

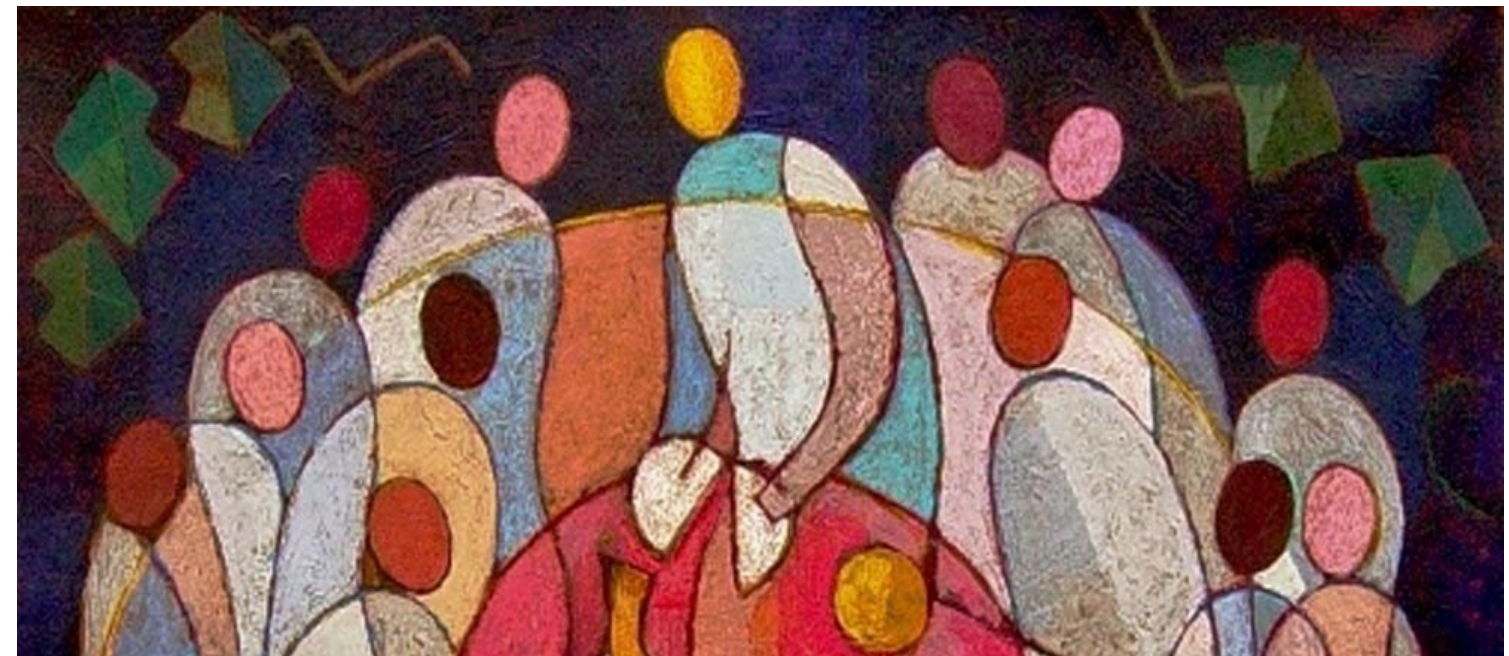
The Glory Banner

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

June & July 2023

The Season of Pentecost is here!



WORSHIP WITH US!

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 choose to take part!

“Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, **they broke bread together and ate their food with glad and generous hearts**, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people.” - Acts 2:43-47

Cross of Glory Staff:

Pastor:
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Matt Steven
Tech Ministry
Ryan Bailey

Join us as we break bread together at Cross of Glory this summer!

Summer Community Meals - Last Wednesday of the month at 5:30 pm

(June 28, July 26, August 30)



PASTORAL CARE

Pastor Ali is available for pastoral care, conversation, and prayer. You can reach her by phone and email throughout the week. Her designated hours for pastoral care and conversation (onsite or online) are Tuesdays from 10:30-1:30 and Wednesdays from 2-5, and home/care facility visitation hours are Thursdays from 3-5. 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.

GETTING TOGETHER

The Spirit shows up, people get together. We might call that the cliff notes version of what happened on Pentecost, and what we begin to see unfold in even deeper and more surprising ways throughout the book of Acts. The passage from Acts 2 on the cover of this month's newsletter, one we heard together in worship just a few weeks ago, is one of the first descriptions of the newly-(trans)formed church. The Spirit shows up, people get together--in this instance, sharing possessions and money and food, and "eating with glad and generous hearts."

Stories like these in Acts remind us--as people who believe that the Spirit *still shows up in our midst today*--that we too are called to "get together." To share our material stuff so that all have enough (abundance, in fact!). To give and to receive. To break bread, and eat with glad and generous hearts.

As we enter into the Pentecost season, we are going to be breaking bread together throughout the season. Summer community meals--shared with the COG community, 5929 community, friends, and neighbors (feel free to invite folks!--are scheduled for the last Wednesday of each month.

Please join as we are formed and transformed at these tables, and as we witness the ways that the Spirit shows up in our midst and calls us into a deeper kind of togetherness. Looking forward to seeing you there! - Pastor Ali



GOT A GREEN THUMB? ...or want to have one? Get your hands dirty in the COG gardens this summer! From the garden beds out back to the courtyard, there are a variety of ways to take part in doing the holy

work of tending God's creation at COG. If you're interested in lending a hand with any gardening/beautification projects, let Dan Jacobson or Isak Tranvik know.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS ON SUMMER BREAK



Table Talks, our monthly education hour that takes place on 4th Sundays, will not be gathering during the summer months. We look forward to resuming again in September! If you have questions or ideas for topics, please reach out to Gordy Johnsrud.

Weekly Bible Study is also taking our annual summer break until the fall. That said, we will gather once a month to check in with each other and explore the texts for the upcoming Sunday. Mark your calendars for Tuesday June 6, July 11, and August 8 at 9:30 am onsite and online. Note: the WELCA Gather Bible Study will continue through the summer, gathering on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 1 pm.

PROGENY ACADEMY - Progeny's academic year concluded on Friday, June 9th. Congrats to the students and staff at Progeny Academy as they celebrate the end of their school year!

FRESH FOOD THURSDAYS - CAPI distributes FREE fresh produce on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month between 1-3 pm. Distribution dates for 2023 are July 13th, July 27th, Aug 10th, Aug 24th, Sept 14th, and Oct 12th at 5930 Brooklyn Blvd. To sign up to help with distribution, visit www.capiusa.org/get-involved.

FARM FRESH FEST - You're invited to take part in CEAP's free outdoor produce market and community celebration on Wednesdays from 3pm-5pm, July 12 through August 30. Produce packing will be 1pm-3pm and distribution shifts will be 2:30pm-5:30pm. To sign up to help, visit www.ceap.org/get-involved/.

BC FARMERS MARKET - Every Thursday from 2-7 pm between June 29-Oct 26, visit the Brooklyn Center Farmer's Market, located at 7200 Brooklyn Blvd.

ENTERTAINMENT IN THE PARK - Check out some live music at Centennial Park this month on Tuesdays at 7. Next up: Monroe Crossing on June 27.



June 2023 Bible Study

Salvation Now by the Rev. Dr. Anna Madsen
Session One: Promised Salvation Now—Jesus Brings Wellness

Of all the gospel writers, John is uniquely concerned about the effectiveness of Jesus' immediate presence. One clue is his regular use of the word "now," a tiny but powerful word which appears more here than the other gospels combined.

July 2023 Bible Study

Session Two: Tangible Salvation Now—Christians Bringing Wellness

Following Jesus means expressing our solidarity with Jesus and his mission, in all we do. Because Jesus is the bringer of salvation, in his name, so, too, are we. Where there are wounds and brokenness, we are called to bring Jesus and the salvation he embodied. Together we'll examine the biblical and theological reasons for not waiting for it to all come out in the wash later, but for us to become faithful ambassadors of Jesus' salvation now.

WELCA spring/summer service project

will be school supplies for both the students and teachers of Progeny Academy. A supply list will be provided by the school in the near future. We will be collecting supplies in the months of June and July.

(see the supply list on the back of the calendar insert)



WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CROSS OF GLORY!

This year, we are working to listen for and live into God's call to life together. Here's what that looks like in our worship life...



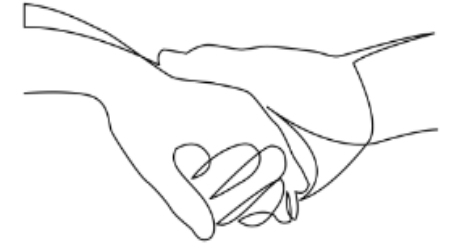
LENT

**Stories of Call:
 A Season of
 Prayerful Listening**



EASTER

**Stories of Life:
 A Season of
 Proclaiming Life Amidst Death**



PENTECOST

**Stories of Togetherness:
 A Season of
 Exploring Life Shared Together**

CAMP WAPO - Eight campers from Cross of Glory are headed to Camp Wapo in Amery, WI this month! From June 23-25, 1st-3rd graders will attend a weekend called Seeds. From June 25-June 30, 4th-8th graders will attend the week-long camp. Kris Simon and Pastor Ali will both be making visits too. Please hold campers in your prayers as they prepare for a week of faith formation, fellowship, and fun!



CARDS BY CAMPERS - Hand-crafted greeting cards made by CoG kids headed to Camp Wapo this month will continue to be available for purchase through our church office (\$5/5 cards - all proceeds go toward supporting kids at camp.)



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - We're excited to join together with a couple of our Wildfire partner congregations for VBS at Faith Lilac Way Lutheran Church in Robbinsdale on July 10-13 from 5:30-7:30 pm (dinner included). This year's theme is "Operation Restoration: Mending God's world." Cost per child is \$25, and scholarships are available. To lend a hand (adult leaders needed to help host a dinner!) or to

register a child (age preschool-6th grade), contact Rachel in the church office. Register ASAP!



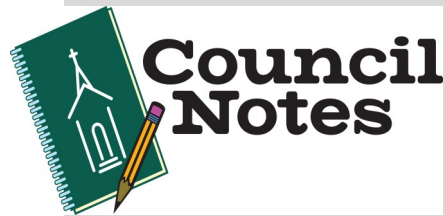
PENTECOST POTLUCK PICNIC



Thanks for joining us on June 4 at the all-congregational potluck picnic after worship on June 4th. It was a joy to gather together, break bread, and to "see visions and dream dreams" (Acts 2:17). If you haven't yet shared your call story with the Vision + Vocation Team, we invite you to do so ASAP, as the Vision + Vocation Team is working now on crafting our Community Liturgy in light of these stories!

CONTINUING EDUCATION

On June 11-16, Pastor Ali was at Holden Village in Washington state for continuing education. For over 60 years, Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center in the Cascade Mountains, has "welcomed all people to form and renew their relationships with God, the earth, and each other." Once a copper mining town, Holden Village is now a place of vibrant educational programming, spiritual retreat, and worship. It is also where the Holden Evening Prayer liturgy, as well as the Prayer of Good Courage, find their roots. Pastor Ali took part in a course titled "Gifted: The Eco-Politics of Gratitude," with Jason Mahn, Professor of Religion and Director of the Presidential Center for Faith and Learning at Augustana College in Rock Island, IL, and worked on some writing projects. Pastor Ali is so grateful for this time of learning, reflection, and renewal, and looks forward to sharing more about her time at Holden later this summer!



Council Notes

Had Buildings and Grounds update from Dan Aulwes on parking lot, boiler, fire protection/security, lots of projects. Thanks for the update Dan, all are being looked at.
Discussion on Benevolence funds and setting up a task force to discuss. Progeny lease will be updated as of July 1st with additional storage space being added.

There are new gardening projects and the grounds are looking beautiful. Thank you to all who are involved in this process, we all greatly appreciate it.

Messiah's Messengers Sabbath Assembly is now renting space in the Bethel Room from 9:30am - 3:00pm on Saturdays. We welcome them as part of our faith community at 5929.

Have a safe and blessed summer!—Judy Lewis, Council President

VISION + VOCATION

In the fall of 2022, the Vision + Vocation Team began to gather gathering to listen for God's call. As we shared at our Pentecost Potluck Picnic a few weeks ago, we entered into this process for a few reasons: First,

because had been over twenty years since the we had has revisited our mission and vision, and much has changed within that time both in the congregation and wider community. Second, because we realize that we can't financially sustain what we're currently doing forever. And third (and most importantly!), because the Spirit is alive and among us--and as we proclaim as both Easter people and Reformation people--is always at work "doing a new thing" (Isaiah 43:19).

So, after a year and a half of prayerful listening, the Vision + Vocation Team has begun to tentatively discern being "Called to Life Together." But in order to unpack what this call might mean we've needed the voices of the wider Cross of Glory community.

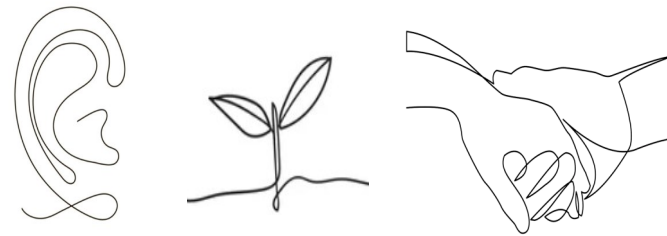
During Lenten and Easter seasons, you were invited to take part in Discernment Dialogues --an opportunity not only to learn more about this discernment process thus far, but to take part in it going forward, sharing what you imagine God's call to life together looks like here at Cross of Glory. Thank you to all who took part in these conversations!

On June 4, the whole congregation was invited to come to the Pentecost Potluck Picnic, at which we all shared our different call stories and imaginations for what God might be up to.

This summer, the Vision + Vocation team will be taking what you shared and drawing on it as we begin to further express God's call. Instead of writing a mission statement or a strategic plan, we will be crafting what we're calling a "Community Liturgy." The word liturgy means "the work of the people," so this liturgy seeks to articulate what the "work of the people" who are living out God's call to life together looks like on the ground. In future discernment and decision-making (whether it be about programming, staffing, building, budget, etc.), our Community Liturgy can help guide us and hold us accountable as we work to faithfully live out God's call to life together.

We invite you to hold the Vision + Vocation team in prayer as we continue on in this work, and we look forward to continuing to share more in the coming months!

-The Vision + Vocation Team



COG CARE MINISTRY

Are you interested in having a Cross of Glory friend come and visit your home for some conversation and company? Do you need help with errands, or a ride to church on Sundays? Are you a care-giver in need of a little break? Are you interested in having communion brought to your home? If you answered

"yes" to any of these questions, let Pastor Ali know, and we'd love to arrange for someone to visit you.

Do you have gifts for caring for others? Are you interested in good conversation and company? Do you have a little time this summer to make some phone calls or a few visits? If you answered "yes" to any of these questions, let Pastor Ali know, and we'd love to arrange for you to be a visitor!

Wildfire Resources

- **Respite Care** - Do you know someone who is a caregiver and needs a little break? Tell them about Respite Care, a collaborative Wildfire ministry that meets at House of Hope in New Hope on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday each month from 10:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m. Contact Debbie Haney (612) 408-2049 for more info.
- **Caregiver Support Group** - On the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. at House of Hope, Wildfire also hosts a caregiver support group that aims to enhance a caregiver's coping skills through mutual support and informational sharing. There is no need to register for this, just come. Contact Debbie Haney (612) 408-2049 or Mary Ann Pukal (763) 533-8333 if you have questions.
- **Household Helpers** - Need a hand with non-professionalized household tasks? First Lutheran of Crystal, one of our Wildfire partners, has a pool of helpers ready to assist anyone needing a hand with household chores, and one to help with personal needs. Call Jackie at 763-535-2797 to schedule a time for them to come lend a hand at your home!



Our **MILESTONE** birthdays for the month of June and July are:

Renee Stanisawski

Earl Simons
Jeanetta Barnhorst

Many blessings for a happy and wonderful birthday month!

support Our



SEMINARIANS

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 are 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 these pastors-to-be into the pulpit throughout the summer months.

- June 18 - Nathan Lyke
- July 23 - Katie Elkin
- August 27 - Rosalie Brunner