

# In The Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter  
February 16, 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

## 2014 Annual Meeting Recap

The 2014 Annual Meeting for Cross of Glory was held on Sunday, February 2, 2014 at 10:45am.

### Elected to 2014 Council

Worship -- Barb Taskay  
Discipleship -- Tammy Kjos  
Outreach -- Alicia Joebgen  
Fellowship -- Lisa O'Malley  
Finance -- Mary Beth Randle  
Facilities -- Dana Baker

Please keep this new council team and Pastor Dorothy Wilcox in your prayers. If you would like a copy of the Annual Report there are copies available at the Welcome Room Desk.

## Worship...Growing Down Roots

Council Member: Barb Taskay

### Volunteers Always Welcomed

If you would like to volunteer as a greeter or communion assistant, please speak to Laura Uzzardo or Barb Taskay.

## Discipleship...Growing UP

Council Member: Tammy Kjos

### Youth Programs

Holy Communion class starts February 24<sup>th</sup>.

Complete information available online and in the Welcome Room. Sign up now.

### Teen Education for Lifelong Leadership

(T.E.L.L.) T.E.L.L. 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. Registration forms are available in the Welcome Room. Please register ASAP.

**Dates:** February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31  
April 7 (6:30 to 8:00 pm)

Holy Communion Class is for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders and up. This is a six week class offered in the early part of the year. In Holy Communion our children will learn about Communion and the Lord's Supper – why we do it, what it means, and how we do it. These classes take place on Monday evenings. It is important that you register your child as soon as possible so we can have the correct amount of supplies for all the students. There is no fee, but you may make a free will donation towards the Children/Youth Ministry.

**Dates:** February 24  
March 3, 10, 17, 31  
April 7 (6:00 to 7:30 pm)

**Holy Communion Sunday: April 27, 2014**

## Outreach...Growing OUT

Council Member: Alicia Joebgen

### 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!

## 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 to discuss the book. Everyone is welcome to read the book and join the discussion. Other books we will be discussing in 2014 are:

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

### February Women's Event Tonight!

#### *Words of Encouragement*

**Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup>: 6:00 to 8:00**

This month we're inviting all ladies to share some fellowship and write letters/notes with words of encouragement to the confirmands, communicants, and others. Cards will be provided. We'll also have Bible verses and other words of encouragement if you are looking for suggestions. In addition, please bring new personal hygiene items from the list below for Daybreak in Joliet.

Suggested items are:

- Soap
- Handi-Wipes
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Chapstick/lipstick
- Facial wipes
- Lotion
- Deodorant

Please see Mary Beth Randle or Cheryl Nabors with questions.

## 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.

## 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 January, the Manna program raised \$110.

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.

### New Manna Vendors

**Redbox** gift cards are now available in \$25 increments. At their 8% discount, CoG gets \$2 per card sold.

**Fanatics.com** gift cards are now available in \$25 increments. At their 10% discount, CoG receives \$2.50 per card sold.

## Update on Worship & Giving

### February 9, 2014

Attendance: 91  
General: \$2,332  
Kid's Offering: \$29  
Building Use: \$29  
Children's / Holy Comm.: \$90  
Youth / TELL: \$25  
Manna Ministry: \$2,000

## 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)

### Syria: ELCA Urges More Support for Refugees

"The most vulnerable Syrian refugees should be resettled in the United States" and U.S. diplomatic efforts should be increased to bring about peace in Syria, said an ELCA statement submitted to a U.S. Senate subcommittee. See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7639](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/7639).

### Kenya: Thriving Rural Congregations

After visiting three rural congregations in Kenya, ELCA missionaries Michael Fonner and Leslie Weed-Fonner said, "All three are building their own new churches under their own leadership, using their own expertise and labor, and raising their own funds. How exciting this is!" [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/409](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/HandInHand/409).

cross of glory

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)

### Service:

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 Bejlovec, 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

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

Sun	02/16	Confirmation Class (Also 3/9, 4/6, 5/4)
Sun	02/16	Women's Event <i>Words of Encouragement</i> - 6:00 to 8:00 pm
Mon	02/17	Men's Bible Study: Every Monday at 8:15 pm
Mon	02/17	No T.E.L.L.
Mon	02/24	Holy Communion Class - 6:00 pm
Mon	02/24	T.E.L.L. - 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Please register ASAP
Wed	03/05	Ash Wednesday Services - Noon and 7:00 pm
Sun	03/09	Book Club - <i>Half the Sky</i>

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