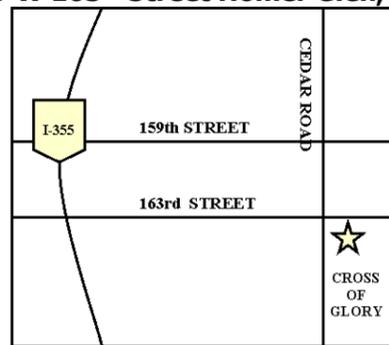




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Join Us
Sundays 9:30 am
You Are Welcome Here!



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www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



MAY 2019

CAPTIAL APPEAL UPDATE By: Jeff Warner

It seems like just yesterday that I sat at my computer and typed up my last article for the newsletter. It was actually late January and it was for the February newsletter. It was the kickoff for the embracing Gods Vision appeal campaign and I had no idea how it would turn out.

Well fast forward to May and I now know how it turned out. I know that I must have said at least a thousand times "do you have any questions about the capitol appeal". I know this because every morning when I got up I asked Nancy if she had any questions about the capitol appeal. She never did. We put up signs and had talks. Boy did we have talks. A bunch of you talked to the congregation and I must say they were pretty inspiring words. That's not an easy thing to do and I thank all of you for that. I said to Dana about mid-March that I talked to her more then I talked to Nancy. Well, other than the asking about the capitol appeal.

And on April 7th we wrapped it up with celebration Sunday. And what a celebration it was. We came through with over two hundred and fifty thousand dollars in pledges and over eighty thousand dollars in initial gifts. A truly amazing set of numbers. A set of numbers that will allow us to set aside some money for maintenance type things, and allow us to address the mortgage in a way that I hope will lower our monthly payment and give us some breathing room.

I want to thank everybody who worked on the appeal. I want to thank everybody who gave to the appeal. You are a great bunch who always comes forward and always steps up in a big way.

And just in case there are some of you out there that think that because you could not make the celebration on the 7th that you are out of luck, I have some really good news. I talked to Dana, and even though she was totally against it, I talked her in to allowing those who have still not turned in there commitment form the opportunity to still turn one in. I know, I am a great guy for giving you a chance to be part of something big. So just bring that thing in and we will add you in. Or if you lost your form we have a few available at church. You're welcome.

WHAT'S COMING UP ON SUNDAYS IN MAY:

We've got a heck of a lot of celebrating going on in April. Check it out:

- Preschool Sunday on May 5.** It's a busy day as we welcome our preschool families to worship. We'll also baptize the sister of one of our preschool girls. (And we'll celebrate everyone with a May birthday.)
- Mother's Day on Sunday May 12.** We celebrate Mother's Day on May 12.
- On May 19 We Celebrate the Baptism of Ryker Beisman.** We also continue our sermon series on Joining God in the Neighborhood and it's our noisy offering day.
- Sunday, May 26,** we celebrate Memorial Day and continue our series, Joining God in the Neighborhood.

**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



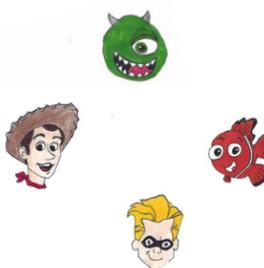
Crafts!
Games!
For Ages 4
Up Through
5th Grade!

**REGISTER NOW FOR
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

July 8-11 9:00 to Noon
Family Night July 11 at 6:30 pm
Only \$10/Child

Four Days of Adventure
with **GOD In PIXAR**

Adults and Youth can come volunteer!



Bible Story
Adventures!

More details on page 3

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.
Barb Taskay Finances
Allen Kirkland, Outreach
Lisa O'Malley, Fellowship
Bill Bavirsha, Facilities
Samantha Barczi, 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

Noisy Offerings

Thank you all of you for your noisy offerings each month. Just an update as to where they are going. In January, we collected \$403.50 for RIC/Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches, and in February, our noisy offering of \$760 went to the Lockport Resource Center. (They immediately sent me a thank you note - LRC is so grateful for our continued support.) And in March, our noisy offering was collected to thank Scott Olsen for all he's done for our congregation with his multiple visits and he sharing of money with over 60 of us to pay it forward. We gave \$1000 to the Wisconsin Down Syndrome Association in honor of Scott. (We didn't have a noisy offering in April because it would have happened on Easter.) Our noisy offering in May will go to Centro Infantil, to coincide with the fundraiser we'll be having on May 3rd.

Mother's Day Worship ~ May 12

Mother's Day is now the Sunday with the third highest worship attendance (behind only Easter and Christmas). And like our last two years, we want our Mother's Day worship service to be special. (Since all of our worship services are special, this one will just be "more special.") Dan Murtaugh will be preaching that day, and small gifts will be given to thank all the women present, all of whom are so important in our lives. And once again, Andrew Kjos will have his camera equipment set up to take family photos.

New Sermon Series - Joining God in the Neighborhood

With the weather getting warmer, summer is a perfect opportunity to be outside more and get to know your neighbors better. To help us all do that, we'll be starting a new sermon series, Joining God in the

Neighborhood, all about the fun and easy ways we can participate in what God is already doing in our neighborhoods and communities.

Are You A 2019 Graduate?

On Sunday, June 9, 2018, we'll recognize recent graduates at our 9:30 worship service. We'll do a blessing during the service and then celebrate with a cake afterward.

Cinco de Mayo Fundraiser on May 3rd

Our annual Cinco de Mayo fundraiser is coming up in less than two weeks. Bring your friends and neighbors and join us on **Friday, May 3** for a fun evening featuring great Mexican food, split the pot, music, piñatas for the kids and lots of family fun. This is a fundraiser for Centro Infantil de los Angeles, our partner in Mexico which provides free day-care and preschool serving the lowest income families in San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. There are still opportunities for you to help with the event. Sign-up sheets are in the welcome area. Doors open at 6:00 with dinner at 6:30.

Guitar Lessons

If you ever thought you might want to play the guitar, this is your chance! Todd Mizera is offering guitar lessons starting in May. Contact Todd at 708-347-0210 if you are interested. questions.

Community Blood Drive

Thursday, May 16th 3 to 7pm
Join us for our 2nd blood drive of 2019. This one will be in memory of Caryl Hruska. Donating blood was very important to Caryl, who passed away this Spring.

You can sign up in the Welcome Room, call the church office, or go through the Heartland Blood Center website. Spread the word!

Upcoming Summer Stuff

I know - it seems that just yesterday, it was still winter. (I'm guessing the snow in the middle of April had something to do with that!) But now we're gearing up for summer - and that means it's time to get outside. And while I know you all have lots to do on summer weekends, I hope you'll also be able to participate in the fun summer stuff we'll have going on at Cross of Glory again this year. In addition to VBS and the youth programming that kicks off in the summer, we'll also continue "Summer Sundays" (our evening get-togethers with music and food on one Sunday each month) and we'll again have mid-week Wednesday worship (for those of you who can't make it to worship on the weekend).

Like last year, we'll also have fun stuff going on in worship on Sundays - like our now annual pet blessing, and movie Sundays (where we look for God in some recent movies). And this year we'll also have some messy church Sundays - I'm not exactly sure what that entails, but it will be messy. And in June we'll take our worship service on the road as we participate in Canal Days and worship in the beer tent on June 16. We'll also be marching in parades and will be involved in local festivals. Watch for more info as summer approaches, but prepare for a fun exciting God-filled summer here at COG!

PFLAG Chapter Forming Now - Come and Be a Part

Some members are in the process of forming a PFLAG chapter which will meet here at Cross of Glory. If you would like to be involved in the organization of this new chapter, you are welcome to attend an organizational meeting at 7 pm on Tuesday, April 30 here at COG. (PFLAG is a national organization that unites LGBTQ persons with families, friends and allies, and advances equality through support, education and advocacy.)

New Lenox Parade On May 5

Join us as we again participate in the New Lenox parade on Sunday, May 5th. The parade starts at 2 and we'll meet at the Murtaugh's house around 1 and then walk over to the start area. The parade is a big one and we'll be walking with (or sitting in) Murtaugh's little yellow car and telling people about our upcoming God in Pixar VBS.

Three More Parades in June

The New Lenox parade is the first of four parades we'll be participating in this summer. Lockport's Canal Days parade is Friday, June 14 at 6 pm. The Homer Township parade is a week later on Saturday, June 22 at 11 am. And then on Sunday, June 30, we will again be part of the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches marching

in the Chicago Pride Parade. All these parades are wonderful opportunities for us to publicly proclaim who we are and what we believe. Look for further details on all the June parades in next month's newsletter.

Dinner with Friends

May 30th 6:30 pm at Nicks Barbeque in Homer Glen
June 26th 6:30 pm at The Quarry in Lemont

God in Pixar VBS - July 8 - 11

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!!! Cross of Glory's Vacation Bible School will take place from 9-noon, starting Monday, July 8 and go through Thursday, July 11. Our theme is God in Pixar, so each day's activities will focus on a different Pixar movie: *Incredibles 2*, *Monsters, Inc.*, *Toy Story* and *Finding Nemo*. Every year, we've been filling up earlier, so please tell all your friends about VBS and get your registrations in. And since we're expecting lots of kids, we also need lots of helpers. Volunteer sign-up sheets are in the Welcome Room. Please contact the church office if you have any questions. (This is a great activity for high school kids who may need volunteer service hours.)

CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE

March 2019

Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$55,829.00
Other	\$ 6,935.00
Total	\$62,764.00
Expenses	
General/Building	\$ 31,241.00
Staff	\$ 42,289.00
Sharing	\$ 6,315.00
Ministries	\$ 1,677.00
Total	\$ 81,522.00
Income/Loss	\$ (18,758.00)

THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL



Jamie Knutson, Director (708) 301-3883

Can't believe school is almost done. We have learned so much this year and watched our students grow and change. In May we are having our Little Caesar's pizza fund-raiser. Forms are here at Cross of Glory if you're interested in ordering any. Orders due by May 8. We also have caterpillars in our classroom and they are all in their chrysalis'. We can't wait until they become butterflies. We have our end of the year party coming up with a jump house and a then a graduation ceremony on May 24 for our students moving on to kindergarten. Preschool Sunday, May 5th!

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