

In The Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter
April 19, 2015

Welcome to Cross of Glory

Cross of Glory Church is a community of Christians, deeply rooted in Lutheran theology and tradition, and praising God with contemporary music and meaningful messages. Growing from those Lutheran roots, we reach out to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, proclaiming God's love and acceptance of all people. We offer education and fellowship programs for children, youth, and adults. We serve the community with food and clothing collection programs. Visit our web page, crossofglory.com or our Facebook page for more information.

Visitors

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

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

Survey Questionnaires

On Palm Sunday, we distributed a questionnaire at the conclusion of our *Giving In / Giving Up* stewardship series. If you did not receive one, additional copies are available. We invite you to consider your relationship with Cross of Glory and ...

- Think About It
- Pray About It
- Commit to It

Please place your responses in the offering basket or give them to Pastor Dorothy.

Helping Illinois Tornado Victims

Bishop Wollersheim has released a letter concerning last week's tornadoes. You can see it at <http://nisynod.org/nis/tornadoes-in-northern-illinois/>. Part of it reads...

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois in partnership with Lutheran Disaster Response and the Northern Illinois Synod have created a "Tornado Relief Fund" to be administered through Lutheran Social Services of Illinois. Your generous support for this fund will provide direct assistance to survivors as well as long term assistance as people rebuild their lives, homes, and businesses. Thank you for prayerfully considering a gift to this fund.

Individual and congregational donations can be sent to the:

**Northern Illinois Synod
Tornado Relief Fund
103 W. State St.
Rockford, IL 61101**

We are Church together, our partnership in the Gospel is made real when we live out our baptismal calling "to proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace."

If you prefer, Cross of Glory will forward your gifts to the fund. Make donations to Cross of Glory and designate them for the *Tornado Relief Fund* on the memo line.

Worship...Growing Down Roots

Council Member: Barb Taskay

CoG Sermons are Online

Have you missed a sermon at Cross of Glory? Be sure to see the latest sermons at <http://crossofglory.com/category/sermons/>

Discipleship...Growing UP

Council Member: Tammy Kjos

Cross of Glory Study on NBC Series *A.D. The Bible Continues*

The twelve part continuation of *The Bible* series is being telecast on Sunday evening on NBC.

We will host a Q&A Bible Study to talk about the story of the Book of Acts, on which the NBC series is based. We welcome all people and all questions, even skeptical ones, to the discussion each Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

Outreach...Growing OUT

Council Member: Alicia Joeegen

Prayer Team

Join us for a Prayer Open House on Friday, May 15th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. This is a chance to pray alone or with a group...a chance to pray for yourself...a chance to pray for our community, for CoG, and for the world. Prayer is one of the original seven Faith Practices of the ELCA.

Please contact Della for more information.

Youth Mission Trip this Summer to Casa de los Angeles in Mexico

Youth interested in participating must be in high school. If you would like to get more information, please contact Dan Murtaugh.

Serve at MorningStar Mission

Each month, there are volunteer slots available to serve at MorningStar Mission in Joliet on the 4th Saturday of the month. See the sign-up sheet in the Welcome Room.

Help the Lockport Resource Center

Cross of Glory is a member of LHAMA (the Lockport / Homer Area Ministerial Alliance). The Lockport Resource Center and Thrift Shop is a Christian ministry organized and operated by LHAMA and staffed by volunteers. Contact Cheryl Nabors or you can call the Thrift Store at (815) 838-9615 with questions.

Check out the spring and summer items that the volunteers have recently placed in the aisles and on the shelves!

Visit LockportResource.org for more info or see www.facebook.com/LockportResource.

Toilet Paper Drive for FISH

When Jim Naylor, the president of the FISH Food Pantry, was asked what people could donate, he stressed the need for toilet paper.

This is one of life's necessities than can't be purchased through the SNAP (aka Food Stamp) program.

We took the rest of the donations last week. Our total for the drive was 924 rolls. Please keep this need in your hearts and continue to donate through Cross of Glory or directly to FISH in Lockport.

Fellowship...Growing Together

Council Member: Pat McIntosh-Oles

Adult Lunch Ministry – April 21st

Join us for Lunch at Chili's in Homer Glen on Tuesday, April 21st at 12:30 pm. Sign up in the Welcome Room.

LOMC Youth Retreat – May 16th

All Jr. High School kids and older are invited to attend the Youth Retreat at the Lutheran Outdoor Ministries Center. Join us for a day of zip lining (with a signed release form), team building, hiking, and exploring God's beautiful creation.

We will leave from Cross of Glory on Saturday, May 16th at 7:00 am.

Please register by May 1st. You may contact Alicia Joebgen, council member, or the church office for more details.

Book Club Update

The next book is *The Storied Life of A.J. Fikry* by Gabrielle Zevin. We will meet on Sunday, June 7th at 6:00 pm. Hope you can join us for a great discussion. See Cheryl Nabors for additional information about the book club. Upcoming books include...

- *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd
- *The Closer* by Mariano Rivera

Finance...Growing Generosity

Council Member: Mary Beth Randle

Update on Worship & Giving

April 12, 2015

Attendance: 112
General Fund: **\$3,507**
(3% of General = \$105)
Kid's Offering: \$2
Tornado Relief: \$1,576

Budget Commitment:

\$5,577 per week in *General Fund* donations must be received to meet the expenses approved in our 2015 budget.

Order Manna Gift Cards from CoG

Purchasing Manna gift cards is a great way to support CoG. You get the full value while CoG receives a percentage of the face value. Cards are great for everyday items like food and gas. They're ideal for college kids, teachers, family and friends. We have some \$10 cards available.

Your purchase makes a difference.

Some cards are available for immediate purchase on most Sundays. The cards are sold on a first come, first served basis.

Speedway (\$25,\$100), Shell (100)
Jewel (25, 100), Meijer (25,100)
Target (25), Walmart (25), Carson's (25),
Kohl's (25), Macy's (25), Chili's (25),
Buffalo Wild Wings (25)
Whole Foods (25), Family Christian (25)
Barnes & Noble (25), Starbuck's (25,10)
Bed, Bath, and Beyond (25)
Wendy's (10), Panera (10), Chipotle (10)
Dunkin' Donuts (10)

In March, the Manna program raised \$244.00. In 2014, your gift card purchases raised \$2,728.90 for Cross of Glory. Let's keep the momentum going in 2015!

cross of glory

Your Welcome Place

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

14719 West 163rd Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Phone: 708.301.6998 / Fax: 708.301.7126

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

Laura Uzzardo, Parish Administrator

Laura@CrossOfGlory.com

Todd Mizera, Worship Leader

Todd@CrossOfGlory.com

Mimi Pappas, Nursery Attendant

Bob Bejlovec, Maintenance

Council:

Barb Taskay, Tammy Kjos
Alicia Joebgen, Pat McIntosh-Oles
Mary Beth Randle, Bill Nabors

The Welcome Place Preschool:

Jamie Knutson-Zahora, Director

Jamie@TheWelcomePlace.org

Phone: 708-301-3883

Our Guiding Principles:

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

Our 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

Upcoming Events (www.crossofglory.com/calendar)

Tue	04/21	Adult Lunch Ministry – Chili's in Homer Glen – 12:30 pm
Wed	04/22	Q&A Bible Study on the NBC series – A.D. – <i>The Bible Continues</i>
Sat	04/25	Yoga & Meditation for Beginners – 9:30 am
Sat	04/25	Serve at MorningStar Mission in Joliet – 4 th Saturday of the month
Tue	04/28	The Welcome Place Preschool Open House – 4:00 to 7:00 pm
Thu	04/30	Life Line Screening® doing health screenings at CoG
Thu	05/14	Community Blood Drive – 2:00 to 6:00 pm
Fri	05/15	Prayer Open House – 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Sat	05/16	LOMC Youth Retreat – leaving CoG at 7:00 am

The monthly newsletter can be viewed at crossofglory.com/category/newsletter