



In the Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter



February 12, 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 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! Meeting Next Sunday.

If you are interested in helping with Vacation Bible School this summer, please attend the VBS Meeting right after worship on February 19th. All are invited to help with ideas and sign up to volunteer!!

Youth T.E.L.L. Program Restarted Last Week

Teen Education for Lifelong Leadership (T.E.L.L.) is our educational program for youth from 6th through 12th 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. Registration forms are available in the Welcome Room. You can contact the office for details and questions.

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

Time: 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Holy Communion Classes Starts February 27th

Holy Communion Class is for 2nd 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 23rd.

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 4th Saturday of the month. See the signup sheet in the Welcome Room.

Fellowship...Growing Together

Council Member: Pat McIntosh-Oles

Dinner with Friends – Chili's on February 15th

Join our group for dinner at Chili's at 6:30 pm. Gather with old friends and make some new ones! Get a Manna gift card from Cheryl Nabors and use the fundraiser voucher to help Cross of Glory raise money in two different ways.

Book Club

The next book is *The End of Your Life Book Club* by William Schwalbe. We will discuss the book on Sunday March 5th at 6:00 pm. Location to be determined. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Cheryl Nabors for our new book list or questions about book club.

Blessing Bags – Women's Project on February 24th

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 24th 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 17th & 18th

Our new location is **Camp Manitoque & Retreat Center** in Frankfort. Arrive by 6:00 pm on Friday, March 17th 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 7th. 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.

Property Cleanup Next Saturday, February 18th

We are looking to do some property clean up (hedge and tree trimming etc.). Please see Bill Bavirsha if you can help.

Community Garden Update Meeting Next Sunday

Join us after church on February 19th for a meeting in the kitchen.

Property Committee Looking for Volunteers

The Property committee is still looking for volunteers with trade skills. Whether you are a handyman who has done some small home projects or a union tradesman that make a living doing this type of work. We need your help. Please contact Bill Bavirsha 312-405-0006 or sparky@uic.edu.

Finance...Growing Generosity

Council Member: Bill Nabors

Eat at Chili's – Raise Funds for CoG

Have a hot date for Valentine's Day??? Take your date to Chili's between 2/10 and 2/20 with the voucher (available at church or online) and Cross of Glory will benefit from 15% of the sales. Please share this voucher with your friends and neighbors. Only those with the voucher will be counted towards our total.

In addition, those of you who are planning to attend *Dinner with Friends* on 2/15 at Chili's, the sales from that night will be added toward our total!! If you purchase a Manna gift and use that to pay for your dinner, COG scores twice!! Come and help us reach our goal of \$500 in sales!!

Update on Worship & Giving

February 5, 2017: Attendance: 100
General Fund: \$3,483
Kids: \$1.63 / Building Use \$60

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.

Annual Meeting – Today

Cross of Glory's Annual Congregational Meeting is today following our 9:30 am service. It is required that we have a quorum of at least 20 voting members in attendance to legally conduct the business of the congregation.

Council Meetings

Council holds an open monthly meeting - usually on the second Tuesday of the month. **This month we met on the 7th.** 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).

Congregational Resourcing Event

The 2017 Congregational Resourcing Event (CRE) will be Saturday March 11 in Malta, IL. Check out the workshops at 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 30th. 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 with questions.

Upcoming Events (www.crossofglory.com/calendar)

Sunday..... 02/12..... Cross of Glory Annual Congregational Meeting – after Worship
Monday 02/13..... T.E.L.L. – 6:30 pm
Wednesday 02/15..... *Dinner with Friends* at Chili's – 6:30. All are Invited.
Saturday..... 02/18..... Property Cleanup Day
Sunday..... 02/19..... VBS Planning Meeting after Worship
Sunday..... 02/19..... Community Garden Update Meeting after Worship
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
Sunday 03/5..... Book Club - *The End of Your Life Book Club* – 6:00 pm
Friday 03/17..... Women's Retreat Friday Night and Saturday

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