



In the Loop

Cross of Glory's Weekly Newsletter

December 16, 2018

cross of glory

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

Kids' Christmas Play TODAY

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.

Blue Christmas Service – Thursday at 7:00 pm

On Thursday, December 20th, one of the longest nights of the year, we are holding a contemplative community service for everyone who may be struggling during the holidays due to grief, loneliness or any kind of loss. This is a difficult time for many, so please tell your friends about this service.

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

Christmas Caroling – Wednesday at 6:30 pm

This year's caroling will be on December 19. We're trying out different neighborhoods each year, and this year we'll gather at Dana O'Brien's house at 6:30, then head out into the neighborhood to sing Christmas carols. After we've delighted the neighbors, we'll return for treats. Everyone is welcome (no singing talent necessary)!

Angel Tree

Once again, we celebrated Christmas as a congregation by picking names and buying presents for kids from our local DCFS and from Fairmont School.

The gifts should all be returned by today. They should be wrapped with the numbered tag attached to the gifts.

ELCA "Good Gifts" ornaments now adorn the tree. Please take one and contribute in the name of a loved one.

Christmas Poinsettia Sale – Ends TODAY!

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 today with your payment of \$15 per plant.**



Fellowship: Council Leader: Maria Dziubczynski

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 Fredrick 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

December 9th: Attendance: 86

General Fund: \$4,055, Capital: \$10

Special Gift – Maintenance: \$200

Commitment Cards

Thanks to all of you who have already turned in your commitment cards. If you haven't done so yet, please drop your card off in the office or place it in the offering this Sunday. Our commitment cards are a great way to say we're "all in" with what God is doing in and through Cross of Glory.

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?

Today is the last day to place a special order and receive gift cards by Christmas. We will have a selection of cards available for immediate sale today and 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)

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

Wednesday 12/19 Christmas Caroling in the Community – Meet at Dana's at 6:30pm

Thursday....12/20 Blue Christmas Worship – 7:00 pm

Tuesday12/24 Christmas Eve Services – 4:00 and 6:00 at Konow Barn, 16849 S Cedar Rd in Homer Glen

Tuesday12/24 Christmas Eve Services –11:00 at Cross of Glory

Wednesday 12/25 Christmas Morning Service – 9:30 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.