

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

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www.TheWelcomePlace.org



In The Loop – News for March 9th, 2008

Welcome!

We are glad you have joined us for worship today. We are asking that everyone fill out the Welcome Folder and 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
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Holy Week

Lent is a 40-day liturgical season that began on Ash Wednesday and concludes at the Great Vigil of Easter. The **Sunday of the Passion** or Palm Sunday begins the last week of Lent, known as Holy Week. During this holiest time of the church year, the worship services relive the final week of our Lord's human life. Holy Week includes Maundy Thursday, when Christians observe Christ's "Last Supper" – the institution of the Sacrament of Holy Communion -- and the mandate to serve one another in love. Good Friday commemorates the imprisonment, trial and death by crucifixion of Jesus.

Holy Week Schedule:

March 16th - **Palm Sunday**

Seder Meal following worship service – Seder Meal items are needed.
See the signup sheet or call the office for more details.

March 20th - **Maundy Thursday**

Service at 7:00 PM (with **First Communion**)

March 21st - **Good Friday** Service at 7:00 PM

March 23rd - **Easter Sunday** with worship at **9:15 and 11:00 AM**

Seder Meal Information:

We come together to observe an ancient, profound, and colorful festival: The Passover. The Seder Meal, part of Passover, takes us back to events that occurred more than 3000 years ago. We recall the Egyptian bondage on the children of Israel, the Hebrew people, and how God delivered them out of Egypt.

The things we eat and drink are similar to those the Hebrew people used and help tell the story of the Exodus, the time when God led God's people out of slavery and into a promised land and into freedom.

Jesus and his disciples celebrated the Passover the night they shared their Last Supper together. It was at that time when Jesus instituted Holy Communion. That night he declared God's intention to set us free in an even more significant way. Because of Jesus' sacrifice, death, and resurrection, we are now set free from the bondage to sin and death!

Outline of the Seder Meal we will celebrate here on **March 16th...**

The Kuddish: Blessing the Name of God, Ur'Hatz: Washing Hands, Karpas: Eating the Matzo Sandwich, Enjoying the Meal, Bareck: Blessing after the Meal, and Remembering Jesus' Last Supper.

Annual Meeting Recap

On Sunday, February 24th at CoG's annual meeting the congregation elected the following members to the church council. Our new church council is Beth Gervase, Tammy Mack, Nicole Morin, Debbie Murtaugh, Paul Niemeyer and Katie Wittle. Congratulations to them all! Our next church council meeting is on March 9th following worship.

Sprinkler System Update!

CoG now has **Lake Michigan water**. Donations are needed to offset these costs! Please place your donations in the basket with the hydrant cutout.

Find Hope in Couples Bible Study

This group meets for brunch after church on Sundays for about an hour and a half. We will gather on March 30th, April 13th, and April 27th to continue with the last three chapters of the study *Hope: Your Heart's Deepest Longings* by Jack Kuhatschek. **Jump in anytime for some great discussions.**

Easter Lilies and Hyacinths Sale

Lilies and hyacinths will be used to decorate for Easter Sunday Worship and may be picked up after the service you attend. Your plant may be given "In Remembrance of" or "In Honor of" a special person in your life. Donations will also be accepted to purchase Easter Lilies or Hyacinths to decorate the church. These plants also make a great gift for your family, friends, and/or neighbors.

Each plant is \$15.00 and order forms are due by March 16th. You can pick up an order form in the welcome area at the church. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 708-301-6998.

Wedding Celebration

On Friday, March 7th, Pastor Gene Peisker married Tabitha Patton & Jeremy Johnson at Cross of Glory Lutheran Church. Tabitha is the daughter of Renee and Ron Gustafson. After the ceremony they celebrated with family and friends with a reception at Cross of Glory. God Bless Their New Life Together.

Youth Programs at Cross of Glory

S.E.E. is for children 3 years of age (potty trained) through 5th grade. They meet on Wednesday evenings from 6:00-7:30 pm **T.E.L.L.** is for children in 6th through 12th grades. Cost is \$25 per child with a family maximum of \$50.

Everyone is Welcome to join in these programs. Tell your friends and neighbors! Share the good news of Jesus! Contact the office for more information.

Kid's Collection Going for LOMC

Our current collection drive is for the Lutheran Outdoor Ministry Center (LOMC) in Oregon Illinois. This is a Lutheran campground with programs to offer everyone – retreats, summer camps, family camping, day camps, and more. Find out more about LOMC by visiting their website www.lomc.org

Coffee and Snack Sponsorship

Generous sponsors donate \$10 a week to help Cross of Glory provide snacks and fairly-traded coffee. Today, coffee and snacks are sponsored by the Sommerfelds.

Stewardship Campaign Update

Please take some time this week to consider how much of God's creation has been entrusted to you. We ask you to prayerfully consider *renewing your commitment* and when possible, increasing your support for Cross of Glory.

The "Renew Your Subscription" Stewardship Campaign is under way. You should have already received a subscription renewal letter and card in the mail. Your renewal will help pay the mortgage, pay our staff, maintain our building, and fund many of CoG's programs.

Please return your renewal cards as soon as possible. Cards can be placed in the offering basket or dropped off at the office during the week.

If you have any questions, contact anyone on the Stewardship Team (Sue Gervase, Jeff Warner, Debbie Waller, Cheryl Nabors, & Sharon Aden)

Help is Needed at CoG – What Can You Offer?

Volunteers are needed in a number of areas. Please call the church office or contact any member of Council. Phone numbers and e-mails are on page one of this newsletter.

Door Greeters	Stewardship Team
Adult Ushers	Prayer and Caring Team
Worship Coordinators	Glory Seekers
Musicians / Singers	Maintenance
Readers	Groundskeeper
Sound	Indoor Plant Caretaker
Video / Cable	VBS Director(S)
PowerPoint Creator	Easter Egg Hunt Leader(s)
PowerPoint Operators	SEE Teachers/Helpers
Kids Klub Leaders	TELL Teachers/Helpers

Easter Egg Hunt Scheduled for March 22nd

Rain or shine CoG is having an Easter egg hunt! Bring your children for a morning of fun on March 22nd. We have a wonderful family event planned to start at 10:00 AM. The hunt is for children ages 2-10 years old. We have games, crafts and loads of fun planned for all of the children that attend. Please sign up in the welcome area if you can bring cookies, juice, **real eggs** or candy.

We are looking for volunteers to help with set-up, clean up, a photographer, and helpers for the morning of the hunt. If you would like more information please contact the church office.

The Book Reading Group Update

The group has selected *The Priest's Madonna* by Amy Hassinger for our next book. We will meet on Sunday, April 6th at 6:00 pm at Barnes & Noble in Orland Park. Everyone is welcome to read the book, join the discussion, and help us choose our next book. For additional information, contact Cheryl Nabors.

Friday Night Bible Study Not Meeting in March

We have finished studying Revelation and will be taking a short break. Check back here for information on our next study.

The Welcome Place Preschool

14719 W 163rd St., Homer Glen



Registration is Open for the Fall Session

Welcoming All Children Since 2002

3 Yr Olds - Tuesday and Wednesday
8:45 to 11:30 AM

4 Yr Olds - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
AM Class 8:45 to 11:30 AM
PM Class 12:15 to 3:00 PM

708-301-3883

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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

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!

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CoG Surplus Items

Cross of Glory is looking to clean out one of our storage units we pay for. We have some items we would like to get rid of.

- Very Heavy Duty Metal Storage Shelving
- Wooden Double Sided Shelf Unit on Wheels

Interested parties may contact Laura in the church office for more information.

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

Receipts for the Week of March 2 nd	Receipts for the Week of February 24 th
General Fund: \$5,514	General Fund: \$2,066
Donations to Casa: \$80	Donations to Casa: \$10
Outreach: \$24	Outreach: \$4
Sprinkler Fund: \$40	Sprinkler Fund: \$30
Shelving Sold: \$250	Building Use: \$25
Holy Week: \$75	
Attendance: 117	Attendance: 112

Upcoming Events for Cross of Glory

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

Sunday	03/09	Kid's Klub led by Tammy & Amber Council Meeting After Service
Monday	03/10	T.E.L.L – 7:00 pm Men's Bible Study – 8:15 pm
Wednesday	03/12	S.E.E. – 6:00 pm
Friday	03/14	Friday Night Group NOT Meeting
Sunday	03/16	Kid's Klub led by Bonnie and Girls
Sunday	03/16	Palm Sunday - Seder Meal following service
Thursday	03/20	Maundy Thursday Service with First Communion – 7:00 pm
Friday	03/21	Good Friday Service – 7:00 pm
Saturday	03/22	Easter Egg Hunt – 10:00 am
Sunday	03/23	Easter Sunday Services – 9:15 am and 11:00 am
Sunday	03/30	Couples Bible Study – <i>Hope</i> - After Worship
Sunday	04/06	Book Reading Group – 6:00 at Barnes & Noble in Orland Park

Request From the Bishop ...Help for NIU Campus Ministry

At the Congregational Resourcing Event on Saturday March 8th, there was a special offering for Lutheran Campus Ministry at Northern Illinois University. If you would like to give a gift to Lutheran Campus Ministry at NIU please make the check out to **Lutheran Campus Ministry** and send it to the Northern Illinois Synod, 103 W State Street, Rockford, IL 61101. Please designate **NIU Campus Ministry** on the check.

Please Keep These People and Concerns in Your Prayers

Art; Kathy; Ken; Mike; Steve; Tabitha & Jeremy; Terry; Tom; All those searching for a Church Home; Men and Women in The Armed Services; Casa de los Angeles; Cross of Glory; CoG Council; CoG Call Team; Pastors interested in serving 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).