



In the Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter



March 5, 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.

Wednesday Night Lenten Activities

Soup Supper – 6:00 pm

Each Wednesday in Lent, March 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5, we'll be having our regular soup suppers before our discussions of *The Shack*. The soup suppers start at 6 and *The Shack* discussions begin at 6:30. We will have a sign-up for those that wish to bring soups, breads, desserts, etc. Anyone wanting to volunteer these nights please contact the church office.

Discussion of *The Shack* – 6:30 pm

Each Wednesday during Lent, we'll be focusing on the movie *The Shack*, a modern-day parable that brings to life deep spiritual truths and highlights how healing can arise out of impossible tragedy. For anyone who may have wondered where God is in their pain, and for those who have questioned if God is there at all, *The Shack* presents an unforgettable encounter with a divine love that promises to never leave us. Starting Wednesday, March 8, after our meal, we'll watch a portion of *The Shack* and then discuss how its themes apply to our lives today. The principles of the movie speak to us all whether we have endured terrible tragedy and pain, or the more common struggles of everyday life. We hope to have some really good discussions using our guided discussion questions, so this is a great opportunity to bring friends to join us on Wednesday nights.

Discipleship...Growing UP

Council Member: Christine Quemeneur

Confirmation Class Starts TODAY, March 5th

Confirmation classes will be held on Sundays after worship. They will meet for 6 to 8 weeks for each semester, Fall and late Winter. Typically, students participate in two years of instruction (usually 7th & 8th graders) before affirming their baptism. Students who have completed two years of instruction will be invited to participate in the Rite of Confirmation during worship service.

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 sign-up sheet in the Welcome Room.

Outreach Ideas?

We believe that everyone is welcome to have a relationship with Jesus. When we serve outside our walls we can show the love and compassion of Jesus to others. Through building relationships with our community, we can lead the way to caring for the most vulnerable.

Do you have an idea about how our church can serve others in our community? Is there something on your heart that you want to do for others? Share your idea; maybe someone else would like to do it too!

If you know of a need in our communities or just have something fun to do, we will be glad to listen and get the word out. To start you can email council@crossofglory.com and tell us about your idea! Let us help you find the passion for serving that God has given to you.

Fellowship...Growing Together

Council Member: Maria Dziubczynski

Women's Retreat – From Dreams to Action March 17th & 18th

Our new location is **Camp Manistique & 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.

Movie Musical at Pastor Dana's

On Monday, March 20, at 7:00 pm, everyone is invited to Pastor Dana's house to watch the movie musical *Mama Mia*. Bring a friend and join us.

Next Dinner with Friends – Paddy B's on March 9th

Thanks so much to all of you who attended this month's Dinner with Friends at Chili's on February 15th. We had a huge crowd and lots of fun. Next Month's Dinner with Friends is Thursday, March 9th at 6:30. We'll be meeting at Paddy B's Pub. Gather with old friends and make some new ones!

Book Club – Today at 6:00

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

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. Contact Laura Uzzardo for additional information.

Finance...Growing Generosity

Council Member: Bill Nabors

Update on Worship & Giving

February 26, 2017: Attendance: 84

General Fund: \$4,262 / Holy Communion: \$25 / Kid's: 5

Building Use: \$197

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. Our monthly meeting in March will be on Tuesday, March 14th. 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), newly elected Maria Dziubczynski (Fellowship), Barb Taskay (Secretary/Worship). Thanks so much to Pat McIntosh-Oles for her wonderful service as our past council representative on Fellowship!!

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 the deposit. Please contact Tammy Kjos if you are interested in learning more.

Upcoming Events (www.crossofglory.com/calendar)

- Sunday 03/05 **Confirmation Class** starts after worship
- Sunday 03/05 Book Club – 6:00 pm at Cross of Glory
- Monday 03/06 **T.E.L.L.** meets– 6:30 pm (also 3/13, 3/20, and 3/27)
- Wednesday 03/08 **Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper** at 6:00 pm and **Discussion of *The Shack*** at 6:30 pm
- Thursday 03/09 **Dinner with Friends** fellowship dinner at Paddy B's – 6:30 pm
- Friday 03/17 **Women's Retreat** Friday Night and Saturday
- Sunday 03/19 **Brunch** after worship
- Monday 03/20 Movie Musical at Pastor Dana's House – **Mama Mia** at 7 pm
- Saturday 03/25 Serve at MorningStar Mission
- Sunday 03/26 **After the Rain** family friendly Christian music event to benefit **Feed My Starving Children**
3:00 pm at Peace Lutheran in New Lenox
- Sunday 04/09 Palm Sunday
- Thursday 04/13 Maundy Thursday
- Friday 04/14 Good Friday
- Saturday 04/15 Easter Egg Hunt
- Sunday 04/16 Easter Sunday

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