

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church



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In The Loop – News for December 30th, 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.

LTHS Madrigal Choir to Sing at COG Next Sunday

The first weekend of December the *Lockport High School Acappella Choir* put on a Madrigal dinner here at Cross of Glory. The students reenacted an English renaissance court full of nobles and friars, jesters and town criers, and even the King and Queen of England.

On January 6th the LTHS Madrigal cast will be here at Cross of Glory to sing for our worship service. Please be sure to celebrate Epiphany with the choir, as they say thank you, in song, to COG for its generous use of our building.

COG Holiday Greetings and Office Schedule

Pastor Gene and the staff (Laura, Virginia, Jamie and Sharon) wish everyone a Happy New Year.

The office is closed on December 31st and January 1st for New Years.

Find Hope in a NEW Couples Bible Study

We wanted to invite you to join us for the couples Bible study at Cross of Glory, where, as usual, there is no experience necessary. This is for any couple, married, dating, friends, you just have to want to gather and learn more about God's word. The plan is to meet after church on Sundays about an hour and a half for brunch (Because what Lutheran can study the Bible without food!!!).

We would like to gather on January 13th and 27th and February 3rd and 17th. We are very excited by the study *Hope: Your Heart's Deepest Longings* by Jack Kuhatschek, and look forward to some good discussions. We will be ordering books for those who would like them for \$6. We will also have childcare available at church.

Please **RSVP** to the Morins at 708-326-4782 or onetraingirl@hotmail.com or call Laura Uzzardo at the church office by December 31st so books can be ordered in time.

Please join us!

Nicole and Andy Morin

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.**

Fundamental of Faith Classes

This class will start on Sunday, January 20th (after worship service) and will run for 5 weeks. Pastor Peisker will be leading these classes. If you are interested in becoming a member of Cross of Glory attending these classes would qualify for membership. **All members are welcome to attend these classes.** It is not only for those that would like to become members.

If you have questions please see Pastor Peisker. You can sign up for this class by calling the church office or by attending the first class.

Friday Night Bible Study

This group meets on Friday nights at 7:00 at the church. We are on a break until January 11th. At that time, we will resume our study on the book of Revelation.

Join us for some lively and informative discussions. If you have any questions, please see Tom or Debbie Waller.

Pancake Breakfast Raised \$1300

The Pancake Breakfast numbers are in, and I would like to thank the Senior High TELL kids for their work and service. Their service project also inspired the people of our Christian Family to be very generous. Together, we raised a profit of \$1,300.00 (WOW!). Yes, I said, "\$1,300.00! Wow!" God is Good! Thanks to EVERYONE for all their support. Special thanks to Fireman Marty Rafacz for his skills in the kitchen and for his inspiration!

Mr. Dan & The TELL Kids.

Thanks to the Pancake Breakfast Servers

Thanks to those who served at the pancake breakfast...Jessica Taskay, Rachel Schoenbeck, Josh Tanrikulu, Josh Marszalek, Kevin Mayda, Brian Fisher, Brenden Dunleavy, and Chris Mack

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). The balance collected so far is \$6,430.

Please place your donations in the basket with the hydrant cutout.

Kids' Service Project is SOS

SEE & TELL kids are now collecting to purchase gift cards for SOS Children's Villages of Illinois.

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. Snacks are sponsored by Sue Burner.

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.

Christmas Program Recap

We would like to thank all those that helped to make the Children's Christmas Program such a success: Mary Beth Randle, Sarah Randle, Carol Hruska, Todd Mizera, Kelly Mizera, Holly Sykora, Laura Uzzardo, John Uzzardo, Amber Ihrke, Debbie Murtaugh, and Andrea Uhrenbacher. And of course to all the children's parents for their support!

We thank all the children involved in the program: Dwight & Bryce Bejlovec; Jacob & Hannah Capperino; Tessa & Owen Gervase; Samantha, Matthew & Ryan Gray; Elizabeth, Catherine & Madeline Ihrke; Meredyth Morin; Khalin Niemeyer; Cassie & Lexi Quemeneur; Eddie Rafacz; Julia & Nathan Randle; Michelle Schoenbeck; Lindsay & Michael Sykora; Jessica & Tina Uhrenbacher; Nathan, Hensley & Austin Kolada! We truly apologize for anyone that we missed!

Cross of Glory's Bibles and Beyond Bookstore

New Casa Items Available Now

Donna Quathamer 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 December 23 rd	Receipts for the Week of December 16 th
General Fund: \$16,674	General Fund: \$5,948
Donations to Casa: \$2,030	Donations to Casa: \$40
Building Use: \$111	Building: \$265
Adult Ed (Bible Study) \$6	Outreach: \$4
Poinsettias: \$65	Poinsettias: \$95
Sprinkler Fund: \$3,500	
Christmas Eve: \$3,423	
Attendance: 115	Attendance: 141

We are asking that you prayerfully consider making an 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. Year end envelopes are available at the welcome table or next to the offering baskets in the back of the worship area.

Volunteer Opportunity

We are looking for someone that is interested in putting the PowerPoint® together for worship. What does this involve? You would be sent the songs and liturgy on Wednesday and then return the power point to Virginia Munro by Friday afternoon for review. It takes about one hour or less to create. If you have any questions please see Virginia.



Upcoming Events for Cross of Glory

(Color Code: General, Women, Youth)

Tuesday	12/31	Office Closed through 1/1
Sunday	01/06	Preaching and Assisting Team Meeting – After Worship
Friday	01/11	Friday Night Bible Study – Revelation – 7:00 pm
Sunday	01/13	Council Meeting – 11:00 am
Sunday	01/13	Couples Bible Study – After Worship
Sunday	01/20	Fundamentals of Faith Class – After Worship
Sunday	02/24	Annual Meeting

Please Keep These People and Concerns in Your Prayers

Ava; Carmen; Jason; John; Jonathan David & family; Heather; Kayla; Pastor Gene; Uncle Tom; All those searching for a church home; Men and Women in The Armed Services; The poor and jobless; COG Call Team; The Pastors interested in COG

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).