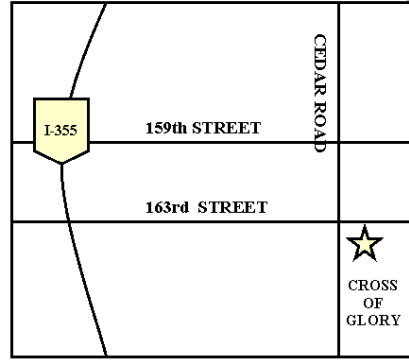




14719 W 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



Join Us  
Sundays 9:30 am  
We have a place for you!



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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church  
14719 West 163<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491  
(708) 301-6998  
www.CrossofGlory.com  
Evangelical Lutheran Church of America



MARCH 2015



**GIVING IN GRACE**

By Pastor Dorothy Wilcox

Lent is an appropriate time for us to look at ourselves as disciples, and consider deepening our commitment to Christ. Through sermons, emails, Facebook posts, and letters each of us will be invited to reflect on our own faith and commitment, and to take a step toward deeper discipleship. On Palm Sunday we will make Discipleship Promises and celebrate our commitment to grow in faith and ministry together at Cross of Glory.

Please begin thinking and praying now about your own faith life. The Marks of Discipleship can be defined as Prayer; Worship; Bible reading; Serving; Encouraging; and Giving. These faith practices frame and strengthen our faith. Pray and prepare to make the commitment that you are ready to keep. Our promises and commitments rely on God, and usually end with "and I ask God to help me."

Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians tells about the unexpected generosity of the church at Macedonia, who were so very poor. He explains how this is possible: "...they gave themselves first to the Lord" (2Cor8:5)

Our giving is a response to God's gift of grace in Christ. It is a joyful and thankful response of delight for God's rich gift to us. Because God has been abundantly generous to us in so many ways, we respond in love and generosity.

This faithful and generous response is not only about money, but neither does it exclude money. Giving of oneself is set out by Paul as the spiritual understanding of grace-filled living. Our giving is more than what is in our pocket at any given moment. Giving in grace is a whole life response to God's grace in Jesus. It is the joy and delight in the giving of oneself in response to God's rich and abundant gift of grace. This is the measure of grace filled stewardship, the measure of how we care for and manage all that God has given in our lives.

This Lent, you are invited to pray and think about what it means to give yourself first to the Lord and then to His ministries in the world. What would that look like in your own life?

Since for most Americans it is difficult to stop looking at money as a measure of success and security, financial giving to the church is often the most difficult area to think about faithfully, and to talk about. We want to hold that apart from faith, apart from God. So for that reason, and because - to be frank - Cross of Glory needs money to be able to sustain ministry and mission, we are asking every person to pray about increasing their financial giving.

We will offer you several tools over the next couple of weeks to help you evaluate your financial giving, and we are asking you to take a step up in faith.

**JOIN US FOR WORSHIP ON SUNDAYS 9:30 AM**

Holy Communion and a staffed nursery at all services  
All are welcome!

Staff:  
**Pastor Dorothy Wilcox**  
PastorDorothy@CrossofGlory.com

Laura Uzzardo  
Parish Administrator

Todd Mizera  
Worship Leader

Jamie Knutson  
Director -  
The Welcome Place  
Preschool

Mimi Pappas,  
Nursery Attendant

Bob Bejlovec  
Maintenance

Please email or call Laura if you prefer to receive your newsletter via email or mail, or to be taken off our mailing list: [laura@crossofglory.com](mailto:laura@crossofglory.com)

**JOIN CROSS OF GLORY DURING LENT**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP 9:30 AM**

**WEDNESDAYS:**

~Soup Suppers/Fellowship 6:00 pm

~Children's S.E.E. Classes 6:45 -7:30 pm

~Devotions & Discussion with

Pastor Dorothy

6:45 - 7:30 pm

The Season of Lent



### 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.

### Council Members:

Reach out to a council member with any questions or concerns.

Mary Beth Randle, Finances

Tammy Kjos, Discipleship

Alicia Joebgen, Outreach

Pat Oles, Fellowship

Bill Nabors, Facilities

Barb Taskay, Worship



**Daylight Savings Time**

**MARCH 8th**

### WEDNESDAYS IN LENT

**Soup Supper,  
Kids Program and Devotions**

**Wednesdays: Feb 25, and  
March 4, 11, 18, and 25**



Share some fellowship and a warm **Soup Supper** from 6:00 to 6:45pm. There is a sign up sheet in the Welcome Room if you wish to bring soup, cookies, bread, set-up, or clean-up. Or just join us and enjoy the meal.



### **Kids' Program.**

There will also be a program for the children called S.E.E. This is a fun interactive program for children ages 4 up through 5th grade. They will be learning fun stories from the bible. Meeting from 6:45 to 7:30 pm. There is no fee.

After Soup we will gather together with Pastor Dorothy for **Devotions and Discussions**. This will end at 7:30 pm. Please join us.

Contact the church office for more details on these programs.

### MANNA GIFT CARDS

Our Manna Gift Card program is our year round fundraiser. Place an order any time. And what a great time to start buying for the Easter Holiday. You pay the full values & the church gets a percentage of that.

### WORSHIP ROOM

#### CHANGES DURING LENT

There has been a change to the chairs and altar arrangement during Lent. Come see how it looks!

#### TOILET PAPER DRIVE



Jim Naylor, the new president of the FISH Food Pantry, has informed us that they are in need of toilet paper to share with those less fortunate than us. This is one of life's necessities that can't be purchased through the SNAP Program.

Let's help FISH by collecting toilet paper during Lent. How many rolls (packages, not individuals rolls) do you think it takes to go from front of the Worship Room to the back?

Of course Cross of Glory continues to collect non-perishable food items for the local food pantries. And, for others that come to our door at Cross of Glory.

#### ANNUAL MEETING RECAP

We elected three members to two year terms on our Congregation Council. We also voted to approve the budget. Keep the church and all its ministries in your prayers as we continue to share God's Word.



**PALM SUNDAY, March 29th Service 9:30 am**

**SEDER MEAL/MAUNDY THURSDAY,  
April 2nd 6:30 pm**

**GOOD FRIDAY Worship, April 3rd 7:00 pm**

**EASTER SUNDAY, April 5th  
9:30 & 11:00 am**

#### EASTER SUNDAY PLANT SALE



Order your Tulip and/or Easter Lily Plant for Easter! All orders will help to decorate the church for Easter Sunday Worship. You may pick up your plant after the service you attend. You may also dedicate your plant "In Honor" or "In Memory" of a loved one.

Easter Lily & Tulip Plants  
\$15/each  
Donations also accepted

Order forms are available in the Worship Room.  
Orders due by Palm Sunday, March 29th.

#### COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

At Cross of Glory  
**Thursday, March 19th 2:-6 pm**  
Heartland Blood Center Coach

Call the church office to set up an appointment or you can go online  
[www.HeartLandbc.org](http://www.HeartLandbc.org).



But Walk Ins are Welcome  
Will have blood drives also on  
May 14, Sept 3, and Nov 12.

**MAKE AN ONLINE DONATION AT**

### ANNUAL COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

**Saturday, March 28th**  
**Starts 10am ~ Egg Hunt Will Be By Age Group**  
**Rain or Shine**



**A FREE Community Event**

**Bring your camera and take a picture with the  
Easter Bunny**

**Fill your basket with eggs at the Egg Hunt  
Games \* Snacks**

**Cross of Glory is currently collecting  
Toilet Paper for the FISH Food Pantry**

**Don't forget to bring:  
camera & basket to collect your eggs.**

**We are collecting donations:  
candy to fill the eggs, cookies, juice**

[www.CrossofGlory.com/giving](http://www.CrossofGlory.com/giving)

**THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL**  
**Taking Fall Registration NOW (708) 301-3883**

#### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Chelsea Martin.....	3/01	Katie Wittle.....	3/19
David Ihrke.....	3/02	Bryce Bejlovec.....	3/20
Wayne Wilcox.....	3/02	Katei Kinney.....	3/20
Michael O'Malley.....	3/03	Laura Uzzardo.....	3/20
Sofia Rull.....	3/04	John Atkinson.....	3/21
Sandi Rusek.....	3/04	Nicole Talsma.....	3/21
Jack Conway.....	3/05	Aria Leise.....	3/23
Joshua Tanrikulu.....	3/06	Julianne Rafacz.....	3/23
Andrew Morin.....	3/07	Nathan Sands.....	3/23
Michael Parker.....	3/07	Deborah Sands.....	3/24
Della Bejlovec.....	3/08	Hannah Boatright.....	3/26
Allyson Stedman.....	3/08	Anthony Schenk.....	3/28
Celeste Wallace.....	3/08	Jacob Taskay.....	3/28
Meagan Knutson-Zahora.....	3/09	Jessica Taskay.....	3/28
Nicholas Oles.....	3/10	Caitlyn Henry.....	3/29
Tom Lamphere.....	3/16	Keegan Srebro.....	3/29
Steven Hlavac.....	3/18	Lindsey O'Neal.....	3/30
Christina Talsma.....	3/18	Jacqueline Pawlak.....	3/30
Hannah Bogdan.....	3/19	Tyler Stasiak.....	3/30