

# CROSSVIEW CLARION

June 2025

"In a worship setting, the most important music is your singing from the pews." – David Mennicke



## The Living Voice of the Gospel

by David Mennicke, Director of Music and Choir Ministries

You have blessed me in this, my first year with you here at Cross View as your Director of Music and Choir Ministries. It has been an absolute joy to share our music ministry with a congregation that loves to study the WORD, to serve people, and to sing God's praises. I have felt most welcomed and energized by you all. Thank you!

Many of you have shared with me your appreciation not only for our music, but for how it has connected to our Scripture themes each week. Cross View's music leaders (me, Amy Gundermann, Brian De Young) see this as our calling. We seek to uplift the Lutheran understanding of music's role in worship: that church music is the *Viva Vox Evangelii* (the "living voice of the Gospel") that ampli-

fies and enlivens the WORD. Martin Luther said, "Next to the Word of God, music is deserving of the highest praise." Indeed, God calls for us to sing and "make music to the Lord." The largest book in the Bible – the Psalms – is a hymnal!

With this perspective, music is not simply a pleasant entertainment within a worship service, but it is core to helping us understand, experience, and live out the Gospel. Music in worship doesn't stop the flow of the service, but has meaning and purpose:

- To praise and pray to God
- To proclaim the WORD
- To teach the Faith
- To unite the community of believers

As we praise and pray to God through our music, God – not our feelings or what we do – must be the subject and object of our worship. Our music and texts need to connect to the WORD being preached each week, adding aural, visual, physical, textual, emotional, experiential, social, and aesthetic flesh to it. Music thus becomes a bearer of the Faith, heightening our understanding of and attraction to the Gospel so that it seeps into our hearts, our minds, our souls – indeed, our very being. Finally, when the gathered body of believers join in song, we come into synchronization of belief, of emotion, and even of physical traits. Studies have shown that the heart rates, breathing, and feelings of people who sing together come into alignment. As we worship together in Christ-centered song, we continually become the Body of Christ.

In a worship setting, **the most important music is your singing from the pews.** I encourage you to pay close attention to the words of our shared assembly song. You can even take the printed bulletin home as a weekly devotion.

I encourage you to become involved in Cross View's music ministry. It was delightful that so many of you availed yourselves of opportunities to sing with the choir this past year: last summer's "pop-up" choir; a couple of Sundays of Messiah music in Advent; prepping the Hallelujah Chorus prior to Easter.

We have a couple more excellent opportunities this summer for you to sing and learn what being in these ensembles is like:

- The first is a Festival Choir I'm leading, with Cross View as the core, for the Opening Service of the LCMS Minnesota South District Convention on Thursday, June 12, 7:00 PM at Concordia University, St. Paul (CSP). We have a 60–70 voice choir at this point, and more are welcome. Rehearsal opportunities include 6:45–8:15 PM on Wednesday, June 4 at Cross View and June 11 at CSP, as well as other dates/places (see my May Clarion article for more details). We're singing much of this music for Pentecost Sunday, June 8, at Cross View, too, and singers are also welcome that date.
- The second is another "y'all come" choir in the summer. We will sing "The Servant Song" by David Schwoebel for the 8:15 AM service on July 27, with rehearsal the previous Wednesday, July 23, at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary.

And of course, the Choir, Women's Ensemble, and Handbell Ensemble will be delighted to welcome new members in the fall! Please contact David Mennicke ([david@crossview.net](mailto:david@crossview.net)) for more information about these opportunities.

God's blessings to you all as we continue to unite as the "Living Voice of the Gospel!"

## SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday, 9:00 AM–4:30 PM

Friday, 9:00 AM–Noon

## Independence Day Weekend Service Schedule Change

**Sunday, July 6**

**9:30 AM Traditional Service**  
**No education hour**

# Financial Update

## Year-to-Date Results

- Year to date income is \$37,928 unfavorable to budget and \$11,640 less than YTD 2024.
- Overall giving is less than pledged and Holy week giving was less than previous years.
- Year to date expenses are favorable to budget, primarily due to lower wages and personnel expenses.
- ECC Income was unfavorable to budget primarily due to openings in several rooms.
- ECC Expenses are favorable to budget, which has helped ease the tuition shortfall.
- ECC Net Deficit is unfavorable to budget by \$26,170

Cross View Lutheran Church			
4/30/25	2025 Actual Year to Date	2025 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$572,327	\$610,255	(\$37,928)
Total Expenses	(\$551,811)	(\$564,054)	\$12,243
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$20,516	\$46,201	(\$25,685)
General Fund Ending Balance	\$477,915	\$503,599	

# Cross View Game Night

Do you love games? Join us for fun and fellowship every second Sunday of the month from 6:30–8:30 PM in Rooms 209/210. Cross View Game Night is open to all teens and adults, including church members and their guests. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own board or card games. If you bring a game, be prepared to show others how to play.

Questions? Contact John Daenzer at [johndaenzer@gmail.com](mailto:johndaenzer@gmail.com) or Michael Kibat at [mgkibat@centurylink.net](mailto:mgkibat@centurylink.net).



## Christian Education

### NEW YOU AND NEW WORLD VIEW

In his *Small Catechism* Martin Luther writes this about baptism. "It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new person should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever." What an awesome way to live! In baptism God gives a new you and a new worldview. Pastors Steve and Reed plan to preach on a new you and teach on a new worldview. Here is the schedule:

- **Sermons: A New You**

"Balancing our New Life" (June 8)

"A New Heart" (June 15)

"A New Mind" (June 22)

"A New Body" (June 29)

"New Relationships" (July 6)

- **Bible Classes: A New Worldview**

Beginning on June 8 at 9:30 AM the Sunday Adult Bible class will compare the claims of Christianity with competing worldviews such as Secularism, The New

Age Movement, Marxism, Islam, and Postmodernism. These studies will demonstrate that the Bible holds up when it is attacked, denied, misinterpreted, and ignored by these movements. Does it ever!

St. Paul writes in Romans 6:4, "We were buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." Plan to rediscover a new you and a new, biblical, worldview!



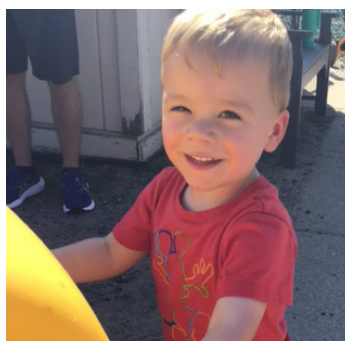


# Early Childhood Center

## ECC UPDATES

The ECC children enjoyed some of the warmer weather in May with water days and lots of fun time on the playground! They are looking forward to many more fun activities, events, and outside time as the warmth continues in the summer months.

The Teddy room welcomed a new teacher, Heather Peterson, in May. Heather has been married for 14 years and is a mom of four with over 10 years of experience working in early childhood. She is super excited to be spending her days with her favorite age of children—toddlers!



## INTERIM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

It is with great joy that we announce that Vicki Barton began service as the Interim Assistant Director of Cross View's Early Childhood Center as of May 13, 2025. Vicki has generously offered her open-ended service until such time as a new full-time assistant director is hired.

Vicki, a member of Cross View, and a graduate of the University of Minnesota, was actively recruited by Cross View's leadership for this position because of her strong skillset that is uniquely suited for our center's current needs. In the past 20 years, Vicki has served in a variety of positions related to early childhood both in the church and in public settings. She has served as a preschool teacher, a director of children's ministry (birth to 3rd grade), she served as the Pre-K Freeway Director for St. Michaels Lutheran Church in



Bloomington, and she has served in multiple other paid and volunteer positions of leadership. Vicki has provided leadership and stability to organizations in times of transition on several occasions over the years. Most recently, she served for a year as Cross View's interim youth ministry worker, providing a seamless transition as we carried out our search for a new youth director.

We are very thankful to our LORD for opening Vicki's heart to come alongside our center at this time. Thank you, Vicki, for making a kingdom among the staff, children, and families of our early childhood center during our transition! You are a blessing!

### GRADUATION CELEBRATION

On June 5th, the Hopper Class will celebrate the graduation of 17 children. Everyone at the ECC wishes all children and their families the best as they begin a new adventure in their lives.

### SCHOOL AGE CAMP

The ECC will welcome 30 students to School Age Camp on June 9th. Teachers are excited for the kids to return and see their growth over the past year. Please pray for a fun and safe summer!

### ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

#### Praises:

- For all the preschool kids graduating and heading to kindergarten
- For the School Age Camp starting
- For Stacey LaMere's many years of service to the ECC
- For Vicki Barton starting as the Interim Assistant Director

#### Prayer Requests:

- For the transition of the ECC into new leadership
- For the continued search for an Assistant Director
- For health and safety as the summer begins
- For ECC staff and families as the school year ends and summer begins

### ECC MISSION STATEMENT

*Growing loving followers of Jesus Christ through early care and education.*

Dear Cross View Members,

It is with both gratitude and sadness that we announce Stacey LaMere's request for a peaceful release from her Call at the Early Childhood Center. Her decision to step away from the ECC comes after much reflection and prayer on her part, recognizing that now is the right time for new leadership to shepherd the ECC.

Stacey has been a cherished member of our community for more than 17 years and has had a profound effect on the lives of countless children and families. We are so grateful for Stacey's years of service and the love she has shared with us. We will miss her presence, but we trust God's plan for Stacey and the ECC.

We will find a time soon to celebrate Stacey's ministry and honor her for her many years of service to the ECC and Cross View.

We pray for God's blessings on Stacey and the ECC during this time of transition.

—Pastor Steven Wheeler and Cross View's Personnel Committee

## STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips laypeople to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. The identity of those receiving care and everything they discuss with a Stephen Minister remain private.

A Stephen Minister is...

- A child of God who walks beside someone who is hurting.
- A congregation member who is carefully selected to serve in this role because of his or her caregiving gifts.
- A layperson with 50 hours of training in providing high-quality, distinctively Christian care.
- A caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports, and encourages.
- Someone who meets faithfully each week with his or her care receiver for as long as there's a need.

If you need a Stephen Minister or are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact Pastor Steve.

***"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."***

-Galatians 6:2



# Children's Ministry

## VBS: JUNE 16–20

This year's theme is True North: Trusting Jesus in a Wild World. The dates are Monday, June 16 through Friday, June 20, at 9:00 AM to Noon. Children ages three (and potty trained) to rising 5th graders are invited to participate. The kids will get to have so much fun singing, doing science experiments that point to Jesus, eating fun snacks, playing games, and much more. Tell a friend! Registration is now open at [Cross View Connect](#). Please contact Barb Coffin if you would like to volunteer. Children who are rising 6th graders can be youth volunteers and, of course, we take youth and adult volunteers, too.



## SUMMER DEVOTIONALS FOR FAMILIES

As there is no Sunday School over the summer, I am providing devotionals for all the children over the summer.

Happy Times will be for children preschool to 1st grade. My Devotions is for 2nd to 6th graders. The devotionals start in June so please see me for a copy or pick your child's copy up at the registration desk in front of the main church office. Over the summer if there is any way I can assist you in being your child's main faith shaper, please let me know... it's my job!

## PARENT CORNER



### Top 10 things to do with your kids over the summer...

10. Go to a Farmer's Market
9. Learn a new dance
8. Visit a splash pad
7. Have a water balloon fight
6. Go to the zoo
5. Take a picnic to the park
4. Go to the lake
3. Play a game
2. Watch a sunset
1. Go to church

# Youth Ministry

## NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING YOUTH HOSTING THEIR LAST CAFÉ CROSS VIEW

The youth attending the Gathering are hosting their last Café Cross View on Sunday, June 8. There will be a free will donation to help support these youth as they prepare for this big event in July! Thank you for your support!

## JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, May 18, was the last day of Sunday School for the school year. There are no youth Sunday School classes during the summer. Youth are invited to attend the adult class during the education hour this summer.

## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH JUNE SCHEDULE

- June 8–11: Rochester Servant Event
- June 18: All Youth Fellowship Lunch after VBS (12:00–2:00 PM)

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH JUNE SCHEDULE

- June 1: Youth at CV
- June 8: No Youth; Rochester Servant Event
- June 15: No Youth; Father's Day
- June 18: All Youth Fellowship Lunch after VBS (12:00–2:00 PM)
- June 22: Youth at CV (time extended—6:30–8:30 PM)
- June 29: Youth at CV (time extended—6:30–8:30 PM)

## ROCHESTER SERVANT EVENT

On June 8, 17 youth and adults leave for Rochester, MN, for the Rochester Servant Event. We ask that you pray for this group as they go and serve in the Rochester community!

Jack Carlson	Finn Langaard
Nathaniel Coffin	Xavier Mellema
Carmen Erickson	Sam Rolfs
Chuck Hawkins	DJ Severson
Clare Hawkins	Jacob Severson
Ambrie Johnson	Levi Severson
Lucas Johnson	Emmitt Wilking
Ethan Koch	Hannah Zahrte
Mitchell Koch	





## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 4, eleven youth were confirmed into the Cross View family. It was a beautiful morning and service to celebrate the reaffirmation of their baptism.

Jack Carlson

Emerson Dorr

Austen Harrison

Clare Hawkins

Marissa Kelly

Finn Langaard

Xavier Mellema

Sam Rolfs

Juliet Schroeder

DJ Severson

David Wheeler





## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

On Sunday, May 18, we recognized our high school seniors for their accomplishments and their time in youth ministry! They were blessed by their parents and the congregation as their final faith Stepping Stone was celebrated. Please join us in praying for these youths as they begin their new adventures in the fall!

Evelyn Carlson	Owen Swiggum
Ambrie Johnson	Luther Thompson
Mitchell Koch	Chase Woodward
Brooke Marquardt	

In addition, other youth and children served the Lord by joyfully participating in both services as musicians, ushers, greeters, lectors, and technicians.



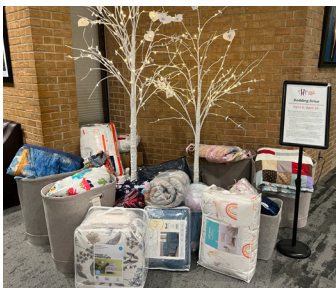


# Adult Ministry

## RENEW, REFRESH, REJOICE! SPRING GATHERING

The Women's Ministry team would like to thank all who came to our Renew, Refresh, Rejoice! Spring gathering. It was a wonderful time of fellowship, Bible study and a meal together. The charitable outreach associated with this year's event was a bedding drive for Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Thanks to the entire Cross View family for your generous donations.

—Marcia Johnson, Barb Schaus, Meggin Carlson, Glenda Kibat, Shanda Langaard, Wendy Finley



## WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's book club will be reading *Faith Bass Darling's Last Garage Sale* by Lynda Rutledge during June and discussing it at 1:00 PM in room 120 at church during their Monday, June 16th meeting. Please feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.



## BLOCK PARTY AT CROSS VIEW

We have a big opportunity to open our arms (and parking lot) to our community for a block party on July 12th from 5:30–7:30 PM. We are partnering with POBLO to create a fun summer gathering for all ages! We will need LOTS of help to make the event run smoothly. Mark your calendar and watch for more details on how to sign up to help. Please pray for this event to be doorway for the gospel to be shared with our neighbors. Please contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) with questions.

## POBLO VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

If you have a heart for ministering to those who have recently immigrated to the United States, consider volunteering with POBLO! They are currently in need of help on Monday and Wednesday nights with ESL classes and are looking for a volunteer with soccer experience to help on Monday nights with their soccer program. Contact their volunteer coordinator Shari Schulze at [shari@poblo.org](mailto:shari@poblo.org).

## (TC)<sup>2</sup> = TAKING CARE OF THE TWIN CITIES

Save the date! Our congregational-wide big day to serve our community will be on August 24th this year. After worship, will have opportunities for all ages to disperse throughout the Twin Cities to serve our neighbors and then celebrate with a meal together at the end of the day. Watch for more details to come!



## OUTREACH HELP WANTED!

We are looking for help with planning for two outreach events this summer: our Block Party with POBLO on July 12th and indoor service projects for (TC)<sup>2</sup> on August 24th. Please contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) if you are interested in helping on a planning team. These are both great opportunities to have an impact on our community with the love of Jesus!

## TNT – COLLEGE STUDENTS WELCOME!

Come and get to know others in the same stage of life at TNT (Twenties & Thirties Young Adult Ministry) through Bible study and time hanging out together! Locations vary, but during the summers, events will be on Thursdays from

6:00–7:30 PM. Contact Nicole at [nclvo@gmail.com](mailto:nclvo@gmail.com) or Hannah [hannah@crossview.net](mailto:hannah@crossview.net) with questions or to be added to the TNT GroupMe.



We would especially like to invite Cross View's college students as they return home from their time away. We would love to have you join us!

Summer Schedule:

- June 12: Perkins (Edina)
- July 17: Bowling (location TBD)
- July 24: Lunch/Dinner and Volunteering
- August 14: End of Summer BBQ/Potluck (location TBD)

### JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

At Cross View, we know being a member of a small group can be transformational. Groups spend time together in God's Word, share life's joys and challenges, pray for one another, and serve others like Jesus did. If you'd like to join a group or become a small group leader, please contact

Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) or complete the [interest form on our website](#).

### MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY

In times of need and times of joy, we come together as a community to support one another. We are excited to offer our support through our Meal Train ministry. We invite volunteers to lend a helping hand by providing meals for our members in need. Whether it's a home-cooked dish, a takeout meal, or simply your time to deliver a warm smile and a friendly chat, your contribution will make a difference. If you would like to volunteer your time and culinary talents, please contact Megan Jarvis at [meganjarvis.ms@gmail.com](mailto:meganjarvis.ms@gmail.com) to sign up for the distribution list.



If you or someone you know is in need of a meal due to illness, life events, or any other circumstances, please reach out to Megan, and she will gladly help arrange meals to be delivered to your house.

## Outreach & Missions

### SERVICE OPPORTUNITY AT SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Join us on Thursday, June 12th, to volunteer at Sleep in Heavenly Peace from 5:30–7:45 PM. This organization's mission is to make sure every child has a bed to sleep in. We will be sawing, sanding, and staining bed parts to be assembled later as they are needed. This event is hosted by the Men's Ministry, but everyone ages 12 and up are welcome to attend! Plan to meet at Northern Tool and Equipment off County Rd 42 in Burnsville. [Sign up on CV Connect](#) to join the fun!



### EASTER JOY AT CROSS VIEW LUTHERAN CHURCH

On Saturday, April 19, Bloom for Jesus Ministries experienced a truly blessed Easter service. The room was filled with approximately 100 attendees, with a remarkable 25% being visitors seeking to learn more about our faith. The gathering embodied the spirit of the Psalmist's words: "How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity!" (Psalm 133:1).

Pastor David Phani from Revival Center Church delivered a powerful sermon that clearly articulated the profound significance of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. His message reminded us that "God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us" (Romans 5:8). This central truth of our faith touched many hearts that day.

One of the service's most delightful moments came when our children's choir performed "An Easter Hallelujah." Kids played piano, violin, and saxophone, accompanying their peers' beautiful voices. As Scripture reminds us, "From the lips of children and infants you, Lord, have called forth your praise" (Matthew 21:16). Their performance truly exemplified this verse, bringing joy to everyone present.

The celebration continued with a "magic show" that incorporated the miraculous resurrection of our Lord Jesus. This unique approach helped illustrate the awe-inspiring truth that "He is not here; he has risen, just as he said" (Matthew 28:6).

We are deeply grateful to the entire congregation of Cross View for their dedication to spreading the Good News throughout our community. Their faithful efforts directly resulted in five new visitors joining us for this special celebration. As we're taught in Scripture, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!" (Romans 10:15).

The day concluded with a grand feast where fellowship and conversation flourished. Breaking bread together allowed us to build deeper connections and welcome newcomers into our church family.

Thank you, Cross View family, for giving us the opportunity to serve Jesus and extend His kingdom alongside you. As we continue forward together, may we remember Christ's commission: "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 28:19).

—Winifred and Vincy (Bloom for Jesus Ministries)







*Developing fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ along life's journey*

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The *Clarion* is published monthly by Cross View Lutheran Church.  
Items for inclusion should be sent via email to [clarion@crossview.net](mailto:clarion@crossview.net).



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional Worship in  
the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary Worship in  
the Great Commission Room

*Sunday services are also [live streamed](#).*

*Communion is on 2nd & 4th Sundays.*

## SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

## RECHARGE

Wednesdays, Sept. – May

5:00 PM Programming Begins

[www.crossview.net/recharge](http://www.crossview.net/recharge)

## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday, 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Friday, 9:00 AM – Noon

## CALENDAR

Our most current calendar is always  
available at [www.crossview.net/calendar](http://www.crossview.net/calendar)

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