



# In the Loop

## Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter



April 2, 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.

#### Wednesday Night Lenten Activities

##### Soup Supper – 6:00 pm

On Wednesday, April 5th we'll be having our final soup supper and discussion of *The Shack*. The soup supper start at 6 and *The Shack* discussions begin at 6:30. We sign-up sheets for those that wish to bring soups, breads, desserts, etc.

##### Discussion of *The Shack* – 6:30 pm

Each Wednesday during Lent, we've been 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. *The Shack* presents an unforgettable encounter with a divine love that promises to never leave us. After our meal, we'll watch a short clip from the movie 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 common struggles of everyday life.

#### Easter Choir Forming



The Music Ministry of Cross of Glory Lutheran Church is looking for people for a choir on Easter Sunday.



All levels of talent and experience are welcome, but your enthusiasm is a must! Please see Todd Mizera for details.

#### Holy Week Schedule

- 04/09: Palm Sunday – Worship at 9:30 am
- 04/13: Seder Meal Worship at 6:30 pm
- 04/14: Cross Walk at Noon
- 04/14: Good Friday Worship at 7:00 pm
- 04/16: Easter Sunday Services at 9:30 and 11:00 am

All of these services are wonderful opportunities for people to encounter God through different worship styles and new experiences. **Please invite your neighbors, friends, and family to come and meet God at Cross of Glory during Holy Week!**

### Discipleship...Growing UP

Council Member: Christine Quemeneur

#### Confirmation Class

Confirmation classes are being 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 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month.

#### Easter Egg Hunt

Wrapped Easter Egg candy is needed for our Easter Eggs. **We also need volunteers to take eggs home and fill them with candy.** Signup sheets to help with the egg hunt are in the Welcome Room.



On Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting our annual neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt (divided by age groups). The Easter Bunny will be there ready to pose for pictures. The event starts promptly at 10:00 am but get there early so you don't miss out on any of the fun! The event is for the entire community so bring your neighbors and friends. Don't forget to bring a basket to hold your eggs!

### Fellowship...Growing Together

Council Member: Maria Dziubczynski

#### Book Club Meets Tonight

The next book is *Cross Roads* by Wm Paul Young. We will meet tonight, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 pm at Cross of Glory. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please contact Cheryl Nabors with any questions.

## Facilities...Growing Buildings & Grounds

Council Member: Bill Bavirsha

### Community Garden Update

Based on the level of interest expressed, we will be starting small with a few raised beds in the area south of the church. Some research and planning will still need to be done before we're ready to plant.

### 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

March 26, 2017: Attendance: 79

General Fund: \$2,344 / Kid's: 4 / Capital Building: \$10

Redevelopment Grant (ELCA): \$1,666

Redevelopment Grant (N.I. Synod): \$1,667

Noisy Offering (Synod Tornado Relief): \$306.45

### Vanco's Give+ App Now Available



Ever wished you could make a donation to Cross of Glory using your phone? Inspired but forgot you check book? Great News!

You can donate to Cross of Glory (Homer Glen, IL not Peoria, AZ 😊 please) at any time using the convenient GIVE+ app. No registration needed. Vanco Payment Solutions has been administering the Simply Giving program for a number of years. Their GIVE+ app is now available for both Android and Apple devices. Check it out!

### 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.

## CoG T-Shirts

Check out the new CoG t-shirts that Allen and Bob Kirkland are wearing. Want some for yourself? Of course you do! Contact Allen to place your order. These shirts will help bring an identity to Cross of Glory as we reach out into our community. They're perfect to wear to (and in) parades and festivals.

## Easter Plant Sale

Order your Easter Tulips and/or Lily plants today! All orders will be used to decorate the church for Easter Sunday services. You may pick up your plant after the service you attend or pick it up the following Sunday. You may dedicate the plant "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one.

Plants are \$12 each and order forms are available in the Welcome Room. Orders are due by next Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 (Vice-President/Facilities), Mary Beth Randle (Secretary/Outreach), Chris Quemeneur (Discipleship), Bill Nabors (President/Finance), newly elected Maria Dziubczynski (Fellowship), Barb Taskay (Worship). Thanks so much to Pat McIntosh-Oles for her wonderful service as our past council representative on Fellowship!!

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

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

- Sunday ..... 04/02 ..... **Confirmation Class** after worship
- Sunday ..... 04/02 ..... Book Club – 6:00 pm – *Cross Roads*
- Monday ..... 04/03 ..... **T.E.L.L.** meets – 6:30 pm (also April 3<sup>rd</sup>)
- Wednesday ..... 04/05 ..... **Wednesday Lenten Soup Supper** at 6:00 pm and **Discussion of *The Shack*** at 6:30 pm
- Sunday ..... 04/09 ..... Palm Sunday Worship at 9:30 am
- Thursday ..... 04/13 ..... Maundy Thursday Seder Meal Worship – 6:30 pm
- Friday ..... 04/14 ..... Good Friday. Cross Walk at Noon. Service at 7:00 pm
- Saturday ..... 04/15 ..... Easter Egg Hunt – 10:00 am
- Sunday ..... 04/16 ..... Easter Sunday services at 9:30 am and 11:00 am
- Monday ..... 04/24 ..... Movie Musical at Pastor Dana's House – *Jersey Boys* at 7:00 pm
- Thursday ..... 04/27 ..... The Welcome Place Preschool Open House – 4:00 to 7:00 pm

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