

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

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All Members of Cross of Glory

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In The Loop – News for August 12th, 2007

Faces of God Sermon Series Starts August 26th

On August 26th, we will begin a 7 week sermon series on *The Faces of God*. The Bible shows Him Determined, Beaming, Weathered, Confident, Nurturing, and Welcoming. Scripture tells us to expect God's visage on the faces of his people, too. (This makes our 7).

Paul Niemeyer and Beth Gervase will join Pastor Gene in these portrayals.

VBS Prayer Bears Delivered to Casa

During Vacation Bible School one of the crafts was for the children to stuff purple or green prayer bears that were imprinted with "Jesus" in English, Spanish, and French. The children stuffed almost 200 lovable, cuddly bears and added a message in the pocket for the children at the daycare center in San Miguel, Mexico. Team Cinco packed these lovable bears in their suitcases and delivered them from the children of COG to the children of San Miguel.

Let's Continue to Support Casa!

Cross of Glory's Bibles and Beyond Bookstore carries a variety of items made by people involved with Casa.

Casa newest item includes a new cookbook called *Peak Cuisine* written by two women from British Columbia. The first printing of the book has already sold out! The cookbook sells for \$25.00. Also available are 2008 Calendars. Don't forget to check out the Milagro bracelets and Casa Note Cards. All money paid for any of these items goes directly to the Casa de los Angeles Foundation.

If you would like to know more about Casa, talk to anyone on Casa Cinco. They just returned from their trip and would love to share their experience with you.

S.E.E. Starting on September 12th

You may or may not have taken that summer vacation yet but it is time to start thinking about the school year for our children here at Cross of Glory. SEE is a Spiritual Education Experience program for pre-school through fifth grade. The fall session of this program will start on September 12th at 6:00 PM.

Tamara Chaffin is the coordinator for this year's SEE program. Tamara is looking for some volunteers to help make this a quality program for our children. Please call Tamara at (815) 478-9684 or the church office to volunteer to be a teacher, a games leader, or drama leader.

Registration forms are available in the welcome area. Cost is \$25.00 a child or \$50.00 for a family.

What is Cross of Glory About?

We have five guiding principles...Jesus is Lord, Everyone is Welcome, Love Changes People, Everybody Has Something to Offer, and The World Needs What We Have. Our vision is to create a community of faith so compelling that it draws people in, transforms them, and sends them out to change the world. **Visitors are encouraged to pick up a complementary CD containing more information at the center table in the Welcome Room.**

LYO Schedule Update

We will be meeting on alternating Mondays through the end of August. Come and join us!

Time: 7:00 - 8:30pm

Who: 6th graders through high school

Where: Cross of Glory

Dates: August 13th & 27th

The schedule for the rest of the summer:

August 13th - LYO Meeting

**August 25th - Six Flags Great America
Saturday...7:30 am – 11:30 pm
Meet at COG**

August 27th - LYO Meeting

If you have any questions, please call Dan Murtaugh (815) 351-0983 or email murtznl@comcast.net

Grand Slam Stewardship Campaign

Thank you to the many of you who have turned in your pledge cards. To date, COG families have pledged a total of \$232,216. Sox fans have pledged \$102,488. **Cub fans have pledged \$102,668.** It's not too late to turn in your pledge cards. They are available at the Welcome Table and can be placed in the offering basket or turned in at the office.

If you have any questions, please contact anyone on the Stewardship Committee - Debbie Waller, Cheryl Iraci, Jeff Warner, and Cheryl Nabors.

Book Reading Group Meets August 22nd ...

...to discuss *The Devil Wears Prada* by Lauren Weisberger. For more information about the group you can contact Cheryl Nabors at 708.301.0418

Action Planning Team Update

Last Sunday, the Cross of Glory Action Planning Team met with the Bridgebuilders consultants. This is our last scheduled meeting with the Bridgebuilders.

We will be preparing the “fruit” of the process – the Action Plan. This will summarize the goals and tasks that were identified during the process. Once the Action Plan is complete, it will be printed and distributed to the congregation.

It is recommended that we set a time and place for the presentation of the report during which we will read the report out loud and then allow time for questions and comments. We are tentatively planning to make this presentation on Sunday, September 16th.

Kid's Klub Teachers Needed

Additional volunteers are needed to serve as Kid's Klub teachers. We will be continuing to use the “One Room Sunday School” curriculum. This gives you the lesson plan that you need each week. We are looking for more teams so that we can have at least a five week rotation schedule.



Due to vacations, **volunteers** are specifically **needed** for **August 26th**. If you can help on that day or in the regular schedule, please contact Mary Beth Randle (630.243.6315) or the church office.

Make the Welcome Room Welcoming... Snack and Coffee Sponsors Needed



Cross of Glory serves and sells Equal Exchange coffee that benefits Lutheran World Relief. To help support fair trade, we ask that volunteers sponsor the coffee in the *Welcome Room* on a weekly basis with a donation of \$10. Snacks are also sponsored with a \$10 donation. Sign up sheets are in the bookstore.

This week's sponsors are Lee Burner and the Fitton Family.

Cross of Glory 2007 Women's Retreat

Everything Has Its Time

A time to dance, a time to laugh, a time for you. Plan to attend Cross of Glory's Women's Retreat from September 21st to 22nd. The focus of our retreat is from Ecclesiastes Chapter 3 verses 1 through 8.

How are you spending your time? Do you know when to speak and when to hold back? Are you able to carve out some personal time to deepen your relationship with God? Can you get outside of your comfort zone when God gives you a push? Do you have adverse relationships getting between you and God? Do you know how to embrace time with God? If you don't have enough time in your days, make time for this retreat! Come and learn how to walk a closer path with God and improve the quality of the time in your days.

This year we will be meeting at the Clubhouse Inn and Suites in Westmont, Illinois. The format for the retreat is a little different this year. Friday night we will gather at the hotel from 5:00 to 7:00 pm for Check In and Reception. Dinner will be at 7:30 at Pappadeaux. Saturday, we'll start at 7:00 with breakfast, followed by introductions and morning sessions with lunch at noon. Sessions will run in the afternoon with dinner at 5:00. After dinner there will be one more session. The retreat will end about 9:00 pm following worship service.

The cost of the retreat is \$40.00 and includes retreat materials, lunch, snacks, and dinner on Saturday. Hotel accommodations are \$79 per night (double occupancy). Breakfast is included.

Registration forms are available in the Welcome Room. Hotel reservations must be made by August 22nd. To reserve a room, call 630.920.2200 and mention the COG Retreat block. If you are interested in sharing a room with someone or would like more information on the retreat, contact Nicole Morin at 708.326.4782.

VBS Recap

The Vacation Bible School directors (Amanda Sandy, Betsi Plese and Terri Neimeyer) would like to thank each and everyone of you that helped out with making VBS at Cross of Glory "a wild ride" for all of the children. We had over 90 children here the week of July 23rd. What a great week! Thank you to all of the amazing gifted volunteers!

The following list is all of the Station Leaders and Assistants: Holly Baron, Gabby Brown, Marcia Capperino, Amy Carbonneau, Tammy Mack, Brianna Marszalek, Virginia Munro, Sara Randle, Julia Randle, Mary Beth Randle, Lori Runnion, Candy Schoenbeck and Vanessa Waller.

The following volunteers were Crew Leaders and Assistants: Lindsey Backloff, Benet Bejlovec, Anna Bengtson, Ashley Falkner, Caryl Hruska, Katie Kinney, Karin Knutson, Chris Mack, Josh Marsalek, Zac Marsalek, Shelby Maurella, Bob McAleavy, Nicole Morin, Ryan Mutz, Zach Mutz, Chris Quemeneur, Sarah Rogers, Sydney Scalpeei, Glen Schoenbeck, Kyle Stasiak, Mckenna Stasiak, Holly Sykora, Amber Thompson and Katie Tomasello.

Others that helped before, during and after: Sally Beller, Andrew Kjos, Tammy Mack, Pastor Peisker and David Plese.

Donations of supplies: Barb Corcoran, Tamara Chaffin, Sue Gervase, Caryl Hruska, Andrew Kjos, Tammy Mack, Charlotte Meehan, Virginia Munro, Cheryl Nabors, Terri Neimeyer, Valerie Plotke, Chris Quemeneur, Rose Sandy, Candy Schoenbeck, Jackie Seiber, Jean Shelton, Barb Taskey, Laura Uzzardo and Debbie Waller.

We are very sorry if we forgot to mention anyone!

Kid's Summer Service Project Supporting the *Build A Miracle* Program

A gift of **\$2,600** to *Food For The Poor* will fund the start-to-finish construction of a simple home for a family in need. For more information, visit the web site at www.foodforthe poor.org/buildamiracle.

Children are encouraged to donate during the offering by using the basket at the base of the altar.

Giving From the Heart... A Weekly Update of our Worship and Giving

For the Week of July 29th

Attendance was 105

\$4945 was donated to the General Fund

\$183 was donated to the Building Fund

\$30 was donated to Casa

\$24 was donated for Outreach

\$569 was received for VBS

\$40 was received for the Women's Retreat (Adult Ed)

For the Week of August 5th

Attendance was 86

\$3182 was donated to the General Fund

\$28 was donated to the Building Fund

\$45 was donated to Casa

\$4 was donated for Outreach

Year-to-Date through July 22nd, we have received **\$179,704**. Average attendance this year is **140**. (Receipts are **\$42,411** short of the budget that members adopted at this year's annual meeting)

Church Directory Update – Please Submit Changes ASAP

Cross of Glory is updating the church directory. Contact Laura Uzzardo at the church office with any changes; address, email, phone number, add cell phone numbers. Please respond with changes ASAP. Thank you!

Upcoming Events for Cross of Glory

(Color Code: General, Women, Youth)

Monday	08/13	LYO – 7:00 pm
Sunday	08/19	Cross of Glory Council Meeting – 11:00 am
Sunday	08/19	Prayer Team Meets – 6:30 pm
Wednesday	08/22	Book Reading Group – <i>The Devil Wears Prada</i>
Saturday	08/25	LYO Great America Trip – 7:30 am
Wednesday	08/29	Newsletter Folding
Monday	09/03	Labor Day – Church Office Closed
Tuesday	09/03	Welcome Place Preschool Starts
Sunday	09/09	Celebration Sunday
Wednesday	09/12	S.E.E. Fall Session Starts – 6:00 pm
Friday	09/21	Women's Retreat (and 9/22)
Saturday	10/20	Casa Fundraiser at Georgio's

Please Keep These People and Concerns in Your Prayers

Beth; Charlene; Cheryl & Colleen; Donna; Doug; Martin & Brian; Mosè, Cummings, and Munro Families; SEE and TELL Teachers; COG Action Planning Team; COG Call Team; COG Staff; Men & Women in the Armed Forces; World Leaders

If you would like prayers this week for yourself or for someone you know, you can...

Write them in one of the Prayer Books (at the left-front and left-rear of the *Worship Area*), fill out a Prayer Card, e-mail Sharon Aden at SAden@TheWelcomePlace.org, or call the Ministry Center Office at (708.301.6998).