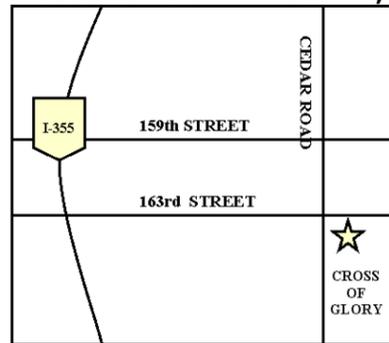




14719 W 163rd Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



Join Us
Sundays 9:30 am
You Are Welcome Here!



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Homer Glen, Illinois 60491
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www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



OCTOBER 2018

Hospitality - It's Up to All of Us

Pretty much every Sunday, we have visitors who stop in to worship with us. We're always telling people -- on our shirts and website and wall and Facebook -- that "You are welcome here." So when people come to visit, we ALL need to do our best to make that welcome a reality. Yes, we have a greeter every week, but that time after walking through the door and before the service starts (as well as after it's over) is key for our visitors - that's when they either feel welcomed or not. **So please take some time every Sunday before and after worship to greet people you don't know.** Let's all do our best to make everyone who walks in that door feel like the beloved children of God we know they are.

Thanks for the Festival!

Thanks to everyone at COG for making this year's Free Fun Fest a terrific success! The weather was delightful, and I've heard only terrific comments from people who attended. Not only did everyone have a great time, but God showed up all over the place! This was an entire Cross of Glory effort, so thank you to everyone who helped and everyone who came and brought their friends. Mark your calendars for our event next year. It will be on Saturday, September 14, and I hope we can all come out and support this wonderful opportunity to thank our community! (I'm guessing we'll need even more help next year, because as word of this great festival gets out, it will draw larger crowds!)

What's Coming Up on Sundays in October:

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

- * **Dan Murtaugh is Preaching on October 7.** Our first Sunday in October means our second last sermon on *The Story*. Dan will be preaching all about the end of Paul's ministry.
- * **The Story Sermon Series Concludes on October 14.** After 31 chapters that we began in January of 2018, we conclude our sermon series on *The Story* with a look at the Book of Revelation and some answers to the question, "What does this all mean for us today?" We'll celebrate with brunch after the service.
- * **Guest Speaker on October 21.** We're trying something a bit different (gee, what a surprise!) with a guest preacher (who is more of a storyteller than a preacher). Scott Olsen, from my prior congregation in Racine, will join me for a Q&A sermon on how he lives a generous life. It's also Noisy Offering Sunday, as we collect for the CROP Walk later that day.
- * **Confirmation and Reformation Sunday on October 28.** We celebrate with Meredyth Morin and her family, as she affirms her baptismal faith here at Cross of Glory. (Our other confirmation students will also be involved in the service.) And we'll do it on the 501th anniversary of the Reformation.

**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



Sponsored by
The Welcome
Place Preschool



Everyone
is
Welcome

**Do you want to decorate your vehicle?
Contact the church (708) 301-6998**

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

MorningStar Mission

MorningStar Mission is a ministry Cross of Glory has supported for many years. On the fourth Saturday of each month, COG volunteers go to MorningStar to help serve dinner to MorningStar guests. This is a terrific opportunity to help and get to know people in our community who are working hard to address some real challenges in their lives. And it's a lot of fun! Please sign up on the sheet on the welcome table or call the office if you'd like to help.

Girl 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 girl scouts meeting and having fun. Like last year, we are blessed to have lots of scout groups use the building and are excited to host them.

We Want Your Tuna

...and your chicken and hash and other canned meat (including meat and pasta). During October, we're collecting canned protein (cans of tuna, chicken, meat and pasta, etc.) for the Fairmont Community Center Food Pantry. The food pantry serves lots of local families who have kids attending Fairmont School. Please put your cans in the collection bin in the Welcome area. Thanks for your help!

Monday Movie - Mamma Mia! 2 on October 22

If I've planned this right, you'll have a front row seat (in my family room) for Mamma Mia! Here We Go Again, even before the DVD release date. The characters from the original movie return for this fun sequel, with lots more ABBA songs. Join us on Monday, October 22, at 7 pm at my house (16759 West Sioux Drive in Lockport). We'll have some munchies and drinks, and some great movie

conversation, and maybe even a little singing and dancing (after all, it is ABBA!). And remember, there's always room for one more friend - so bring one along.

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 too late to sign up for our fall confirmation classes. We next meet after worship on October 14, and then we'll meet five more times in the fall. We'll take some time off for the holidays and start up again in after the New Year. We meet to explore our relationship with God and what it means to be a follower of Jesus in today's world. And we're all looking forward to October 28, when we'll celebrate confirmation here at COG.

October Book Club

During October, the book club is reading *The Curious Charms of Arthur Pepper* by Phaedra Patrick. We will meet on Wednesday, October 24th at Cross of Glory at 7:00 pm. for an always-lively discussion. (See Janet Djecka if you need a copy of the book.)

Fellowship

The *October Brunch* will be after worship on Sunday, October 14. Bring a dish to share if you wish.

Dinner with Friends for October is scheduled on Friday the 19th at 6:30pm. We will be meeting at City BBQ. They are located at 14301 LaGrange Rd in Orland Park. There will be a sign up sheet in the Welcome Room.

Adoption Group

Meeting moved to October 15th.

Office Closed on Monday, Oct. 8th. Parking Lot Being Paved

Joliet CROP Walk on October 21

For many years, Cross of Glory has been active in the Lockport CROP walk, which raises money to address hunger in our community and around the world. Lots of us have walked around Dellwood Park, ATR has played before and after the Walk, we've provided food for those participating, and we've raised some money for this good cause. In 2018 year there was no CROP Walk in Lockport; however, this gives us a great opportunity to partner with some different congregations by participating in the Joliet CROP Walk. The band will still be playing, our October noisy offering will go to support it, and we hope to get a good group of us to go for a walk around Joliet on October 21 at 2 pm. (The walk starts and ends at Grace UMC on Larkin in Joliet - and I think it can be as short or long as you wish.) Please sign up on the welcome table if you'd like to participate. And if you can't make it for the walk, you can still be involved by sponsoring our walkers.

Fairmont Update

Last year, I didn't write an article for the October Newsletter about Fairmont. Because last year at this point, we had no connection with Fairmont. My how things change!! For months now, we've had over ten volunteers working with Fairmont kids and staff to help them become the best learning place they can be. We've given them some school supplies, winter clothes, books, money, and an encouragement luncheon; we've shared our talents and we've shared lots and lots of our time.

And none of that would have been possible without all of your help. So thank you Cross of Glory - for all you've done and continue to do to make a difference in the lives of the kids at Fairmont. And if you haven't helped before (or if you have and want to help some more), we are looking for volunteers to help with homework and watch some little kids while parents are taking an ELL class. We'll help on Tuesday afternoons from 4-to 5 pm. Please contact Dana at danalobrien@gmail.com if you'd like to be a part of this.

Trick-or-Treat Tailgate on Saturday, October 27

The Welcome Place Preschool takes the lead on this one, but we all get to help. So come on out on Saturday, October 27 with a decorated trunk and lots of candy, as costumed kids from the preschool and the community join us for Trick-or-Treat Tailgate. The kids will go trick-or-treating from car to car, and then they'll come inside for games, crafts and some noncandy treats. The event goes from 1-2:30, and we hope you can join us. If you can help with the inside activities and/or decorate your car and hand out candy, please

contact Laura in the office at (708) 301-6998. And I hope everyone can bring your own costumed kids, and grandkids, and other relatives and neighbors, and friends, and . . .

Congratulations on Finishing *The Story!*

After journeying through the book *The Story* for most of 2018, we will finish all 31 chapters in mid-October. I know not all of us were able to read all the chapters, but all of us finished the journey together. Congratulations everyone!!! I hope we all have a better grasp on God's big story going on throughout the entire Bible and continuing today. And I hope we are all better able to see how some of the stories that happened long ago still remain very relevant for us in the 21st century.

August Was a Tough Financial Month

If you check the financial update below, you'll see that August was a really tough month financially. Expenses were higher and giving was way down, and our total financial deficit ballooned from \$17,641 at the end of July to almost \$32,000 at the end of August. Hopefully, things will be picking back up as we move into the end of the year.

CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE	
August 2018	
Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$142,692.00
Other	\$ 34,756.00
Total	\$177,448.00
Expenses	
General/Building	\$ 76,358.00
Staff	\$105,002.00
Sharing	\$ 18,950.00
Ministries	\$ 9,115.00
Total	\$ 209,425.00
Income/Loss	\$ (31,977.00)

THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL

Jamie Knutson, Director (708) 301-3883



It seems as if everyone has finally settled into our classroom routine. We had a great turn out of students and everyone enjoyed singing at worship at the end of Sept. Our 3 year old class has grandparent's day this month and will sing for them. We have our taffy apple fundraiser going on now. If interested in ordering please let us know. Trick or Treat Tailgate is on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 1-2:30 and we are very excited to see how the cars are decorated this year. Our Halloween parties are the 30th and 31st and our students can't wait to parade around in their costumes!

www.crossofglory.com/preschool (website)
The Welcome Place Preschool (Facebook)