

# Cross of Glory Lutheran Church



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All Members of Cross of Glory

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## In the Loop:

[InTheLoop@TheWelcomePlace.org](mailto:InTheLoop@TheWelcomePlace.org)

## Blogs:

[www.pastorpjsermons.blogspot.com](http://www.pastorpjsermons.blogspot.com)

[www.cogbloghg.blogspot.com](http://www.cogbloghg.blogspot.com)

# In The Loop – Weekly News for August 17<sup>th</sup>, 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.

## Free Family Fun Day – September 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am

Stick around after service on September 7<sup>th</sup> for an afternoon of food, fun, and games. There will be hot dogs, popcorn and soda.

There will be games for children and adults including a Dino Jump, Frisbee Golf, Bean Bags, Face Painting, Bozo Buckets, and a Three-Legged Race.



## New Member Class

If you missed last week's class, there is a make-up class after service today. The remaining two classes in the series will be on the next two Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. Please see Pastor PJ. *New Member Sunday* will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup>.

## Blood Drive at Cross of Glory

Heartland Blood Centers will be at Cross of Glory on **Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> from 2:00 until 7:00 PM** with their coach bus for the 3<sup>rd</sup> of 4 blood drives at Cross of Glory this year. We have added one hour onto the blood drive since the last one was so successful! Let's keep the success going and sign up ASAP!

**All Donors will receive a FREE BBQ Set and Apron!** Call Laura at the church for an appointment (708-301-6998) but walk-ins are welcome! Call early for an appointment so you get first choices on time slots!



## Malin Family Moving Day – Next Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>

Pastor PJ and family will be moving into their new home on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup>! 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 move starts at 1:00 PM.

## 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.

## 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 22<sup>nd</sup>, 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.

## LYO Summer Schedule of Activities

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

## More Summer Reading Anyone?

Our next book is *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy. We will meet on Sunday, August 24<sup>th</sup> 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 move things out of the office. Paul Niemeyer, Christine Quemeneur, and Tammy Mack painted.

## 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

**A total of 8.26 of 15 tons is needed!**

We need ALL Your:

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

## PowerPoint Team Meeting

There will be a PowerPoint Team meeting on August 24<sup>th</sup> 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 24<sup>th</sup>.

## 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 24<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, October 26<sup>th</sup>.

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](http://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 21<sup>st</sup>**. 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 <sup>rd</sup>	Receipts for the Week of August 10 <sup>th</sup>
General Fund: \$13, 085	General Fund: \$4,858
Donations to Casa: \$35	Donations to Casa: \$25
Sprinkler Fund: \$15	Building Maintenance (Pastor's Office): \$50
Attendance: 118	Attendance: 80

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

Sermons are available at [www.pastorpjsermons.blogspot.com](http://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](http://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

Monday	08/18	LYO / Joliet Jackhammer's Game – 7:00 pm
Wednesday	08/20	New Member Class (also on 8/27) – 6:00 to 7:30 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	Help Pastor PJ Move
	08/24	Book Reading Group at Cheryl Nabors – 6:00 pm
Monday	08/25	LYO – 7:00 pm
Wednesday	09/03	Blood Drive – 2:00 to 7:00 pm
Sunday	09/07	New Member Sunday
	09/07	Free Family Fun Fair – 11:00 am until 2:00 pm
Friday	10/24	Women's Retreat (through 10/26)

## Please Keep These People and Concerns in Your Prayers

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).