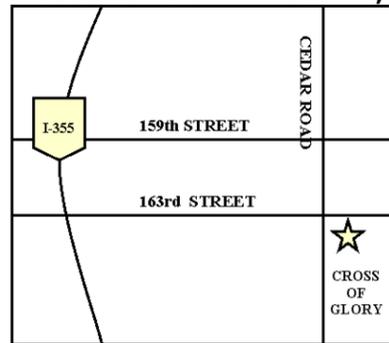




14719 W 163<sup>rd</sup> Street Homer Glen, IL 60491



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

Non-Profit Org.  
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Lockport, Illinois  
60441  
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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



OCTOBER 2019

What's Coming Up on Sundays in October

Here's some stuff to look forward to on Sundays in October:

- **Preschool Sunday on October 6:** This is the first of two Sundays this year that all our preschool kids and families are joining us in worship. The preschool kids will sing some songs, and we'll continue our series on prayer by looking at unanswered prayer. We'll also enjoy some ice cream after worship. And it's also October birthday day - another busy day!!
- **We Conclude our Prayer Sermon Series on October 13.** We'll look at how our prayers can change the world. And we'll start out the service with another vocation blessing.
- **New Sermon Series - Embracing God's Vision, starting October 20.** You first heard the phrase during our capital appeal, but "Embracing God's Vision" means so much more here at Cross of Glory. During this sermon series, we'll explore God's vision for COG and for each of us — how we can discern what God is calling us to do and get on board. We'll start by introducing a new cross give-away outreach experiment, and we'll hold a ministry fair during brunch after worship. It's also noisy offering day.
- **Confirmation and Reformation Sunday on October 27.** We celebrate with Katie Bavirsha and Lauren Kinney and their families, as they affirm their baptismal faith here at Cross of Glory. (Our other confirmation students will also be involved in the service.) And we'll do it on the 502nd anniversary of the Reformation.

Women's Events Coming Up

We have three women's events coming up in October and November. And trust me, you don't want to miss any of them.

- **Make a Witch.** On Friday, October 11<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 we will be making very cool looking Halloween witches from plastic milk and water jugs at Cross of Glory. As always, feel free to bring a dish to share.
- **Paint a Sign.** On Sunday, November 10<sup>th</sup>, from 6:30 to 8:00 we've got a fun evening of painting planned. You'll be making a beautiful Life Expressions Décor sign to display at home or give as a gift. (Signs are \$22.00.)
- **Women's Retreat.** On Friday (November 22) and Saturday (November 23), we'll be holding our women's retreat at the Portiuncula Center for Prayer in Frankfurt. We'll explore the theme: *God's Truth is Stronger Than the Lies We Tell Ourselves* using the book *Girl, Wash Your Face* by Rachel Hollis, as our guide. For more information on the retreat, check out the retreat flyer or contact Deb Murtaugh or Michelle Eckmayer.

You can sign up for any or all of these events on the welcome table at Cross of Glory. And feel free to sign up a friend as well.

We Want Your Food . . .

It's not too early to start bringing in food to help fill our Thanksgiving Food baskets. We'll need all sorts of food, but for the month of October, if you could focus on bringing in canned protein (cans of tuna, chicken, meat and pasta, etc.) that would be wonderful. (But we'll be happy with whatever you bring.) Please put your cans in the collection bin in the welcome area. Thanks for your help!

**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



**Our Annual Trick or Treat Tailgate**

**Saturday, October 26th**

**1:00 - 2:30 pm**

Sponsored by  
The Welcome  
Place Preschool



Everyone  
is  
Welcome

**Do you want to decorate your vehicle?**

**Contact the church (708) 301-6998**

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

Remembering the Saints in Our Lives on Sunday, November 3

We will celebrate All Saints Day on Sunday, November 3. During worship, you will have an opportunity to come forward and light a candle in memory of your loved ones who have died. Like last year, we'll also be doing a picture memorial of some of our beloved saints while lighting candles. If you would like to include a picture of your loved one in our picture memorial, please provide Pastor Dana or the office with a picture (along with your loved one's name, date of birth and date of death) via text, email, or in person, before Thursday, October 31. (You can use the same picture we included last year if you want, but we need to hear from you.)

Thanks for the Festival!

Thanks to everyone at COG for making this year's Free Fun Fest a great success. The weather was delightful, and I've heard only terrific comments from people who attended. Not only did everyone have a wonderful time, but God showed up all over the place! This was an entire Cross of Glory effort, so thank you to everyone who helped and everyone who came and brought their friends. Mark you calendars for our event next year. It will be on **Saturday, September 19**, and I hope we can all come out and support this great opportunity to thank our community!

Trick-or-Treat Tailgate on Saturday, October 26

The Welcome Place Preschool takes the lead on this one, but we all get to help. So come on out on Saturday, October 26 with a decorated trunk and lots of candy, as costumed kids from the preschool and the community join us for Trick-or-Treat Tailgate. The kids will go trick or treating

from car to car, and then they'll come inside for games, crafts and some "noncandy" treats. The event goes from 1-2:30, and we hope you can join us. If you can help with the inside activities and/or decorate your car and hand out candy, please contact Laura in the office at (708) 301-6998 or sign up on the sheet on the welcome table. And I hope everyone can bring your own costumed kids, and grandkids, and other relatives and neighbors, and friends, and . . .

October Book Club

During October, the book club is reading *Music of the Ghosts* by Vaddey Ratner. The book club meets to discuss the book on Thursday, October 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm at Cross of Glory. (See Janet Djecka if you need a copy of this month's book.)

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Just a reminder to set your clocks back before you go to bed on Saturday, November 2. Daylight Savings Time ends on Sunday, November 3.

Joliet CROP Walk on October 27

For many years, Cross of Glory has been active in the Lockport CROP walk, which raises money to address hunger in our community and around the world. However, 2017 was the last Crop Walk in Lockport. Last year, a few of us participated in the Joliet CROP Walk. It was a pretty walk and a great opportunity to work with some other churches in the area. This year's Crop Walk will be on Sunday, October 27. It starts at 1:30 at Hope United Methodist Church, 2506 Caton Farm Road in Joliet. Please sign up on the welcome table if you'd like to participate. And if you can't make it for the walk, you can still be involved by sponsoring our walkers.

Hospitality - It's Up to All of Us

Pretty much every Sunday, we have visitors who stop in to worship with us. We're always telling people -- on our shirts and website and wall and Facebook -- that "You are welcome here." So when people come to visit, we ALL need to do our best to make that welcome a reality. Yes, we have a greeter every week, but that time after walking through the door and before the service starts (as well as after it's over) is key for our visitors - that's when they either feel welcomed or not. **So please take some time every Sunday before and after worship to greet people you don't know.** Please do your best to make everyone who walks in that door feel like the beloved children of God we know they are.

Embracing God's Vision

God has dreams for all of us - a vision of who we can be -- both individually and as a congregation. Over the next few weeks, we'll look at how we can both discern what God's vision is for us, and how we can live into that vision.

We know that Jesus came to show us what God's Kingdom looks like. And we know that God invites us to partner with him in bringing little pieces of that Kingdom into our world today. We'll ask the question "Why are we here as a congregation?" as we explore God's desires for us as a community of faith. And we'll also look at how each of us individually is uniquely equipped to live as God's disciples right where we find ourselves. I hope that over the next few weeks we'll see God's transforming power in our lives and our communities.

October 20 Ministry Fair

Have you ever wondered about all the groups and ministries we've got here at Cross of Glory - everything from bible studies and worship support groups, to different ministries active in our community. Well, wonder no more! Because on Sunday, October 20 after worship, we'll have a ministry fair with representatives of our different ministries available to answer your questions and sign you up to help. And just to make this a must attend event, we'll also be having brunch that Sunday. It doesn't get any better than this - food and using your gifts at the same time!!

Noisy Offerings

Each month we collect our change (and some dollars and some checks) to give away to make this world a better place. This is one way we help little pieces of God's Kingdom break into our world. And even though we're struggling financially here at Cross of Glory, we're still responding to the needs around us. In June, our noisy offering of \$782 went to Northern Illinois Synod to

the help feed the world. In July, we added our noisy offering of \$354 to the money raised by our VBS kids, and sent a total of \$1854 to Fairmont. (That money is going to be used in the library to help create reading areas for the kids.) In August, we collected \$800 at our annual pet blessing and divided that equally between The Legacy Ranch in Lockport and TLC Animal Shelter in Homer Glen. And in September, our noisy offering raised \$950, which went to the Sladek family for whom we've been praying for some time as both parents battled cancer.

Our 2019 Deficit is Growing

Have you noticed the big red number in our Newsletter Financial Update Report? The difference between our income and expenses is pretty big - and it got a lot bigger over the summer. **Our deficit is over \$33,000 as of the end of August!** While we try to cut expenses wherever possible, we can all help by giving regularly to keep our ministries strong. Thanks for all you do!

CROSS OF GLORY FINANCIAL UPDATE	
August 2019	
Income	Year to Date
Offering	\$146,024.00
Other	\$ 21,949.00
Total	\$167,973.00
Expenses	
General/Building	\$ 73,537.00
Staff	\$102,375.00
Sharing	\$ 20,110.00
Ministries	\$ 5,143.00
Total	\$ 201,165.00
Income/Loss	<b>\$(-33,192.00)</b>

**Check it out—that's quite a deficit we've got!**

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 **THE WELCOME PLACE PRESCHOOL**  
*Jamie Knutson, Director (708) 301-3883*

Our students have adapted well to school and all the activities that go with it! We are very excited to be singing at Cross of Glory on Sunday, October 6 and have been practicing our songs to share with everyone. Our 3 year old class is having their special grandparent's day on Oct 10th and we have some special songs and projects to share with them. The taffy apple fundraiser is going on right now. Extra order forms are in the Welcome Room. Trick or Treat Tailgate is on Saturday, Oct. 26 from 1-2:30 and we. Our Halloween parties are the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> and our students can't wait to parade around in their costumes!

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