I'll be honest. I wasn't ready for fall. It seemed like we just started summer and planting the gardens, and here it is time to clean up and put everything away for another season. I was not looking forward to it, or the upcoming next season….

But then the trees started to change; I looked out the window of my office to the hill awash in a glorious display of color, and I gave thanks to God. It reminded me of a young boy from a previous congregation; we were on a hayride and crested over a hill to see the splendor of fall as far as the eye could see. He looked up at me and said, “Look what God painted!” And that is what fall is – an exhibit of God’s handiwork and a gift to us.

And nature responds. Psalm 19 says, “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.” There are so many ways that we see the glory of God around us. Recently in the skies there have been eclipses and meteor showers; beautiful sunrises and sunsets. Even the variety of clouds, from fluffy white to rolling dark clouds, shows all of God’s glory around us.

The fall is another season to see God’s creation in new eyes. It might mean that another season of cold is just around the corner, but even in that time, we can see God’s glory and beauty. In this month of Thanksgiving, may we continually give thanks for all that God has given to us. We are so blessed! And by being blessed, we are to be a blessing to others.

How can you share the blessings that God has given you, and to share in the wonder of His creation? Spend time this month, as a family or individually, being intentional in giving thanks and sharing the beauty that God has bestowed upon you. It is a joy to be given those opportunities!

Happy Fall! Enjoy the changing seasons and with the heavens, “declare the glory of God.”

Jonathan Zellar Accepts Youth Call

Upon reviewing the credentials of several recent graduates with DCE degrees and completing interviews, the Youth and Young Adults Director Call Committee agreed to seek voters’ approval to extend a call to Jonathan Zellar. A voters’ meeting was held on October 21, and the vote was unanimous to extend a call to Jonathan Zellar. Jonathan verbally accepted the call on October 22! Call documentation is currently being processed.

Jonathan graduated in 2012 with his DCE Certification and major in psychology from Concordia University in Seward NE. Following graduation, Jonathan completed an internship at Saint Paul Lutheran Church in Saint Joseph MO. Jonathan is married to Kelsie, and they are both from the Mankato area. Kelsie also graduated from Concordia University in Seward with a psychology degree and desires to find a position working with young children.

Jonathan’s start date is November 16 and installation is tentatively scheduled on Sunday November 23.

New Members Welcomed

On October 26, 22 adults and 6 children were welcomed into Cross View membership. Representing 12 family units, these new members are already participating in many facets of life at Cross View. They have frequently been seen in morning bible study and worship, as well as serving in various ways. A color picture and brief bio of these families was placed in each worship bulletin on 10/26. Please keep this sheet with your church directory so you can greet our new members by name! We welcome all of them into ministry with us!
ECC EARNS NATIONAL ACCREDITATION

National Lutheran School Accreditation has approved accreditation for Cross View Early Childhood Center of Edina, Minnesota. Sean Martins from the Minnesota South District Office was present in worship on October 5 to present the plaque to Jan Stockman, ECC Director, and Pastor Steven Wheeler. The plaque reads, “In recognition of a quality program of Christian education as evidenced by its thorough self-study and acknowledged by the visiting committee, this accreditation is granted from September 1, 2014 through August 2019. ‘Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord.’ Col. 3:23”

ECC FAMILY PIZZA PARTY & DANCE

Great fun was had at our annual pizza party and dance for the Early Childhood Center. Enjoying a meal with their classmates and parents provided a festive evening. After dinner, we all joined in our dance party with such tunes as the Hokey Pokey and Chicken Dance. We had a wonderful time talking with other families and moving to the groove of the songs.
**InC Christmas Social**
**12/13/14**

Join InC for a fun evening of socializing around the Christmas tree on Saturday, December 13, 7:00 PM. Who is InC?....members and friends of Cross View who are roughly in the age category of 45-65. What does InC stand for?...InChrist, InConnection, InConversation, InCommunity!

The gathering will be at the home of Craig and Rebecca Waller, 9917 Windsor Terrace, Eden Prairie, 55347. Co-hosts: Marta & Steve Volbrecht and Janet and Peter Schmiel. Please bring your holiday spirit, a bottle of wine and/or an appetizer to share. Desserts will be provided. Questions?...contact Rebecca@crossview.net.

**Newly Appointed Elders**

As a part of Cross View’s new governance, the senior pastor is directed to appoint elders. The constitution reads: “The Senior Pastor will select a maximum of four Elders, men, to serve as an extension of the Pastoral Office. Elders may assist in the Spiritual Care of the Pastor and in the Word and Sacrament Ministry.” Thus far Pastor Wheeler has asked three people to prayerfully consider serving in this role. Tim Clavin, Scott Douglas, and Michael Reed have agreed to serve in this role. Know that Cross View’s elders will be lifting you, your pastor, Cross View’s staff, and the spiritual affairs of this congregation in prayer. They are an extension of the Pastoral Office at Cross View and will be trained to assist Pastor Wheeler with the Word and Sacrament ministry.

**WOMEN’S MINISTRIES**
**Book Club, Advent Reflections**

**WOMEN’S DAYTIME BOOK CLUB**

The Women’s Daytime Book Club is currently reading *The Persian Pickle Club* by Sandra Dallas. We will meet at the home of Loy Jaeger on Monday, November 17th at 1:00 PM for discussion and fellowship. Newcomers are always welcome!

**Advent Reflections**

Women of Cross View, please mark your calendars for an evening of wonderful food and fellowship on Sunday, December 7th from 6:30-8:00 PM. Please sign-up at the Connection Center beginning Sunday, November 16th.

**Spiritual Care MAT in Place**

The Spiritual Care Ministry met on October 7th for the first time since the new governance. Pastor Steve led a discussion to help clarify and redefine the purpose of the team moving forward. Aside from general membership care issues and worship related communications, the group engaged in some focused training.

The training this past month highlighted multiple ways for the team to “check-in” with the membership and to provide meaningful spiritual care. A good amount of time toward the end of the meeting was spent praying for the membership and for special requests.

**CROSSWAYS INTERNATIONAL CALLING**
**Keep Going, Dear Aussie!**

by Harry Wendt, Crossways International President

What keeps this 83 year-old Aussie going? Read on!

Recently Rev. Mary Gilthvedt, an ELCA pastor in Western Minnesota, began teaching *See Through the Scriptures (STS)* to her congregation. One of those who attended the first study session brought with him a 97 year-old friend (an active church attendee) from a nearby town. At the end of the session, the aged friend stated “Finally, everything makes sense.” Pastor Gilthvedt commented, “I usually hear that at the end of teaching *See Through the Scriptures... not at the beginning. And I certainly didn’t expect to hear it from a 97 year-old church member. In a way, I am not surprised because I haven’t found any other curriculum that so clearly ‘puts the puzzle pieces together’.”

She also shared with us that she teaches CI’s more detailed time-line to grade school students in her pre-confirmation class. The students love it, are never distracted, and soak up what they are taught. When one of her students began attending a nearby Christian high school, his teachers were amazed at his understanding of the biblical message, and asked, “How come he has such a profound understanding of the Bible’s ‘big story? He knows more about it than we do!”

Two Lutheran pastors (LCMC) recently shared with me how they are reaching out to ever so many people in West Des Moines, Iowa. Recently, they ordered 1,000 copies of CI’s witnessing tool, *The Divine Plan (TDP)*, and equipped their members to understand and use it. A lay person in Michigan, who was taught to use *TDP*, bought 500 copies of it and (anonymously) made them available to the members of his congregation.

In November, Rev. Paul Thaxter, who serves on the staff of the Anglican Church Mission Society based in Oxford, England, will train workers in Nepal to understand and teach the message contained in CI’s time-line, *The Bible’s Big Story—Our Story.*

Archbishop Valiant Dayagbil, based in the eastern (recently devastated) region of Central Philippines, teaches CI’s materials in the seminary he directs. He recently informed me that 12 groups of 30 people each (360 total, plus their family members, and the missionaries and clergy that study at his seminary) will soon begin studying CI’s 60-unit course, *Crossways.*

Little wonder that, from time to time, I hear God telling me, “Keep going, dear Aussie!”
CHRISTMAS IS COMING!

Yes! It seems hard to believe, but children in Sunday School are starting to prepare for Christmas programs! Mark your calendar to join in the presentation of Christ’s birth this year.

**Sunday, December 7; 9:30 A.M.**  – Young children’s program, “A Night Like No Other.” What would the night of Jesus’ birth be like? It was like no other! Our students age 3 to 1st grade will present a simple ½ hour presentation.

**Sunday, December 14; 10:45 a.m. worship**  – Students in grades 2-6 are excited to present, “Chris-myth Busters”! It’s a fun presentation of the Christmas story with a twist….what do we ‘assume’ as truth but is tradition, but also recognizing that traditions aren’t what really make Christmas. It’s the celebration of Christ’s birth. Join us at the 10:45 A.M. worship on this Sunday to celebrate with us!

Rehearsals for this program are during the Sunday School hour and:

- **Sunday, December 7; 1-3 P.M.**
- **Saturday, December 13; 10:00 A.M. to noon**

THANK YOU FOR COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES!

On Sunday, October 26, Sunday School children put together care packages for Cross View’s college students. Thanks to everyone who helped make these the best packages ever by donating items! 30 care packages were sent out to let students know we care!

KIDSTITUTE UPDATE

40 children (age 3 to 6th grade) come on Wednesday nights from 6:30-8:00 P.M. to learn about God’s love, sing in Jubilate, and have fun! We always welcome new friends to join us!

Each week we have a different focus to see what God teaches us about daily living, and how to live it out. We also do service projects to focus God’s love to others. In October, students made turkey centerpieces for the Trinity First Thanksgiving Dinner. On November 12, students will make favors for the Edina Care Center to take with them caroling in December.

Interested in more information? Contact Christine Eid at christine@crossview.net. *Please note, there is no Kidstitute on November 26 for Thanksgiving.*
Thanks for Your Service!

Over 50 people of all ages helped on Saturday, October 25, to accomplish interior and exterior fall projects. A deep cleaning happened throughout our interior facility, and a thorough trimming of bushes, overgrown tree removal and raking of leaves were completed. Inside there was also an active group working on mission projects of quilts, Sole Hope shoes, prayer shawls, and rolled bandages. Still others completed helpful craft preparation for Sunday School, ECC and upcoming events. Thanks to everyone who stepped up to make this day so successful!
COINS FOR THANKSGIVING  
Change Collected in Nov.

In a thanksgiving season of abundance for many, Cross View will support the VEAP food shelf for those who have too little food. On Sundays, November 2-23, all loose change collected in morning worship services will be contributed to the food shelf. This is a great time to clean out all those little areas where coins collect—cars, couches, drawers, dresser tops—maybe even your change jar...and hear the jingle of an overload of coins in the collection plate. Thank you for your generosity!

VEAP (Volunteers Enlisted to Assist People) serves the communities of Edina, Richfield and Bloomington.

TWO GIFT COLLECTIONS; YOU CAN HELP!

Trinity 1st School Christmas Store will open this year on December 18 for students to select a gift for a sibling or parent. This gift drive is sponsored by the Cross View Youth. The gift value should be $5-10 each. You may also make a money donation, and the shopping will be done for you! Please make your check payable to Cross View, with “Trinity 1st School Store” on the memo line. Gifts should be placed in the box in the lobby by Sunday, November 23.

1) Kids – books, toys, games, baby items
2) Mom/Women – home décor, lotion, jewelry, scarves
3) Dad/Men – socks (work/athletic), wallets, sports-related items
4) For gift wrapping: gift bags, Christmas paper, tissue paper, bows and scotch tape.

VEAP Christmas Toy Store offers a gift to a child from a low income family in our communities. VEAP expects to help more than 5000 children have a happier Christmas in 2014. The goal is to provide each child a new toy ($10 to $20 value), a book, a winter wear item plus a game for each household. All items must be new and unused, and leave them unwrapped please. Gift cards from local retailers ($15 value) are also needed.

Cross View's collection for the VEAP Christmas Toy Store will start November 23rd and continue through December 14th. More information and “ornaments” of age-appropriate gifts will be hung on the Christmas tree in the narthex. Take an ornament, and return the gift(s) to the large box under the tree. This gift drive is sponsored by Outreach & Missions Ministries.

VEAP HOLIDAY BENEFIT

The 15th annual VEAP Holiday Benefit is Friday, November 14, from 6:00 to 9:30 PM at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Bloomington-Minneapolis South. Join us as we celebrate VEAP’s powerful story. Miracles happen when hundreds of committed, caring hearts work together to care for their neighbors and strengthen this place we call home. The evening will include a social hour, robust silent auction, delicious harvest dinner, spirited live auction, live music, and an inspiring program which highlights the impact of VEAP’s basic needs services in the community. With an anticipated attendance of over 600 guests, it is VEAP’s biggest event of the year! For more information visit the VEAP website, special events page, at www.veapvolunteers.org where online registration is available.

TRINITY FIRST THANKSGIVING DINNER  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25

Cross View will again prepare and serve a Thanksgiving dinner at Trinity First Lutheran School on November 25, the Tuesday evening before Thanksgiving. Trinity First Lutheran School serves low income families in the Ventura Village neighborhood of south Minneapolis.

Please sign up on a Sunday bulletin insert (November 2, 9, & 16) to participate in this night of blessings. It requires many volunteers (prep, serve, clean-up) with servant hands and hearts to accomplish this event. If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Jana Poppe at jana@teampoppe.com.

MARK PESKE, NOV. 16  
MISSIONARY TO THE OJIBWE

Mark Peske, a Cross View sponsored missionary to the Ojibwe in Bemidji, MN, will speak during the education hour on November 16. Please join us to hear first-hand how God works through Mark to accomplish His plan for the Leech Lake people.

TRINITY 1ST SCHOOL NEEDS  
AFTERNOON STUDY HELPERS

by Sarah Wippich, Trinity 1st Principal

Our school year began on August 21, and it quickly became apparent that we were terribly short-staffed for our after-school care program, Tiger Club. Having loving, caring, Christ-following adults to mentor and care for our students adds to the impact of our ministry ten-fold!

Unfortunately, we are now turning away families because we do not have enough workers/volunteers to safely watch our children. Many of our children really need homework help because they do not get it at home. Volunteers help us keep the cost down!

Another challenge added to our year is the addition of some especially higher-need children who require more one-on-one or small group care in Tiger Club. We’ve had to deny them use of the program because we do not believe we can safely manage their care.

We need Christian disciples to work/volunteer with our Tiger Club. If we get enough support, volunteers only need to come one time per week - and as long as all the days are covered, it works well. Tiger Club begins at 3:30 and ends at 5:30, though a majority of children are picked up by 5:00 PM.

If you have an interest in helping, please contact Principal Sarah Wippich at trinityfirstschool@gmail.com.
Men’s Ministries Golf Outing

We enjoyed a beautiful day at the 6th annual Cross View golf event. We had two foursomes and a group of two. This was the first year we had a junior team (Nate Bailey, Will Pahl, Miles Buska, and a guest) who played their own match for fun. We had four skills competitions and the winners were:

- Longest put - Steve Gudvangen
- Closest to the pin - Steve Gudvangen
- Closest drive to the line - Steve Gudvangen
- Longest drive - Brad Ost

After golf we had a lively social gathering on the deck with an address from Dr. Harry Wendt. Dr. Wendt updated us about Crossways International, and told the story of a pastor’s family in Asia who were buried alive for their faith and the army that converted to Christ as a result. It was a powerful testimony transferred from one generation to the next. Over $1000 was raised for Crossways. We look forward to next year’s golf event.

Cross View
Cards & Games

Friday, November 14 at 7:00 PM
Location: Cross View, Fellowship A
RSVP to:
Reg & JoAnn Schroeder (952) 944-1720
Carla Schumacher (952) 949-9349

Connect with Cross View members and friends (adults of all ages) for several hours of fun and fellowship by participating in cards and games of your choice. New participants are welcome!

Christmas Decoration
Volunteers Needed

Decorations for the Christmas season are installed only with the help of volunteers! This can be accomplished by a crew of 8-10 people who work with camaraderie and a cheerful spirit! We decorate the sanctuary, as well as hallways and gathering spaces. This work will be done in three shifts:

- Sunday, November 30, 2:00 PM: Hanging of the greens
- Saturday, December 20, 9 AM: Arrange poinsettia display
- Saturday, January 10, 9-11 AM: Take-down/clean-up

If you are able to help one or more of these times, please contact Rebecca Waller, Rebecca@crossview.net. Bring a spouse, friend or youth to help!

YOUTH GROUPS
Sever’s Corn Maze

On October 26, Junior and Senior High Youth took a “wild and crazy” trip to Sever’s Corn Maze. After finding their way through the cornstalks and other outdoor activities, they were treated to a party at the Swensons’ home.
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Developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ along life's journey
Rev. Steve Wheeler, Pastor
ext 203, steve@crossview.net
Rev. Don Taylor, Interim Associate Pastor
Jan Stockman-Sater, Early Childhood Ministries
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Christine Eid, Children's Ministry
ext 215, christine@crossview.net
Darcy Matz, Interim Youth Director
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Melanie McMichael, Finance & Administration
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Sarah Solberg, Parish Secretary
ext 205, sarah@crossview.net
Gregg Poppe, President
Rev. Dr. Harry Wendt, Crossways International
Todd & Kim Roeske, Evangelistic Missionaries in Alaska
Mark Peske, Serving Among the Ojibwe, Bemidji, MN
Stephen & Krista, Missionaries in Asia

The Clarion is published monthly by Cross View Lutheran Church,
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952-941-1094 (Office), 952-941-5513 (FAX), 952-941-0009 (ECC).
Items for inclusion may be dropped off in the church office or sent via email to rebecca@crossview.net.

SCHEDULE
Sunday Worship: 8:15 AM (Traditional) & 10:45 AM (Contemporary)
Sunday Christian Education, 9:30 AM
Office Hours: Tues.-Fri., 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM; Closed Monday

THANKSGIVING SERVICE
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 9:30 A.M.
PLEASE INVITE FAMILY & FRIENDS TO JOIN YOU!

Pastor Wheeler Celebrates 10th Anniversary
Pastor Steve Wheeler was honored on October 12 for having served ten years as Cross View’s senior pastor. Mike Reed, staff elder, congratulated Pastor Steve in morning worship services and presented him with a congregational gift.