

---

# The Glory Banner

---

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church (ELCA)

a Wildfire Congregation

September 2023

---

## A BLESSING OF THE WORK OF OUR HANDS

Blessed be the hands that embrace others with compassion.  
Blessed be the hands that open doors.  
Blessed be the hands that prepare meals.  
Blessed be the hands that wash dishes, clean floors, arrange flowers.  
Blessed be the hands that tend to ailing bodies, offer blessings to the sick.  
Blessed be the hands that comfort the dying and have held the dead.  
Blessed be the hands that make music and art.  
Blessed be the hands raised in protest against that which does harm.  
Blessed be the hands of the young ones, and the hands of those who care for them.  
Blessed be the hands of the aged ones, and the hands of those who care for them.  
Blessed be the hands that greet strangers.  
Blessed be the hands that write papers and carry books.  
Blessed be the hands that make phone calls, write emails, send cards.  
Blessed be the hands that count money, determine budgets, steward gifts.  
Blessed be the hands that fix broken things.  
Blessed be the hands that make beautiful and nutritious things grow in the dirt.  
Blessed be the hands that learn the way of justice.  
Blessed be the hands that share peace.  
Blessed be our hands, that they might do the work of God.

### 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](http://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](http://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](mailto: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!

#### Cross of Glory Staff:

**Pastor:**

Rev. Ali Tranvik  
[atranvik@crossofglory.us](mailto:atranvik@crossofglory.us)

**Tech Director:**

Mark Trease  
[mltrease@comcast.net](mailto:mltrease@comcast.net)

**Office Manager/CLC**

Rachel Marquardt  
[office@crossofglory.us](mailto:office@crossofglory.us)

**Bookkeeper:**

Mike Edstrom  
[medstrom@crossofglory.us](mailto:medstrom@crossofglory.us)

**Choir Director:**

Keith Williams  
[williams@csp.edu](mailto:williams@csp.edu)

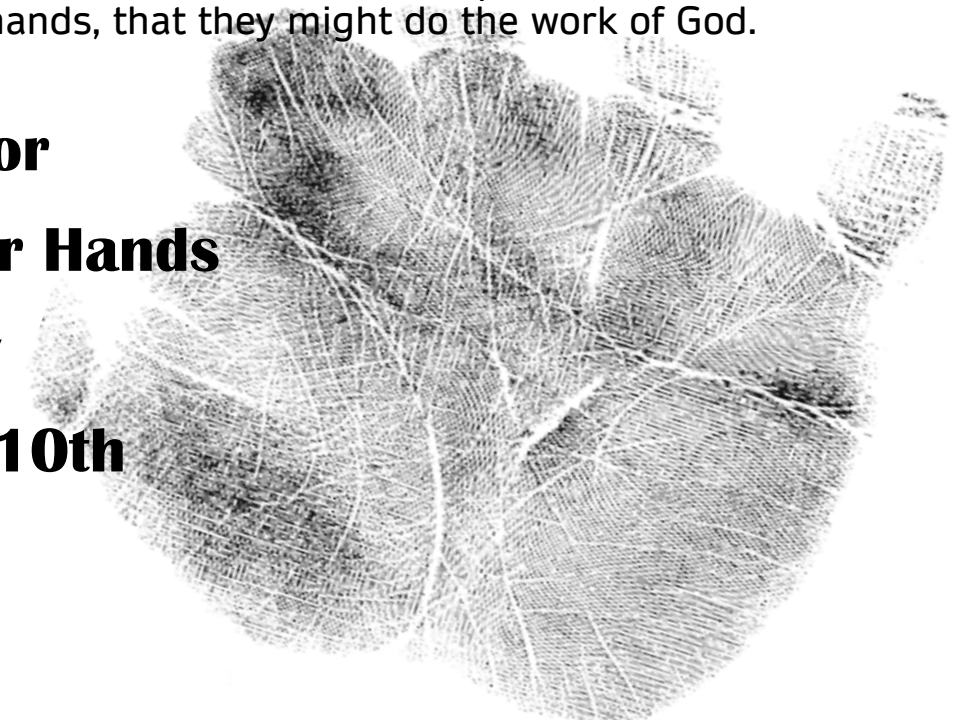
**Custodian/Facilities Manager**

Matt Steven

**Tech Ministry**

Ryan Bailey

**Join us for  
God's Work Our Hands  
Sunday  
September 10th**





**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.



**GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS**

God's Work Our Hands is just around the corner! We will celebrate with a weekend full of festivities that celebrate the many hands that come together to do God's work at Cross of Glory, in the Brooklyn Center community, and beyond.

- **Saturday, Sept 9** - Join our fellow Wildfire churches between 9-11 am at Holy Nativity in New Hope (3900 Winnetka Ave N) for a hands-on morning of supporting neighbors near and far. Breakfast will be served! Contact Barbara Sahr ([barbara.henke14@gmail.com](mailto:barbara.henke14@gmail.com)) for more info.
- **Sunday, Sept 10** - On Sunday, worship will include many hands and voices (if you are open to sharing yours, sign up at the Welcome Desk!). After worship, there will be potluck brunch (please sign up at the Welcome Desk or by calling the church office, and bring a dish to share!). There will also be a God's Work Our Hands table, where you can learn about the various ministries at COG and how you can get involved. Finally, there will be a hands-themed community art project that everyone is invited to take part in. Please join us for a full and festive morning as we open our hands to God's work!



- **FRESH FOOD THURSDAYS** - CAPI distributes FREE fresh produce on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month between 1-3 pm. Upcoming distribution dates are Sept 14th and Oct 12th at 5930 Brooklyn Blvd. To sign up to help with distribution, visit [www.capiusa.org/get-involved](http://www.capiusa.org/get-involved).
- **BC FARMERS MARKET** - Every Thursday from 2-7 pm until Oct 26, visit the Brooklyn Center Farmer's Market, located at 7200 Brooklyn Blvd.
- **ENTERTAINMENT IN THE PARK** - The last free concert for the season at Centennial Park is Sept 14 at 7 pm. This concert, in partnership with the Twin Cities Mobile Jazz Project, features the International Reggae All Stars.
- **GIVE & GROW** - Join CAPI for an evening of music, food, stories, and learning more about the work that CAPI does in the Brooklyn Center community and beyond! Participate in our silent auction and wine pull, hear about the work happening with refugees and immigrants in the Twin Cities, or find out how you can get involved. Visit [capiusa.org/give-and-grow/](http://capiusa.org/give-and-grow/) to learn more.



**FIRST SUNDAYS** - We look forward to resuming Sunday morning activities with kids in September. Kids of all ages are invited into the hallway adjacent to the sanctuary during part of the worship on the first Sundays of the month for Godly Play--a questions-based and imaginative storytelling time led by our CoG Kids Leaders. Note: September's gathering will take place on Sept 17 (not Sept 3). We'll gather on first Sundays beginning in Oct unless otherwise noted.

**CONFIRMATION** - We look forward to resuming confirmation this year for students grades 6-8. Confirmation will begin Wednesday, Oct 4 at 7 pm.



**ELCA YOUTH GATHERING INTEREST MEETING**

Ever worshiped with 40,000 other people!? It's an experience you don't want to miss! The ELCA National Lutheran Youth Gathering, hosted every three years, is an opportunity to explore who God has created us to be through worship, service, and learning. The upcoming gathering will take place in New Orleans on July 16-20. The eight Wildfire churches of the NW Metro Area, of which CoG is a part, are planning to join together for next summer's gathering. If you are currently an 8th-11th grader, or an adult who is interested in going as an adult leader, join us for an interest meeting at Holy Nativity on Sept 17 at 11:30 am.



**SAVE THE DATE—WELCA Christmas Luncheon Saturday 12/2/2026**

Fall 2023 Bible study “Holy places” by the Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni

Physical places often shape our identities, relationships and faith. “Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it,” Paul writes. Part of what this means is that faith doesn’t just reside in our thoughts or emotions. Faith resides in our whole bodies, and how our bodies “live and move and have our being” in the sacred places where God encounters us. In this Fall 2023 Gather Bible study, written by an ELCA missionary living in Jerusalem, we’ll explore what holy places mean, not only for the Holy Land of the Bible, but for each of us, wherever we may be.

**September---Holy places: Home**

Home can be the place we lay our head and the people we call family. Home can be our community or homeland. Home is also found wherever we truly and fully belong. This month, we consider the complexity and the promise of “home” through the stories of Israel’s exile, the ministry of Jesus, and the promises of Revelation.



Under the theme of "Just Love," Women of the ELCA in the Minneapolis Area Synod is inviting all WELCA members across the synod to connect, inspire, and create a better world – one act of love at a time! The retreat includes Bible Study, worship, classes on mental health, loneliness, social justice, and women’s imprisonment, yoga, lunch, and more. Childcare is available. Retreat will take place on Saturday, November 4 from 9-4 at

First Lutheran Church of Columbia Heights (1555 40th Avenue NE). Learn more and register at <https://mplswomenofelca.org/index.html>.

The WELCA board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday September 26, 2023 at 1pm. Gather Bible Study will meet on WEDNESDAY

September 20, 2023 at 1pm.

Bring your own drink, snack and a friend. Everyone is welcome. Copies of the Bible Study will be available if needed. A microphone will be used

**CALLED TO LIFE TOGETHER  
WORSHIP AT CROSS OF GLORY**

Join us onsite or online at 9:30 am as we continue exploring through worship what it means to be “called to life together.”



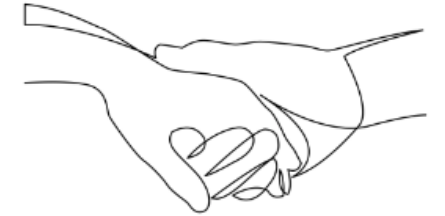
**LENT**

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

**AN INVITATION FROM THE VISION + VOCATION TEAM**

Drawing on the stories you shared, the Vision + Vocation Team has been working to put God’s call into words in what we’re calling a “Community Liturgy.” We’d love to share a draft of it with you and hear what you think! Join us for a short Discernment Dialogue in the coming weeks to share your thoughts, questions, and ideas. \*Note: all are welcome to take part! Even if you haven’t taken part in previous pieces of our Vision + Vocational discernment process, please do join in on one of the sessions below:

- Thursday, September 14 at 6:30pm - Led by Mike Edstrom and Judy Lewis
- Wednesday, September 6th at 6pm - Led by Rachel Marquardt and Kim Jacobson
- Sunday, September 17th at 10:45 - Led by Kris Simon and Nathan Paulson

You can sign up by clicking on the Discernment Dialogue button on the home page of our website ([www.crossofglory.us](http://www.crossofglory.us)), by calling the church office (763-533-8602), or by adding your name to the sign-up at the Welcome Desk at church. If you’re unable to be there in-person and need a virtual option, or these dates don’t work for you, let us know and we’ll be happy to arrange for an alternative option to ensure your voice is heard!

**COG COMMUNITY GARDEN HARVEST**

On Sundays, check out the CoG community garden harvest table located by the Welcome Desk 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.

**CROSS COMMUNITY ART PROJECT**

Cross of Glory is using art to build community. You have notice the new gallery inside. We will be doing an interactive project emphasizing our hands doing God’s work in the world be tiling the e terror cross as a sign of our acting on God’s behalf to our community. We will be applying hand prints and hand themed art on pre-made ceramic tiles on Sunday Sept. 10th. Please participate. If you can’t attend on the 10th you will still be able to join in in this low pressure art project by contacting the office to schedule a convenient time to join in.



**FALLFEST: JOIN US FOR A NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY**

**Thursday, Oct 12 between 4-6 pm in the COG Parking Lot on Brooklyn Blvd**

As we continue to find ways to be a site of mutual aid, Cross of Glory is joining together again with neighbors at CAPI and in the broader Brooklyn Center community for a neighborhood block party celebration. On Thurs, Oct 12 between 4-6, join us for dinner, a community resource fair, fresh food distribution, kids' activities, a covid and flu vaccination clinic, and more. If you're interested/able to lend a hand to help, stay tuned for a forthcoming sign-up form on our website and at the Welcome Desk.



**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 a hand 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? OR, 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!



This Month we don't have any **MILESTONE** birthdays in September

Happy Birthday to all celebrating a birthday this month

Many blessings for a happy and wonderful birthday month!

**Wildfire Resources**

**OKTOBERFEST** - All Wildfire congregations are invited to take part in Oktoberfest at House of Hope in New Hope (4800 Boone Ave N) on Saturday, Sept 16 from 3-8 pm for live music, brats, beer, activities for kids, and a time of fun and fellowship among Wildfire congregations.

**RESPIRE 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.

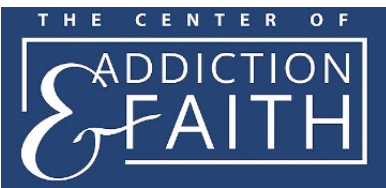
**HOUSEHOLD HELPERS** - Need a hand with non-professionalized household tasks? First Lutheran of Crystal, one of our Wildfire partners, has a pool of helpers ready to assist anyone needing a hand with household chores, and one to help with personal needs. Call Jackie at 763-535-2797 to schedule a time for them to come lend a hand at your home!

**FAITH COMMUNITY NURSE NETWORK**



*of the Greater Twin Cities*

The Lutheran Faith Community Nurse Association (LFCNA) is offering a three-part series titled *This is How We Die*. The series includes content from Barbara Karnes' DVD series, *This is How People Die*, with dialogue and reflection. The sessions are open to anyone who wishes to attend: nurses and healthcare providers, clergy, chaplains, and/or congregants who are part of visitation teams who want to continue learning how to be present to/with those who are dying, as well as their families. Sessions are Mondays Sept 11, 18, and 25 from 6-8 pm online. Visit <https://lutheranfcna.org/event-5361391> for more info.



**ADDICTION AND FAITH CONFERENCE**

Hosted by the Center of Addiction & Faith, this hybrid (in-person and online) conference is intended to equip the church to faithfully think about the ways it can walk with folks through the struggles of addiction and substance use. The event brings together science, spirituality, and personal stories as participants learn about addiction in its many forms. The conference is open to all, and will take place Thurs, Oct 5 – Sat, Oct 7, 2023 at the Airport Hilton in Bloomington. For more info, visit <https://addictionandfaithconference.com>.

**SEPTEMBER TABLE TALKS**

We look forward to resuming our rhythm of Table Talks this month, an educational gathering that takes place on the fourth Sunday of the month and explores what faith has to say about topics like forgiveness, borders, money, grief, prayer, prisons, art, and more. September's topic is "Faith + the Earth," and will take place in the library after worship on Sunday, Sept 24. Our conversation will be guided in part by a short piece by Norman Wirzba titled "For God So Loved the Dirt." Check it out ahead of time here <https://sojo.net/magazine/april-2011/god-so-loved-dirt> or grab a copy at the bulletin board before the 24th just outside the sanctuary/church office. Reach out to Gordy Johnsrud with any questions. Looking forward to seeing you there!

