

CROSSVIEW CLARION

May 2025

"Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God?" – Hannah Zahрте



Do You?

by Hannah Zahрте, Director of Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

On May 4, we have the opportunity to witness eleven 8th graders confirm their faith in front of the congregation. What a momentous occasion to celebrate!

It's hard to watch these youth confirm their faith and not think back on one's own confirmation. Standing in front of congregation members, family, friends, and publicly professing one's faith is a big deal.

It's a big deal for these confirmands, but it's also a reminder for us as we witness it. We are called to confirm our faith every day; not just on the day when we are confirmed. We are called to acknowledge the gifts that God gave us in our Baptism daily.

We have been chosen by God, saved by His Son's sacrifice on the cross, and reborn through the waters of Baptism. However, we fail. We sin every day. We don't always live according to God's Word. We don't always remain faithful to the confessions and the Church. We need God's loving and gracious forgiveness. And, in Jesus, that is exactly what He provides! We have a loving Father who sent His Son to earth, to live, die, and rise again for us. He defeated sin, death, and the devil; and because of that sacrifice we have hope and salvation.

Maybe you've been confirmed and remember the questions you were asked. Here are two questions asked when students confirm their faith:

1. "Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?"

2. "Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?"

Read through those questions again and reflect on them.

Witnessing young people respond to these questions, full of faith, with "I do, by the grace of God," is very impactful.

While we celebrate these confirmands, and all future confirmands, pray for them. Pray for their contin-

ued faith journey, that they would keep Jesus close, and be able to share God's love with those around them in all that they say and do. Pray that God would keep them faithful in their journey through this life. Then, ask God to help keep you faithful, as well, especially when faced with temptations and hardships.

Will you stand strong in your faith, like these confirmands? Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death? Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?

Do you?

Financial Update Year-to-Date Results

- Year to date income is \$8,218 unfavorable to budget and \$23,880 less than YTD 2024.
- 2025 pledges were strong. Timing of contributions versus budgeted timing is likely causing the shortfall.
- 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 three rooms and vacation credits.
- ECC Expenses are favorable to budget.
- ECC Net Deficit is unfavorable to budget by \$11,637

Cross View Lutheran Church			
3/31/25	2025 Actual Year to Date	2025 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$457,384	\$465,602	(\$8,218)
Total Expenses	(\$413,017)	(\$427,749)	\$14,732
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$44,367	\$37,853	\$6,514
General Fund Ending Balance	\$501,766	\$495,251	

LCEF Offers All Access Account

An All Access Account with LCEF gives you the best of both worlds; convenient access to your funds while making a lasting impact on Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) ministries. Earn interest while keeping your money accessible for when you need it. Current rates are 1.50% up to 4.00%. To learn more, go to: www.lcef.org



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 or Michael Kibat at mgkibat@centurylink.net.



Christian Education

STOP RUNNING SCARED

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed Lessing

Dates: Sunday mornings, 4/27–6/1

This study, led by Pastor Reed, intersects with our Easter Season Series. All are invited to study a number of psalms that address our fear of people, the future, sudden reversals, and the like.



1 TIMOTHY: USING YOUR GIFTS TO BUILD UP HIS CHURCH

Teacher: Roy Campen

Dates: Sunday mornings, 4/27–5/18

Location: Fellowship Hall

Please join this study drawing from Crossways and other resources. We will explore 1st Timothy for four weeks. It will help you connect to this letter from Paul. The book of Timothy was known as Paul's pastoral letter that was intended to give guidance to the young Pastor who Paul referred to as my "son".

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.



LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL ICE CREAM PARTY

Sunday, May 18 is our last day of Sunday School, and the classrooms are all having a fun ice cream party to celebrate a fun year!

PARENT CORNER



*We just finished an awesome sermon series last month called **Life Verses**. It is so important to read the Bible together as a family, but it can be hard to find a fun way to do it. How about trying SOAP! See below. It is a way to study the Bible at home.*

- S**—Scripture (pick any Scripture and read it several times)
- O**—Observation (read around the passage to learn the theme and what the passage is saying)
- A**—Application (talk about how it applies to your life)
- P**—Prayer (end in prayer together)

Youth Ministry

NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING YOUTH HOSTING CAFÉ CROSS VIEW

The youth attending the Gathering will be hosting Café Cross View every second Sunday of the month, running from January to June. There will be a free will donation to help support the youth as they prepare for this big event in July!

Thank you for your support!

WELCOMING 6TH AND 8TH GRADERS

As the school year comes to a close, our Junior and Senior High youth groups will gain new members! Starting Sunday, May 18, the 8th grade youth will be invited to start attending Senior High Youth Group. Then on Wednesday,

May 21, the 6th graders will be welcomed to our Junior High ministry during a Fellowship Night here at Cross View. We look forward to seeing new faces and creating new relationships!

JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

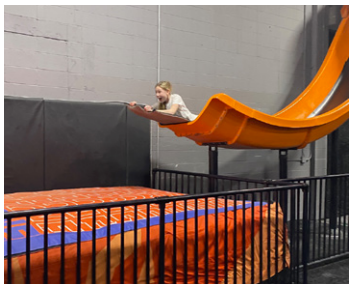
Sunday, May 18 will be the last day of Sunday School for the school year. There will be no youth Sunday School classes during the summer.

Youth are invited to attend the adult class during the education hour this summer.

JUNIOR HIGH AT SKY ZONE

The Junior High youth went to Sky Zone in Edina on

◀ Saturday, April 12. The twelve youth had a fun time jumping, climbing, and doing all sorts of fun things while there!



CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 4, our eleven 8th graders will confirm their faith in front of the congregation! The service will be at 10:45 AM. Both services this Sunday will be held in the sanctuary.

CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 4

10:45 AM Worship Service

Both services that Sunday will be in the Sanctuary

A BIG THANK YOU!

Cross View's youth thank everyone who participated in the Lenten Meals and the Easter Breakfast. Proceeds support their upcoming trip to the LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans this July as well as other youth events.



YOUTH GATHERING AND SENIOR HIGH CURLING

The participants going on the Gathering and our senior high youth went to the Chaska Curling Center for some curling fun on April 13. The 23 youth and 5 adults had a blast on and off the ice!



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH MAY SCHEDULE

- May 4: Confirmation Sunday
- May 18: Youth Sunday; 8th graders join Senior High, 6:30–8:00 PM
- May 21: Junior High Fellowship Night at CV (6th graders Welcome), 6:30–8:00 PM

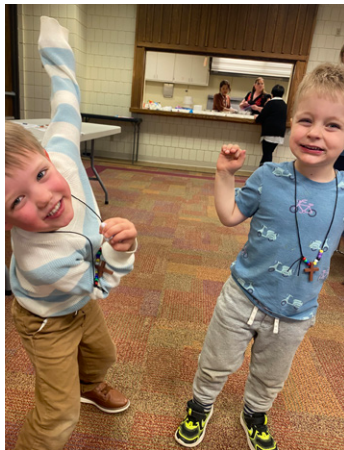
SENIOR HIGH YOUTH MAY SCHEDULE

- May 4: Youth at CV
- May 11: No Youth; Mother's Day
- May 18: Youth Sunday; Senior Recognition; Youth at CV (Welcome 8th Graders)
- May 25: No Youth; Memorial Day Weekend

Early Childhood Center

ECC CELEBRATES EASTER

In April the Early Childhood Center celebrated Easter. The center had lots of fun learning what the colors of Easter mean through Easter eggs, light bulbs, food, and jellybeans. Below you will find pictures of our fun Chapel and party. We also used the Empowered Cross to teach the children how you can be plugged into the Easter Story.



ECC PASSES NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL ACCREDITATION

The National Lutheran School Accreditation team was at Cross View April 13–15. It was a great time to have seven current LCMS workers walk around our Early Childhood Center and see the amazing things that the teachers are doing. The ECC passed with a 93%. That is truly amazing.

Here are top 5 strengths.

1. Relationships, Relationships, Relationships
2. Staff Retention
3. Faith going home with the families
4. Christmas and Easter events are well attended and show collaboration between the church and the school.
5. Easter and Christmas chapel allow for faith, growth, and other worship opportunities

Thank you for all your prayers during this process and leading up to it.



NOTICE OF NONDISCRIMINATORY POLICY AS TO STUDENTS

Cross View Early Childhood Center admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.

ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- All the families that came to our Easter Chapel to hear how Jesus died for them.
- Our NLSA visit went amazing.
- Our school age program is almost ready.

Prayer Requests:

- For the transition of the ECC into new leadership
- All our sick little kids who are struggling with RSV and other illnesses.

ECC MISSION STATEMENT

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

Music Ministry

CROSS VIEW TO LEAD MUSIC FOR MN SOUTH DISTRICT CONVENTION OPENING SERVICE

Thursday, June 12, 7:00 PM at Concordia University, St. Paul

Cross View Lutheran Church's music program has been invited to lead the music for the LCMS Minnesota South District triennial convention in June. Cross View's Director of Music and Choir Ministries, David Mennicke, is planning and conducting the music for the service. Cross View organist Brian De Young will also serve.

A special Festival Choir will lead the Opening Service on Thursday night, June 12 at 7:00 PM in the Gangelhoff Center at Concordia University, St. Paul. In addition to the Festival Choir, the service will feature a professional brass quartet, the same group that played for Cross View's 8:15 AM Easter service.

Choral singers from throughout the region are encouraged to participate, particularly choir alumni of CSP. In addition to leading hymns and a festival setting of LSB Setting 2, the Festival Choir will sing music to highlight the convention theme, "So That...". Featured choral music includes a newly composed Alleluia verse by David Mennicke, "Create in Me," "Praise His Holy Name," and "E'en So, Lord Jesus Quickly Come."

The rehearsal schedule is flexible and minimal to allow as many singers as possible to participate. In preparation for the June 12 service, choral singers should attend at least two of the rehearsals listed below, *preferably* including the June 11 rehearsal in the Gangelhoff Center at CSP. Parking is free at both the Cross View and CSP sites.

Rehearsal options (at least two of these):

- Wednesday, May 28, 6:45–8:15 PM at Cross View Lutheran Church
- Sunday, June 1, 6:45–8:15 PM at Concordia, St. Paul Buetow Music Center (choir room), 300 Hamline Avenue North, St. Paul
- Monday June 2, 6:45–8:15 PM at Concordia, St. Paul Buetow Music Center (choir room),
- Wednesday, June 4, 6:45–8:15 PM at Cross View Lutheran Church
- Sunday, June 8, 6:45–8:15 PM at Concordia, St. Paul Buetow Music Center (room tba)
- Monday, June 9, 6:45–8:15 PM at Concordia, St. Paul Buetow Music Center (room tba)
- Wednesday, June 11, 6:45–8:45 PM at Concordia St. Paul Gangelhoff Center, 235 Hamline Ave N, St Paul (*Please prioritize this "dress rehearsal" if possible.*)

Final warm-up and sound check prior to the service is at Concordia, St. Paul Gangelhoff Center on Thursday, June 12, 5:30 PM. The service begins at 7:00 PM.

We look forward to a musically rich, socially rewarding, and spiritually fulfilling service. Questions can be emailed to David Mennicke at david@crossview.net or call or texted to 651-208-4984. God's blessings to you all!



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

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Looking for small group Men's Bible Study? Join a group of guys at the Original Pancake House in Eden Prairie on Fridays at 7:00 AM for a weekly study of Lamentations. Contact Dan Battcher at dtbattcher@gmail.com with questions.

ARISE WITH THE GUYS

You are invited to attend Arise with the Guys program at Grace Church in Eden Prairie on May 3rd with other Christian brothers from Cross View. Meet at Cross View at 7:30 AM and carpool together to Grace for the program from 9:00–11:00 AM. The cost is \$10. Please sign up for the event at arisewiththeguys.com and [register on CV Connect](#) by May 1st so they can plan on carpooling. Contact Dan Battcher at dtbattcher@gmail.com or Dave Wagner at dave@ambrosiacoffeemn.com with questions.



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 or complete the [interest form on our website](#).

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's book club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, May 19, at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing the book *The Art Thief* by Michael Finkel. Please feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.



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 and there has been a change in time and days. Bible studies will be held on Mondays and outings on Thursdays; both running from 6:00–7:30 PM. Contact Nicole at nclvvo@gmail.com or Hannah at hannah@crossview.net with questions or to be added to the TNT GroupMe.



Spring Sessions:

- May 5: Bible Study at Cross View
- May 22: Spring Service Project

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 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

LERT TRAINING

A Basic Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) Training class will be held at Cross View on Saturday, May 10 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM. A light breakfast and lunch will be served.

Participants are urged to register on CV Connect and pre-register at https://www.lcms-lert.org/need/detail/?need_id=1066238 before April 27, so we have the proper materials for everyone. The registration fee of \$20 per person will cover the cost of lunch, snacks, training materials, and LERT T-shirt. If you have questions, please contact Phil Johnson at philj23@gmail.com or Amy Gundermann at Amy@CrossView.net.

MEN'S RETREAT AND WORK DAY AT CAMP OMEGA

Men of all ages are welcome to join us for a retreat and work day at Camp Omega on May 16–17. We will meet at church at 4:30 PM on Friday and grab dinner on the way to camp. We plan to leave by 4:30 PM on Saturday to return to Cross View. You are welcome to join us as we help them prepare for the summer camp programming. We anticipate projects such as trail-clearing, picnic table repairs, light construction projects, and cleaning. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. Sign up on CV Connect by May 12th. Contact Dan Battcher at dtbattcher@gmail.com with questions.



CAREPORTAL MINISTRY

Zoom Training: Thursday, May 8, from 6:30–8:00 PM

There is a training offered via Zoom for those interested in becoming a member of our CarePortal Response Team. If you'd like to get involved on any of these teams to help families in crisis, please contact Pam Olsen at careportal@crossview.net.

CarePortal

SERVICE OPPORTUNITY AT SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Join us on June 12th for volunteering 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!



Thank You, EasterFest Volunteers!

Thank you to everyone who helped to make our EasterFest outreach event a success! We had 481 people in attendance for a beautiful morning celebrating the hope we have in Jesus.





Holy Week at Cross View

What a powerful, grace-filled journey we shared together during Holy Week.

On Palm Sunday, we lifted our voices in praise, welcoming our King with hosannas and waving palms. We also welcomed new members to Cross View.

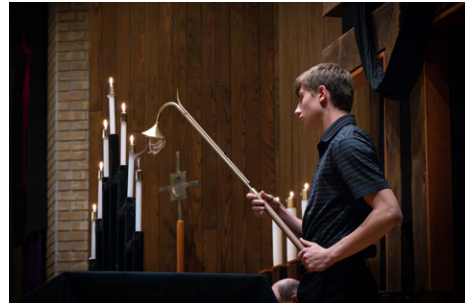
On Maundy Thursday, we remembered the love that serves, as Jesus washed feet and shared His final meal. We

were also blessed to see the members of our “Welcome to the Lord’s Table” class receive their first communion.

On Good Friday, we stood at the foot of the cross, reflecting on the weight of His sacrifice.

And on Easter Sunday, we rejoiced—He is risen! Death is defeated, hope is alive, and our Savior is victorious! May the joy of the resurrection continue to fill your hearts!







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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
952-941-1094, steve@crossview.net

Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, Associate Pastor
952-941-1094, reed@crossview.net

Barbara Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry
952-243-2062, barb@crossview.net

Renee Kirchner, Church Administration
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Amy Gundermann, Director of Outreach and Adult Ministries
Contemporary Worship Team Leader
952-243-2053, amy@crossview.net

Hannah Zahrt, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
952-243-2047, hannah@crossview.net

Ben Mangum, Multimedia Storyteller and Producer
952-243-2044, ben@crossview.net

Tania Rivera Perez, Director of Early Childhood Center
952-941-5215, tania@crossview.net

Dr. David Mennicke, Director of Music and Choir Ministries
952-243-2048, david@crossview.net

Brian De Young, Organist
952-243-2047, brian@crossview.net

Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
952-243-2046, alyssa@crossview.net

José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Matthew Salzwedel, President

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

www.crossview.net/recharge

OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri., 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

CALENDAR

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

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