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# *The Glory Banner*

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*Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA), a Wildfire Congregation*

*May 2018*

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*On the fiftieth day of Easter we celebrate the Spirit, through whom and in whom the people of God are created and re-created. Pentecost is sometimes called the church's birthday, but might more appropriately be called its baptism day, since the gift of the Spirit is the fullness of baptism. Everyone is encouraged to wear red.*

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<sup>24</sup>The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup>nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup>From one ancestor\* he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup>so that they would search for God\* and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup>For “In him we live and move and have our being”; as even some of your own poets have said, “For we too are his offspring.”

Acts 17: 24-28

## **Joining Paul at the Areopagus**

In those early decades after Jesus' death and resurrection, the city of Athens was a cultural crossroads. It was a place that valued ideas and had created a public culture of inquiry and debate about philosophy and religion. Paul uses this inquisitiveness to his advantage and he connects God's work in creation to their altars and philosophical writings. He goes on to tell the story of Jesus in words that will make sense to them.

We live in a time when much of the world is a bit like the Areopagus, when broad swaths of modern society are deeply interested in questions of importance and meaning. Many of our young people don't find handed down traditions to be bearers of meaning and are searching for ways to live with meaning and integrity. Unlike Paul's day perhaps, belonging and acting together take precedence over common belief, which perhaps can then grow from these shared experiences and commitments.

Like Paul we are still called to share the Good News of Jesus with the world. Like Paul we should keep our eyes wide open for what God is up to in the lives of everyone we meet and how the gospel will need to be embodied today in order for them to hear it. Just as in many other parts of life, things that were a blessing for you and me may no longer hold much meaning. But this doesn't mean the desire for meaning and the

inquisitiveness about the world are diminished in any way. Let's imagine a world just as hungry for the story of a loving God on a never-ending quest to bring humankind into deeper relationship with each other and with God. We'll have a variety of conversations this spring and summer that will help us think about this new Areopagus to which we have been brought.

Peace,

*Pastor Doug*



### **Bible Study Readings for May**

- 5/06** **Philippians 1:1-18a: Paul in prison, thankful for the Philippians' partnership in the gospel.**
- 5/13** **Philippians 2:1-13: Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who became obedient to death.**
- 5/20** **Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7: Gift of the Spirit as miracle of communication. Rejoice in the Lord always. The peace of God**



**MAY**  
**Sunday Morning**  
**Ministers**

5/27 Bruce & Sue Vukelich  
Verle Smith

**Lay Lectors:**

5/06 Merle Solie  
5/13 Kris Simon  
5/20 Carol Stejskal  
5/27 Lois Broesamie

**Ushers:**

**9:00 a.m.**

Dick Mero Gordy Gunderson  
Don Custer Cheryl Anderson

**11:00 a.m.**

Don Halverson Doug Graske  
Doug Lenarz

*NewsLetter*  
**DEADLINE**

Articles for the June 2018 *Glory Banner* should to be turned in to Sue Vukelich by May 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Communion Servers:**

5/06 Judy Olson  
Paul & Gale Geske  
Dawn Bailey  
Chad & Ryan Bailey  
5/13 Deb Groettum  
Sharon Quick  
Linda Knudsen  
5/20 Merle Solie  
Jodi Quiner  
Gayle Merritt



## **50 + and Friends**

It's May and if we are lucky ~  
no more snow and cold!

On Friday, May 11, we make the trek to St. Cloud and the Paramount Theater to hear the Kingston Trio sing all their old songs. Before the play, we will go to the Texas Roadhouse for their delicious steak and baked potato or barbecued chicken breast.

Wednesday, June 6, sees us all becoming Swedes. We are going to Gammel Garden to see how those early immigrants lived. The little town has been restored. Our lunch will be Swedish meatballs and the rest of a smorgasbord served in the Scandia Lutheran Church.

Our Pops Concert date is Monday, July 16. The building on Nicollet Island is an ideal spot to hear a great mixture of music. We will come back to the Maple Grove Broadway Pizza for their lunch buffet.

We need a few more for each of our trips ~ Ely in October and Bentleyville at the end of November. We will have a get-together sometime in August to send all our forms in at once. Forms are on the bulletin board.

Sign up early ~ we always need at least 30 to go on a monthly trip.

*Marian Priest*

Dear Cross of Glory Friends,

Ann & I just wanted to drop you a note to let you know what's going on with us in this new year, and the reason you haven't seen us lately. Many of you know that since I started a new job last February, my business travel schedule has just been crazy - I was on the road all but 12 weeks in 2017, and 2018 has started out just as busy, with me traveling every single week of January and February so far. Now, don't get me wrong - I'm absolutely loving the new job and everything I'm doing, but the travel is extremely wearing for both of us!

Many of you may also know that we accomplished a longtime goal last year - we purchased 25 beautiful acres of pine and birch trees in Webster, WI, and most of our weekends were spent there last year beginning the process of clearing a driveway and placing a couple of older campers to use as temporary housing. This year will see those efforts dramatically increase, as we will spend the majority of our free weekends up there expanding the trails and accommodations, working toward our goal of building our retirement home there within the next 2-3 years. Accordingly, we have begun shifting much of our "lifestyle" to center around the Webster area. We plan to begin visiting churches in that area this Spring, with the goal of finding the next place where God wants to plant us for ministry.

I have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of the lay leadership at COG, and my time and energy spent as a Crosswalk vocalist and worship leader was one of the most fulfilling spiritual experiences of my life. However, by the end of December, between the exhausting travel schedule and our new focus on our property, we were just worn out, and needed both a physical rest and a spiritual pause. To that end, I communicated to Pastor Doug and Dan Aulwes that I needed to back away from my Council position and my Crosswalk duties in 2018.

Please know that Ann & I have loved our time at Cross of Glory, and still consider you all to be our friends, and even more, part of our family. Our prayer for you all is that God will continue to bless and keep you, and that He will continue to use the COG congregation to serve the Brooklyn Center community.

In Christ, *Ann & Ed Dedman*

## **Cross of Glory Women of the ELCA**

The Circles will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, May 21<sup>st</sup>. All women are cordially invited to attend a circle. We have Bible study, coffee, treats and lots of good fellowship!

The Mission Circle continues to meet in a member's home at 12:30pm. The Community Needs and Glory Circle meet in the Narthex at 9:30am and 12:00pm. We will have the Bible study leader and hostess in the April *Happenings*.

In May we will have a one session Bible study entitled *All Are Welcome* by Rev. Julie A. Kanarr. Rev. Kanarr serves as pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Belfair, Washington. An avid outdoorsperson, she enjoys sea kayaking, bicycling, hiking and camping.

**Focus Verse:** Hebrew 13:1-2: *Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.*

More than just "good manners" hospitality is a spiritual matter. In welcoming and in being welcomed, we experience the love of God who breaks down human barriers and draws us into community with one another. In this study we will explore several Bible passages that invite us to reflect on hospitality within our own lives and congregations.

We will have a group Bible study in June, July and August. There will be no Garage Sale this year, so come join us for the summer months!



The Cross of Glory Women of the ELCA need a secretary. The Board meets on the fourth Monday at 1:30pm January through April and August through November. You take the minutes, write them up and give them to Sue to put in the *Happenings*. Sue will also make copies for you to bring to the board meeting. You may attend a board meeting before making your decision.

If you would like to volunteer, call Carol Stejskal, 763-420-1076 or Sharon Quick, 763-566-1224. You may also talk to Jackie Fryhling or Barb Thomson. Please give this some prayerful thought ~ We need your help!



## **W/ELCA Spring Luncheon May 5, 2018**

Circle **May 5<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar! We will have a Salad Luncheon catered by Carol Knutson. All women are invited to attend this luncheon. Punch will be served at 11:30am and lunch at 12:00pm. At 1:00pm, Pastor Mark Hostetler will be our guest speaker.

### ***Something to think about . . .***

Yearn and pray for peace throughout the world.

*Jackie*





In memory of loved ones, tablecloths were purchased for funerals and special events. They have been donated by Arlys Puls and Family in memory of Don Puls and Gordy Isenberg and Family in memory of Chuck and Alice Isenberg. We want to thank them for this generous gift. God's blessings to all.  
*Funeral Committee*

A special thank you for all the cards and gifts I received at my birthday party. It was great to celebrate with family, church friends and friends at the senior building where I live. God's blessings to all and thanks again. Lots of love to all of you!  
*Dorothy Shoemaker and Family*

Dear Cross of Glory Friends ~ Thank you for the beautiful tulip plant. It was so nice of Lois Tollefsrud to drop them off and I enjoyed our visit. Blessings.  
*Lorraine Clinton*

Thank you for the nice plant. I appreciate the prayer chain too! It's one step forward, two steps back sometimes, but having my church family in my ball park lifts me up.  
*Gil Hartlage*

Thank you to all you kind and thoughtful people for the calls and cards. It's been a couple of miserable months because of the muscles I twisted when I stubbed my toe and fell and cracked a vertebrae.

*Jeanetta Barhorst*

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church  
5929 Brooklyn Boulevard  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429-2583  
Volume 2018 – Issue 5  
Change Service Requested



**Worship at Cross of Glory on Sundays**  
9:00 a.m. ~ Traditional Worship  
10:00 a.m. ~ Coffee Fellowship  
11:00 a.m. ~ Crosswalk Contemporary Worship  
To watch worship services: [www.cogtv.info](http://www.cogtv.info)

**Cross of Glory Office Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday, 8:00am ~ 4:00pm  
Contact us at: Phone: (763) 533-8602  
E-mail: [office@crossofglory.us](mailto:office@crossofglory.us)  
[www.crossofglory.us](http://www.crossofglory.us)

### **Cross of Glory Staff:**

#### **Lead Pastor:**

Rev. Doug Mork ~  
[dmork@crossofglory.us](mailto:dmork@crossofglory.us)

#### **Organist:**

Rev. Dr. Allan Mahnke ~  
[furiusBib@comcast.net](mailto:furiusBib@comcast.net)

#### **Choir Director:**

Keith Williams ~  
[williams@csp.edu](mailto:williams@csp.edu)

#### **Outreach:**

Rev. Christian Vincent ~  
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#### **Pianist:**

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#### **Bookkeeper:**

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#### **Administrative Assistant:**

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