

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

14719 West 163rd Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Phone: 708.301.6998
Fax: 708.301.7126

www.TheWelcomePlace.org



In The Loop – News for December 2nd, 2007

Welcome to Cross of Glory!

We are glad you have joined us for worship today. We are asking that everyone fill out the Welcome Folder pass it across the row and back. Visiting? We ask those joining us for the first time to please stop by the Welcome Table (at the door) and pick up an information packet.

Ministers:

All Members of Cross of Glory

Staff:

Gene Peisker, Interim Pastor
Phone: 815.434.3151
GCPeisker@sbcglobal.net

Sharon Aden, Sr. Pastoral Associate
Director – *The Welcome Place*
Christian Care & Counseling Center
SAden@TheWelcomePlace.org

Jamie Knutson-Zahora, Director,
The Welcome Place Preschool
JKnutson-Zahora@TheWelcomePlace.org

Laura Uzzardo, Parish Administrator
LUzzardo@TheWelcomePlace.org

Virginia Munro, Pastoral Assistant
VMunro@TheWelcomePlace.org

Mimi Pappas, Nursery Attendant

Council:

Pat Runnion prrunnion@aol.com
Phone: 708.301.9294

Sue Gervase sue@gervase.net
Phone: 630.324.0007

Tammy Mack
tammymack13645@comcast.net
Phone: 708.590.6547

Jodi Tanrikulu
joditan23@sbc.global.net
Phone: 708.301.1641

Katie Wittle Katie@thic.com
Phone: 708.429.3627

Paul Niemeyer Whatisart4@aol.com
Phone: 708.691.4159

Casa Hogar de los Angeles:

Donna Quatham, Missionary
casa_de_los_angeles@hotmail.com

Web: www.casadelosangeles.org

In the Loop:

InTheLoop@TheWelcomePlace.org

Advent Devotional Booklets

Today is the first Sunday of Advent. As a gift to you, we have two Advent booklets to choose from: *Living in Hope* by Henri J.M. Nouwen and a family booklet: *Devotions around the Family Advent Wreath*. They are available in the back of the worship area on Sunday's and in the welcome area during the week. Please stop by and pick one up.

Please Join Us for Christmas Eve Services

On December 24th, we will have a **4:00 PM service** that will be family-friendly with special music and a children's message.

A **5:00 PM Barn Service will be at the Konow Farm**. Make plans to join us for an intimate worship service with Holy Communion celebrating the birth of our Lord, inside a barn at the Konow Farm (16803 S. Cedar Road in Homer Glen).

The **11:00 PM** traditional service (at the church), will include Holy Communion, candlelight and music. Gather your family, friends and neighbors and join in the celebration of the One who was born for us.

Children's Christmas Program – December 16th

The program will be part of worship on December 16th. Practice is being held on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:30pm.

Pancake Breakfast – December 16th

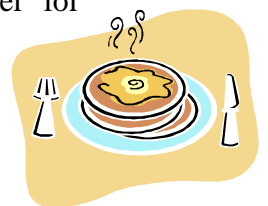
The Sr. High TELL kids are having a fundraiser for COG's Sprinkler Campaign. They will be selling tickets before and after worship. If you have any questions, please see Dan Murtaugh

Date: Sunday, December 16th

Place: Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

Times: 7:30 to 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM (Choose your time to attend or you can buy tickets for both times!)

Cost: \$5.00 per person (\$20.00 max per 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.**

Annual Meeting Announcement

Cross of Glory's Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 10th, 2008. Anyone interested in running for Council is encouraged to speak to Pat Runnion (see contact info on page 1).

Gift Giving Tree

The gift giving tree will be up and full of angels for you to choose from on December 2nd. We will be helping children in the area that are in need of gifts for Christmas. **When you pick your angel, please sign the name of your angel, your name and phone number on the chart next to the tree.** This will help us know who has the angels for returning to the church.



Please have the gifts back to Cross of Glory by Sunday, December 16th for delivery. **Gifts may be wrapped and should be tagged with the angel**

Handel's Messiah at Augustana College

Augustana College in Rock Island invites you to the 127th annual performance of Handel's Messiah on Friday, December 14th. The dinner buffet (\$14.50 per person) starts at 5:45 PM. The concert (\$16.00 per person) starts at 8:00 PM. Additional performances will be given on 12/15 and 12/16. Please see www.augustana.edu for more information.

Friday Night Group Studying Revelation

This group meets on Friday nights from 7:00 to 9:00 pm. at Cross of Glory. We are studying the book of **Revelation** using *Life Lessons with Max Lucado*. If you are looking for a Bible study and think you might like to join us, please contact Tom and Debbie Waller or Bill and Cheryl Nabors with any questions.

Kids' Service Project is SOS

SEE & TELL kids are now collecting to purchase gift cards for SOS Children's Villages of Illinois. SOS helps children whose world has been turned upside down by parental abuse, neglect, or abandonment by offering them a place to call home with space to heal.

Find Hope in a NEW Couples Bible Study at COG

Join us at Cross of Glory this January where we will be offering a new Bible study aimed at couples. Our topic will be *Hope*. Whether you are in need of *Hope* in your marriage, at work, with your kids, or here at church, plan on joining us.

We will be using the study guide, *Hope: Your Heart's Deepest Longings* by Jack Kuhatschek. "These studies explore both sides of hope-confronting doubts and fears, but reminding us of the great joy that awaits us in Jesus Christ."

Group leaders will be Nicole and Andy Morin. Child care will be available. Dates and times will be announced shortly.

Book Reading Group News

The Book Reading Group's next book is *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai. The next time we meet will be in January. Hopefully, this will offer everyone plenty of time to read the book and join us. The exact date and time has not been determined. Stay tuned for more details.

Ladies Nite Out in December...

Ladies, bring your artistic side out this December for pottery painting. Make something for yourself, or a gift for someone else. Just choose a piece from the selection of unpainted pottery, pick your paints, and create your own original masterpiece. Escape the holiday craze for a few hours of food, drink, friendship, and fun.

When: December 19th from 6:30-8:30 pm.

Where: CRACKPOTS
(9166 W. 159th St., Orland Park)

Cost: \$5 (plus the cost of your pottery piece)

Bring a friend! RSVP to Nicole Morin by December 18th so there are enough refreshments. 708-326-4782 or onetrainergirl@hotmail.com

Sprinkler System Donations Needed

We need to raise \$10,000 for a compressor and labor (Council and staff are preparing a detailed accounting of costs). Please place your donations in the basket with the hydrant cutout.

UPDATE: We have received a check for \$1300 from the **Thrivent Care in Congregations** program. Thanks go out to Laura Uzzardo for her work on the application.

Poinsettia Orders Being Taken Through December 16th

The plants are \$15 each and will help decorate the worship area for Christmas Eve. Proceeds will benefit the Audio/Video Fund. You are welcome to take your plants home after the service you attend. Donations will also be accepted to help purchase poinsettias. Forms are located in the Welcome Room.

Once again, we will offer you the opportunity to mark your poinsettia *In Remembrance* or *In Honor* of someone special in your life. All names will be published in the bulletin on Christmas Eve.

Coffee and Snack Sponsorship

Generous sponsors donate \$10 a week to help Cross of Glory provide delicious snacks and fairly-traded coffee. Today, coffee is sponsored by the O'Kelly family.

Snack sponsors are needed for December. The signup sheet is available in the bookstore.

Cross of Glory's Bibles and Beyond Bookstore

New Casa Items Available Now

Donna Quathammer has a NEW Book
Under the Pepper Tree - \$25

2008 Casa Calendars
Peak Cuisine Cookbook - \$25

Just Arrived! **New Handcrafts** – \$5 and Up

Inventory Reduction Sale

We are shrinking the bookstore to concentrate on Bibles, Bible Studies, Lutheran Studies, Casa Items, and Fairly-Traded Coffee.

This week, take \$1.00 to \$2.00 off on many specially marked items. Look for the green and yellow stickers. Check back often as we sell off this new merchandise at close-out prices!

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

Receipts for the Week of November 11 th	Receipts for the Week of November 18 th
General Fund: \$4,967	General Fund: \$2,469
Donations to Casa: \$40	Donations to Casa: \$45
Building Fund: \$65	
Building Use (Preschool): \$400	
Outreach: \$4	Outreach: \$4
Attendance: 135	Attendance: 100

Cross of Glory has hit a low financially! We are concerned about our ability to pay our mortgage for the month of December (let alone paying the bills and making the payroll). Statistically, our worship numbers go down in December - even lower than any of the summer months. As attendance goes down, so does the giving.

We are asking that you prayerfully consider making an early end-of-the-year contribution, making sure your pledge is fulfilled or making an additional one-time gift to help your church make ends meet.

Upcoming Events for Cross of Glory

(Color Code: General, **Women**, **Youth**)

Monday	12/03	T.E.L.L. – 7:00 to 8:30 pm
Wednesday	12/05	Christmas Program Practice – 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Friday	12/06	Friday Night Bible Study – 7:00 pm
Wednesday	12/12	Christmas Program Practice – 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Sunday	12/16	Pancake Breakfast – 7:30 to 9:00 am and 10:30am to Noon
Sunday	12/16	Christmas Program – 9:15 Worship Service
Sunday	12/16	Prayer Team Meeting – 6:30 pm
Wednesday	12/19	Ladies' Nite Out at CRACKPOTS - 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Sunday	01/13	Council Meeting – 11:00 am
Sunday	02/10	Annual Meeting

Please Keep These People and Concerns in Your Prayers

Bellar & Maurella Families; Chris; Family of Papa Quemeneur; Lori; May, Mallory, Jonathan, Aron, Ed, Hillary; Patty; Tim; Tom; Tony; Men & Women in the armed services away from their families; Wesley; The Names Submitted to the Call Team; The Call Team

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).