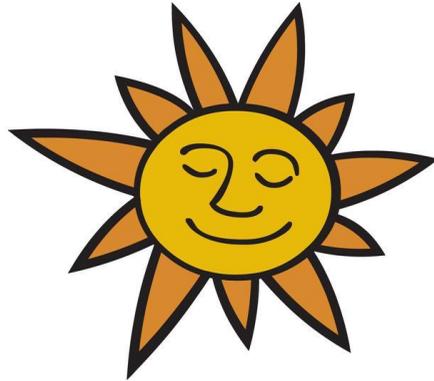

The Glory Banner

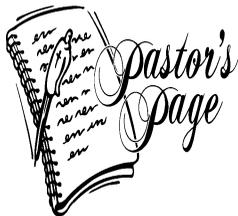
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA), a Wildfire Congregation

July 2018



SUMMER SUNDAYS

**Worship at 9:30 am
followed by
Fellowship at 10:30 am
and
Adult Forums at 10:45 am**



²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.”

Lamentations 3: 22-24

Hope in Hard Times

The book of Lamentations was written during the exile after the fall of Jerusalem to the Babylonians in 587. It was a difficult time for the people of Israel, hard to keep hope alive in the face of all that had happened. The laments of the book give voice to the grief and sorrow of the people but in passages like this one the author reminds the people of God’s love and faithfulness, encouraging hope beyond despair.

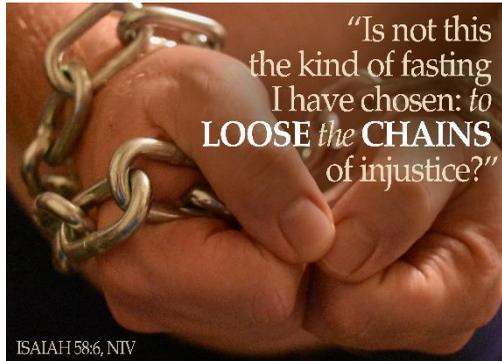
I find myself in a time of much lament these days. Some of the values that I hold most dear, the ones that most define my faith are being threatened. I resonate with the group of Christian elders from across many denominations and traditions who have released a short video statement on the need to “Reclaim Jesus” (<https://sojo.net/media/reclaiming-jesus-time-crisis>). Here are just a few of my laments in this time of crisis:

- I lament today’s Supreme Court decision on the Janus case, further undermining the critical rights of working people to organize and build effective unions that work might be a place of dignity and justice. Our Christian faith teaches us to value workplace justice.
- I lament yesterday’s Supreme Court decision upholding the travel ban. Our Christian faith teaches us to welcome the stranger and the immigrant.
- I lament policies by this administration that separate families and treat immigrants as sub-human, even justifying such practices by misusing the bible. Shame.
- I lament the blatant, intentional disregard for truth.
- I lament the willingness to accept racism and discriminatory language and practice.
- I lament the rhetoric of America First.

The Jesus that we meet in scripture calls us to work for a world marked by truth, justice, inclusion and love. *The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end.* May we all lean into this faith and work together to reclaim this Jesus for a world that needs him.

Peace,

Pastor Doug



Justice for All Team

This ministry team meets on the Second Sunday of each month at 10:45 and will work together on a variety of important issues that impact our world, depending on the interests of the group. So far these have included payday lending, immigration reform and environmental justice. Please join us! Mike McClanahan is the convener of the group and may be reached at mikemc5751@outlook.com if you have any questions.



Bible Study Readings for July

7/01 1 John 1:5-2:2
7/08 1 John 4:1-6
7/15 1 John 4:7-21
7/22 Ruth 3:1-18
7:29 Ruth 2:1-23



Summer Sunday Morning Study Opportunities

Now that we are on our new Sunday morning schedule, here are two small group opportunities for you to consider led by Pastor Doug:

ELCA Draft Social Statement on Women and Justice

This newest social statement is the product of several years of work by some of our best theologians, bishops, pastors and lay leaders. The draft statement was released in November and the comment period is open until September. There's plenty to learn from the excellent work that has been done on this critical, contemporary issue and we can even share our comments on the study with the writers. You can find the statement on the web by searching ELCA Women and Justice. We'll take a look at this over three weeks from 10:45 to 11:45 on Sunday June 10, 24 and July 1.

What do we believe and what is unique about our particular Lutheran witness to the gospel?

We'll take a current look at some of our core beliefs as Christians and pay special attention to the particularities of our Lutheran emphases. We'll consider our traditional understandings but also touch on how some Christians today are considering new ways of understanding and speaking about God and God's mission. Consider joining us---I'll share an outline of the content as we get closer. July 15 and 22 and August 5 and 12~10:45-11:45.

Church Office Update

Many of you know that Sue Vukelich, our office administrator, has been out since Memorial Day recovering from surgery. She is doing well and is planning to return half -time starting in the middle of July. Special thanks to Sharon Quick who has been volunteering in the office while she has been away!



Sunday Morning Ministers

Ushers:

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

Communion Servers:

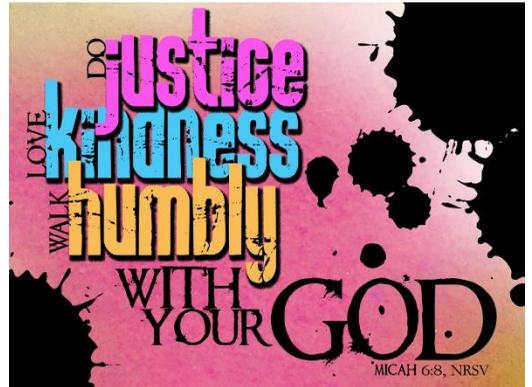
7/1	Judy Olson
	Sharon Quick
	Linda Knudsen
	Dawn Bailey
	Chad & Ryan Bailey
7/8	Verle Smith
	Gale & Paul Geske
7/15	Merle Solie
	Carol Stejskal
	Linda Knudsen
7/22	Sue & Bruce Vukelich
	Sharon Quick
7/29	Deb Groettum
	Sharon Quick
	Judy Lewis

Lay Lectors:

7/1	Bruce Vukelich
7/8	Kris Williams
7/15	Sharon Quick
7/22	Julie Aulwes
7/29	Georgie Proctor

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Articles for the August 2018 *Glory Banner* should be turned in to Sue Vukelich by July 15th.



On Sunday, July 29, Craig Freeman, the Community Engagement Manager for Avenues for Homeless Youth, will be with us at 10:45 in the fellowship hall to share what's going on with this important ministry.



SENIORS ON THE GO

50 + and Friends

July – Time for fireworks, picnics, and just plain fun.

Our July fun is the annual concert in the pavilion on Nicollet Island. The Minneapolis Pops Orchestra plays a wide variety of music – always great. There's coffee and goodies before the concert and door prizes at intermission. After the concert we will go to Maple Grove Broadway Pizza for the buffet. They even have dessert pizzas.

On Wednesday, August 8 we head to Stillwater not board a boat and go down the St. Croix river and under the new Minnesota–Wisconsin bridge. Lunch on the boat will be buns, cold cuts, cheeses, salad, fruit and drinks.

Finally, Wednesday September 26 we are going to the Old Log Theater to see “Beehive”. It's the story of six women who came of age in the 60's. We'll hear the most celebrated and memorable songs of the times - “It's my Party”, “My Boyfriend's Back”, “Proud Mary” and more.

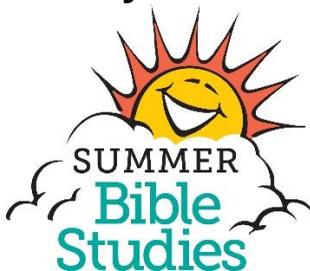
Our menu choices for the lunch are: braised boneless short rib, seared pork chop, dill roasted tilapia or angel hair pasta with garden marinara.

We have enough people to get picked up here at Cross of Glory for both Ely and Duluth trips. We'll have a gathering in August to fill out our forms and send in our deposits. There is room for more if you want to join us..

Sign up for any and all trips for an enjoyable time!

Marian Priest

Cross of Glory Women of the ELCA



In the months of June, July and August the circles meet on the third Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. This month the date is July 17th.

Each Circle will host a month to provide coffee and treats and lead the Bible Study. You do not have to be a member of a Circle to attend. At our July meeting we will read and discuss Psalm 19.

This summer we have a three-part study on prayer by Anna Madsen who is a freelance theologian. She works with OMG: Center for Theological Conversation.

July 17th, 10:30am
Session 2: The Practices of Prayer
Hostess: Community Needs
(Psalm 19:14)

Jesus taught us how to pray by the way of the Lord's Prayer. But both in scripture and in the Christian tradition people of faith have developed a wide variety of ways to come before God. In this session, we will look at different ways to pray, what each might offer and how knowing an array of prayer styles can enrich our devotional life.

Theme Verse: Let the words of my heart be acceptable to you, oh Lord, my rock and my redeemer. Psalm 19:14

Community Need Circle:

At our May 15th Circle meeting we invited Kate Burggraff , volunteer Engagement Manager for CEAP. She shared with us all the services CEAP provides for the needy people in our area. There are many volunteer opportunities. One area they need help is Monday morning and afternoon to help at the hospitality/check-in desk for their food market. This is a role that does require some computer use but is mainly sitting.

Contact: Kate Burggraff
Phone: 763-450-3679
763-566-9604
e-mail: kateburggraff@ceap.com
[www:ceap.org](http://www.ceap.org)

Something to think about . . .

God does not call those that are equipped; He equips those who are called. – Smith Wigglesworth

Jackie

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

Cross of Glory Office Hours:
**Monday through Thursday, 8:00am ~ 12:00pm (note reduced hours
through at least late July)**
Contact us at: Phone: (763) 533-8602
E-mail: office@crossofglory.us
www.crossofglory.us

Cross of Glory Staff:

Lead Pastor:

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dmork@crossofglory.us

Organist:

Rev. Dr. Allan Mahnke ~
furiusbib@comcast.net

Choir Director:

Keith Williams ~
williams@csp.edu

Outreach:

Rev. Christian Vincent ~ cvincent@crossofglory.us

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mltrease@comcast.net

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