

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church



14719 West 163rd Street
Homer Glen, IL 60491

Phone: 708.301.6998
Fax: 708.301.7126

www.TheWelcomePlace.org

Ministers:

All Members of Cross of Glory

Staff:

PJ Malin, Senior Pastor
708.301.6998 (ext. 15)
PastorPJ@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:

Beth Gervase
nanagervase@comcast.net

Tammy Mack
tammymack13645@comcast.net
Phone: 708.590.6547

Nicole Morin
onetraingirl@hotmail.com
Phone: 708.326.4782

Debbie Murtaugh
murtznl@comcast.net

Paul Niemeyer Whatisart4@aol.com
Phone: 708.691.4159

Katie Wittle Katie@thic.com
Phone: 708.429.3627

Casa Hogar de los Angeles:

Donna Quatham, Missionary
casa_de_los_angeles@hotmail.com
Web: www.casadelosangeles.org

In the Loop:

InTheLoop@TheWelcomePlace.org

Blogs:

www.pastorpjsermons.blogspot.com
www.cogbloghg.blogspot.com

In The Loop – Weekly News for August 10th, 2008

Welcome to Cross of Glory!

We are glad you have joined us for worship today. When you arrived for worship today you were handed a card to fill out. We are asking you to please place these cards in the offering basket with your offering each week. 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.

PowerPoint Team Meeting

There will be a PowerPoint Team meeting on August 24th following the worship service. This team is responsible for the PowerPoint presentations that help guide our services each week. Anyone wanting to join this team is encouraged to attend the meeting on the 24th.

New Member Class

On August 13th, 20th, and 27th from 6:00 PM until 7:30 PM, Cross of Glory will be having new member classes. Pastor PJ Malin will be leading this class. If you are interested in the class and would need childcare please let us know at the church office.

New Member Sunday will be held on September 7th.

College Send-Off Blessing on August 17th

Cross of Glory would like to acknowledge those members of our congregation who are going off to College this fall with a blessing during our worship service on August 17th. Please join us!

Friday Night Group's Summer Meeting

During most of the year, the Friday Night Group meets for Bible Study at Cross of Glory at 7:00 pm on Fridays. On Friday, August 22nd, we will get together at Cold Stone Creamery in Lockport. We will discuss Proverbs 23. We will also plan our next study and an activity in September. For information, please contact study leader Tom Waller.

Malin Family Moving Day – August 24th

Pastor PJ and family will be moving into their new home on Sunday, August 24th! What a joyous time for them! They have already been in it making some home improvements. Cross of Glory is looking for those who are able to help on moving day. Also if you have access to a moving truck, that would be a huge help. They will be moving items from their place in Plainfield and storage in Homer Glen. If you are able to help in any way, please contact Pastor PJ or any staff member. The date and time is Sunday, August 24th at 1:00 PM. Mark your calendars!

Mailboxes in the Welcome Area

In the Welcome Area hallway by the copy machine we have a group of mailboxes.

If you are part of any of the following teams, please check the mailbox from time to time for possible mail: Adult Ministry, Bookstore/In the Loop, Children's Ministry, Church Council, Men's Group, Music Team, Prayer Team, Preaching & Assisting Team, Women's Group, and Youth Ministry. There are also staff mailboxes that members of the congregation may use to communicate with staff.

Additional Sprinkler System Funds Needed

The Fire Sprinkler System is very close to completion! To finish the job some electrical and alarm work will need to be done. The pump assembly has been installed, and a section initially installed will need to be repaired before the system can be tested.

Because of this there are additional funds needed to do the electrical, alarm work, and testing. We will also need to add another entranceway/doorway into the utility closet. The cost is \$2,225 for work on the electric and alarm system plus about \$835 for a new doorway. This comes to approximately \$3,060.

LYO Summer Schedule of Activities

LYO is our summer teen program at Cross of Glory for teens entering 6th Grade through High School. We'll be meeting on August 18th & August 25th. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and last until 8:30 or 9:00. Join us when you can, and bring a friend. Friends are always welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Dan Murtaugh at (815) 351-0983 or by e-mail at murtznl@comcast.net.

More Summer Reading Anyone?

Our next book is *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy. We will meet on Sunday, August 24th at 6:00 pm at Cheryl Nabors' house.

Cross of Glory Wishes to Thank...

Thank you to those helping with Pastor PJ's office. Andrew Kjos, Chuck Fisher, and Steve Hlavac helped by moving things out of the office. Paul Niemeyer, Christine Quemeneur, and Tammy Mack did the painting.

Summer Recycling Program Update

So far this summer Cross of Glory has recycled 8.26 tons of paper in our Green and Yellow paper recycling bins. Thank you so much for all your recycling! If we can get another great month like May we just might be able to win \$500 from



May: 5.20 tons

June: 2.44 tons

July: 0.62 tons (reported so far)

Aug: 0.00 tons

Total of 8.26 of the 15 tons needed!

We need ALL Your:

- Magazines
- Shopping catalogs
- Newspaper
- Office & School Papers
- Mail

Please do NOT include:

- Plastic
- Glass
- Metal
- Trash

Secure Online Giving at CoG Web Site

Have you gone to the church [website](#) lately and seen some changes? One of the changes is the access to secure online donations. You can now go to the website to make donations any time. You can use your credit or debit card and checking or savings account. Online giving provides the flexibility to give at your convenience – even when you can't be at worship.

You can set up a recurring giving plan helping to stay consistent with your giving to God and His church. This is overseen by Vanco Services which is the same company we've been using for our automatic giving program, Simply Giving. Even The Welcome Place Preschool has their own secure online payment set up. Laura Uzzardo would be very happy to assist you with any financial questions. A big "thank you" to Kent Munro for setting up the website with these new links.

Women's Retreat is Just Week's Away! Please Register Now

Dear Ladies,

Summer is quickly flying by and soon it will be autumn and time for our annual retreat. This year you are all invited to The Lodge at Starved Rock State Park from Friday, October 24th through Sunday, October 26th.

We will be gathering after dinner on Friday to make introductions and start to unwind. Saturday and Sunday morning will be spent going on a spiritual journey to get to know ourselves better so that we can open our hearts and minds to hear God speak. On Saturday afternoon we will be enjoying our surroundings and have free time to hike, sit and read, get a massage, curl up next to a roaring fire, go for a swim, or enjoy a nap. Go to the website www.starvedrocklodge.com for further information on what is available on site. We will then have the privilege of welcoming guest speaker Jeanine Murk later on Saturday afternoon. See the Itinerary for more details of the day's events.

Overnight rooms are available and include 2 double beds. **Your organizers will be making the reservations**, and are asking you to please list roommates with whom you would like to share a room. All **room partners will be confirmed with attendees** prior to making reservations.

The Lodge does have a few rules and regulations that we will be required to follow during our stay with them. There are no coolers allowed on the premises and no outside food or beverages are to be brought in. There is a gift shop, café, lounge, and concession area to meet all your food and beverage needs.

Please **fill out the registration form (available in the Welcome Area) and turn it in with your registration fee by September 21st**. Hotel fees will be paid directly to The Lodge.

We look forward to spending another weekend getting to know you all better and deepening our relationships with God.

Beth Gervase, Tammy Mack, Nicole Morin,
Debbie Murtaugh, and Cheryl Nabors

Discuss ELCA Draft Sexuality Statement

The ELCA Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality is a document, which the Task Force for ELCA Studies on Sexuality has prepared. "It represents the task force's initial attempt to formulate a social statement." It is intended to encourage deliberation on what this church should say about human sexuality. It is a draft and not a finished statement. The Synod hopes that each congregation will hold discussions on this draft. "Broad response to it is vital to the process of writing the social statement and central to the life of this church."

Your voice counts!! Some items are controversial and opinions from each congregation are important. The wording of each statement should be considered as well.

Contents of the Draft include: Theological and ethical foundations for understanding sexuality, Sexuality as Part of God's creative activity, Trust at the heart of faith active in love including Gender and friendships, and Same-gender committed relationships. The draft also contains a section on Social trust and the common good.

Cross of Glory's Congregational Council is asking you to join us, to begin discussion on this statement, **August 21st at 6:30 PM**. Follow up meetings will be determined later with the input of the participants. A copy of the Social Statement on Human Sexuality is available in the Welcome Room at Cross of Glory. And we hope to get a link to it from our Cross of Glory web page. Questions regarding this can be directed to Tammy Mack or anyone on Council.

Please read or skim through the statement before attending the meeting on August 21st. Bring your questions and concerns. Yes, I know that discussing some of these matters related to sexuality can be sensitive topics. You will not be required to comment on any area that causes you discomfort or trauma.

Everyone is Welcome! We want to hear from people of all ages and sexual orientation, single, married, widowed, or divorced. See you on August 21st at 6:30 PM.

Peace,

Tammy Mack

CoG's Five Guiding Principles

- ✝ Jesus is Lord
- ✝ Everyone is Welcome
- ✝ Love Changes People
- ✝ Everybody has Something to Offer
- ✝ The World Needs What We Have

CoG's Mission Statement

"Celebrating God...Sharing Christ...Today!"

CoG's Vision

To create a community of faith so compelling that it draws people in and transforms them so that they can change the world.

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

Receipts for the Week of August 3 rd	Receipts for the Week of July 27 th
General Fund: \$13,085	General Fund: \$3,663
Donations to Casa: \$35	Donations to Casa: \$55
Sprinkler Fund: \$15	Children's Ministry (VBS): \$165
	Building Use: \$26
Attendance: 118	Attendance: 145

Find Out What's New at Cross of Glory? Check Out the CoG Blogs

Sermons are available at www.pastorpjsermons.blogspot.com. The text of each sermon and a video of the adult sermons are available. If you miss a week or want to share the message with someone – this is the place to go. The CoG Blog (www.cogbloghg.blogspot.com) is the place to go for all the news about Cross of Glory. Get the latest news or catch up on anything you may have missed.

Upcoming Events for Cross of Glory

Wednesday	08/13	New Member Class (also on 8/20 and 8/27) – 6:00 to 7:30 pm
Sunday	08/17	College Send-Off Blessing during Service
Monday	08/18	LYO – 7:00 pm (also on 8/25)
	08/18	Joliet Jackhammer's Game – 7:05 pm
Thursday	08/21	Discussion on ELCA <i>Draft Social Statement on Human Sexuality</i> – 6:30 pm
	08/21	Church Council Meeting – 8:00 pm
Friday	08/22	Friday Night Bible Study Meets at Cold Stone Creamery – 7:00 pm
Sunday	08/24	PowerPoint Team Meeting – after Worship
	08/24	Book Reading Group at Cheryl Nabors – 6:00 pm
Sunday	09/07	New Member Sunday
Friday	10/24	Women's Retreat (through 10/26)

Please Keep These People and Concerns in Your Prayers

Cog's Casa Team Jóvenes Dos; Casa de los Angeles and all their Volunteers & Children

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, or call the Ministry Center Office at (708.301.6998).