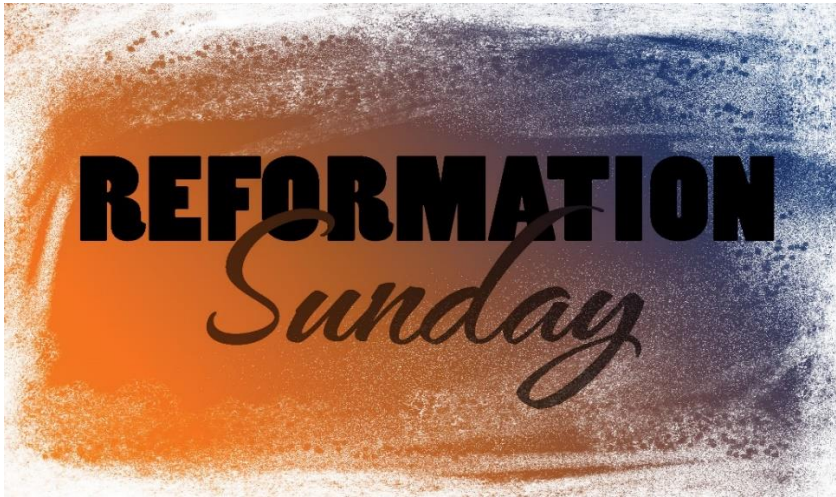

The Glory Banner

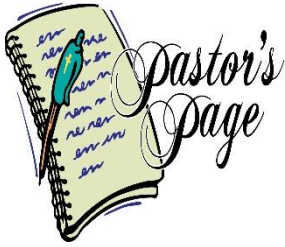
Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA), a Wildfire Congregation

October 2018



October 28, 2018
Reformation Sunday
Worship ~ 9:30am

On this day we celebrate the heart of our faith: the gospel of Christ—the good news—that makes us free! We pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to unite the church today in its proclamation and witness to the world. In the waters of baptism we are made one body; we pray for the day that all Christians will also be one at the Lord's table.



The Role of the Church in a Conflicted World

Earlier this week I spent a couple of days with about 130 of our synod pastors at the Bishop's Theological Conference. Our main speaker was former Presiding Bishop Mark Hanson and the topic was "Serving the Gospel for Such a Time as This." We reflected together on the call of the church in this strange and conflicted time. We talked about how we are resurrection people, how even as some things in the church as we knew it seem to be dying, we trust in the power and presence of God to bring new life.

In the August 1995 ELCA Social Statement, "For Peace in God's World," adopted at Churchwide Assembly right here in Minneapolis, there is a description of the role of the church in a conflicted world that seems just as relevant to this moment as it did 20 years ago. The social statement describes four ways the church is called to be in the world:

- Disturbing Presence
- Reconciling Presence
- Serving Presence
- Deliberating Presence

In the midst of the deeply divided landscape in which we find ourselves, it's worth considering our faithfulness to these four ways of being church.

While we may not think of it this way too often, we are a disturbing presence in the world when we witness that living as a follower of Jesus means resistance to some of the practices and beliefs of our present culture. Whether practicing abundance, embracing the stranger as neighbor, working to build a more inclusive economy or resisting the ideology of the market, we have the opportunity to share our faith and faith values. We all have work to do on being a little more disturbing!

Our call to be a reconciling presence in the world seems incredibly important in this moment. There is a real tendency to fear and demonize the other in America today and our faith calls us to a different way. The work more and more of our congregations are doing around understanding white privilege and dismantling it is clear witness to our reconciling call. I'm also encouraged by the efforts of many congregations to reach out to nearby Mosques and form relationships with our Muslim sisters and brothers.

As the Social Statement talked about it, we are a serving presence whenever we hold the powers of our day accountable to building the common good, to caring for all

the beloved people of God. In the Minneapolis Area Synod, many of our congregations are adding community organizers to their staff, recognizing the deep need to get out of our buildings and into our neighborhoods. Our theology is clear about God's work in the political and civic arena, what Luther described as the Kingdom on the Left or the arena of temporal authority. Hard as it sometimes is in these times, we must not give up on the power of voting and civic participation. We must be involved, bringing our faith values to our decisions about who to vote for but also resisting the narrative that government is evil or not worthy of our time and concern.

Finally, in this time when people are having so much trouble even talking with each other, the church must be a deliberating presence in the world. Civil discourse is critical to good democracy and we must learn to disagree and still be in relationship. Many churches are learning intentional practices around difficult conversations as part of their adult education programs. The importance of this call of the church may even warrant an occasional disruption of our casual coffee conversations!

Our adult education plan for this year includes working our way through this and a couple of other ELCA Social Statements. These are rich resources for us to explore what it means to serve the Gospel in such a time as this.

Peace,
Pastor Doug



Bible Study Readings for October

10/7	Exodus 19:3-7; 20:1-17
10/14	Joshua 24:1-15 [16-26]
10/21	2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9; Psalm 51:1-9
10/28	1 Kings 3:4-9, (10-15), 16-28



Bread for the World Sunday 2018

October 21, 2018

Trusting in Jesus' promise to his disciples that "for God all things are possible" (Mark 10:27), we join others in praying for those who struggle with hunger, and we rededicate ourselves to efforts that create hope and opportunity for those in need.

Our prayers and actions are especially urgent at this time. In Africa and the Middle East, severe drought and civil conflict have pushed millions of people into near famine conditions. In the weeks ahead, voters and our elected officials will make decisions that will affect the 1 in 8 U.S. families who struggles to get enough to eat.

In response to these urgent needs, and as part of Bread for the World Sunday, we join with many other churches to pray and to act – so that our nation's leaders put our country and the world on track toward the goal of ending hunger by 2030.

As we get closer to October 21, look for an insert in your Sunday worship bulletin with more information.



October

Sunday Morning Ministers

10/21 Lois Tollefsrud
Jodi Quiner
Carol Stejskal
10/28 Dawn Bailey, Chad Bailey
Ryan Bailey

Lay Lectors:

10/7 Gayle Merritt
10/14 Dan Aulwes
10/21 Bruce Vukelich
10/28 Kris Williams

Ushers:

Don Halverson Don Custer
Dick Mero Gordy Johnsrud
Cheryl Anderson

Communion Servers:

10/7 Judy Olson, Arlene Kosek
Kris Simon, Dawn Bailey
Chad Bailey, Ryan Bailey
10/14 Sharon Quick
Gayle Merritt
Verle Smith

Newsletter
DEADLINE

Articles for the November 2018 *Glory Banner* should to be turned in to Sue Vukelich by October 16th.



SENIORS ON THE GO

50 + and Friends

October's "Bright Blue Weather" is here, but we have to cancel our river trip to view the Fall colors. Without 30 people, it costs too much for the bus. This was one of the times when I had to give a count and pay a month before the trip.

October 3-5, 19 of us will be going to Ely. We will visit the wolf and bear centers and get a view of the northlands Fall colors. You should have your packet of information by now. If you don't, let me know.

Those planning to go to Bentleyville to see the Christmas lights will meet on October 18, at 10:00am at church. We will fill out our registration forms and

payments and mail them in together. If you have a card for Black Bear, bring it so you can give them your number.

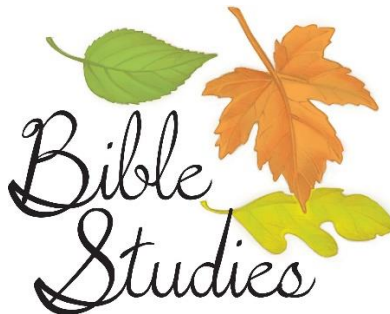
Saturday, November 10th is the day we go to Immanuel Lutheran Church for their wonderful lutefisk dinner. If you don't like lutefisk, their meatballs are wonderful. We stop at Pine Tree Orchard on the way home, so we can get anything apple we want.

Watch the bulletin board for dates and times and sign up to join us when you can!

Marian Priest

Cross of Glory Women of the ELCA

Circles meet on **Tuesday, October 16, 2018**. All women of Cross of Glory are warmly invited to visit or join a circle. Each circle has a Bible study, special interests and a coffee social time. The hostess and Bible study leader will be in the October *Happenings*. The Community Needs Circle meets at 9:30am at church in the Fellowship Hall. Glory Circle meets at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall and the Mission Circle meets at 12:30pm in a member's home.



Fall 2018

In October we will continue our three-part study of repentance.

Session Two: Turning to Others

When we turn to God, we find Grace

Focus Verse: Matthew 22:37-40

“You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.



Yes, we will be having a Christmas Tea. We do not have a firm date. We will have a date in the October *Happenings*.



We will learn who has been praying for us in 2018 at our Christmas Tea. If you have not participated in Prayer Partners before, think about it. It is a nice feeling to know someone is praying for you. You will be given an opportunity to fill out a slip with your name, address, your birthday and any other important occasions. Some pray partners send cards during the year for Easter, Thanksgiving, etc. This is not necessary, prayer is the important thing.

Something to think about . . .

Own up to your sin ~ you can't hide it from God anyway!

Jackie



Cross of Glory Friends,

We are so very grateful for the love and caring of our church family during this time of tremendous loss. Greg was genuine and kind and had a positive impact on many people because the love of Jesus was always in his heart.

Jodi and Emily Quiner



Wednesday, November 21, 2018

Thanksgiving Eve Wildfire Service is at Cross of Glory this year
Pie to follow Worship

Sunday, December 9, 2018

Christmas Carol Sing during the Fellowship Hour

Sunday, December 16, 2018

Advent Music Service
Festival of Foods

Christmas Eve, December 24, 2018

Worship at 10:00am and 4:00pm

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/cogtv

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:

Rev. Christian Vincent ~

cvincent@crossofglory.us

Pianist:

Mark Trease ~

mltrease@comcast.net

Bookkeeper:

Mike Edstrom ~

medstrom@crossofglory.us

Administrative Assistant:

Sue Vukelich ~

svukelich@crossofglory.us