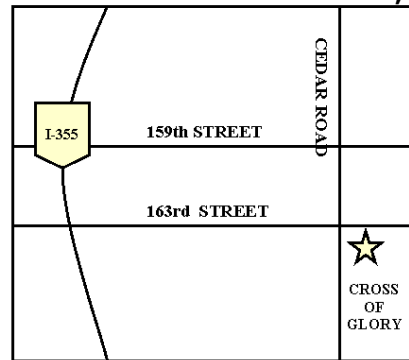




14719 W 163rd Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



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



Non-Profit Org.
Permit No. 65
Lockport, Illinois
60441
U.S. Postage Paid
Dated Material

Return Service Requested

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

14719 West 163rd Street
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
(708) 301-6998



www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



AUGUST 2018

When You Least Expect Him, Expect Him!

By Lisa O' Malley

Have you seen God this Summer? He's everywhere and nowhere, in the unexpected and the mundane. He is in the lost and lonely, in the fleeting moment and the endless night. We just have to look for Him and there He will be.

Last Summer I went with a Cross of Glory team to Centro Infantil de los Angeles daycare (formerly known as Casa) and did not realize He was there until a few weeks after I returned. I was on the receiving end of a nasty comment about Mexico, and I looked back at my week searching for the good I knew was there. I found the good, and bonus I found God.

We are called to love our neighbors and in my opinion those near and far. We are called to help those in need. What we do for one does not depend on their distance from us. Love. Help. Extend a hand. Show by example. Love thy neighbor and boy did we ever!!

The unique thing is that God was at work at that daycare all day every day. His hands mopped and changed diapers and fed babies and wiped away tears. He is still there and will be there long after we've left. There is a huge chain of love running from mom to mom to kid to kid to teacher to teacher. The chain, I realized, stretched from here to there, and our group was a link in that chain. Through our church we are still a link.

We are called to serve and love and to help. If we look we can find God with us as we do what he asks of us. We can also find God during the day to day routine of our lives. Think about the last few months and where you have seen Him and look for Him as we finish out the season. I saw God, for example, when Pastor Dana announced that the VBS kids had collected \$1500.00 for Fairmount School. He was with the children and their families as they donated.

When I actively search for Him during my day, I find humor instead of aggravation. I find patience and strength and a calmness. I appreciate my job and know I am lucky to love what I do for a living. Seeking Him brings a lightness to the day.

Have you seen God this Summer? I'm willing to bet you already have!

Sunday Worship in August

I know that many of us are getting ready to help kids head back to school (and some of us to head back to school ourselves). August sort of marks the end of summer and a transition back to fall scheduling. But wait . . . we've got a bunch of stuff yet to happen before August is over. Here's some of what you can look forward to:

Sunday, August 5: Bring your pets (including stuffed pets and pet pictures) for an old-fashioned pet blessing. Our monthly noisy offering will go toward TLC Animal Shelter in Homer Glen.

Sunday, August 12: Nicole Morin and Cheryl Nabors will be leading our last game show Sunday. We'll learn about some biblical characters as we play What's My Line. And after the service, please stay for brunch and a congregational meeting.

...Continued on page 2

**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



**SUMMER SUNDAY
AUGUST 19 at 6:00 PM**

Live Music - TMI



Food & Ice Cream

Lawn Games for the Kids (and adults)

We are grilling out, so you are welcome to bring a side dish or dessert, a lawn chair, and a couple of friends!

In case of inclement weather the event will move indoors.

**THE WELCOME
PLACE PRESCHOOL
OPEN HOUSE**

preschool registration



Thursday, August 16th
4:00—6:00 pm

- 4 year olds three days a week: Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
- 3 year olds two days a week: Tuesday & Thursday

Interested and want more information?

Call (708) 301-3883

www.crossofglory.com/preschool

Welcome Statement

We recognize the importance of worshipping 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, worshipping and teaching, and giving and sending.

Council Members:

Reach out to a council member with any questions or concerns.
Bill Nabors, Finances/President
Allen Kirkland, Outreach
Maria Dziubczynski, Fellowship
Bill Bavirsha, Facilities/Vice President
Samantha Barczy, Discipleship
Dennis Tanrikulu, Worship

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

(Cont from front page)

Sunday Worship in August

Sunday August 19: Dan Murtaugh and Emma Schmick are preaching about heading back to school. We'll bless backpacks and everyone starting a new school year. Then come back that evening for our last Summer Sunday with TMI.

Sunday, August 26: We're back to *The Story*, as we focus on Jesus and the New Testament. A great way to end the month of August and start a year of learning for all of us.

I hope you are able to join us on Sunday mornings for worship. These are all wonderful opportunities to see God at work in different ways, as we finish our summer sermon series, and look towards the fall.

National Night Out on August 7 - We're Participating

For the first time, Cross of Glory is participating in Lockport's National Night Out at the Lockport City Hall from 6-8 on Tuesday, August 7. We'll bring our free kids' games and bubbles and join the police, bouncy houses, food trucks, face painters, and a whole bunch of other fun things. This is another great way to be a positive presence in our community. **We need volunteers to staff the games from 5:45 to 8.** It's coming up quickly, so please sign up on the sheets on the welcome table.

Fairmont Volunteers Wanted

With school starting in mid-August, we'll again connect volunteers with Fairmont School. We're always looking for people to help in class or to read to kids or listen to them read. And if you're not a kid person, there's lots of

shelving to do in the library and organizing to do elsewhere. But here's the thing -- if you have a gift or skill you'd like to share, odds are Fairmont can use it. And let's not keep this to ourselves - if you know someone who might be interested in helping, sign them up. I'm sure there are lots of people in this community who would like to be involved in the good things that are happening at Fairmont.

The Story

On August 26, we begin the second part of our journey through God's big story, as we start our look at the New Testament in *The Story*. We'll learn about Jesus' life and message, and how the early church took that message to the world. And we'll see how that message remains relevant today. Find your book *The Story*, and if you didn't get one earlier, we'll have some on the welcome table. And if you or your friends have thought about joining us, but haven't yet, this is a great time to jump in.

VBS Thanks

Once again, we had a terrific SuperHero VBS program in July. We had over 110 kids and 40 volunteers participate and in just four days, they raised over \$1500 to help Fairmont School. I've heard lots of positive comments from parents and kids and they are already looking forward to next year's program (which will tentatively be based on Pixar movies). A huge thank you to both the week's many volunteers and to everyone at COG who made this all possible. You may not have been physically present, but all of you -- through your gifts of time and money and passion and commitment to what God calls us to do here -- helped us touch the lives of over 100 families in the community this summer. That's a big deal! That's a God thing!

COG's Family Fest is Saturday September 15

For the last two years we've had some pretty amazing family festivals in the fall. And that's despite being forced inside both years because of lousy weather. In the hope of better weather this year, we have moved the Fall Festival to the middle of September. We're inviting everyone in our community to enjoy the live bands playing from 2 -6, great food, and lots of family friendly activities like games, face painting, balloons, and other fun stuff. It's a great way 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).

And because we're planning so many fun events, **there are lots of opportunities for all of us to help.** We need people to help in advance by getting donations of food and other products, doing publicity, and planning the activities. And we'll also need lots of help on the day of the event -- help with games and face painting, set-up and take-down, handling the food, and welcoming our guests. For starters, we can all advertise the event by putting yellow fall fest signs in our yards. And don't forget to sign up to help on the volunteer sheets on the welcome table to help.

Calling All Pets - August 5 is Your Day!

Calling all pets!! Cross of Glory is having its second annual pet blessing during our worship on Sunday morning, August 5. For so many of us, our pets are a part of our family, and I bet they could all use a good blessing. So please bring your dogs and cats, guinea pigs, hamsters, birds, fish, reptiles and any other pet you've got for a laying on of hands (but no biting) and some kind words of blessing. Stuffed animals are also welcome (and for those who would prefer not to bring the actual pet, go ahead and bring a picture and we'll bless that).

We'll be worshipping outside that morning - unless it's too hot or too cold, in which case we'll all head indoors. We'll also be collecting our noisy offering for TLC Animal Shelter, and we'll have some information about animals available for adoption from TLC. And last year we had lots of people contact us after the event saying they wished they had known about it earlier because they would have liked to come. So **don't forget to tell everyone you know - all pets deserve a blessing!**

Popcorn Sale on August 26

The Cub Scouts will be selling popcorn before and after worship on August 26. Proceeds go to help the scouts attend activities and pay for uniforms.

Wednesday Worship Continues In August

Don't forget, we also worship on Wednesdays at 6:30, for people who can't make it on Sunday (or for people who just like to worship a lot). Our topic for Wednesday nights is throughout the summer is prayer - except that on Wednesday, August 8 we'll do another pet blessing for those who couldn't make it on Sunday

Congregational Meeting on August 12

Come one, come all! We'll be holding a short congregational meeting on August 12 after worship (and during brunch). The meeting is intended to help keep the congregation current on where we are financially (including a spring capital campaign and exploring the possible sale of surplus land), and to authorize the Council to incur expenses for some much-needed parking lot repairs and HVAC improvements.

Dinner with Friends at Chuck's

Our next Dinner with Friends is on Friday, August 17 at Chuck's Southern Comfort Café at 8025 Cass Avenue, Darien at 6:30. Hope to see you there.

Blood Drive September 6

Our next blood drive is Thursday, September 6, from 3-7 pm. Please consider donating to save a life. There's a sign-up sheet on the welcome table. All donors will receive a long sleeved Chicago Bears/Heartland t-shirt!

**CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE
June 2018**

Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$108,915.00
Other	\$ 27,825.00
Total	\$136,740.00
Expenses	
General/Building	\$ 57,639.00
Staff	\$ 80,030.00
Sharing	\$ 14,108.00
Ministries	\$ 8,742.00
Total	\$ 160,519.00
Income/Loss	\$ (23,779.00)

THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL

(708) 301-3883

OPEN HOUSE
THURSDAY, AUGUST 16th
4:00 TO 6:00 PM

www.crossofglory.com/preschool (website)
