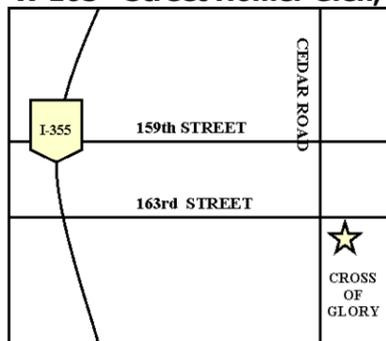




14719 W 163rd Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



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



THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Wednesday, August 7th 4:00 to 6:00 PM

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

Registration is now open for the Fall Classes.
Call to set up a visit or to just get more information?

(708) 301-3883

www.crossofglory.com/preschool/

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www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



JULY 2019

WHERE ARE WE ON OUR CAPITAL APPEAL

Your generosity in our Embracing God's Vision capital appeal has given us some options with respect to adjusting or refinancing our current mortgage. Soon, we'll be holding a congregational meeting to discuss how we can modify our mortgage to reduce future monthly payments to a manageable level. This will allow us to better steward our resources and focus on mission and ministry moving forward. Once again, thank you for embracing God's vision in this congregation and community through your participation in the capital appeal.

WHAT SUNDAY WORSHIP LOOKS LIKE IN JULY

I know that many of us are in the midst of vacations and family gatherings, but we've got a lot going on at COG on Sunday mornings that you don't want to miss. Here's what worship will look like during July:

- **Sunday, July 7: Messy Church Sunday.** We celebrate July birthdays and get a little messy as we do some hands on exploring of what it looks like to be a church today.
- **Sunday, July 14: VBS Celebration Sunday.** We'll get a taste of our God in Pixar VBS and hear some stories about where we saw God during the week. It's also noisy offering Sunday. And then we are all invited to come back at 6 pm for Summer Sundays with The Dashboard Saints.
- **Sunday July 21: It's Invite a Friend Sunday,** so you are all encouraged to bring friends. During worship, we'll watch parts of a movie and explore where we see God in our everyday life. Then stay afterward for ice cream sundaes - **yes, it's "Sundae Sunday!"**
- **Sunday, July 28:** Another messy church Sunday as we celebrate **Christmas in July.** (I've always wanted to do this.) We'll also celebrate August birthdays just a bit early. Then stay afterward for **brunch.**
- **Sunday, August 4.** It's **Pet Blessing Sunday,** so bring your furry and/or feathered or scaled friends for a blessing and a treat.

WEDNESDAY WORSHIP CONTINUES ALL SUMMER

At 6:30 every Wednesday during the summer (except July 3), you are invited to gather for a short low-key worship with singing, communion, and a whole lot of God. Each week we look at a different parable of Jesus, and discuss what it means today. If you can't make it on Sunday, or just like to worship mid-week, this is the worship service for you.

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 to be taken off our emailing list:
laura@crossofglory.com



CrossofGlory.com



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 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

The Fairmont Community Needs our Help on Saturday July 13

Fairmont Community Partnership Group is holding a health fair at Fairmont School on Saturday July 13, from 10 to 2. There will be health screenings, social service and job info, and free books, clothes and food. They could use some volunteers from 10 - 2 to help with the health fair. This is a great opportunity to connect beyond the school with residents of the Fairmont community. A sign-up sheet is on the welcome table.

Kids' Games At "Chalk-It-Up!" On August 3

We are again participating in Homer Glen's Chalk-It-Up event on August 3. We'll be hosting our free kids' games at the event, which takes place in Stonebridge Park just east of Cross of Glory, from 9 to noon. We'll have games and bubbles, but need volunteers to make this work. A sign-up sheet is on the welcome table. (And if you or anyone you know is a chalk artist, go ahead and enter the chalk art contest, which will feature prizes awarded for different age categories.)

A BIG THANK YOU to Everyone

As I've said before, many congregations slow down during the summer months. But that's not how things work at Cross of Glory; here, we actually get busier over the summer, as we ramp up both our ministries out in the community and what we've got going on in the building. In addition to worship and all the usual stuff going on here, this summer we've also added Wednesday worship, Summer Sundays, and participation in four parades and three festivals so far. And it keeps going with our weeklong VBS and an invitation to help with an event in Fairmont in July, and more events in August.

I know lots of you are really busy in the summer as well, so a BIG THANKS to all of you who've taken time to participate in any of our COG summer ministries. Not only do we make a positive difference in the lives of people in our community, but we also become more of the people God created us to be.

Monday July 22 -- Youth Event

On Monday, July 22, our young people in 6th through 12th grades are invited to meet at 6:30 here at Cross of Glory. They'll be gathering for fun and to talk and learn about how God is always working in their lives. Everyone is welcome, and summer is a great time to start coming. You can call Laura in the office if you have any questions about our summer youth group.

Summer Sundays on July 14

Our second Summer Sunday evening is on Sunday, July 14. We are grilling out again (hot dogs and brats), so please bring a side dish or dessert, a lawn chair, and a couple of friends. We'll also have lawn games for the kids (and adults). Everything starts at 6 pm.

Brunch after Worship on July 28

Don't forget to stay after worship on July 28 for our monthly summer brunch (and bring something to share if you can). This is a great time to connect with people you know and to meet some people you see at worship but don't know well.

Ladies -- Join us for a Slammers Game on Thursday, July 25

Come and bring your friends to Ladies Night at the Slammers. Tickets are \$10 per person, and you need to contact Debbie Murtaugh by July 21.

Dinner with Friends on July 23

Tuesday, July 23, at 6:30 at the Bulldog Ale House in Bolingbrook. See your old and new friends for some great food and fun times.

Your Chance to Participate in God in Pixar VBS

God in Pixar Vacation Bible School is next week. Our weeklong VBS, which runs from July 8 through July 11, is one of our largest community events of the entire year. (Right now, we have 120 kids signed up; we stopped advertising and taking registrations weeks ago.) Each morning, from 9 to noon, the kids will gather up for a fun adventure focusing on different Pixar movies (Toy Story, Monsters, Inc., the Incredibles 2, and Finding Nemo), each of which is tied to a Bible story and theme of the day about how much God cares for us.

As always, this is a church-wide effort. It takes all of us to make our VBS a success. So here are some things you can do to help:

- **Volunteer.** Yes, once again this year we have a wonderful problem - we have even more kids than last year. (Right now, we have 120 kids signed up.) Which means we are always looking for more volunteers. So if you or someone you know (adult or teenager) would like to work with kids for four mornings in July, this is an opportunity you don't want to pass up. Please contact Laura in the office if you'd like to help.
- **Donate.** If you would like to donate items to help with VBS, there is a list of things we need this year. If you'd prefer, you can always give money to help defer some of the cost. (VBS always costs more than the \$10 we charge each child.) Call the office if you'd like to donate an item.
- **Celebrate with us.** Join us at the final VBS program on Thursday night at 6:30 to see the kids sing, and/or join us for worship on Sunday, June 14 as we give the congregation a taste of where we saw God during our VBS week.
- **Pray for VBS.** Here's something everyone can do - pray for the success of our weeklong VBS. Pray that God will work mightily in the hearts and minds of our kids and volunteers. Pray that patience, a sense of humor, and a love of God and others permeates this place and everyone in it all that week.

Remember, it takes an entire village to raise a child. And it takes an entire congregation to carry out a successful VBS program.

Sunday, July 21 is Invite a Friend Sunday - which means it's also Sundae Sunday.

If you've got a friend or two that you've been planning to invite, now is a terrific time to do that. (And if you don't have anyone to invite, get out there and find someone.) We are always talking about how people we know are looking to encounter God in a welcoming and

affirming place. Well, Sunday, July 21 is the day to help them do exactly that. During worship, we'll be munching on popcorn and watching parts of a recent movie -- just perfect for a first-time visitor. And, it's also "Sundae Sunday," so we'll have ice cream sundaes after the service.

Let's all invite others to be a part of what God is doing here. It is simply too good to keep to ourselves!!

Advance Notice -- Pet Blessing on Sunday August 4

One of our most popular summer services is coming up. Bring all your animal friends, and tell all your people friends, about Cross of Glory's annual pet blessing on Sunday August 4. 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 You're all being notified early about this because in past years, we've 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!!

CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE
May 2019

Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$ 95,150.00
Other	\$ 14,570.00
Total	\$115,239.00
Expenses	
General/Building	\$ 53,229.00
Staff	\$ 67,879.00
Sharing	\$ 12,643.00
Ministries	\$ 2,387.00
Total	\$136,138.00
Income/Loss	\$(-20,899.00)

Summer is just beginning and we already have quite a deficit. Let's all try to keep up with our weekly giving and keep our ministries strong.

THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL

Jamie Knutson, Director (708) 301-3883



Open House on Wednesday, August 7 from 4:00 to 6:30 pm.

Please let anyone interested in a preschool know about our Open House. Call and set up a time to visit the classroom and get more information. Happy Summer!

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