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# *The Glory Banner*

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

*September 2019*

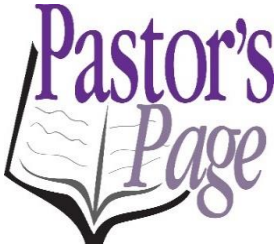
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## **Rally Sunday, September 8**

Many good things are happening at Cross of Glory! **Join us for a Rally Sunday service at 9:30am with a Potluck lunch following worship.** This fall kick-off will include a Children's sermon and a Blessing of the Backpacks, so invite any and all children to join us. Sunday School sign up is starting as well.

We will follow service with a joyful procession to the Fellowship Hall to fill our plates for a potluck lunch, then head outside to eat, weather permitting. There is a sign-up sheet for hot dishes, salads and desserts, but signing up is not necessary to attend!



***“If the only prayer you say in your life is  
‘Thank You’  
It will be enough!”***

Meister Eckhart (1260-1327)

I appreciate these words from medieval thinker, writer and teacher Meister Eckhart because they speak of the importance of gratitude in our lives. It is so easy, isn't it, to dwell on what we don't have, what has changed, what is wrong in the world or in others and on what is lacking. When we do this, however, we miss out on all that is right in the world and in others, all that we do have, all that God has done and continues to do in our lives. The Bible continually calls us back to gratitude as a foundation for healthy living.

Recently, in a Tuesday morning Scripture Study here at Cross of Glory, we were reflecting on the Psalm for the upcoming Sunday, Psalm 103:1-8. Here the psalmist burst forth in praise and thanks to God with these words: *“Bless the Lord, O my soul and all that is within me, bless his holy name.”* As we talked about the importance of gratitude in our lives and how we all at times fail to have a grateful and thankful spirit, someone in the group shared this poignant saying: *“What if you woke up tomorrow with only the things you thanked God for today.”* How true! Gratitude for what we DO HAVE, and all that God is and has done for us, is vital for our spiritual, physical and emotional well-being.

Having been your interim pastor for the past seven months, I can identify several reasons to thank and praise God here at Cross of Glory:

-for so many people who in the senior citizen years of their lives still have a desire to make a difference for God and others

-for the gifts and abilities that are abundant in this congregation-  
regardless of age

-for a congregation that seeks to welcome others and to grow in this area

-for being a community of faith that prays for others and is concerned about those who are sick, home bound or hurting

-for a gracious and warm spirit that is prevalent in so many

-for an appreciation of good music and of worship that is done to the glory of God

-for the gift of a very worshipful sanctuary and of ample building space with which to reach out and to share with others

-for the blessing of good and faithful staff people and congregational leaders

-for a very visible location on Brooklyn Blvd.

I see much here at Cross of Glory for which to offer thanks and praise to God. I know that in several ways, things aren't the way they were in the past when you had 3500 members, the largest Sunday School in the ALC, the Bethel room was packed with children and you had several worship services on a Sunday morning. However, there is still so much here!

Please join me in thanking God for the many blessings and gifts of Cross of Glory community of faith!

Yours in Christ,  
*Pastor Lee*



## Invite a Friend Sunday- September 29

***“Philip found Nathanael and said, to him, ‘We have found him about whom Moses in the law and prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth. Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come of out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, ‘Come and see.’”***

John 1:45-46

At the close of Matthew’s gospel, Jesus gives to each of us the Great Commission- to go and be his witnesses in the world and share God’s good news of love and mercy with others. Sometimes the notion of “being a witness” can be overwhelming! What do we say? How do we do this? Consider Philip. When he wanted Nathanael to know Jesus, all that Philip said to him was “Come and See!”

Are there any of us who can’t say to a neighbor, friend, inactive member of Cross of Glory, “Come to worship.” or “Come and meet Jesus the Christ.” A simple invitation like Philip’s is often the best.

On **Sunday, September 29**, Cross of Glory will have a special Invite a Friend Sunday. We encourage you to pray for this particular Sunday. Ask God for possibilities of whom you might invite to be a part of this wonderful opportunity!



## **Fifth Sundays at Cross of Glory**

The Worship, Music and Arts Team decided at their last meeting that on each 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday the congregation will have a Hymn & Song Sing Worship. Many of you shared with them your appreciation for the one that was recently held on July 28. Along with favorite worship songs and hymns, this worship will contain brief meditations, scripture, prayers and Holy Communion. The next Hymn & Song Sing Worship will be **Sunday, September 29.**



### **WILDFIRE “GOD’S WORK ~ OUR HANDS” Saturday, September 7 9 a.m. until noon**

Please join members of the other Wildfire congregations in a service event at Global Health Ministries, 7831 Hickory St. NE, Fridley, 55432. A continental breakfast will be provided. This will be followed by a commissioning and then serving in whatever capacity they need. There will be jobs for people of all ages and abilities.



## Sunday Morning Ministers

### Ushers:

Dick Mero            Cheryl Anderson  
Dave Hengel        Ryan Bailey  
Masayuki Ionue    Chad Bailey  
Dan Aulwes        Don Halverson

### Communion Servers:

9/1    Dawn Bailey  
      Chad & Ryan Bailey  
      Merle Solie  
      Gale & Paul Geske

9/8    Linda Knudsen  
      Sharon Quick  
      Brenda Edstrom

9/15   Verle Smith  
      Gayle Merritt  
      Carol Stejskal

9/22   Judy Lewis  
      Bruce & Sue Vukelich

9/29   Deb Groettum  
      Linda Knudsen  
      Sharon Quick

### Lay Lectors:

9/1    Jodi Quiner  
9/8    Paul Geske  
9/15   Gayle Merritt  
9/22   Dan Aulwes  
9/29   Bruce Vukelich



### September 9, 2019

The Women's Cancer Support Group meet the second Monday of each month at Cross of Glory from 11:30am through 1:00pm. (Bring a snack as needed over the noon hour.)

We welcome all Cancer patients going through treatments, remission, or have been cancer free for several years. Please come and share your faith journey with everyone, you will be a blessing to all in the group. Scripture is read, and God is present within our group.

If you have any questions, please call Marcia Janasz at 763-391-6321.



## SENIORS ON THE GO

### **50 + and Friends**

The year ahead is planned and sign-up sheets are up. We have all 29 passenger buses so the first 29 to sign up will be able to join us.

Wednesday, September 25, we are going to the Old Log to see "Five Presidents." They're at Nixon's Library discussing past events. Comedy as well as serious from their terms.

Saturday, October 19, we bus to the Fridley station to take the train to Big Lake. The bus will meet us there and take us to Russell's on the Lake. We will have a choice of a bacon burger or a pulled pork sandwich – both with their salad bar. We will come home by bus.

Our Christmas show will be Friday, December 29, at the Ives theater in the Masonic Museum. "A Magical Medora Christmas" features

songs by performers from the Medora pageant in North Dakota and we will be wowed with seasonal magic and light-hearted humor. Lunch will be rotisserie chicken, cheesy potatoes and side and their wonderful desserts.

Join us when you can!

*Marian Priest*



With our partnership coming to an end with Panera Bread, we would like to thank Nancy Bixler for her many years of faithful volunteering. She arrived each week, sorted and marked the Panera baked goods and got them ready for the many people that would come in and benefit from this service. Thank You Nancy! Nancy had many helpers over the years, and we thank them for their volunteering also.

If you would like to send a personal word of thanks to Nancy, her address is: Nancy Bixler, 909 Pearson Parkway, Brooklyn Park, MN 55444

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

All women of Cross of Glory are warmly invited to visit or join a circle. We have three circles: Community Needs, Glory and Mission. We all meet the third Tuesday of the month. Community Needs Circle meets at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall; the Glory Circle meets at 12:00 in the Fellowship Hall; and the Mission Circle meets at 12:30pm in a member's home. All circles have a Bible study, fellowship, coffee and treats. There will be the Bible study leaders and hostesses in the next *Happenings*.



### **2019 ~ Poetry of the Old Testament**

The Fall W/ELCA Bible study will be selections of Old Testament poetry from Job, Psalms and Lamentations. Drawing from the experiences of these ancient writers, we will learn to look for God in times of deep emotions, such as joy, anger, celebration, depressions, misunderstanding and contentment, finding hope and grace along the way.

The series is written by Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen.

December 2019: Advent/Christmas devotional

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

God's love does not keep us from trials but sees us through them.

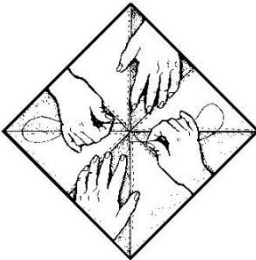
*Jackie*





## **Loaves and Fishes**

Cross of Glory has been serving Loaves and Fishes to those in need for around 30 years. We have served at several locations. We currently are serving at Brunswick United Methodist Church located on 42nd and Brunswick near Douglas Avenue in Crystal. We serve on the 4th Wednesday of each month. We like to be there a little after 5:00 and serve between 5:30 and 6:30. We clean up the dining area after we serve. If you are interested in helping, please give me a call and I will put you on the list of volunteers. You do not have to volunteer each month. Linda Knudsen: 612-518-4879.



## **CEAP Quilters**

The CEAP Quilters will return to work on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am. From September 2018 to May 2019, we made 440 quilts, 14 Lap Blankets, 604 baby items, and 29 other items. We gave 7250 volunteer hours.

We have 50 members and some members work at home. On Monday mornings, 30 to 40 women will be working from 9:00am to 12:00pm. They will be sorting, cutting, tying, sewing and serging, and having fun. Stop in to say hello and look us over. You may want to join us!

Thank you, Cross of Glory members. We are happy to have a place to make quilts and clothing for CEAP!

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church  
5929 Brooklyn Boulevard  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429-2583  
Change Service Requested

## **Worship at Cross of Glory on Sundays**

**9:30 a.m. ~ Worship**

**10:30 a.m. ~ Coffee Fellowship**

**10:45 a.m. ~ Small Group Studies**

**To watch worship services: [www.vimeo.com/coqtv](http://www.vimeo.com/coqtv)**

**[Facebook.com/crossofglorymn](https://www.facebook.com/crossofglorymn)**

## **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. Lee Hallstrom ~**

**[lhallstrom@crossofglory.us](mailto:lhallstrom@crossofglory.us)**

### **Organist:**

**Allan Mahnke ~**

**[furiusbib@comcast.net](mailto:furiusbib@comcast.net)**

### **Choir Director:**

**Keith Williams ~**

**[williams@csp.edu](mailto:williams@csp.edu)**

### **Outreach:**

**Rev. Christian Vincent ~**

**[cvincent@crossofglory.us](mailto:cvincent@crossofglory.us)**

### **Pianist:**

**Mark Trease ~**

**[mltrease@comcast.net](mailto:mltrease@comcast.net)**

### **Bookkeeper:**

**Mike Edstrom ~**

**[medstrom@crossofglory.us](mailto:medstrom@crossofglory.us)**

### **Administrative Assistant:**

**Sue Vukelich ~**

**[svukelich@crossofglory.us](mailto:svukelich@crossofglory.us)**