

# In The Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter  
February 23, 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 worshiping 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 PowerPoint operator, greeter, musician, 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! Please [click here](#) to schedule your appointment!

## Congregational Resourcing Event

March 8<sup>th</sup>

Join this year's annual Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

Workshops cover many topics. We would love to get a nice group going again this year. We will, of course, have a car pool.

The location is Kishwaukee College in Malta, IL (near DeKalb)

Review the brochure. If interested please let Laura Uzzardo know ASAP (we need to register by Feb 25<sup>th</sup>). For more info, visit <http://nisynod.org/cre/>

## 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 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

### 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. This will be hosted by Lisa O'Malley & 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.

## 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 16, 2014**

Attendance: 101

General: \$4,186

Kid's Offering: \$20.50

Building Use (Yoga): \$23

## 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)

### New ELCA Malaria Campaign Resources

Look for new resources this year — such as a World Malaria Day action kit and a vacation Bible school curriculum — to help you learn more about the impact Lutheran malaria programs are making in Africa and to help you tell the story to your friends, congregation and synod.

See [www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/192](http://www.ELCA.org/News-and-Events/blogs/ELCAMalariaCampaign/192).

## Lutheran Disaster Response

Thousands of people have been killed and more than 800,000 have fled their homes since fighting erupted in South Sudan in December 2013. While neighboring countries have opened their borders to receive refugees, resources are running thin.

We are assisting people fleeing from the violence within South Sudan and those who have reached neighboring countries of Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya and Chad.

**But we can't do this alone. Your gifts, designated for the South Sudan Conflict Response, will be used in full (100 percent) to assist those directly impacted.** Working with local partners who are on the ground, The Lutheran World Federation and the Episcopal Church of Sudan, your gifts will provide protection and life-saving essentials.

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](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 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))

|     |       |  |
|-----|-------|--|
| Mon | 02/24 | Men's Bible Study: Every Monday at 8:15 pm                 |
| Mon | 02/24 | Holy Communion Class – 6:00 pm                             |
| Mon | 02/24 | 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 (4/6, 5/4)                              |
| Sun | 03/09 | Book Club – <i>Half the Sky</i>                            |
| 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)