



# In the Loop

## Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter



January 29, 2017

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 our neighbors by being a presence in our community, by sharing what we have, and by living out God's mission wherever we find ourselves. Visit [crossofglory.com](http://crossofglory.com) or [Facebook](#) for more information.

### Worship...Growing Down Roots

Council Member: Barb Taskay

#### Volunteers Welcomed

There are a variety of ways that you can help during worship...music, usher, worship coordinator, communion assistant, assisting minister. Contact Barb Taskay.

### Discipleship...Growing UP

Council Member: Christine Quemeneur

#### Attention VBS Volunteers!

If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible School this summer, please speak with Chris Quemeneur. She has chosen a theme and the first volunteer meeting will be coming up soon!

#### Youth T.E.L.L. Program

Teen Education for Lifelong Leadership (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. The next session starts on February 6<sup>th</sup>. There is no fee for the program. Registration forms are available in the Welcome Room. You can contact the office for details and questions.

**Dates:** February 6, 13, 27 / March 6, 13, 20, 27 / April 3

**Time:** 6:30 to 8:00 pm

#### Holy Communion Classes Starts February 27<sup>th</sup>

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 offer a free will donation towards our Children/Youth Ministry.

**Dates:** February 27 / March 6, 13, 20, 27 / April 3

**Time:** 6:00 to 7:30 pm

Holy Communion Sunday will be held on April 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### Outreach...Growing OUT

Council Member: Mary Beth Randle

#### Serve at MorningStar Mission

Each month, there are volunteer slots available to serve at MorningStar Mission in Joliet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month. See the signup sheet in the Welcome Room.

#### Blood Drive February 2<sup>nd</sup> from 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Community Blood Drive at Cross of Glory. Many in our own community will be blessed by your donation. You are encouraged to call to set up a time, but walk ins are also welcomed.

### Fellowship...Growing Together

Council Member: Pat McIntosh-Oles

#### TONIGHT - Book Club Combined Discussion of *The Girls of Atomic City* and *Songs of Willow Frost*

Our next discussion is tonight, January 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at Cross of Glory. We will discuss *The Girls of Atomic City* by Denise Kiernan and *Songs of Willow Frost* by Jaimie Ford. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please contact Cheryl Nabors.

#### Blessing Bags – Women's Project on February 24<sup>th</sup>

Want to spend a night doing something meaningful? We are blessed with so many comforts that it is easy to forget that the necessities of life can be a blessing to many who are experiencing a hard time. Come and join us on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm to assemble Blessing Bags for those who are spending time in a homeless shelter. Feel free to bring a beverage and a small appetizer or dessert to share, if you wish.

If you have a gently worn purse that you would be willing to donate, bring that to CoG so we can fill it with supplies. If we don't have enough purses, we will use plastic zipper bags.

Please plan to bring at least 12 of the same item. Travel sized items will work well. You are encouraged to contact businesses to see if they are willing to donate any of these items. Please notify Pat McIntosh-Oles or the office if you can get a surplus of any of the following items: **shampoo, toothbrush, sanitary napkins, razors, combs, lip balm, thermal socks, small first aid kits, bandages, small \$ gift cards, mints/gum, antibacterial lotion, juice boxes, wet wipes, gloves/mittens, light weight snacks.**

#### Women's Retreat – *From Dreams to Action* March 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>

Our new location is **Camp Manistique & Retreat Center** in Frankfort. Arrive by 6:00 pm on Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup> for fun and fellowship or have your family dinner and then join us for some snacks. Information and registration forms are available in the Welcome Room and on our [web site](#). Space is limited this year, so you will need to commit by March 7<sup>th</sup>. Contact Nicole Morin or the office at Cross of Glory.

### Facilities...Growing Buildings & Grounds

Council Member: Bill Bavirsha

#### Community Center Meeting Space in Homer Glen

Cross of Glory has space available for parties, banquets, meetings and wedding receptions. Rental fees start at \$25. Contact Laura Uzzardo for additional information.

#### Thanks to the Men's Group

They've been busy the last few weeks replacing our bathroom faucets and repairing our overhead lighting fixtures. Thanks for all they do. If you would like to help, contact Bill Bavirsha.

## Finance...Growing Generosity

Council Member: Bill Nabors

### Update on Worship & Giving

January 22, 2017: Attendance: 92 / General Fund: \$3,580

Kids: \$1 / Noisy Offering (Blessing Bags): \$313.35

Cross Sales: \$110

### Order Manna Gift Cards from CoG

We have Manna gift cards for immediate purchase. You can also order gift cards and the cards will be here the next Sunday. Manna gift cards are a great way to support CoG. You get the full value while CoG receives a percentage of the face value. Cards are available for immediate purchase on most Sundays. To purchase, see Cheryl or Bill Nabors.

### Offering Envelopes for 2017

The new offering envelopes for 2017 are now available. Please pick a box and write on the form your name and box number. We also offer an online giving program called Simply Giving. It is a very simple program to use. If you are interested you can access it through our website, or contact Laura in the office.

## Council Meetings

Council holds an open monthly meeting - usually on the second Tuesday of the month. If you have an issue to be discussed, please submit your request to one of the Council members so you can be placed on the agenda. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact a council member: Dana O'Brien (Pastor), Bill Bavirsha (Facilities), Mary Beth Randle (President / Outreach), Chris Quemeneur (Discipleship), Bill Nabors (Vice President / Finance), Pat McIntosh-Oles (Fellowship), Barb Taskay (Secretary / Worship).

## Annual Meeting – February 12<sup>th</sup>

Cross of Glory's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held following our 9:30 am service on Sunday, February 12<sup>th</sup>. We will convene the meeting at 10:45 am. It is required that we have a quorum of at least 20 voting members in attendance to legally conduct the business of the congregation.

## The Welcome Place Preschool Open House

On Wednesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 7pm, visit the preschool program to meet with the teachers and see the classrooms. There are classes for 3-year-old and 4-year-old children (they must reach that age by September 1<sup>st</sup>). Get details at [crossofglory.com/preschool](http://crossofglory.com/preschool) or by calling (708) 301-3883.

## Congregational Resourcing Event

The 2017 Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) will be Saturday March 11 in Malta, IL. It will focus on the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. CRE is one of our synod's finest yearly events. Just about everyone in a congregation can take advantage of this event to strengthen skills, gather resources, network with others, and discover new ways to enhance congregational and individual ministries. Come, experience and bring home new ministry tools. Check out the workshops at [nisynod.org/cre](http://nisynod.org/cre) and contact the church office if you would like to attend.

## Mission Trip to Casa de los Ángeles

We will be sending a group to Casa de los Ángeles (a free daycare center in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico) this summer during the week of July 30<sup>th</sup>. There are approximately seven spots available on a first come first served basis for those who sign up and pay a \$250 deposit. Contact Tammy Kjos for more information.

## New Member Families

Eight new members joined CoG on January 15<sup>th</sup>. Over the next couple of weeks, we are sharing a little information from our new members.

**Christina A. Hinojosa-Cantu:** I'm 34 & currently living in Addison. Originally from Joliet, born and raised. Currently a student at College of DuPage studying ASL. Recently married this past October. My wife, Diana Cantu and I have 3 dogs and are both currently serving in the Armed Forces. We both love helping others - working various types of fundraising events with our all women's motorcycle organization, Organized Chaos. Spending time with family and friends are also important to us. I'm looking forward to be involved with the Cross of Glory community, helping the church with whenever I can. Thank you Cross of Glory for accepting me into its home.

**Marv, Kathy and Marvin Sah:** Hi everyone. We are the Sah Family; Marv, Kathy, and Marvin. Marv is a Landscaper, owning his own business. Kathy works at Menards as a morning stocker. Marvin, a recent graduate of the Masters Statistics program at DePaul, is working as a Data Analyst at a food broker company. As a family, we work together to grow fresh vegetables on our Farm. Marvin enjoys playing the bass. Kathy enjoys listening to Christian music, and Marv loves reading seed catalogs. We're all hoping to meet and get to know the Cross of Glory community.

**Marlene Tetyk:** I have resided in Homer Glen for 15 years with my husband, Bill, and my two children, Ana, 21 years old, and Alex, 20 years old. I work as a CME (Continuing Medical Education) Coordinator at Advocate Good Samaritan Hospital in Downers Grove for many years. In my free time, I enjoy reading, movies, and am addicted to Words with Friends. I use to enjoy cooking and baking, but have discovered that it is more fun to relax and order out.

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

Sunday..... 01/29..... Book Club – *The Girls of Atomic City* and *Songs of Willow Frost*

Thursday..... 02/02..... Blood Drive from 2:00 to 6:00 pm

Sunday..... 02/05..... Discussion of 2017 CoG Budget – after worship

Monday..... 02/06..... T.E.L.L. – 6:30 pm

Wednesday..... 02/08..... *The Welcome Place Preschool* Open House – 4:00 to 7:00 pm

Sunday..... 02/12..... Cross of Glory Annual Congregational Meeting – after Worship

Wednesday..... 02/15..... **Dinner with Friends** at Chili's – 6:30. All are Invited.

Friday..... 02/24..... Women's Event – Preparing Blessing Bags – 7:00 pm

Saturday..... 02/25..... Serve at MorningStar Mission in Joliet

Monday..... 02/27..... Holy Communion Class starts – 6:00 pm

Friday..... 03/17..... Women's Retreat Friday Night and Saturday

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