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# *The Glory Banner*

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

*October 2016*

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## **Sundays in October at Cross of Glory:**

**October 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sermon Focus – “How to Cross a Threshold”**  
W/ELCA 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Cake

**October 9<sup>th</sup> – Sermon Focus – “The Doors We Open for Others”**  
Adult Forum –  
Adult Forum – Opening Our Understanding of Generational Differences

**October 16<sup>th</sup> – Sermon Focus – “The Jonah Complex”**  
Adult Forum – Opening Our Understanding of Religious Diversity

**October 23<sup>rd</sup> – Sermon Focus – “Thank God for Closed Doors”**  
Adult Forum – Opening Our Understanding of Equity & Justice

**October 30<sup>th</sup> – Reformation Sunday**  
**10 AM Combined Worship Service**  
Sermon Focus – Wrap-up of Opening New Doors theme  
Introduction to Fall Stewardship emphasis  
Followed by Potluck lunch celebration



*Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?*

*Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and to hide yourself from your own kin?*

*Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you, the glory of the Lord shall be your rearguard.*

*Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.*

## **Interfaith Worker Justice: An Update**

Many of you have asked how things are going with my ministry in Chicago. I'll start with a short reminder of what we do at Interfaith Worker Justice. IWJ was started 20 years ago to bring the voice of the faith community more deeply into the struggle for workplace justice in the United States. Catholics and Lutherans, Methodists and UCC, Jews and Unitarians, Buddhists and Muslims, most of the major faith traditions share values around the dignity of work. The work of IWJ has been to educate and agitate around those values, to organize people of faith nationally and locally to speak out on the struggles of workers in America. We participate in some national work, but a lot of our work is building and supporting local groups of clergy and people of faith within cities across the country. Approximately ten years ago we also began to start and support Worker Centers in many cities that would work to build power and bring justice especially to low wage and immigrant workers. In all we have about 65 affiliates across the country.

As I have mentioned, after a difficult transition from our founding director our relatively new Executive Director left rather suddenly in March and the board asked me to step in and lead an interim process and search for a new permanent Executive Director. We had tremendous staff transition as well so it really has been

a time of rebuilding. My work at IWJ has been primarily in four areas: 1) Keep the basic operation of IWJ moving forward, 2) Rebuild the staff, 3) Lead a transition conversation among all the stakeholders of the organization, and 4) Coordinate the search for a new Executive Director.

I am pleased to report that the first three of these have gone very well though they have taken more time than I might have imagined. I spent the last three days helping to two brand new staff and three more in new positions. The excitement in the office is palpable with folks anxious to jump into this work and excited about being part of a team. It feels like we have truly turned over a new page in the organization. The Executive Director search has been the most difficult. Though we have had lots of applications, so far none have been a good fit for the job. However, we have a new very strong candidate as of the middle of last week, and another that is considering applying. We are moving forward swiftly with this new applicant and will interview in New York next week (some of us by phone I'm happy to report!). I'll keep you posted!

In the meantime, I have begun to reduce my time in Chicago and increase it once again at Cross of Glory. I'll still spend some time in Chicago but will be here multiple days every week and every Sunday other than a vacation day in late October. I hope to have wrapped up this interim work by Advent, which isn't far away! Thank you again for your prayers and support during this time! For more information on the work of IWJ, check out our website at [iwj.org](http://iwj.org)!

Peace,  
*Pastor Doug*

**Sunday Sermon Focus for October**

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|--------------|---|
| <b>10/02</b> | <b>“How to Cross a Threshold”</b>           |
| <b>10/09</b> | <b>“The Doors We Open for Others”</b>       |
| <b>10/16</b> | <b>“The Jonah Complex”</b>                  |
| <b>10/23</b> | <b>“Thank God for Closed Doors”</b>         |
| <b>10/30</b> | <b>“Wrap-up of Opening New Doors Theme”</b> |



## Sunday Morning Ministers

### Ushers:

**9:00 a.m.**

Charles Isenberg   Jerry Rowley  
Cheryl Anderson   Dick Mero  
Don Custer

**11:00 a.m.**

Gordy Johnsrud   Don Halverson

### Communion Servers:

10/02 Paul & Gale Geske  
Judy Lewis  
Al & Georgie Proctor

10/16 Dan & Julie Aulwes  
Judy Olson

10/30 Bruce & Sue Vukelich  
Kris Simon

### Lay Lectors:

10/02 Gale Geske  
10/09 Don Merritt  
10/16 Gayle Merritt  
10/23 Dan Aulwes  
10/30 Bruce Vukelich

Newsletter  
**DEADLINE**

Articles for the November, 2016 *Glory Banner* should to be turned in to Sue Vukelich by October 11th.

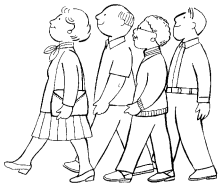


## Christmas Cookies

We will continue the tradition of making cookie trays for our COG members and friends who are homebound.

Our scheduled Sunday for Cookie drop off will be **December 4<sup>th</sup>**, and assembling trays will take place on **Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**.

Look for more information in the November *Glory Banner*!



## 50 + and Friends

We are going to take advantage of “October’s bright blue weather.” On Wednesday, October 12, we will go to the Afton House for a dinner of roasted pork loin, garlic mashed potatoes, red grapes tossed with creamy chardonnay sauce, fresh vegetables, rolls and butter. After lunch we’ll board an Afton Hudson Cruise Lines boat for an hour and a half cruise on the St. Croix River. We will leave church at 10:30am.

November brings us our annual trip to West Immanuel Lutheran Church (in the middle of the corn fields) for their wonderful lutefisk and meatball dinner. There are mashed potatoes, rutabagas, lefsa, and pumpkin or apple pie. On the way home we’ll make a stop at Pine Tree Apple Orchard where you can get apples and anything made of apples. We go on Saturday, November 12, and will leave at 10:00am.

We finish the year on Wednesday, December 14 with a

Subway sandwich, chips, cookie and drinks at church ~ 11:00am and then head to the Old Log Theater to see “Million Dollar Quartet,” the story of when Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Carl Perkins, and Johnny Cash got together at a recording studio. Lots of great music. We’ll leave church at 12:30pm.

I’ve had two people show interest in a cruise. If you would like to go, now is the time to make plans. Let me know. Join us whenever you can!

*Marian Priest*



October 15<sup>th</sup> is Fall cleanup day. This will be for the outside of the church ~ raking leaves and grounds cleanup. If you are willing to help, please call the church office at 763-533-8602. Thank you!

## THANK YOU

To My Cross of Glory Family,

You have supported me through kind thoughts, words, cards (both birthday and get well) and prayers. Thank you!

*Doug Grabau*

Dear Cross of Glory,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$170.00 to ELCA World Hunger.

This is the year of ELCA World Hunger in *Always Being Made New: The Campaign for the ELCA*, and we are particularly grateful for your gift to this signature ministry of the church. Your generous support provides water and hygiene programs, agriculture and animal husbandry, health clinics and micro loans, and education and advocacy for communities in need in more than 60 countries including the United States.

*Rev. Daniel Rift*

Director, ELCA World Hunger and  
Disaster Appeal

## Women of the ELCA

The Circles will meet on the third Tuesday of the month, October 18<sup>th</sup>.

Community Needs Circle meets at 9:30am in the Fellowship Hall; the Glory Circle meets at 12:00pm in the Fellowship Hall; and the Mission Circle meets in a member's home at 12:30pm. We will have the Hostess and Bible study leaders listed in the October *Happenings*.

The October Happenings will be handed out on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> ~ one week earlier than usual. The Circles still meet on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

October is our second of our three-part study entitled *When God Forgives the Guilty*. The title of this second study is *Jesus and the Evil Eye; when God blesses undeserving*.

All women are cordially invited to attend a circle. We have Bible

study, coffee, treats and lots of good fellowship.



## 60<sup>th</sup> Birthday ~ Anniversary

We are celebrating W/ELCA's birthday! All women are cordially invited to attend! Circle this date on your calendar – **October 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:30am**. Our own Carol Knutson will prepare a wonderful lunch. It is very important that you sign your name on the poster near the Welcome Center so Carol will know how many to prepare for. Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> will be the last day the poster will be up.

There will be a time of sharing. So, put your memory hat on and write down some memories you would like to share. If you do not feel comfortable using a microphone, someone will read your memories for you.

There will not be a charge for this luncheon, but there will be a basket on the check-in table if you would like to help defray expenses.

### **Something to think about . . .**


*By Jackie*

God's teaching may not always make sense, but it is always senseless to think we know better.

Bible Quiz

It's intriguing to think of people in Bible times experiencing the same cycle of seasons we do. Which of these books *doesn't* mention autumn?

- A. Matthew
- B. Jeremiah
- C. Proverbs
- D. Jude



Answer: A (See Proverbs 20:4, ESV; Jeremiah 5:24; Jude 1:12.)

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**Worship at Cross of Glory on Sundays**  
9:00 a.m. ~ Traditional Worship  
10:00 a.m. ~ Coffee Fellowship  
11:00 a.m. ~ Crosswalk Contemporary Worship  
To watch worship services: [www.cogtv.info](http://www.cogtv.info)

**Cross of Glory Office Hours:**  
Monday through Thursday, 8:00am ~ 4:00pm

**Cross of Glory Staff:**

**Lead Pastor:**

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