

The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

July and August 2024

WORSHIP at CoG!

Onsite – Join us on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am for worship in the sanctuary.

Online – Tune in to services in live-time via Zoom on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. For further information about how to connect to Zoom by computer or phone, visit www.crossofglory.us.

Recorded services - We record weekly worship so that you can worship from anywhere, anytime. Visit our home page, or Service Library page, at www.crossofglory.us for service recordings!

Bulletins – Bulletins are mailed to those who have requested mailings. Please contact the church office at 763-533-8602 or office@crossofglory.us if you'd like to be added to/removed from this weekly mailing list. Electronic bulletins are posted to our website weekly as well.

We give thanks that the Spirit continues to guide, inspire, and enliven us in our worship, however you to take part!

Cross of Glory Staff:

Pastor:

Rev. Ali Tranvik
atranvik@crossofglory.us

Maternity Leave Pastor:

Rev. Peter Samuelson
PeterIsamuelson@gmail.com

Bookkeeper:

Mike Edstrom
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Tech Director/ Worship Leader:

Mark Trease
mltrease@comcast.net

Choir Director:

Keith Williams
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Office Administrator

Rachel Marquardt
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Facilities Coordinator:

Gayle Merritt
Facilities@crossofglory.us

Custodial Staff:

Matt Steven & Dan Jacobson

Tech Ministry:

The Bailey Family

For the Fruit of All Creation

Lyrics by Fred Pratt Green

For the fruits of all creation,
thanks be to God.

For the gifts of every nation,
thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.

In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.

In our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us,
thanks be to God.



Getting Grounded © Jan L. Richardson

GIVING THANKS FOR THE FRUIT HERE AT CROSS OF GLORY...

COMMUNITY GARDEN HARVEST TABLE

Thanks to all those who have helped take part in tending the gardens and grounds at CoG as we've begun this holy season of growing! We've got fruit trees, pollinators, veggies, & flowers beginning to grow all over the place. The neighborhood bees, butterflies, and birds are already enjoying them...and this month, we look forward to sharing with you to enjoy them too! Stop by the Garden Harvest table near the Welcome Desk on Sunday mornings and help yourself to some fresh fruits and veggies grown in our church's backyard. You're welcome to bring any produce you grow at home as well to share.

CREATION SUNDAY

As we give thanks for all that is growing in our gardens and in the world around us, join us for our "Creation Sunday" worship service on July 14, a service full of creation-themed music, readings, and reflections. And stick around immediately following worship for a Blessing of the Gardens out back!

Fresh Food in the Neighborhood!



CAPI Food Shelf: CAPI's food shelf is open Tuesdays between 1-4 pm, and Wednesdays-Thursdays between 9-12 or 1-4. If you're interested in volunteering, they're looking for hands to bag groceries, help neighbors shop and unload at their cars, or help unload food shipments and restock shelves. Contact Alexi Kleinschmidt at 651-472-6610 or email volunteer@capiusa.org to get connected.

Fresh Food Thursdays: CAPI distributes FREE fresh produce on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month between 1-3 pm at 5930 Brooklyn Blvd. To sign up to help with distribution, visit www.capiusa.org/get-involved.



Farm Fresh Fest Hosted by CEAP

Farm Fresh Fest is a celebration of our community and an opportunity for neighbors to receive fresh, in-season produce in a safe, inclusive, and welcoming atmosphere. This seasonal series includes produce stands, food samples, health and wellness education, games, and connections to community resources and businesses.

Each week, the partnerships and activities available will be centered around a theme.

Farm Fresh Fest will take place at CEAP from 3pm-5pm on the following Wednesdays: July 10, 17, 24, 31, August 7, 14, 21 and 28. All neighbors are welcome at Farm Fresh Fest, and advance registration is not required. To sign up to help, visit www.ceap.org/get-involved/.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	29 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	30	31 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm	1 Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd)	2	3 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
4 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	5 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	6	7 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm 7:00pm confirmation	8 CAPI Fresh Food Thursdays 1pm-3pm Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd)	9	10 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
11 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:00am Worship Music Arts Meeting 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation 2:00pm Wildfire at the Saints game	12 11:00am Women's cancer support group 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	13	14 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm	15 Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd) 1:00pm 55+ games and fellowship	16	17 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
18 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:00am Council Meeting 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	19 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	20	21 Glory Banner article deadline 1:00pm W/ ELCA Bible Study 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm	22 CAPI Fresh Food Thursdays 1pm-3pm Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd)	23	24 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
25 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	26 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	27 1:00pm W/ ELCA board Meeting	28 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm	29 Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd)	30	31 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3

July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:00am Artist talk with Kathryn Swan 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	1 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	2	3	4 office closed in observance of Independence Day	5	6 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
7 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	8 8:00am Progeny Academy summer learning program 11:00am Women's cancer support group 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	9 8:00am Progeny Academy summer learning program 9:30am Bible Study (onsite and online) 7:00pm CoG Fellowship in the park--Centennial Park	10 8:00am Progeny Academy summer learning program 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm	11 CAPI Fresh Food Thursdays 1pm-3pm Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd)	12	13 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
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21 Kids attending Camp Wapo 9:30am Worship (onsite and online) 10:30am Fellowship Hour 11:30am Faith Healing Congregation	22 Kids attending Camp Wapo 6:30pm Jazz band Rehearsal	23 Kids attending Camp Wapo 1:00pm W/ELCA board Meeting	24 Kids attending Camp Wapo 3:00pm Farm Fresh Fest At CEAP 3pm-7pm	25 CAPI Fresh Food Thursdays 1pm-3pm Farmers Market in BC 3pm-7pm (7200 Brooklyn Blvd) Kids attending Camp Wapo	26 Kids attending Camp Wapo	27 Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly 9:30-3
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OPEN DOORS

Throughout Cross of Glory's history, the front doors of the church have been pushed and propped open for many. Thanks to your generosity, the doors of 5929 Brooklyn Blvd now open even more widely, and certainly a bit more easily. This spring, we set out to raise funds to make the front doors more accessible for those who use wheelchairs and walkers, those pushing strollers and grocery carts, those carrying heavy loads--whether figuratively or literally. We not only met but surpassed our fundraising goal, such that we were able to install automatic openers to our main restroom doors too. Thanks again to all who so generously contributed toward ensuring that our facilities reflect part of our Everyday Liturgy of "embodying God's hospitality!"

PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Ali is available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer. You can reach her by phone and email throughout the week. Please reach out to schedule a time to connect!

HOME COMMUNION

If you are unable to commune onsite at Cross of Glory, we would love to come visit you and bring you communion. Please reach out to schedule a time.

I want to share a few of the ways I've already seen these doors open in recent days. I've seen them open for the congregations who worship here: Cross of Glory, Faith Healing International Ministries, and Messiah's Messengers 7th Day Adventists. I've seen them open for a couple hundred people at the end of last month, when the Fellowship Hall was used for an Isaiah meeting, a gathering of interfaith leaders who were discussing the need for increased access to affordable childcare, housing, and healthcare in the northwest metro area. I've seen the doors open for the Cross Community Players, the local theater group who met in the building last month for rehearsals and performances of "Hello Dolly." I've seen them open for those who have come in to fix something in the building that's broken, or those who are working to beautify the land surrounding the building or grow vegetables in our community gardens. I've seen the doors open for Progeny students and staff who are meeting for summer school. I've seen the open for a gathering of pastors of the eight Wildfire churches with whom we're in partnership. I've seen them open for the Community Quilters lugging scraps of fabric that will be transformed into gorgeous quilts and donated to neighbors through CEAP. I've seen the doors open for people coming to plan the funeral of a loved one, and for kids signing up for Vacation Bible School. I've seen the doors open for a neighbor who simply needed to come

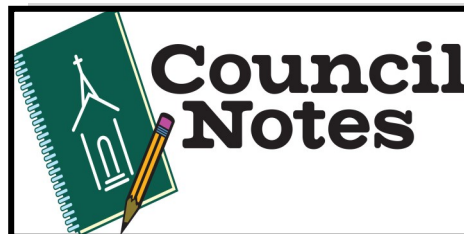
rest and cool off for a while on a hot day.

Even as we continue to discern new possibilities for how our facilities may be shared in the future, these doors have already empowered us to share the space in powerful ways for the sake of life together here. It's been a joy to witness the ways you've helped make sure that they swing open wide for all who come in through them--and all who are sent forth out of them--to share God's gift of life together! -Pastor Ali



WELCOMING REV. PETER SAMUELSON

Pastor Ali and Isak are grateful for the ongoing prayers as they prepare to welcome their second child, expected to arrive in early August. Rev. Peter Samuelson will be at Cross of Glory during Pastor Ali's maternity leave time (roughly scheduled for August-October). This part-time role will help oversee the areas of worship, pastoral leadership, and pastoral care. Pastor Peter is a (mostly) retired ELCA pastor who served multiple parishes in rural Iowa, Atlanta, and Minneapolis in both regularly called and interim positions. He's also taught part-time at various institutions of higher learning, and has served in the nonprofit sector, most recently as Senior Director of Evaluation and Impact at Lutheran Social Service of MN. Pastor Peter plans to take part in worship on July 28th for the chance to begin meeting everyone. Please join us in welcoming Pastor Peter later this month!



June Council Meeting Notes

Following the call to order and our opening prayer, the council approved the previous month's council meeting minutes, the treasurers report and the pastor's report. Next on our agenda was an update concerning the work of the 5929 Facilities Task Force, which has been meeting since May 15th. Once again, the purpose of the Task Force is to explore the possibilities for space usage at CoG.

Building and Grounds report as follows:

- lift repair, latching mechanism; parts on order
- Bethel room floor, flood damage; needs repair. Fixing sinks & toilets downstairs as well
- A/C in Progeny Academy lower level classroom; AC unit purchased, need install
- kitchen freezer replacement; likely in July
- Progeny break room kitchen water heater; checking cost
- kitchen water softener; checking cost
- kitchen dishwasher cleaning needed due to hard water issues
- fire department hook-up (hydrostatic) was completed and passed inspection 6/24/2024
- Faith Healing office moving to Bethel room office

Embodying God's Hospitality Campaign: \$20,890 raised, which exceeds our original \$15,000 goal. Door openers installed working (women's restroom need minimal update)

Land north of the church building; In conversation with the city of Brooklyn Center regarding maintenance of the land approaching Admiral Lane. More information will be coming.

Deferred Maintenance Assessment (audit); In connection with the work of our 5929 Task Force, the church council has approved the need for a consultant to audit our building and property (an estimate of what work/improvements and/or up-dates are immediately necessary, or in the near future).

Submitted by Gordy Johnsrud (council secretary)



MOSAIC CROSS UPDATE

Last fall, you likely had a hand (literally!) in our "God's Work Our Hands" community art project. We collected the handprints of many in our congregation and community with the hope of creating an artistic installation on the cross in our church's backyard--a representation of the many hands that gather to do God's work. We're excited to share that the tile slabs with our handprints are almost done being fired in kilns. The next step of the project will be to prepare the surface of the cross and installation. We look forward to sharing further updates in the coming weeks, and are so grateful to our in-house artist, Keith Williams, for his leadership in this project!



WILDFIRE CHURCHES EVENT AT THE ST. PAUL SAINTS GAME

Sunday, August 11th
Saints Vs. Columbus
2:07pm Game
CHS Field
Saint Paul
\$24.17 per ticket



- ☼ Only 40 tickets available for this group event!
- ☼ Seats are in Section 104.
- ☼ Contact Sue Ferkingstad at Faith Lilac Way to sign up and secure your seat.
- ☼ Seats will be assigned as registration and payment are made.
- ☼ Deadline is July 11th. Tickets will be available after July 14th.
- ☼ Transportation arrangements are up to the individual.

Contact Sue Ferkingstad at 763.537.4523 or office@faithlilacway.org



**We invite you to shop for our four legged friends
And benefit MARS donation are due by 7/14.
A wish list is printed and available at the Welcome
Center. Make any checks payable to MARS. Thank you
for your generosity!**

The next WELCA board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday
July 23 and August 27, 2024 1:00 pm.

Board meeting minutes for June will be available with the July Mini
Happenings on Sunday July 14.

Summer 2024 "After certainty: A biblical guide" by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni

A global pandemic, political upheaval, a changing climate... these days, the future is more uncertain than it has ever been. Or is it? For the people of the Bible, life was often shaped by deep uncertainty. Encounters with God sparked awe, confusion or courage, but rarely certainty. Instead, God's people have always been called to follow God into the unknown, trusting in God's certain grace and love. This three-session summer Bible study explores God's invitation to the people of the Bible and to us, to take the holy journey beyond certainty to curiosity, community and compassion, where we find abundant life in Christ.

July 2024 After certainty: Community

When certainty in faith becomes the responsibility of the individual, this can isolate us from God and from community. The reformer Martin Luther's own failures of certainty led him to return to passages in the gospels and epistles that proclaimed salvation, not as a reward for our certainty, but as a gift granted in and through community. In this second session, we consider how some of the pivotal texts of the Lutheran Reformation changed the church and the world.

August 2024 After certainty: Compassion

When certainty becomes judgmentalism, it contributes to divisions between people and within communities. The teachings of Jesus and the pastoral writings of the apostle Paul sometimes urge people to choose compassion over correctness—a model that can offer Christians guidance in a polarized time.

Fall 2024 "Receiving grace: A study of Ephesians" by the Rev. Heidi Haverkamp

Session one: Is grace real?
Session two: Grace-filled living—ancient and new
Session three: Living as children of the Light

Gather Bible Study will meet on
WEDNESDAY
July 17 and August 21
Bring your own drink, snack, and a friend. All are welcome. Copies of the Bible Study will be available if needed.



55+
FELLOWSHIP THURSDAYS

The 55+ game day this month is scheduled for Thursday, July 18th and August 15th
From 1-4pm.
All are invited.



WELCA is collecting items through mid July to support MARS Animal Rescue, a local nonprofit that provides support services for animals in need.
See the poster by the welcome desk for further info.



Olympic Hopefuls Vacation Bible School

What: Wildfire VBS

Where:

**Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church
5530 42nd Ave N Robbinsdale MN**

When: July 15-18

5:15-7:30pm (Dinner provided)



need help

signing up?

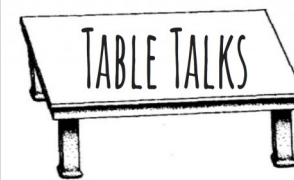
**contact Rachel in the office
and she will help you!**



scan to sign up!



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING ON SUMMER BREAK
Table Talks, our monthly education



hour that takes place on 4th Sundays, is not gathering during the summer months. Weekly Bible Study is also taking our annual summer break until the fall. That said, Bible Study will be meeting once this month to check in and study the texts for the upcoming Sunday (July 9 at 9:30 am onsite and online). Finally, First Sunday programming for kids and Confirmation will also be on hold for the summer. We look forward to resuming come fall!

Camp Wapo
- Thanks to all those who have generously contributed toward CoG youth attending Camp Wapo this summer! Thanks to your support, we're able to make camp more affordable for families, and offer additional scholarships as needed. Campers head to Wapo, a Lutheran Bible Camp in Amery, WI, the last week of July. We look forward to sharing songs and stories August 11th during worship service!

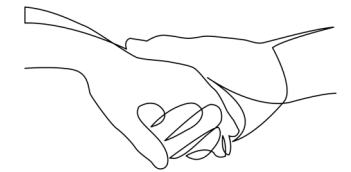
DISCERNING GOD'S CALL



We are **CALLED**



We are called to **LIFE**



We are called to life **TOGETHER**

CALLED TO LIFE TOGETHER: AN EVERYDAY LITURGY

The word liturgy means "the work of the people." We believe that we are called not only to share in the liturgy of worship on Sunday mornings—rooted in the rhythms of Gathering, Word, Table, and Sending—but also to a liturgy that is lived out the rest of the week, in and with the broader Brooklyn Center community. Therefore, this Everyday Liturgy seeks to express the work that we, the people of Cross of Glory, are called and committed to in our everyday lives (from Sunday afternoons through Saturday nights!) in light of being **called to life together.**

GATHERING - We are called to embody God's hospitality by generously sharing space, time, gifts, and resources, and by meeting neighbors on their terms and for their sake—open to what we can both give and receive.

WORD - We are called to listen and look for the ways that God's love is alive, both within the church and throughout the wider neighborhood, especially where the Gospel tells us it's often found: in the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, the imprisoned.

TABLE - We are called to lament the sin and suffering of ourselves, our neighbors, and the earth, as embodied by Jesus on the cross. And we are called to celebrate God's gift of life (together), as embodied by the resurrected Jesus. We believe that lament and celebration often happens most powerfully at tables, where bread is broken and shared.

SENDING - We are called to work for a just community, care for neighbors in body, mind, and spirit, and tend to the earth's gifts with humility and love.

The 5929 Facilities Task Force has been meeting weekly throughout May and June to explore more concretely what God's call to life together means for space here at 5929 Brooklyn Blvd. We look forward to sharing more updates as we continue the conversation. If you'd like to learn more about what discerning God's call to life together has looked like this past winter and spring, check out the summaries of the Neighborhood Listening Sessions and Site Visits, available at the Welcome Desk and online at <http://crossofglory.us/newsandevents/lifetogether.html>.

I appreciate so much being a part of Cross of Glory family! When I fell and broke my arm, you were there for me with calls, cards, and visits. Thank you! A special thanks to Tom Simon for visits, rides and yes, cookies! Gods blessings to everyone. Thank you!
Carol Sjoquist



Embodying God's Hospitality

Thank you once again to all of you who donated to the Embodying God's Hospitality campaign. We raised \$20,940, which is \$5,940 over our \$15,000 goal! This overage allowed us to also install automatic door openers on the restroom doors near the Fellowship Hall. Door openers have been installed, electrical is working, and the doors are ready to open and close at the push of a button.





SUMMER OF SEMINARIANS

It's a gift to hear the gospel proclaimed from guest preachers at Cross of Glory throughout the year! This summer, we're especially excited to welcome a few seminarians--students at

Luther Seminary who are currently in the candidacy (ordination) process with the ELCA. Part of the call of the broader church is to help nurture, pray for, and raise up such leaders, so we look forward to welcoming a few pastors-to-be into the pulpit throughout the summer months. Last month, we were grateful to hear Rosalie Brunner on June 16th. We look forward to welcoming Rachel Wyffels on July 21st and Katie Weiland on August 11th.



COG FELLOWSHIP: MUSIC IN THE PARK

Mark your calendars: on Tues, July 9 at 7 pm, bring a blanket or lawn chair, some snacks, and join the CoG community in Centennial Park for free live music and fellowship. Between music by the Kendra Glenn Band, the adjacent playground for

kids, and the good company of one another, it will be sure to be a fun evening for all ages!



ART GALLERY

Our art gallery currently features an art exhibit by Kathryn Swan, former student of Keith Williams, is exhibiting a series of her most recent paintings. These abstract interpretations of trees and landscapes explore our connectedness with God's creation and our own spiritual journeys in life together.

In August, we look forward to featuring work from YOU! This past spring, we invited the congregation to share photographs of where you glimpsed images of "life together" in the world around you. We also invited children to draw images of "life together." We showed photos and drawings on the screen in worship during the Prayers of the People. This turned out to be such a beautiful collection of images that we wanted to display them as we continue to live into God's call to life together. We'll be working to install some of these images in our gallery in August. NOTE: If you submitted any photos or artwork that you wish to *not include* as part of the exhibit, please let Rachel in the office know ASAP.



Save the Date!

COMMUNITY HEALTH FAIR

When:

**Saturday, August 10
12 p.m. - 4 p.m.**

Where:

**Brooklyn Center High School
(6500 N Humboldt Ave)**

www.BrooklynCenterMN.gov
www.bccs286.org



NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY & GIVING APP IS NOW LIVE!

We're excited to announce a new way for you to stay connected to all that takes place in our life together at Cross of Glory. Our office has recently transitioned into a new data-keeping system called "ICON" that allows members to update your own contact information, view

the church's photo directory, and access or print your giving records directly from your phone, tablet, or any device! This app is a great way for us to be good stewards of the earth with less paper usage, and good stewards of the church budget with less cost with postage, printing, and envelopes. Download it on your app store on your device. You can also access it via web browser at secure1.iconcmo.com/.

If you missed the launch that happened in late May-- early June connect with Rachel in the office and she will help get you online.

————Mid year giving statements————

For those of you who are not online, I will be printing mid year giving statements for those who request it the week of July 8-12. Reach out to the office if you would like your giving statement printed for you to pick up at the church. Again, if you would like yours mailed, call or email the church office at 73-533-8302 or office@crossofglory.us

OFFICE UPDATES

As we continue to work to share life--and space--together at 5929 Brooklyn Blvd, a couple updates as it pertains to our office and facilities: first, starting in July, as Office Administrator, Rachel will be onsite for the following updated office hours: Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 10am-3pm. Please continue to direct any church-related questions or needs to Rachel at office@crossofglory.us or 763-533-8602, and schedule any in-person visits to the office during those hours. Second, we're excited to share that Gayle Merritt will be assisting with some facilities coordination and administration this fall. Facilities-related questions and space-sharing/rental inquiries can be directed to Gayle at facilities@crossofglory.us.



Save The Date!

God's Work Our Hands is just around the corner! This is a chance to celebrate the many hands that come together to do God's work at Cross of Glory, in the Brooklyn Center community, and beyond. On Sunday, Sept 8, we'll be celebrating the many hands that help shape our life together. Look for more info from the Worship, Music, Arts committee in the coming weeks!



Our Everyday Liturgy calls us to both grieve and to celebrate as we share life together. To that end, we lift up sorrows and joys in our community these months:

————Celebrations————

We celebrate all those who have milestone birthdays in July and August

DeLores Olson

...and all others who have birthdays these coming months!

