

# In The Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter  
March 2, 2014

## Welcome to Cross of Glory

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.

## Our Welcome Statement

### Cross of Glory is Your Welcome Place.

We recognize the importance of worshipping with a diverse group of people of any color, age, creed, ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, addictions, legal record, economic status, station in life, life circumstances, marital/family status, heterosexuals, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people, their partners and their families. We welcome all into full participation in the church life, ministry of the congregation, sacraments, and rites of the church. We are all one in God's eyes, and everyone has a place in the family of God. It is with love and in celebration that we affirm this position.

*"There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is no longer slave nor free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus."* Galatians 3:28

## Soup Suppers and Wednesday Worship During Lent

Join us on Wednesdays during Lent for **Soup Suppers** and then worship with music and reflection on the previous Sunday's sermon and reading. Soup will be served at 6:00 pm and Worship will start at 6:45 pm. What a great way to connect as we lead up to Holy Week and Easter Sunday. Suppers will be on March 12, 19, 26 & April 2 & 9.

Barb Corcoran will be overseeing the suppers. We are looking for people to sign up for soup, bread, set-up and clean-up for each Wednesday. Sign-up in the Welcome Room, or call the church office.

## What The World Needs Vegetable Soup Drive

Inspired by our third guiding principle, *We Have What the World Needs*, Cross of Glory is now collecting soup (preferably vegetable soup and stew) for donation to the FISH Food Pantry in Lockport. This is an immediate need because it is not available through their normal supply channels. The *CoG WTWN Vegetable Soup Drive* will run until Palm Sunday and our goal is to collect 600 cans.

## Worship...Growing Down Roots

Council Member: Barb Taskay

### Ash Wednesday Worship This Week

Join us in worship at Noon and 7:00 pm.

### Power Point Operators

We are looking to add to our Power Point Operator Team. If interested please contact Laura in the church office. We can easily train anyone on a Sunday!

## Discipleship...Growing UP

Council Member: Tammy Kjos

### T.E.L.L.

*Teen Education for Lifelong Leadership* is our educational program for youth from 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade. It takes place Monday nights from 6:30-8:00 p.m. The youth spend time interacting with each other to experience God through games, food, and conversation. There is no fee for the program, but we will accept a free will donation towards our Children's Ministry.

**Dates:** March 3, 10, 17, 31  
April 7 (6:30 to 8:00 pm)

## Outreach...Growing OUT

Council Member: Alicia Joeegen

### Blood Drive - March 13<sup>th</sup> 2 to 6 pm

Come and donate at Cross of Glory as we host for Heartland Blood Center. Call the church office to set up an appointment time (708) 301-6998. Walk ins are very welcome too. Everyone has something to offer! Please [click here](#) to schedule your appointment!

## Fellowship...Growing Together

Council Member: Lisa O'Malley

### Book Club Update

The next book is *Half the Sky* by Nicholas Kristoff and Sheryl WuDunn. We will meet on March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm. Everyone is welcome to join the discussion.

Along with discussing *Half the Sky*, we will be accepting donations to collect \$125 to purchase a microloan from the ELCA Good Gifts catalog which will **help a woman start her own small business: sewing, weaving or running a storefront.**

Other books we are discussing in 2014 are:

*What Alice Forgot* by Lianne Moriarty  
*Orange is the New Black* by Piper Kermin  
*Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline

Speak to Cheryl Nabors for information about the book club or microloan program.

## March Women's Event

**"A TASTING OF BEERS"**  
Saturday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 6:30pm  
At Cross of Glory

This month we're inviting all ladies to share some fellowship while we taste different types of beer. Two years ago we had this same event and it seemed to be very popular, so let's try this again. We will have some different tasting tables, but you are welcome to bring a small taste of your favorite beer or any other favorite beverage.

You are also welcome to bring a small appetizer/dessert to share, but not necessary! Invite a friend.

For the community service component of this event, please bring some "family friendly" cheeses to be donated to the Lockport FISH Food Pantry!

This event is being hosted by Lisa O'Malley and Laura Uzzardo.

## Finance...Growing Generosity

Council Member: Mary Beth Randle

### 2014 Offering Envelopes are Available

If you wish to use offering envelopes, please be sure to pick up a box and sign them out in the Welcome Room.

If you would like to do our Simply Giving online you can do a one-time offering, or weekly, twice a month, or monthly. Go to <http://crossofglory.com/giving> or you can contact Laura in the church office.

### Update on Worship & Giving

**February 23, 2014**

Attendance: 94

General: \$5,877

Kid's Offering: \$35.60

Children's Ministry

(Holy Communion): \$125

### Manna Gift Card Program

You can purchase gift cards at full value while CoG receives a percentage of the card.

### \$25 Cards Available Today!

Barnes & Noble / Carson's / Chili's /  
Coldwater Creek / CVS / Darden  
JC Penney / Jewel / Olive Garden /  
Staples / Starbucks / Speedway  
Target / T.J. Maxx / Walmart

See Cheryl Nabors to purchase these Cards!

## Manna in 2014

Last year the program raised \$2,338.44. This is an increase of almost \$700 from the previous year. Let's keep the momentum going. In February, the Manna program raised \$130.

This year, we'll offer some commonly purchased cards weekly, so check the *Cards Available Today* list above if you are looking to purchase a card today. The cards will be sold on a first come, first serve basis. If you are looking for a specific card or many cards, please fill out an order form. Your order will be ready next Sunday.

### Ordering is Now Easier!

We have a new 'quick' order form. You can use this form or the order form listing all the vendors. Both order forms are in the Welcome Room. If you have any questions about the program, contact Cheryl Nabors or the church office.

## 2014 Lenten Soup Drive

Cross of Glory is collecting soup for the FISH Food Pantry in Lockport. Their most pressing need is for vegetable soup because it is an item they can't order from the food repository. If everyone brings one can of soup to worship each week, we can surpass our goal of 600 cans of soup over the next six weeks.



## Soup Suppers and Wednesday Worship During Lent

**OMG ...No need to cook dinner on Wednesdays during Lent!**

Join us for "Great Soup and Warm Fellowship" plus a special message from Pastor Dorothy. Let us serve YOU! And...why not bring friends? Drop-ins are WELCOME!

If you would like to bring soup, etc. the signup sheet is in the Welcome Room or you may contact Barb Corcoran.

*There will be 5 Soup Suppers starting on March 12<sup>th</sup>*

### Upcoming Events ([www.crossofglory.com/calendar](http://www.crossofglory.com/calendar))

|     |       |  |
|-----|-------|--|
| Mon | 03/03 | Men's Bible Study: Every Monday at 8:15 pm                                 |
| Mon | 03/03 | Holy Communion Class – 6:00 pm   |
| Mon | 03/03 | T.E.L.L. – 6:30 to 8:00 pm   |
| Wed | 03/05 | Ash Wednesday Services – Noon and 7:00 pm                                  |
| Sat | 03/08 | Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) – Kishwaukee College                 |
| Sun | 03/09 | Confirmation Class (also on 4/6 and 5/4)                                   |
| Sun | 03/09 | Book Club – <i>Half the Sky</i>  |
| Wed | 03/12 | Soup Supper at 6:00 pm; Worship at 6:45 (also on 3/19, 3/26, 4/2, and 4/9) |
| Thu | 03/13 | Blood Drive – 2:00 to 6:00 pm  |
| Sat | 03/15 | Women's Event <i>A Tasting of Beers</i> - 6:30 pm                          |

The monthly newsletter can be viewed at [crossofglory.com/category/newsletter](http://crossofglory.com/category/newsletter)

## ELCA GLOBAL LINKS

Stay informed. Be inspired. Get involved.

[download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/ELCA Global-Links Newsletter.pdf](http://download.elca.org/ELCA Resource Repository/ELCA Global-Links Newsletter.pdf)

### Lutherans Dedicate New Church Near Jesus' Baptismal Site

In an effort to provide a place for Christians in the Middle East and from around the world to gather for pilgrimage and baptism, members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land have officially opened the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Bethany-Beyond-the-Jordan. Dedicated on Jan. 6, 2014, Bethany-Beyond-the-Jordan is located where Christians believe John the Baptist baptized Jesus. [www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7641](http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7641).



### Your Welcome Place

#### Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

14719 West 163<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Phone: 708.301.6998 / Fax: 708.301.7126  
[www.CrossofGlory.com](http://www.CrossofGlory.com)

### Contemporary Worship:

Sunday: 9:30 am

### Ministers:

All Members of Cross of Glory

### Staff:

Pastor Dorothy Wilcox, Senior Pastor

[PastorDorothy@CrossOfGlory.com](mailto:PastorDorothy@CrossOfGlory.com)

Laura Uzzardo, Parish Administrator

[Laura@CrossOfGlory.com](mailto:Laura@CrossOfGlory.com)

Mimi Pappas, Nursery Attendant

Bob Beljovec, Maintenance

### Council:

Barb Taskay, Tammy Kjos

Alicia Joebgen, Lisa O'Malley

Mary Beth Randle, Dana Baker

### The Welcome Place Preschool:

Jamie Knutson-Zahora, Director

[Jamie@TheWelcomePlace.org](mailto:Jamie@TheWelcomePlace.org)

Phone: 708-301-3883

### Guiding Principles:

Jesus Is Lord

Everyone Is Welcome

We Have What The World Needs

Everyone Has Something To Offer

Love Changes Everything

### 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.

### 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*



A Reconciling in Christ congregation  
of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America