



In the Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter

December 9, 2018



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: Council Leader: Dennis Tanrikulu

Advent Activities

On Wednesday, November 28 we began our mid-week Advent meals. We meet at 6 pm to eat, and then at 6:30, where we will learn about some old Christmas traditions and make some new ones.

Please sign up on Sunday if you can bring a food item to share on Wednesday. This week's theme is *red and green* (bring something with Christmas colors), but anything you'd like to bring is great.

Kids' Christmas Play on December 16

Our worship service on Sunday, December 16 will feature the kids Christmas play. This year, our play is *The Noisy Night*, the story of Jesus' birth through the eyes of the animals. As always, we have spots for as many kids as want to participate. Practices are on Sunday mornings during Kids' Klub. This will be a creative way to hear the story of our Savior's birth.

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Services

Monday, December 24th ~ Christmas Eve

We will have two Barn Services on Christmas Eve, as well as our late evening service at 11:00 pm

4:00 and 6:00 Barn Services: Special music, candle-lighting, and Holy Communion -- a wonderful service for families and guests. The barn is heated but please dress warmly. (There are no restrooms in the barn, so plan accordingly.) Konow Farm: 16849 S Cedar Rd, Homer Glen

11:00 pm Service: Welcome Christmas with memorable special music, candle-lighting and Holy Communion. A very reflective service.

Tuesday, December 25th ~ Christmas Morning

9:30 am: Come as you are, anything from pajamas to your newest outfit!

Discipleship: Council Leader: Samantha Barczy

New Members

We'll be welcoming new members in January. If you think you may want to become a member of Cross of Glory, or have any questions about Cross of Glory, please contact Pastor Dana (danalobrien@gmail.com) or the office.

Outreach: Council Leader: Allen Kirkland

Visit with Santa

Over 130 people visited with Santa, played games, made crafts, snacked, and went home with a photo. Thanks to all the volunteers who made yesterday's event a success.

Angel Tree

Once again, we will celebrate Christmas as a congregation by picking names and buying presents for kids on our Angel Giving Tree. This year, our tree will include names provided to us by our local DCFS and some from Fairmont School.

The Angel Giving Tree benefits families who are going through some rough times. If you chose to take an Angel tag off the tree, you'll get a child's name, age, and some Christmas gift suggestions for the child. Please return the gifts all wrapped with the tag attached to the gifts, no later than December 16.

Christmas Poinsettia Sale

It's that time again to place your Christmas Poinsettia order! Your order will help to decorate for the Christmas Eve Worship services. You can pick up your poinsettia after the service you attend. You can designate your poinsettia *In Remembrance of* or *In Honor of* a special person in your life. (Names will be in the Christmas Eve Program.) Donations will also be accepted to help purchase poinsettias. Orders are due with payment of \$15 per plant by December 16th.



Fellowship: Council Leader: Maria Dziubczynski

Christmas with the Dashboard Saints

This is a fun night to gather together with friends – old and new. Enjoy live music and sing some Christmas Carols. You are welcome to bring a small appetizer and/or dessert to share. Bring your friends, family, and neighbors on Saturday, December 15th at 7:00 pm

Book Club Update

Our next book is *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens We will meet Thursday, December 27th at 7:00 pm at CoG. Everyone is welcome to attend the discussion. Upcoming books will be *The Sherlockian* by Graham Moore, and *A Man Called Ove* by Frederick Backman. Please contact Cheryl Nabors with any questions.

Facilities: Council Leader: Bill Bavirsha

Community Meeting Space Available

We have space available for parties, banquets, meetings and wedding receptions. Contact Laura Uzzardo.

Finance: Council Leader: Bill Nabors

Update on Worship & Giving

November 25th: Attendance: 83

General Fund: \$2,134, Capital: \$10

ELCA Grant: \$1,500

December 2nd: Attendance: 78

General Fund: \$5,199, Capital: \$10

Poinsettia Flowers: \$15

Give Online Using Web, Text, or App

Text giving is available by texting a dollar amount to 708-540-2650. First time givers will be directed to a web-based registration page. The **Give+ app** is also available for your phones and tablets. Search for “GivePlus Church” in your app store or get info on the web site.

Order Scrip (Gift Cards) from CoG

Need Gift Cards for Christmas?

Last day to place a special order and receive gift cards by Christmas is December 16th. We will have a selection of cards available for sale on December 23rd. Gift cards are a great gift and one way to support Cross of Glory. You purchase cards at face value and CoG receives a percentage of the face value. If you don't see what you are looking for, you can order cards and get them next Sunday. **See Cheryl Nabors for gift cards this week.**

Benefits of ordering scrip (gift cards) from CoG:

- You purchase gift cards at face value and CoG receives a percentage of the purchase
- Over 600 vendors to choose from.
- Gift cards are available in different denominations
- **For a limited time, \$10 cards are available from selected vendors. (Great for stocking stuffers)**
- Some cards available immediately on a first come basis (See Cheryl Nabors)
- Order and receive gift cards by next Sunday
- Vendor Lists and Order Forms in the Welcome Room

Not sure what to get? Take a list and order form with you.

Scrip (gift cards) can also be used for your everyday spending. Buy your gas and groceries and CoG benefits!

Upcoming Events (crossofglory.com/cog-calendar)

Monday12/10 Adoption Support Group – 6:30 pm

Wednesday 12/12 Advent Wednesday Fellowship Night – 6:00 pm

Saturday12/15 Christmas with the Dashboard Saints – 7:00 to 10:00 pm

Sunday.....12/16 Children's Program during Worship

Tuesday12/24 Christmas Eve Services – 4:00 and 6:00 at Know Barn; 11:00 at Cross of Glory

Wednesday 12/25 Christmas Morning Service – 11:00 am

Thursday....12/27 *Book Club* discusses *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens – 7:00 pm

Saturday01/05 Celebration of Life for Jerry Dziubczynski – Time TBA

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

Check out the Cross of Glory Web Site at www.crossofglory.com for all the latest news.