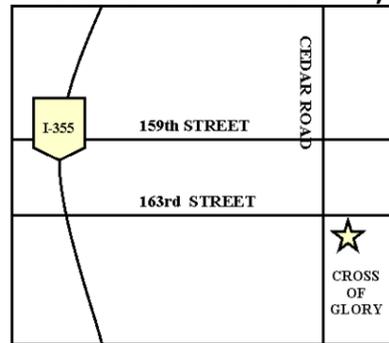




14719 W 163rd Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



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



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www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



OCTOBER 2017



**CROSS OF GLORY'S FALL FESTIVAL
(also known as Oktoberfest) NEEDS YOUR HELP**

By the time you see this, we'll have about one week before what is Cross of Glory's biggest festival of the year. I'm betting that this is also one of the biggest, if not the biggest, **entirely free** festivals anywhere around. (And we all know why it's free, right? Because that's how God's grace works - it's always free for everyone.)

Thanks to all of you who have been working so hard for the last couple of weeks and months to get this event up and running. And now it's time for all of us to step up to make our fall festival a success. So please, we need everyone's help to do the following:

- Publicize our event among your friends and neighbors. Talk it up and put it on your facebook site and on your neighborhood's facebook or Nextdoor site.
- Make sure you come and bring your friends and neighbors and all those other people you invited (see above).
- Sign up to bring desserts or whatever other food items we need for the event.
- **Please, please, please, help out on October 7th.** We have lots of openings for people to do set-up and clean-up, and help during the event.

This is a great opportunity for the community to get a taste of what Cross of Glory is like (and I'll bet we get a whole bunch of God sightings during the day). So please help out, and encourage everyone you know to come on Saturday, October 7th from 2-6 to enjoy the live bands, great food, games, face painting and other family friendly activities.

WHAT'S COMING UP:

Here's some stuff to look forward to on Sundays in October:

- **Preschool Sunday on October 1.** We start the month out by hosting the kids and families from our Welcome Place Preschool as they sing some songs and participate in the children's sermon. We'll have some drinks and desserts after the service to thank the kids and parents for coming. Please come and welcome our preschool families. (How can you resist - these kids are so cute!)
- **Bible Basics Sermon Series Concludes on October 15 (and we've got brunch and our noisy offering).** We conclude our sermon series on Bible interpretation with a really practical look at how to select a Bible. We'll talk about translations, study bibles, and the pros and cons of online versus print bibles. A great way to help you select a Bible that speaks to you. And even more fun - it's our monthly brunch after worship and our noisy offering, which will go toward hurricane relief. A Sunday not to be missed.
- **Confirmation on October 22.** Please celebrate with Bryce Bejlovec and Michael Kinney and their families as they affirm their baptismal faith here at Cross of Glory. We have been blessed by a great group of young adults and it is a joy to walk with them on their faith journeys.
- **Reformation Sunday on October 29.** We celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation in style - Cross of Glory style. (I confess - I'm not exactly sure what that means, but I know it will be good!)

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

Holy Communion at all services. Nursery available every Sunday. You are welcome here!

Dana O'Brien
Pastor
Dana@CrossofGlory.com

Laura Uzzardo
Parish Administrator
Laura@CrossofGlory.com

Todd Mizera
Worship Leader
Todd@CrossofGlory.com

Jamie Knutson
Director of The Welcome Place Preschool
Jamie@TheWelcomePlace.org

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



CrossofGlory.com



FREE FALL FEST

Saturday, October 7th
2:00 PM

Live Music, Food,
Family Friendly Activities
Fun For All Ages!



Welcome Statement

We recognize the importance of worshiping with a diverse group of people of any color, age, creed, ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, addictions, legal record, economic status, station in life, life circumstances, marital/family status, heterosexuals, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people, their partners and their families. We welcome all into full participation in the church life, ministry of the congregation, sacraments, and rites of the church. We are all one in God's eyes, and everyone has a place in the family of God. It is with love and in celebration that we affirm this position.

"There is no longer Jew nor Greek, there is no longer slave nor free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Galatians 3:28

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.
Bill Nabors, Finances/President
Mary Beth Randle, Outreach/Secretary
Maria Dziubczynski, Fellowship
Bill Bavirsha, Facilities/Vice President
Barb Taskay, Worship
Christine Quemeneur, Discipleship

Make an online donation on the church website
www.crossofglory.com/giving

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ Church
www.ReconcilingWorks.org



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Contact Cross of Glory Lutheran Church's office for more details on any of the upcoming program and events
(708) 301-6998

FISH Food Pantry Temporarily Suspends Operations

Just in case you haven't yet heard, the FISH Food Pantry has temporarily suspended operations (effective as of September 22) while it moves from its current location to the Lockport Township building on Farrell. It's is not clear how long the transition will take - some remodeling needs to be done to the area to be occupied by the pantry in its new location. However, during the interim, local congregations (including Cross of Glory) are working to provide emergency food to people who need it. As of now, distribution is being made from the First Congregational UCC next to the pantry's prior location. However all of us are helping with food and volunteers. The plan is to distribute bags of food on Wednesday and Friday mornings from 10-12. If you are available to help during either of those times, please contact the office or Pastor Dana. And keep collecting the bags of food. As of now, that's pretty much all we have to distribute (although we are looking at additional food sources and distribution options).

Hospitality is Key

I'm hoping that we will be seeing more visitors at worship on Sunday mornings. So this is simply a reminder to be the welcoming church we tell everyone we are. I know it is tempting to spend time before and after the service with people we haven't seen in a week, but please do this first - look around and find people you don't know. Then go and welcome them, find out something about them, and introduce them to someone else. Connecting with others is what makes us all feel welcome.

Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 28th 1-2:30pm

The Welcome Place Preschool takes the lead on this one, but we all get to help. So come on out on Saturday, October 28 with a decorated trunk and lots of candy, as costumed kids from the preschool and the community join us for Trunk or Treat. First they'll go trick or treating from car to car, and then they'll head inside for games crafts and some noncandy treats. The event goes from from 1-2:30, and we hope you can join us. And don't forget to bring your own costumed kids, and grandkids and other relatives and neighbors, and friends, and . . .

Monday Movies are Back

For all of you who were going through Movie Monday withdrawal during the summer, fret no more. Movie Mondays are back!!! And since a lot of people mentioned they'd like to see the movie *Gifted* after the sermon a few weeks ago, we'll be watching that on Monday, October 16 at 7 pm at my house (16759 West Sioux Drive in Lockport). This is the one with the little girl who's a math genius, and I guarantee you'll like it. We'll have some munchies and drinks, and some great movie conversation. And remember, there's always room for one more friend - so bring one along.

Scouts All Over the Place

If you happen to wander into the building on any Thursday evening this year, odds are you'll see a bunch of small scouts meeting and having fun. We are blessed to have lots of scout groups use the building this year and are excited to host them.

Change is Good-Tammy Kjos in Mexico

Sometimes, we are afraid of change and the unknown. People are challenged to change their way of doing things, challenged to take a look at why things are done the way they have always been done. This is what is happening at Casa, now called **Centro Infantil de los Angeles**. Donna is no longer the welcoming face that greets families when they walk in the door and many families and teachers miss this start to their day. People will adjust and a new normal will emerge.

I am also adjusting. Instead of volunteering for a week, I am here for 3 months, so I can make long term goals. I have been teaching Parenting classes infused with English, since early September. There are about 20 parents that take advantage of this free class, two days a week. Patricia Palacios is the director of Centro Infantil de los Angeles. She and I have started interviewing parents to get to know them better. I have learned that these parents love their children dearly. They would seek better employment or finish schooling, if the hours fit their kids' schedule. Their dreams for their children are that they have a happy, healthy life and that they finish school. Schooling is the key to a better future! We are creating a more educational environment at the Guarderia. Change is Good!

T.E.L.L. Youth Sponsors Amina from Ghana

Our youth program decided to sponsor a 14 year old girl named Amina that lives in Ghana. Each month \$38 is sent to Compassion International to help support Amina! The kids held a pancake breakfast recently in honor of Amina's birthday, which is October 9th. They were able to collect \$623.28. Thank you to all that came for a good meal and donated to help Amina! Please keep her in your prayers.

The youth will be meeting this fall and the discussions will be on "The Gospel According to Cartoons." How fun is that!? All youth 6th grade and up are welcomed to join!



It's Not Too Late to Sign up for Fall Confirmation

If you have or are a child who just started 7th or 8th grade it's not to late to sign up for our fall confirmation classes. Starting after worship on October 1, we'll meet five times in the fall, then take some time off for the holidays and start up again in after the New Year. We meet to explore our relationships with God and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in today's world. And we're all looking forward to October 22, when we'll celebrate with those being confirmed here at COG.

Generosity Our Focus in November

For those of you looking ahead, our sermon series in November will focus on generosity. What does it mean to live a generous life? How does generosity affect the giver as well as the recipient? Is the phrase "cheerful giver" an oxymoron? Consider time, talent and money - in what areas are you already generous and where would you like to grow? What do generosity and discipleship have in common? Those are just a few of the questions we'll be looking at in November.

COG Finances

A quick note on our financial situation here at Cross of Glory. We had a power surge recently that resulted in some unexpected costs, and we've struggled a bit in giving during September. As a result, our reserves are somewhat lower than anticipated.

And I'm guessing that our COG receipts may have dropped because we are all responding to people throughout our country and around the world who are really struggling as a result of hurricanes and other natural disasters. I have learned that this is who we are here at COG - people who respond to the needs of the world around us. So while I admit that it makes me a bit concerned about our own financial condition, I love to see God working through all of you to make a difference both locally and throughout the world!

CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE August 2017

Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$127,535.54
Other	\$ 50,239.58
Total	\$177,775.12
Expenses	
General/Building	\$75,774.36
Staff	\$99,184.83
Sharing	\$18,326.79
Ministries	\$ 4,803.19
Total	\$198,089.17
Income/Loss	\$(20,314.05)

THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL
Jamie Knutson, Director (708) 301-3883

Our school year has started off very well. Our students have settled into our classroom routine and have adjusted to our day. Everyone at the preschool is very excited to be joining Cross of Glory on Oct 1st worship. We've been practicing the songs and we're thrilled to share them with the congregation. We also have our Taffy Apple fundraiser happening now. Order forms are in the Welcome Room and are due back by Sept 17th. Happy Fall!

