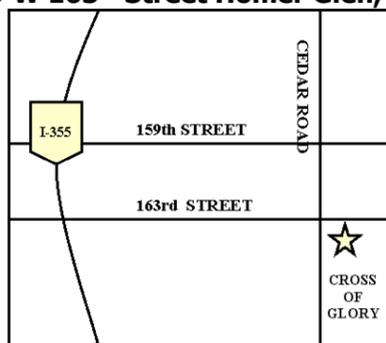




14719 W 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



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

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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

14719 West 163<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Homer Glen, Illinois 60491  
(708) 301-6998



www.CrossofGlory.com

Evangelical Lutheran Church of America, ELCA



AUGUST 2019

**SUNDAY WORSHIP IN AUGUST**

August signals the end of summer and the beginning of fall scheduling, as the weather gets cooler and school begins. And at Cross of Glory, we're getting ready for school too, but we've also got a lot of other stuff going on. Here's some of what you can look forward to on Sundays in August:

- **Sunday, August 4:** Bring your pets (including stuffed pets and pet pictures) for our third annual pet blessing. Our monthly noisy offering will go toward TLC Animal Shelter and the Legacy Ranch.
- **Sunday, August 11:** Todd Mizera will be preaching on Pachelbel's Canon in D and God. You have to come and hear this!
- **Sunday August 18:** It's back to school Sunday, as we bless backpacks and everyone who's starting a new school year. We also celebrate a baptism.
- **Sunday, August 25:** It's our second outdoor worship of the summer, as we affirm our own baptisms with a little water. Then we finish off with a cook-out brunch. A great way to end the month of August and move into the school year.

I hope you are able to join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 for worship. These are all wonderful opportunities to see God at work in so many different ways in our daily lives.

**WEDNESDAY WORSHIP CONTINUES IN AUGUST**

Don't forget, we also worship on Wednesdays at 6:30. Each week we focus on a different one of Jesus' parables.

**MORTGAGE ADJUSTMENT - A CAPITAL APPEAL SUCCESS STORY**

As Jeff Warner shared with the congregation after worship one recent Sunday morning, we are beginning to use our capital appeal funds - and it is turning out better than we had hoped when we began this capital appeal six months ago. Originally we had hoped to raise funds to pay for needed building maintenance and hopefully refinance our mortgage to reduce future monthly payments. But because of the terrific response to our capital appeal, we are able to stay with MIF (our current mortgage holder) and avoid refinancing for a longer period at a higher interest rate.

Thanks to all of you who committed so generously to our Embracing God's Vision Capital Appeal, we are able to pay MIF \$75,000 to reduce our mortgage principal, and in exchange MIF will re-amortize our mortgage and extend the maturity date three years. Not only does this significantly reduce our future monthly payments, but it also enables us to pay off our balance much sooner than if we had refinanced. Additional capital appeal funds will be used to help pay part of each month's mortgage principal to get our monthly payments down to something manageable. Overall, the pay down, re-amortization and monthly use of capital appeal funds saves us hundreds of thousands of dollars (compared to a 20 year refinance), and is clearly the most prudent financial option and the best stewardship use our capital appeal resources.

I know -- the above description of our mortgage adjustment is a bit complicated. But here's the really important take-away - we were only able to do this because of your amazing response to our capital appeal! (Continued to page 1)

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



CrossofGlory.com



**THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE**

Wednesday, August 7th

4:00 to 6:00 PM

preschool registration



Registration is now open for the Fall classes. Call to set up a visit or to just get more information? (708) 301-3883

**FREE FALL FEST**

Saturday, September 14th

2:00 PM



Live Music, Food, Family Friendly Activities



Fun For All Ages



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

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Make an online donation on the church website  
[www.crossofglory.com/giving](http://www.crossofglory.com/giving)

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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ Church  
[www.ReconcilingWorks.org](http://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

Capital Appeal Success

(Continued)

The large amount pledged, coupled with the significant amount contributed up front, allows us to make a significant principal pay down and use funds to help pay our ongoing monthly mortgage, while still leaving sufficient funds to address needed maintenance and building improvement projects. This is not something our leaders ever anticipated we would be able to do just a few short months ago. **So thank you Cross of Glory - once again, God has worked through you in marvelous ways**

Calling All Pets

Calling all pets!! Cross of Glory is having its third annual pet blessing during 9:30 worship on Sunday morning, August 4<sup>th</sup>. Stuffed animals are also welcome (and for those who would prefer not to bring the actual pet, go ahead and bring a picture and we'll bless that.)

We'll be worshipping outside that morning - unless it's too hot or too cold, in which case we'll all go indoors. We'll also be collecting our noisy offering, and it will be divided between TLC Animal Shelter and The Legacy Ranch. We'll also have some information about animals available for adoption from TLC. Don't forget to tell everyone you know - all pets deserve a blessing

Preschool Open House on Aug 7

Hey everyone - have I ever told you what a great preschool we have. Well, we do. Unfortunately, lots of people aren't aware of our preschool. So please help us get the word out by telling everyone you know that we have a preschool open house on Wednesday, August 7 from 4 to 6 pm. There are still spots available in both the 3 and 4-year-old classes.

Fairmont Volunteers Wanted

With school starting back up in mid-August, we'll again connect volunteers with Fairmont School. We're always looking for people to help in class or to read to kids or listen to them read. And if you're not a kid person, there's lots of shelving to do in the library and organizing to do elsewhere. But here's the thing -- if you have a gift or skill you'd like to share, odds are Fairmont can use it. And let's not keep this to ourselves - if you know someone who might be interested in helping, tell them about these opportunities. I'm sure there are lots of people in this community who would like to be involved in the good things that are happening at Fairmont.

Volunteer at National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6

Cross of Glory is participating in Lockport's National Night Out at the Lockport City Hall from 5:30 to 8 on Tuesday, August 6. We'll bring our free kids' games and bubbles and join the police, bouncy houses, food trucks, face painters, and a whole bunch of other fun things. This is another great way to be a positive presence in our community. **We need volunteers to staff the games from 5:30 to 8.** It's coming up quickly, so please sign up on the sheet on the welcome table.

Slammers Game on August 16

Those of us who were at the Slammers game in July can tell you what a terrific time we had. And now you can all have a terrific time, because we have tickets for the Slammers game on Friday, August 16. Tickets are only \$8, so bring your family, friends, co-workers, neighbors and anyone else who likes to have fun. (And yes, there will be fireworks after the game.)

**\*\*BLOOD DRIVE SAVE THE DATE\*\*  
September 5th 3:00 to 7:00 pm**

2019 Free Family Fest is Saturday September 14

For the last three years we've had some pretty amazing family festivals in the fall. After two years of being forced inside because of lousy weather, last year we actually held the festival outside. And we were packed! And this year, we're hoping the festival is even bigger as we invite our entire community to enjoy the live music playing from 2 -6, great food, and lots of family friendly activities like games, face painting, crafts, and other fun stuff. It's a great way for all our neighbors to get a taste of what Cross of Glory is like (and I'll bet we get a whole bunch of God sightings during the day).

And because we're planning so many fun events, **there are lots of opportunities for all of us to help.** We need people to help in advance by getting donations of food and other products, doing publicity, and planning the activities. And we'll also need lots of help on the day of the event -- help with games and face painting, set-up and take-down, handling the food, and welcoming our guests. For starters, we can all advertise the event by putting our yellow fall fest signs in our yards. And then please sign up on the volunteer sheets on the welcome table to help. Please contact the office if you have any questions or specific ways that you can help.

VBS Thanks

Once again, we had a terrific God in Pixar VBS program in July. The kids watched movies, heard bible stories, made crafts, played games and had a great time singing the songs. We had about 120 kids and over 40 volunteers participate, and in just four days, they raised \$1500 to help Fairmont School. Once again, families were really happy with our VBS week, and many are already looking forward to next year's program. A huge thank you to both the week's many volunteers and to everyone at COG who made this all possible!! You may not have been physically present, but all of you -- through your gifts of time and money and passion and commitment to what God calls us to do here -- helped us touch the lives of over 120 families in the community this summer. That's a big deal! That's a God thing!

We Need Your Help this Saturday, August 3

We are again participating in Homer Glen's **Chalk-It-Up event this Saturday, 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 9:30 to noon. We'll have games and bubbles, but need volunteers to make this work. Please contact Dana at [danalobrien@gmail.com](mailto:danalobrien@gmail.com) if you can help.

**SAVE THE DATE  
Women's Retreat November 22-23rd**

Dinner with Friends on August 29

Our next Dinner with Friends is on Thursday, August 29 at 6:30. We'll meet at the Stagecoach Eatery & Saloon, a new restaurant on State Street in Lockport. Sign up in the Welcome Room.



PFLAG Homer Glen Lockport has gotten off to a fantastic start!

Our first meeting we looked back in history at how Pride got started and the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots. We talked about Pride month activities and parades. We learned more about each other's stories and of course there is always food & laughter!

Our 2nd meeting doubled in attendance and we talked about basic LGBTQ+ 101 related topics. We also watched a short video which sparked conversation and once again, more food & laughter!

We are developing a wonderful supportive group, and anyone interested in learning, growing and supporting the LGBTQ+ community is welcome to attend. Our next meeting is Aug 27th 6:30-8:00pm. Please like and share our Facebook page (Pflag Homer Glen Lockport) and if you have any questions reach out to Michelle Eckmayer, Allen Kirkland or Lisa O'Malley.

**CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE  
June 2019**

Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$111,829.00
Other	\$ 16,941.00
Total	\$128,770.00
Expenses	
General/Building	\$ 61,632.00
Staff	\$ 80,627.00
Sharing	\$ 13,796.00
Ministries	\$ 2,814.00
Total	\$158,869.00
Income/Loss	<b>\$(30,099.00)</b>

**Check it out, we've got quite a deficit. Let's all try to keep up with our weekly giving and keep our ministries strong.**

**THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL**

Jamie Khutson, 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](http://www.crossofglory.com/preschool) (website)  
The Welcome Place Preschool (Facebook)