



**DECEMBER
2022**

CROSSROADS

Atonement Lutheran Church

1980 Silver Lake Rd NW, New Brighton, MN 55112

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

5472 Adams Street, Mounds View, MN 55112

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Siblings in Christ,

Advent is upon us. This season veiled in blue is a season of preparation. We tend to think of it as preparation for Christmas: of putting up a Christmas tree and decorations, buying gifts, going to concerts, and of course preparing good food and treats. All of these are fun traditions, but the busyness that we put into the season isn't quite right for Advent.

Advent is a little more like being in a waiting room. Sitting, waiting, watching. Yes, we are to prepare: our hearts and minds to receive the gift that is Jesus. Part of the season involves accepting the strange way in which God chose to connect with humanity. As the text from Isaiah 11:6 tells us:

6 The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them.

A little child shall lead them: Jesus leads us in this season, a bit like a newborn infant leads their parents: to be quiet, to listen for the baby's cues, to rest whenever we are able. So, I hope you do so in this season: rest, wait, wonder, ponder. Remember that God loves you so much that he sent his only son to us.

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Cassie



December Advent & Christmas

December 7—Intergenerational Christmas Program at Cross of Glory—6:30pm

December 14—Holden Evening Prayer at Cross of Glory—6:30pm

December 21—Longest Night Service at Atonement with Christ the King—6:30pm

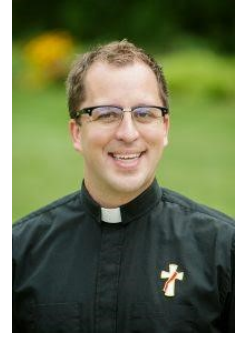
CHRISTMAS EVE—3:30pm at Cross of Glory; 5:30pm at Atonement

NO service on CHRISTMAS DAY.

JANUARY 1—New Year's Day service at 9:30am at Cross of Glory



News From Deacon Brad



Remind Text Messages—Sign up today!

To receive important updates from Pastor Cassie or Deacon Brad, sign up for Remind Text Messages.

Click here to sign up: <https://www.remind.com/join/37a6e8d>

Text @37a6e8d to the number 81010

El Salvador 2023 Intergenerational Trip

Would you be interested in joining Cross and Atonement on an intergenerational trip to El Salvador next August? We have a unique opportunity to partner with Pilgrim Lutheran Church in Chicago, with Pastor's Kristian and Anna-Kari Johnson, to journey to San Salvador in August 2023. Here is a little taste of what we are going to be involved with:

- Give Medical / Dental Care (Nurses, doctors, and dentists/hygienists encouraged)
- Bring God's love to children through programs and leadership
- Install solar panels for rural families without electricity (Electricians and contractors encouraged)
- Working with serving resettled refugees
- Raise fish, animals, and crops with Farming Hope
- Building homes and churches
- Participate in a U.N. peace process

Sign Up Today!

1. Contact Deacon Brad Mills with questions and for registration and related forms to secure your spot at brad@crossroads55112.org
2. Submit a \$250 deposit and application by January 2, 2023. Application found here: <https://forms.gle/M3jYaH8BUmBuEHbR8> Make checks out to "Cross of Glory" and indicate in the memo line "El Salvador Trip". Drop off check to Pastor Cassie, Deacon Brad or Dawn.
3. Obtain a passport whose expiration date is more than 6 months after the trip (March 2024) and talk to your doctor about recommended vaccinations.
4. Fly down on August 1st with our Minnesota group from MSP where we will meet the Chicago group in San Salvador, El Salvador.

Who: All ages! Anyone can join us. If not going into 9th grade summer of 2023, then you must be accompanied by a guardian/parent.

When: August 1st 2023 – August 6th 2023

Where: San Salvador, El Salvador in Central America

Costs: Housing, meals and transportation is \$975 and flight roughly \$800. Total approx. \$1775. There will be many fundraising opportunities with a projected goal of fundraising \$5,000 for group going.

HIGHLIGHTS

Installation of Deacon Brad Mills

Deacon Krista Lind, Assistant to the Bishop, installed Deacon Brad Mills as Deacon for Cross of Glory and Atonement Lutheran Churches on November 27.

We are excited to have Deacon Brad with us!



Blessing of the Animals

Blessing of the Animals was in October and each pet received a personal blessing from Pastor Cassie. There were a variety of dogs, big and small, and one cat who remained safely in it's carrier.



HIGHLIGHTS



Another Fun Trick or Trunk Event!

We had great weather and another great turnout for Trick or Trunk this year. We served approximately 120 free meals and handed out lots of candy.

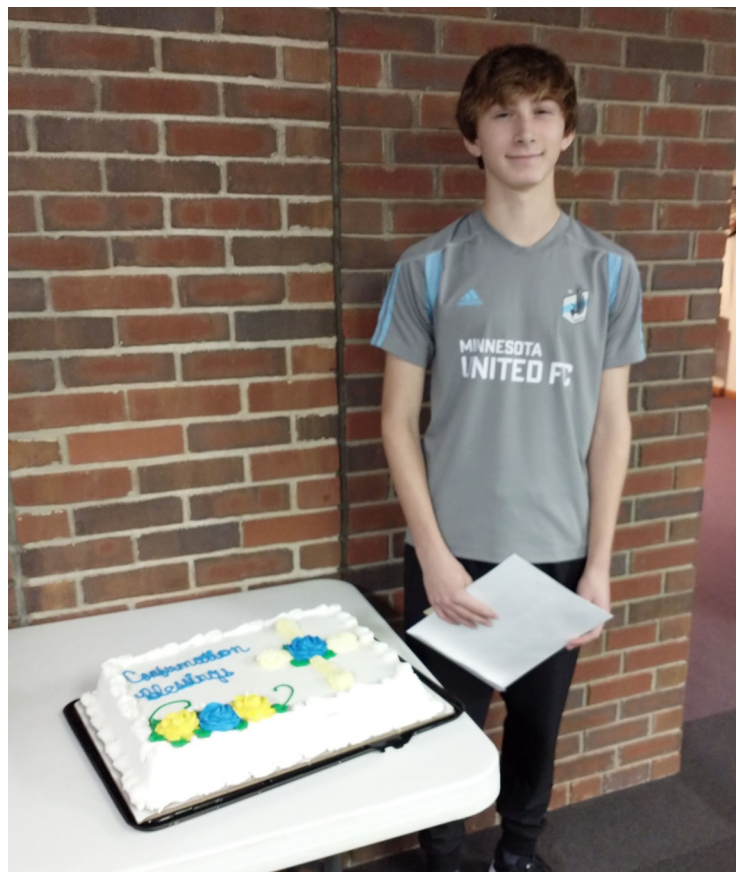
The Cub Scouts assisted with clearing tables and cleanup. They also helped the youth lead some games that were set up.



Thanks to everyone who helped with food, games, hosting a trunk and clean-up. Many thanks to Marie Thomalla and Dani Gow for heading the effort to coordinate the event!

Confirmation Blessings!

Owen Van Ert confirmed his Affirmation of Baptism in October. Please keep Owen in your prayers as he continues his journey with Christ.



Holidale Boutique Update



ATONIAN MEMBERS—The Boutique humbly expresses a huge thank you to members who contributed three overflowing tables of a variety of baked goods, three different kinds of cold soups, helped set-up the artistic craft display and theme baskets for sale and for raffle. Fun time doing the 60 packages of lefse, caramel rolls—30 dozen and 18 frozen apple pies during workshops. Three families—Kinney, Vasel and Cahow contributed a variety of 65 jars of jams and jellies. We still have available three jars of plum jam—contact Virginia Cahow. A special thank you to Tim Parlin, who rents our commercial kitchen, for serving a lunch of pulled pork (port donated by Tim). This good variety of Boutique items, we made \$6,000.

On Monday, November 14, a Boutique meeting was held to review the spread sheet prepared by our church treasurer. Weather conditions prevented more members from attending. We approved with a vote on the following items: \$600 to Charitable Giving, add \$3,000 to the appliance fund (note: we spent this year, \$7,608.06 for a new stove and repair of other appliances), add \$500 for Men's Retreat Scholarship fund, \$100 food treat for trimming the church Christmas tree, dish towel fund was given to purchase \$275 of new dish towels. Two funds were reduced with approval who are in charge of them—music program to \$150 and nursery to \$100. Several funds were deleted: Mission Advancement, Lutheran World Relief and Atonement Care Team. Currently we have purchased table clothes at various cost levels, to evaluate before we purchased the needed amount of table clothes. Added to the prayer shawl fund are the words Knitting Supplies—yarn. The yarn will be used to construct winter stocking caps. A Holiday table will be set up in the narthex for members to browse for gifts. This past summer a quote was approved for doing the parking lot surface, etc. A check for \$14,00 was given to the contractor by the Boutique Committee. The other half needed to pay for parking lot will need to be fundraised. Tony, custodian, and Dawn, office, are always there to help—thank you!

Looking forward to our 2023 Holidale Boutique! Monday workshops start in in January.



Farewell

On Sunday, November 20 we said farewell to long-time Atonement member Phyllis Kvitrud. She is moving to be closer to family.

While we will miss her we're happy for her to be able to spend more time with family.

Church
COUNCIL

Council Nominations Open

Both councils are accepting nominations to be on council next year. Please see a current council member if you are interested.

Faith and a Pint Monthly Fellowship Group

Join Deacon Brad for Faith and a Pint—a monthly Fellowship Group—all are invited!

When: December 23 @ at 6:30pm at Torg Brewery

Where: Torg Brewery in Spring Lake Park - 8421 University Ave NE, Spring Lake Park, MN 55432

Who: All ages welcome! Blue Sun Soda and other non-alcoholic options served.

What: A social get together with folks from church! Come talk about faith, the world, and your life while sipping a craft brew with your friends.

Cost: Bring a few bucks and check out their tap selection at <https://www.torgbrewery.com/>



ABCD Atonement Book Club Daytime

Our next book discussion will be held in the Fellowship Hall at Atonement Lutheran Church on Monday, December 5 at 1:00pm. We will discuss books by Minnesota authors and pick books to discuss in 2023. People from both Atonement and Cross of Glory are welcome. You can attend all of the discussions or only those that interest you. Bring a mask and your own beverage.

Prayer Shawls Plus



Prayer Shawls Plus will meet on Tuesday, December 6 at 10:00am at Cross of Glory. We will prepare our shawls for a blessing ceremony on December 11.

We have a few different types of shawls—“lapghans” (suitable for use by the wheelchair bound or anyone who wants to cover their lap instead of their shoulders) and “shrugs” (shawls with armholes suitable for those who use canes or walkers) as well as triangular and rectangular shawls.

You are welcome to take one for a friend or for yourself!

Cold and Flu Season

Just a reminder that it's cold and flu season, COVID is still around and RSV is prevalent. If you are not feeling well or have any illness symptoms, please stay home. Thank you for your part in keeping our church community healthy!

Church Office Closed

The church office will be closed on Mondays and Fridays during the month of December.



Holiday Happenings

Sunday, December 4—Holiday Sweater Sunday, wear your favorite sweater or your ugly sweater to church!

Sunday, December 14—Gingerbread House Sunday at Cross of Glory. The kids are making gingerbread houses in the fellowship hall. Adults are invited to participate too.

Sunday School News

The Christmas program is Wednesday, December 7th at 6:30pm at Cross of Glory. PLEASE HAVE YOUR CHILDREN AT CHURCH AT 6PM! Meet in the Youth Group room. They will be wearing costumes, so dress lightly so they don't get too hot.

Parents and participants, if you are able, please bring a dozen cookies to share after the program.

Remember, we are having rehearsal every Sunday until then in the sanctuary after service at 9:30am.

On Sunday, December 11th, we will be making gingerbread houses with the congregation in the fellowship hall after service.

There will be NO Sunday School December 25th and January 1, 2023. See you all again January 8th!

King's Kids Fundraiser



King's Kids is partnering with RaiseRight (formerly Scrip) to raise funds for the preschool. Gift cards can be purchased for your favorite retailers and in turn King's Kids will earn a percentage of funding.

A full list of retailers (750+) is available at: www.raiseright.com.

In order to receive gift cards by December 15th, forms must be received by December 1st. We will continue to process orders after December 1st, but cannot guarantee delivery before Christmas.

If you have any questions contact Lisa Altomari (651-633-2240 X15). Thank you for your support for King's Kids Preschool and best wishes for a blessed Christmas!

Parents—Need a Night Out?

The youth group is sponsoring a child care event on Friday, December 9th from 5:30—8:30pm. This is a great opportunity for parents to get some Christmas shopping done or just go out to dinner without the kids.



Sign up to drop off your children. We will even serve dinner to the children.

IMPORTANT—You must sign up on the sign up sheet in the narthex to participate so we can plan for the correct number of children.

Santa Parade 2022

What: Come see Santa as we watch the Spring Lake Park/Blaine/Mounds View fire department Christmas parade this year. Bring a canned food item to donate to help Ralph Reeder Food Shelf.

Where: 8211 Red Oak Drive at Abiding Savior is a viewing station this year. Meet in the parking lot.

When: Tuesday, December 6th. Parade starts at 6:00pm.

Who: All ages.

Website: <https://sbmfire.org/2022-santa-parades/>



Care of Creation

This is the last of the monthly series in caring for creation. This resource has been provided by the St. Paul Area Synod and created by the Care of Creation work group who believes that we are called to care for God's creation as a central part of our Christian faith and identity. The group was established in 2018 to:

- explore life-giving ideas
- share best practices within our synod, the larger church and the community
- become part of the public and teaching voice of the church

Topic: Greener Transportation



Being good stewards of God's creation means reducing the dirty energy used to get around. Fossil fuels for transportation makes the air we breathe harmful to our health and those who are important to us.

Today you can be sure to- when feasible- walk, bicycle, carpool or use public transit. Be sure our vehicles tires are properly inflated. In the future you can remember to purchase vehicles that get the very best miles per gallon. Take a further step and consider purchasing an electric vehicle which are now available. Try to avoid air travel but if necessary buy carbon offsets or embark on the adventure of taking the train. Check out the Transportation page of Drawdown website for impacts and solutions of our transportation on our environment at <https://www.drawdown.org/>.

*From All of Us at
Atonement & Cross of Glory
to All of You...*



*Wishing you a blessed and beautiful
Christ-filled Christmas!*



*May the New Year
bring many blessings!
Have a safe & happy
new year.*

A Note From Atonement's Council President

Dear Atonement Friends,

I'd like to highlight some events of my last couple months as Council President:

Rutger Mason and family would like to thank all who were involved in the celebration of life for Steve Mason held at Atonement on November 11. The family was grateful for Pastor Tom Jenkins' words and for the warm hospitality of Atonement members.

King's Kids Board members Bonnie Anderson and Royce King and Director Lisa Altomari welcomed three new Board members: Carol Hoiby, Atonement member and retired child caregiver; Liz Berg, community chiropractor and mother of a King's Kid student; and Atonement member Cheryl Lunde.

We are in the final phase of budgeting for 2023. We appreciate your financial commitment and prayers as the Council (with Ryan Lunde and our new Treasurer Jon Thomalla) continues this planning process.

The nominating committee is working on names for three new Council members. Please prayerfully consider serving if approached by a committee member.

We continue to share our facility with Faith Community Church, Mount of Blessing Church and Rolling Smoke Bar-b-que. They are thankful to us for welcoming them each week.

On November 20, we honored Phyllis Kvitrud, a long-time, active Atonement member who is moving to Wisconsin where she will be closer to her son and his family. We will miss her, but wish her much happiness.

We are excited to welcome Deacon Brad Mills and his family to the Crossroads Parish. A special thank you to Atonement members Adam Vasel, Carreen Houfek, Lindsey Fabian, Jim Nelson, Scott Carlson and Steve Klaers and Cross of Glory members Brian Kaden, Brianna Thomalla, Gretchen Davis, Marie Thomalla, Rochelle Benson and Ron Markham for serving on the Call Committee.

I have enjoyed my time filling in as Council President and I'm grateful to and amazed by Pastor Cassie's dedication and faith serving us. She has been instrumental in making the Crossroads Parish such a wonderful and friendly collaboration. I'm looking forward to new ways to serve our parish.

Godspeed,
Steve Klaers



Cross of Glory Council Meeting Highlights

November 2, 2022

Joint Meeting with Atonement Council (6:30 PM) at Atonement, individual meetings at 7:00pm

Open with prayer

Pastor's Report

Pastor Cassie is on vacation Nov 7-13. Pastor Paul Hanson will preach on the 13th.

Deacon Brad's first day is Monday, November 14th.

Thanksgiving Eve at Christ the King, includes Pie social, service at 6:30. Deacon Brad will preach.

Will use the extra office at Cross of Glory, and share Pastor Cassie's office at Atonement

Steve, Dawn, and Pr. Cassie will complete compensation paperwork

Welcome the family on Nov 20th, both services

Installation will be Nov 27th at both churches

Discussion about mid-week services

Confirmation – trying a new partnership with Living Waters, Lino Lakes, Cristo Rey, New Brighton, St Marks, Circle Pines starting in 2023

Budget meeting for parish (both congregations) is on Monday, November 21st at 4:30 at Cross of Glory.

Nov 20, Medicare Education Specialist will be available after both services. Steve Halvorson, Health Plan Consulting Services, LLC

Cross of Glory Council Call to Order 7:18 PM

Roll Call

Secretary's Report - Presentation of October 2022 minutes for approval.

Gretchen motioned to approve minutes as sent out; Leslie seconded, all in favor. Passed.

Treasurer's Report

Beginning Balance	\$144,322.19
Income	\$11,301
Expenses	\$ 17,314
Ending Balance	\$141,854.85

Requested if Jon could give council a walkthrough of the reports

Question from the congregation about the report published in the newsletter, why the treasurer's report doesn't add up. Paula talked to Jon, the numbers as published don't add up, but they are correct. Dollars Are recorded as they are received and as payments are made. The balance is based on the bank account which takes time to catch up.

Paula motioned to approve the treasurer's report, Dawn seconded; passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Worship committee discussed worship schedule through January 1.

Nov 27 – need volunteers to setup Christmas Tree to prepare for hanging of the greens on Dec 4th.

Discussed experimenting with moving special music to different places during the worship service, and invite more musicians to share their talents

Old Business

Volunteers—New volunteers have been contacted and added to the rotation. Training is happening as Needed. Volunteers are very good a helping out and stepping up as needed

"Future Committee"

Parking lot – cement patches – will be fixed

Lighted Outdoor Signs—new timers have been purchased.

Dishwasher Update – Paula—Dishwasher has been chosen, will double check measurements and electrical Hookup.

Need to come up with a plan to prioritize projects.

Will update the donation board on Sunday.

New Business

Discussion about possibility of a new relationship with a congregation on a trial basis to use our space on Sunday afternoons.

Schedule Budget Committee Meeting Nov 21

Announcements/Affirmations

- ♥ Thank you to Rob Wilkinson for coordinating the gift of a plaque for Florence and Linda Lemke in honor of all of their years of service to Cross of Glory
- ♥ Thank you to Linda Radtke for cleaning up all the gardens
- ♥ Thank you to the new volunteers for joining the rotations!
- ♥ Thank you to Pastor Margaret Kelly for filling in for Pastor Cassie
- ♥ Thank you to Dani Gow, Marie Thomalla, Annette Steichen, Paula Reed, Peg Linder, Janice Wickstrom and the Cub Scouts for volunteering at Trunk or Treat
- ♥ Thank you to the youth for collecting socks for Socktober
- ♥ Thank you to Cheryl Lunde and Dani Gow for coordinating the youth pizza and movie night
- ♥ And thank you everyone for all you do for Cross of Glory every day!

Adjournment/Lord's Prayer

Motion to adjourn by Gretchen; seconded Leslie by; Adjourned: 8:38 PM

Lord's Prayer



Notes & Care

Atonement Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec 13 Bruce Jahnke
Dec 22 Rollie King
Dec 25 Pete Fabian
Dec 27 Ray & Grace Lucas (1967)
Dec 28 Royce & Rollie King (1963)



Thanks & Joy—Atonement & Cross of Glory

- ♥ Thank you to our Call Committees for all your help with calling Deacon Brad Mills.
- ♥ Thank you to everyone for helping to welcome the Mills family to Crossroads Parish.
- ♥ Thank you to Bruce and Nancy Jahnke for coordinating the presentation about the dangers of Christian Nationalism.
- ♥ Thank you to Lindsey Fabian & Bonnie Anderson and all involved in coordinating a nice farewell for Phyllis Kvitrud.
- ♥ And thank you everyone for all you do for Atonement and Cross of Glory every day!

In Our Prayers

- † Please keep Royce King in your prayers.
 - † Please keep Arlene Drier in your prayers.
 - † Please keep Tallulah in your prayers.
 - † Please pray for the homeless to find the resources they need during our cold winter.
 - † Please pray for comfort for all those who struggle around the holidays.
-

December 2022—Cross roads Parish

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>4 Holiday Sweater Sun</p> <p>8:30 Cross of Glory</p> <p>9:30 Sun Sch/Youth</p> <p>10:30 Atonement LS</p> <p>12:30 FCC @ ALC</p>	<p>5 Office Closed</p> <p>8am Men's Bible St</p> <p>1pm ABCD @ ALC</p> <p>1pm Kit Kutups ALC</p> <p>7pm Cub Scouts COG</p>	<p>6</p> <p>10am Prayer Shawls COG</p> <p>4pm Worship Com COG</p> <p>6:30 Cub Scouts COG</p>	<p>7</p> <p>6:30 Worship @ COG</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30 Mary Circle ALC</p> <p>10am Naomi Cir COG</p> <p>1pm Game Day ALC</p> <p>6pm Girl Scouts COG</p>	<p>9 Office Closed</p> <p>5:30 —8:30 Youth Event</p> <p>5pm NB @ COG</p> <p>5pm MoB @ ALC</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am NB @ COG</p> <p>9am MoB @ ALC</p>
<p>11 <i>Prayer Ministers</i> ALC</p> <p>8:30 Cross of Glory LS</p> <p>9:30 Sun Sch/Youth</p> <p>10:30 Atonement</p> <p>12:30 FCC @ ALC</p>	<p>12 Office Closed</p> <p>8am Men's Bible St</p> <p>11:30 Kit Kutups</p> <p>1pm Fellowship Cir COG</p> <p>6pm Girl Scouts ALC</p> <p>6pm ALC Property</p> <p>7pm Cub Scouts COG</p>	<p>13</p> <p>1pm Elizabeth Cir ALC</p>	<p>14</p> <p>6:30 Worship @ COG</p>	<p>15</p> <p>1pm Game Day ALC</p>	<p>16 Office Closed</p> <p>5pm NB @ COG</p> <p>5pm MoB @ ALC</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9am NB @ COG</p> <p>9am MoB @ ALC</p>
<p>18</p> <p>8:30 Cross of Glory</p> <p>9:30 Sun Sch/Youth</p> <p>10:30 Atonement LS</p> <p>12:30 FCC @ ALC</p>	<p>19 Office Closed</p> <p>8am Men's Bible St</p> <p>1pm Kit Kutups</p> <p>7pm Cub Scouts COG</p>	<p>20</p> <p>6:30 Girl Scouts COG</p>	<p>21</p> <p>6:30 Worship @ ALC</p>	<p>22</p> <p>1pm Game Day ALC</p>	<p>23 Office Closed</p> <p>5pm NB @ COG</p> <p>5pm MoB @ ALC</p>	<p>24 Christmas Eve</p> <p>3:30 Cross of Glory</p> <p>5:30 Atonement</p>
<p>25 Christmas Day</p> <p>No worship service</p>	<p>26 Office Closed</p> <p>8am Men's Bible St</p> <p>1pm Kit Kutups</p> <p>6pm Girl Scouts ALC</p> <p>7pm Cub Scouts COG</p>	<p>27 Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>1pm Game Day ALC</p>	<p>30 Office Closed</p> <p>5pm NB @ COG</p> <p>5pm MoB @ ALC</p>	<p>31 New Year's Eve</p> <p>9am NB @ COG</p> <p>9am MoB @ ALC</p>

FCC—Faith Community Church
 MoB—Mount of Blessings
 NB—New Birth
 KKP—King's Kids Preschool
 LS—Live Stream Location

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 New Brighton, MN 55112
 651-633-2240

Cross of Glory Lutheran Church
 5472 Adams Street
 Mounds View, MN 55112
 763-784-2528

Contact Us

Church Office Hours:

Both Atonement and Cross of Glory church offices are open Monday - Friday.

Atonement's office is open mornings until noon.
Cross of Glory's office is open afternoons until 5:00.

How to Contact Us:

Pastor Cassie Nault
Cassie@Crossroads55112.org
Cell: 612-910-2697
Atonement: 651-633-2240
Cross of Glory: 763-784-2528

Deacon Brad Mills
Brad@Crossroads55112.org
Cell: 612-242-7250
Atonement: 651-633-2240
Cross of Glory: 763-784-2528

Office Administrator—Dawn Saros-Kirk
Dawn@Crossroads55112.org
Atonement: 651-633-2240
Cross of Glory: 763-784-2528

Atonement Minister of Music—Shannon Rosas
Shannon@AtonementNB.org
Cell: 651-387-0662

Cross of Glory Choir Director—Jaime Verkuilen
MusicMamaJaime@gmail.com

Like Us on Facebook!

Find us on our websites:

AtonementNB.org or Crossroads.org

You are welcome to contact the church staff at either site, regardless of where you attend worship.



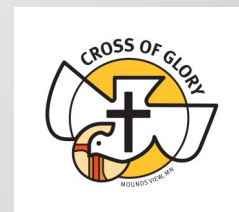
Please submit newsletter articles by the
THIRD MONDAY
of the month.

WE are CROSSROADS



Atonement Lutheran Church

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Cross of Glory Lutheran Church

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Two churches.

One big community in faith.