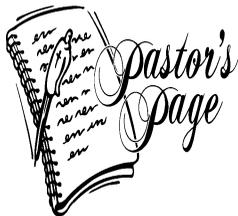

The Glory Banner

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

June 2018



**Summer Worship begins June 3, 2018
with Worship at 9:30am
followed by
Coffee Fellowship at 10:30am**



- ¹My child, if you accept my words
and treasure up my commandments within you,
- ²making your ear attentive to wisdom
and inclining your heart to understanding;
- ³if you indeed cry out for insight,
and raise your voice for understanding;
- ⁴if you seek it like silver,
and search for it as for hidden treasures—
- ⁵then you will understand the fear of the LORD
and find the knowledge of God.

Proverbs 2: 1-5

Are the right questions enough if there are no right answers?

We've had some conversation and discussion. The rationale for trying out a single, blended service at this point in the life of Cross of Glory has been presented. Ideas have been offered and even debated a bit regarding time for worship and other Sunday morning activities. The Worship, Music and Arts team along with the pastoral staff have made their recommendation and the council has taken action. This summer, from June 3 through Labor Day, we will try out a single, blended worship service at Cross of Glory at 9:30 AM, followed by coffee and a variety of other programs and meetings throughout the summer.

Is this the right answer? Who knows. There probably isn't a right answer. Nothing we could try will please everyone, in the same way that what we are already doing doesn't. And there is certainly no way to run a controlled study, to try every option and figure out what is best. But I think it's far more important to consider if we are asking the right questions. Even if we might disagree on some of the answers, a common set of questions can still unite us in vision and mission, can still give us common ground on which to build. Here are some of the questions that have informed this change for your leaders and pastoral staff:

- Could there be a greater benefit to worshipping as one community even if it means sacrificing some personal preferences?
- Could a single service allow us to increase the focus on common fellowship, education and other program opportunities?
- Could the blended service offer new opportunities for our worship and music leaders to share their gifts with the whole community?
- Will a combined service and common fellowship and education be more welcoming to visitors who don't have a church community?
- Will our witness as followers of Jesus be even more compelling as we learn and grow from each other?

I hope you find some of these questions as compelling as I do. I'm sure there are many more questions we could consider. If you think we missed some important ones, share them with staff or congregational leaders. In all things, please pray that our summer worship and programs will be a blessing to us and to God's world and that we might all experience God's love and mercy even more deeply throughout the summer.

Peace,

Pastor Doug



Bible Study Readings for June

- 6/03 Exodus 20:3-11**
- 6/10 Exodus 20:12-16**
- 6/17 Exodus 20:17**
- 6/24 1 John 1:1-4**



Summer Small Group 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 3, 10 and 24.

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 8, 15, 22 and 29 ~ 10:45-11:45



Ushers:

9:30 a.m.

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

Communion Servers:

6/03	Arlene Kosek
	Carol Stejskal
	Linda Knudsen
	Sharon Quick
	Judy Lewis
6/10	Dawn Bailey
	Chad & Ryan Bailey
6/17	Lois Tollefsrud
	Dan & Julie Aulwes
6/24	Deb Groettum
	Kris Simon
	Judy Lewis

Lay Lectors:

6/03	Paul Geske
6/10	Gale Geske
6/17	Gayle Merritt
6/24	Dan Aulwes

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Articles for the July 2018 *Glory Banner* should to be turned in to Sue Vukelich by June 12th.



Calling all gardeners or anyone interested in learning about gardening. We have several plots located in the back of the church that need to be planted, watered and weeded throughout the summer into the fall. Commitment can be as needed: helping with planting, fall clean up or picking vegetables weekly. Can work with any schedules. We will start planting on June 2 or June 3. If interested, please contact Brenda Edstrom at 612-599-5443.



50 + and Friends

Summer is here and we have got some great times ahead of us!

On Wednesday, June 6, we will go to the town of Scandia with it's coffee pot water tower. There we'll visit Gamel Garden ~ a small Swedish town made from buildings moved from their original locations. Then we will have a real Swedish smorgasbord ~ meatballs, parsley buttered potatoes, cheeses, cucumber salad, pickled herring, pickled beets, fresh seasonal fruits, rye bread and butter, and dessert. You can walk as little or as much as you are comfortable. Come see how our ancestors lived.

Monday, July 16, brings our favorite pops concert. The Nicollet Island Pavilion is the perfect place to hear the Minneapolis Pops Orchestra play a variety of music. There is coffee and goodies before the concert and door prizes after. We'll come back to the Maple Grove Broadway Pizza for their pizza buffet.

On Wednesday, August 8, it's Stillwater and a river boat down the St. Croix and under the new bridge between Minnesota and Wisconsin. Our lunch on the boat will be buns, cold cuts, cheeses, salad, fruit and a drink. Plan on a relaxing, scenic trip.

Our October trip to Ely and November trip to Duluth have almost enough for a bus pickup here at church. We'll get together in August to fill out our forms and send in our down payments.

Come and join us when you can!

Marian Priest



Women's Cancer Support Group has been invited to Brooklyn United Methodist Church for lunch on June 11th. Our meeting will be at 11:30 in the library and lunch at 12:15pm. Call Marcia Janasz for further details – 763-391-6321.

Cross of Glory Women of the ELCA



We will have a combined Circle Bible study this summer. We will meet at 10:30am on the third Tuesday of June, July and August. Each Circle will host a month to provide coffee and treats and lead the Bible study. You do not need to be a member of a circle to join us!

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 and enjoys spending time with her daughter Else and son Karl when not working.

June 19th, 10:30am
Session 1: The Paradoxes of Prayer
Hostess: Mission Circle
(1 Samuel 12:16-23)

Called to pray, but for what purpose? Can we persuade God with prayer? Do we actually encounter God in prayer? Is the practice of prayer intended for the sake of the one praying or for the one to whom we pray? The Bible references all these scenarios; however, each comes with biblical, theological and practical questions. In this first session on prayer, we'll investigate the paradoxical truths of the spiritual practice.



W/ELCA Spring Luncheon

Our salad luncheon was attended by about 40 ladies. Carol Knutson had a variety of salads. They all looked so wonderful it was hard to decide which ones to choose! Our dessert was cheesecake.

After we filled ourselves with lunch, our guest speaker, Pastor Mark Hostetler, filled our hearts with a message on love. He spoke about five different kinds of love. It was inspirational and wonderful to hear him speak again.



There is no Garage Sale this summer, but Marian Priest has some very nice day trips. Check the bulletin board. There is always lots of good fellowship!

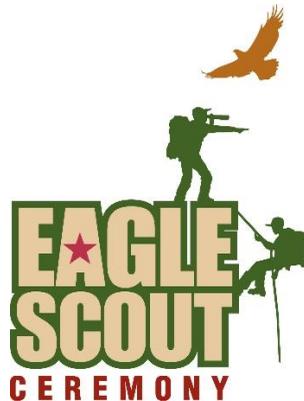
Something to think about . . .

The secret of peace is to give every anxious care to God.

Jackie



Wow! The Cross of Glory family sure knows how to make a person feel loved at a very needed time and I send the love right back to all of you! Thank you for the plant, beautiful prayer shawl, prayers cards and visits. I feel truly blessed. *Jennie Nordstrom*



Cross of Glory Troop 3403 would like to congratulate New Eagle Scout Michael R. Johnson. His ceremony took place at Cross of Glory on April 21, 2018. We congratulate him on this wonderful achievement and wish him all the best at his future endeavors.

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
5929 Brooklyn Boulevard
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429-2583
Volume 2018 – Issue 6
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.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
www.crossofglory.us

Cross of Glory Staff:

Lead Pastor:

Rev. Doug Mork ~
dmork@crossofglory.us

Organist:

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

Choir Director:

Keith Williams ~
williams@csp.edu

Outreach:

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cvincent@crossofglory.us

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