson

Cross of Glory Cookbook

Hey, good lookin'!
Whatcha got cookin'?

CoG needs your recipes for:

Appetizers & Beverages ■ Desserts
Soups & Salads ■ Cookies & Candy
Vegetables & Sides
Vegetarian Dishes ■ Main Dishes
This & That ■ Bread & Rolls

You can submit your recipes electronically to cog.cookbook@yahoo.com or put them in the box located at the back of the worship area. If you submit a recipe for each of the nine categories, you can also select a prize from our kitchen gadget mystery basket.

Team Members: Debbie Murtaugh, Melissa Murtaugh, Chris Quemeneur, Michelle Kruse, Jim Sotzen, Lora Livingstone, Cheryl Nabors, Lori Anderson.

Outreach...Growing Out
Council Member: Cheryl Nabors

Let's Feed 12,000!

One of the biggest requests from Food Pantries is foods with protein. Our goal is to collect 12,000 cans by Easter! We will have boxes on the altar for you to bring your donation up before, during, or after service. We are collecting the following foods:

Canned Chicken ■ Canned Turkey
Canned Tuna ■ Canned Stew
Pork and Beans ■ Peanut Butter

As of January 7th we have collected 196 cans.

Women's January Event

Calling all ladies! Our next get together will be on Saturday, January 21st from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm at Cross of Glory. We will be making fleece tie-blankets for kids undergoing chemotherapy. There will be material to make 4 blankets. You can make an optional donation of \$5.00 towards material if you would like.

Come out and join us for this wonderful cause and enjoy some fellowship and food. If you plan to attend or have any questions, please contact Cheryl Nabors or Mary Beth Randle.

February Women's Event

Bunco on Friday, February 24th. Mark your calendars and watch for more information.

Book Club Update

We will meet on Sunday, January 8th at 6:00 pm to discuss *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Jamie Ford. Contact Cheryl Nabors for the location.

Everyone is welcome to read the books and join us for a great discussion.

Mailing List Updates

Cross of Glory is working to update their e-mail lists for their COG News. Please let Laura know if you would like to be added to or removed from our lists. And just as importantly please let me know when you have a change of email so I can update it and keep you informed on all that is happening!

Volunteer Opportunity

Neat Repeats Resale stores are looking for friendly volunteers. If you enjoy meeting people, helping others and knowing that you make a difference, *Neat Repeats* is the place for you. We need volunteers to cashier, arrange displays, accept donations, and assist customers.

All sales at *Neat Repeats Resale* benefit the clients served by the Crisis Center for South Suburbia, a not-for-profit domestic violence shelter. For additional information, please call the store manager at the Orland Park location (9028 W. 159th) at 708-364-7605 or the Worth location (7026 W 111th) at 708-361-6860.

Update on Worship & Giving

January 1st (Attendance: 101)
General: \$4,652; Casa: \$20
Kids' Offering: \$15
Project 2nd Chance: \$10
T.E.L.L.: \$50

Offering Envelopes

If you wish to use offering envelopes for 2012, please be sure to pick up a box. There is a sheet to be filled out giving your name and the offering box number. These are located at in The Welcome Room. Any questions please contact Laura in the office.

Manna Ministry

Manna sells gift cards for many stores and restaurants. A percentage of each gift card goes to CoG. If you are thinking about purchasing gift cards, this is a gift that gives twice. There are order forms in the bookstore. You can give your order to Cheryl Nabors or Laura Uzzardo or place it in the Bookstore mailbox to the right of Laura's office.

Annual Meeting

The Cross of Glory Annual Congregational Meeting will be on Sunday, February 12th, 2012 after a single service at 10:00 am. Today is the last Sunday for submitting nominations for positions on the Congregation Council.

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
14719 West 163rd Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491
Phone: 708-301-6998
Fax: 708-301-7126
www.CrossofGlory.com

Services:

Sunday: 9:00 am and 10:45 am

Wednesday: 6:00 pm

Ministers:

All Members of Cross of Glory

Staff:

PJ Malin, Senior Pastor (Ext 15)
PastorPJ@CrossofGlory.com

Laura Uzzardo, Parish Administrator
Laura@CrossOfGlory.com

Mimi Pappas, Nursery Attendant

Bob Bejlovec, Maintenance

The Welcome Place Preschool:

Jamie Knutson-Zahora, Director
Jamie@TheWelcomePlace.org
Phone: 708-301-3883

Christian Care and Counseling Center

Phone: 815-485-2531

Casa Hogar de los Angeles:

Donna Quatham, Missionary
youareanangel@gmail.com
Web: www.casadelosangeles.org

Sermon Blog:

pastorjsermons.blogspot.com

Kids Klub Page

crossofglory.com/kids-klub

Mission Statement:

To be a community of faith in which everyone lives life in the LOOP of God's saving grace by: reaching and serving, welcoming and nurturing, worshiping and teaching, and giving and sending.

Guiding Principles:

Jesus Is Lord
Everyone Is Welcome
We Have What The World Needs
Everyone Has Something To Offer
Love Changes Everything

Upcoming Events for Cross of Glory

(www.crossofglory.com/calendar)

Sun	01/08	Book Club
Mon	01/09	Men's Bible Study – 8:15 pm (Every Monday)
Sat	01/21	Women's Event – 10:00 am
Mon	01/23	T.E.L.L. Resumes – 6:30 pm
Wed	01/25	S.E.E. / RISEN Resumes – 6:00 pm
Sun	02/12	One Worship Service – 10:00 am
Sun	02/12	Annual Meeting – After Worship

The January newsletter can be viewed at www.crossofglory.com/newsletters/