

CROSSVIEW CLARION

June 2026

**"In the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us.
These gifts follow us all the days of our lives." –Pastor Reed Lessing**



Unwavering Gifts

A Sermon Series on Holy Communion

by Reed Lessing, Associate Pastor

For the past three summers, Pastor Steve and I have preached and taught through a section of Martin Luther's Small Catechism. We have taken up one of the so-called "Six Chief Parts" from Luther's pen. Pastor Steve and I have preached through the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, and Holy Baptism. It's now time to shine the light on the Lord's Supper.

In his Small Catechism Martin Luther explains Holy Communion with these words, "It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and drink."

Many of us connect the Eucharist with a favorite

communion hymn. What is yours? There are a number of excellent ones in our hymnal. Take, for instance, "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence," "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness," and "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing."

My most cherished communion hymn is "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table." It was composed by Friedrich Christian Heyder who calls the sacrament as a "covenant of hope and grace." His focus is on repentant humility and worthily receiving the sacrament. Note these words in the hymn's refrain: "Lord, may Thy body and Thy blood be for my soul the highest good."

Christ's true body and blood are God's greatest



gifts! How so? Luther writes, “In the Sacrament forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation are given to us.” These gifts follow us all the days of our lives. They are unwavering!

Here is our preaching lineup:

- “Christ’s True Body and Blood” (May 31)
- “For You” (June 7)
- “For the Forgiveness of Sin” (June 14)

Sunday morning Bible Classes will take up these topics:

- The Roman Catholic View of the Lord’s Supper
- The Protestant View of the Lord’s Supper
- The Lutheran View of the Lord’s Supper

I invite you to study and learn anew about the Lord’s Supper— then come to the table for your highest good!

Financial Update Year-to-Date Results

- Total Income is unfavorable with contributions \$53,084 or 8% lower than budget.
- Total Expenses were favorable with open positions being the key driver.
- A net surplus of income over expenses of \$24,028 is unfavorable to YTD budget.
- ECC Total Income was \$25,441 unfavorable with less student population than expected being the driver.
- ECC expenses are \$64,163 favorable to budget; with less students, less than planned teacher positions have been filled.
- The church carries a \$173,000 account receivable from the ECC to support cumulative operating deficits. This was reduced from \$193,000 in March.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
4/30/26	2026 Actual Year to Date	2026 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$589,846	\$642,930	(\$53,084)
Total Expenses	(\$565,818)	(\$599,575)	\$33,757
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$24,028	\$43,355	(\$19,327)



SUMMER CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday–Thursday, 9:00 AM–4:30 PM

Friday, 9:00 AM–Noon

Christian Education

UNWAVERING GIFTS: A BIBLE STUDY ON HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday mornings, May 31–June 14
9:30–10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed
Lessing

In his *Small Catechism* Martin Luther writes, “What is the Sacrament of the Altar? It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us Christians to eat and drink.” Luther’s scriptural confession of the Sacrament is worth studying and believing today. This Bible Study, led by Pastor Reed, will complement the sermon series that goes by the same title.

WRESTLING WITH GOD: INTERPRETING DIFFICULT OLD TESTAMENT PASSAGES

Sunday mornings, June 21–August 2
9:30–10:30 AM in the Sanctuary

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed
Lessing

The Old Testament is difficult to understand. How can the vengeful, angry God of the Old Testament be the same as the comforting, loving God of the New Testament?

How can these old narratives of death, revenge, and morally wrong choices guide you as a Christian? This study will guide you through the Old Testament to understand difficult and overlooked idea like violence in the book of Joshua, Israelite Sexual Laws, God’s Change of Mind as well as His Suffering. These and many more topics will be discussed and taught.

Early Childhood Center

THANK YOU— THRIVENT SMALL GROUP MEMBERS AND JARVIS FAMILY

The Early Childhood Center (ECC) has been incredibly blessed by the generosity and support of our community. One example is a small group from Cross View Lutheran Church, led by the Buuck family, who used their Thrivent cards and encouraged others to contribute toward classroom play and learning materials for both the ECC and its teachers. Their kindness has made a meaningful impact on our students and classrooms. We are also deeply grateful to Marcia Johnson for helping provide new classroom chairs for one of our rooms that hadn't had new chairs in decades and was in urgent need of replacements. In addition, the Jarvis family, whom we will greatly miss, since they moved out of state, generously purchased jumbo wooden blocks and a sensory table for one of our classrooms. These additions have quickly become favorites among the children and bring joy and enrichment to their daily learning experiences.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER LOGO

We are excited to unveil a refreshed ECC logo, developed through the creative leadership of Chris Roth, Phil Johnson, and our marketing team. This updated visual identity represents a thoughtful evolution of our brand and will strengthen how we present ECC across all platforms, including our website, marketing materials, and promotional outreach. This new logo positions ECC for a

more cohesive and recognizable presence as we continue to grow and expand our reach within the community. We are proud of this next step in our brand journey and look forward to launching it with our staff on June 5, alongside new merchandise and T-shirts that bring our refreshed identity to life.

The bright colors of the new logo communicate warmth, creativity, joy, and faith, while the main figure resembles a child joyfully reaching upward, symbolizing growth, wonder, confidence, and excitement. The upward movement reflects the learning, development, and spiritual growth the ECC nurtures each day, as children are guided in faith and encouraged to explore the world around them. The cross in the upper right corner serves not only as a symbol of our Christian foundation, but also as a visual "north star" the child is reaching toward, representing Christ at the center of our teaching, care, and community. The logo's friendly, modern style captures both the energy of childhood and the nurturing Christian foundation that shapes our work each day.



CHILDREN AND ADULT CARE FOOD PROGRAM (CACFP) AUDIT, NLSA CUMULATIVE REPORT, AND FINANCIAL AUDIT

We are pleased to share that we recently completed two audits, one for our food program through the State of Minnesota and another reviewing financial procedures in partnership with the church. Both went very well. The CACFP review resulted in only minor corrections and provided a meaningful opportunity to reflect on our current practices and identify areas for continued improvement. As a result, we have identified an area for additional CACFP training with our team, which we will begin incorporating using resources provided by the Department of Education. We also submitted our NLSA Cumulative Report to the district, ensuring that the goals identified by the accreditation team are being actively addressed and that areas of growth continue to be monitored. It is encouraging

to report that approximately 95% of the items identified for 2026 have already been completed in alignment with our NLSA accreditation requirements. Our financial audit was equally encouraging, highlighting the strong transparency and teamwork between the church and ECC. It affirmed the consistency and diligence with which our financial procedures are being followed. We are especially grateful for Alyssa Meger and Renne Kirchner, whose leadership has been instrumental in establishing and upholding these strong financial practices.

HOPPER GRADUATION— JUNE 4TH

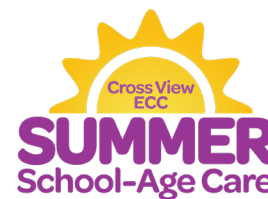
As we are preparing to welcome new students this summer and fall, we are also looking forward to our upcoming Hopper Graduation on June 4 at 5:00 PM. in the GCR. All Cross View Lutheran Church members are warmly invited to join us for this special celebration. Hopper Graduation is a meaningful send-off to kindergarten, where we gather as a community to sing, dance, and rejoice in the Lord together. While the occasion is bittersweet, the ECC is filled with pride and gratitude as we celebrate the seeds of faith, learning, and hope our students carry with them as they move on to new adventures. We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the dedicated staff who have supported and nurtured these children over the past five years. We look forward to celebrating these wonderful, God-loving graduates and honoring all they have accomplished.



SCHOOL AGE CARE (SAC) REGISTRATION INFORMATION

Cross View Early Childhood Center is excited to share that we have openings in our School Age Care (SAC) program for summer 2026! Our licensed program will run from June 8 through August 27 and is available for children entering Kindergarten through 4th grade, with flexible

3-, 4-, or 5-day care options and a minimum enrollment of four weeks. Throughout the summer, SAC students will enjoy plenty of outdoor time, engaging activities, and fun field trips that make for a memorable and enriching experience. If you are interested in enrolling your child, please email tania@crossview.net to receive a registration packet and additional program details. We also encourage you to share this opportunity with others in the community who may be looking for Christ centered quality summer care. We look forward to a fun-filled summer with our school-age students!



JOY, GIGGLES, AND LEARNING AT THE ECC



ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- Hopper teachers and students
- New enrollments starting this month
- Denny: For all the efficient repairs he coordinates and gets done for the ECC
- Thrivent Cards: Small group members for their generosity

Prayer Requests:

- Additional enrollment for all ages
- For a successful and smooth start to SAC and VBS

ECC MISSION STATEMENT

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

Children's Ministry



RAINFOREST FALLS VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Rainforest Falls is an onsite VBS experience for children age 3 (potty trained) thru 5th grade, the week of June 15–19 from 9:00 AM–12:00 PM. Join the experience through stations as we discover the nature of God and what it means to be rooted in relationship with God.

With your registration of \$20, each child will receive a t-shirt, snacks and supplies for the week. Note: If registering after May 24th, a t-shirt cannot be guaranteed.

Pay online or send a check, made out to Cross View Lutheran Church with VBS in the memo line, to Cross View Lutheran Church, attn: VBS.

[Register today on CV Connect](#) or scan this QR code.



LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL ICE CREAM PARTY

The Sunday School children had so much fun remembering all the great things they learned during Sunday School this past year while enjoying some ice cream.



FIRST BIBLES

Cross View's Sunday School preschool kiddos enjoyed their First Bibles during class time.



SUMMER FAMILY BAGS

Attention families! If you haven't received your summer family bag full of fun stuff to help develop faith in your kiddos over the summer, please see Barb Coffin. The bags include devotions, fun notes, crafts, and supplies that are easy to take with you on your family trips to the lake.

PARENT CORNER



Summer Bucket List

Have fun as a family doing some of the activities listed below!

- Read a Bible story outside
- Go on a prayer walk
- Memorize a "summer scripture" together
- Write Bible verses with sidewalk chalk
- Listen to worship music on a road trip
- Read a Psalm at sunset
- Pray for your neighbors while riding bikes or walking in your neighborhood
- Act out a favorite Bible story together
- Create a "God sightings" journal
- Invite a friend to VBS or church

Youth Ministry

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MAY SCHEDULE

- June 7–10: Rochester Servant Event
- June 17: All Youth Fellowship after VBS (12:00–2:00 PM. Bring your own lunch)

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MAY SCHEDULE

- June 7: No Youth; Rochester Servant Event
- June 14: Youth at CV (time extended—6:30–8:30 PM)
- June 17: All Youth Fellowship after VBS (12:00–2:00 PM. Bring your own lunch)
- June 21: No Youth; Father's Day
- June 28: Youth at CV (time extended—6:30–8:30 PM)

SOUTH DAKOTA MISSION TRIP YOUTH HOSTING CAFÉ CROSS VIEW

The youth attending the summer mission trip to South Dakota are hosting their last Café Cross View on Sunday, June 14. There will be a free will donation to help support these youths as they prepare for this service event in July! Thank you for your support!

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday, May 17, was the last day of Sunday School for the school year. There are no youth Sunday School classes during the summer. However, youth are invited to attend the adult class during the education hour this summer.

ROCHESTER SERVANT EVENT

On June 7th, 13 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!

Carmen Erickson	Xavier Mellema
Bridget Hawkins	DJ Severson
Clare Hawkins	Jacob Severson
Chuck Hawkins	Levi Severson
Lucas Johnson	Emmitt Wilking
Ethan Koch	Hannah Zahrte
Mitchell Koch	



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 3, six youth were confirmed into the Cross View family. It was a beautiful morning and service to celebrate the reaffirmation of their baptism.

Carmen Erickson	Noah Meger
Lucas Johnson	Leo Miller
Karl Knudson	Emmitt Wilking



GRADUATE RECOGNITION AND YOUTH SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 17, Cross View 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!

Isaiah Kelly	Annika Tran
Ella Meger	Giselle Weigle
Eleanor Porisch	Lauren Wentzien
Vivian Schroeder	

The youth also volunteered during the services with ushering, reading, greeting, and sharing their musical gifts. Cross View is blessed with these talented and servant-hearted youth!





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



Adult Ministry

SENIOR ADULT SWOOP AND SANDWICH

Cross View Senior Adults are invited to a "Swoop and Sandwich" gathering on Thursday, June 11, from Noon to 2:30 PM. They will gather for lunch and conversation followed by a fun afternoon playing the "Swoop" card game. (There will be a refresher on directions for playing the game.) Please bring your own lunch. Beverages will be provided. Sign up via CV Connect: [Sign up at CV Connect](#) now!

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will read *The Forest of Vanishing Stars* by Kristin Hamel for their June discussion. The book club will hold their meeting at church in room 120 on Monday, June 15, at 1:00 PM. Please feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.



Women's Ministry BUNCO Night

Thursday, June 25, 5:00–8:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall

5:00–5:30 PM: Appetizers, beverages, & fellowship

5:30–7:30 PM: Bunco

7:30–8:00 PM: Prizes

Sign up on CV Connect will be available June 7

No charge

No experience necessary

Invite a friend!

MOTHERS AND DAUGHTERS TEA

Enjoy a few more pictures from the Women's Ministry Mother and Daughter's Tea that didn't make the May issue of the *Clarion*.



MEN'S RETREAT AND WORK DAY AT CAMP OMEGA

Thank you also to all who served at Camp Omega on May 15–16!



THANK YOU FROM CORRIE'S HOUSE

A big THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to our charitable ingathering of gifts for Corrie's House, a residential program for teen girls who have been sexually exploited. As usual, Cross View generously provided many gifts to help make Corrie's House a safe and healing environment for these girls.

*Marcia, the Women's Ministry Group,
on behalf of everyone at Corrie's
House, I want to thank you all for
the generous donations. Your gifts
of clothing, gift cards and money
are appreciated and help us to
care for youth exiting a life of
sexual exploitation. You make
a difference.
God Bless. Jan Rygh*



CORRIE'S HOUSE

TNT – TWENTIES AND THIRTIES YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

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 held from 6:00–7:30 PM. Contact Hannah at 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:

- Wednesday, June 17: Mall of America
- Wednesday, July 22: Lunch/Dinner and Volunteer (FMSC)
- Thursday, August 20: End of Summer BBQ/Potluck (Cross View)



Looking for Hosts and Welcome Desk Attendants

The Welcome MAT is eagerly seeking new recruits for a couple of easiest ways to serve if you are looking for a place to plug in. Cross View needs Hosts (greeters) and Welcome Desk Attendants for both services. The Host positions simply require that you be at the entry door 15 minutes prior to the service. If you can smile and say welcome, that's a fit! The Welcome Desk Attendant is also asked to be present at the desk 15 minutes before the service, but also about 10 minutes after the service if visitors are missed prior. This ministry desperately needs more members, so prayerfully consider if this might be something you could easily do. Please contact Sue Harrison at kharrison1111@gmail.com with any questions or to volunteer.

Music Ministry

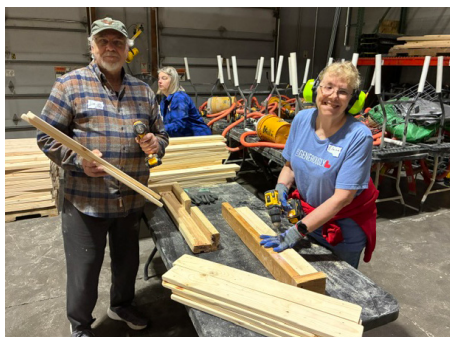
MULTI-GENERATIONAL "Y'ALL COME" CHOIR/HANDBELLS AUGUST 2

SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, August 2, for Cross View's 8:15 AM service, all are invited to participate in choir and/or handbell music. The choices and format will be appropriate for all ages (kindergarten to 100!), and we will have just one rehearsal (either the previous Wednesday or Saturday). This is a wonderful opportunity for families (including grandparents) to explore and experience leading music together in worship. We already have several families involved and would love a robust turnout for what promises to be a joyful and meaningful event. Look for more details in the coming weeks. Please contact David Mennicke at david@crossview.net if you are interested or have questions.

Outreach & Missions

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Thank you to all who served at Sleep in Heavenly Peace on May 9!



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 (johndaenzer@gmail.com) or Michael Kibat (mngkibat@centurylink.net).



Refreshed Website Is Live!

We invite you to explore the newly refreshed Cross View website. The update focuses on making it easier to find what you need—such as the livestream, calendar, and upcoming events. The website also plays a key role in welcoming those who may be considering Cross View.

If you'd like to get a quick overview of the new website, go to [FAQ](#) under the Connect header and click on the YouTube link at the top of the page. No matter what device you use—phone, tablet, or desktop—the address remains the same: www.crossview.net.

Special thanks for the efforts of Chris Roth, Ben Mangum, Barb Hammer, Eden Garmen, and many assists from other Marketing Team members including Greg McCollough, Gregg Poppe, Quynn Iske, John Etchison and Renee Kirchner. It took a team to update Cross View's website. Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much!

—Phil Johnson
Marketing Team MAT Leader



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.



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

SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Thurs., 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

Fri., 9:00 AM – Noon

CALENDAR

Our most current calendar is always available at www.crossview.net/calendar

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