

CROSS VIEW CLARION

October 2025

"The Family Ministry MAT has been created to help equip parents ... in their role as the main faith shaper of their children" – Barb Coffin



What are Those Seeds of Faith Anyway?

by Dcs. Barb Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry

As you know, parents spend the most time and have the most influence on their children than anyone else. I am also always sharing how parents are the key faith shapers of their children. The Family Ministry MAT has been created to help equip parents more specifically in their role of being the main faith shaper of their children without making families busier by adding more activities. The focus of the Family Ministry MAT is helping parents in the home developing the faith of their children. Every month the Family Ministry MAT is going to present Cross View families with a challenge. This past month was to have at least three meals together as a family. The Seeds of Faith are a way to count how many meals Cross View families are having. Place one seed into the empty vase for every meal you have as a family.

The family monthly Challenge for October is

prayer! Pray together at least three times a week as a family. Pray together with spouses, friends, kids, grandkids, and parents. A great model to use is ACTS.

Adoration
Confession
Thanksgiving
Supplication

Adoration is the act of offering deep love, respect and worship to God. Some examples of adoration are when we praise the Lord for His forgiveness or worship Him as our amazing Creator. Confession is admitting your guilt or sins before the Lord. This can be done silently or together. There are many things we could confess but some examples are being sorry for not doing something you should have done or for having bad thoughts about your neighbor. ►

◀ Thanksgiving is the expression of gratitude to God. Thanksgiving can be expressed in many ways. You can thank the Lord for your good grades or for your promotion at work. Finally, supplication is asking for something of God. We all have a lot of things to ask God for, and this one is probably the easiest to share examples. An example might be to ask for courage in your situation or guidance in a decision.



comfort and protection in their service to the Lord. The final week of October let us all be in prayer for our school or work. Ask the Lord that He would use you where you are.

What are some ways that you can organically include prayer in your day?

- Put Post it notes of prayer requests on your bathroom mirror and pray as you wash your hands.
- Pray while you fold your children's laundry.
- Pray with your kids when you hear an emergency vehicle drive by.
- Pray together at meals and bedtime.
- Pray for your kids when you see their birth-date on something (on the clock or a piece of paper).
- Put prayer requests in your personal calendar or make a prayer calendar.

Let's all be in prayer in October and watch how the Seeds of Faith grow at our Family Ministry display in the narthex.

LCEF Shared Interest Program

Over 75 Cross View families have invested in the LCEF. Are you aware that you can multiply your giving to Cross View by sharing the interest from your LCEF investment?

The Shared Interest Program of Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF) allows you to make meaningful donations by gifting the interest you earn on your investments to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod ministry of your choice.

In just three easy steps, you will be on your way to sharing your interest.

1. Download the form by visiting lcef.org/shared or

scanning the QR code.

2. Fill out the form with the details of the ministry of your choice. Not sure where to begin? LCEF has options available for donations to continue growing our church. Learn more by visiting lcef.org/give.

3. Email the form to request@lcef.org or mail the form to: PO Box 229009, St. Louis, MO 63122-9009

Thank you for your generosity and for making a difference. You are leaving a lasting impact for the future of our church.



LUTHERAN CHURCH
EXTENSION FUND

Christian Education

1 JOHN: REAL FAITH SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14–OCTOBER 12 9:30–10:30 AM

Throughout 1 John the apostle contrasts real faith with a fake and phony faith. Anybody can say that they have faith, but is it the real deal or false façade? That's why the expression, "we know" appears sixteen times in 1 John. John repeatedly says that we can know if we have a living faith in Jesus or not. We can know if we're a believer or just happen to feel good. We can know if we're hearing Christ's voice or just experiencing a temporary chemical imbalance in our brains. It's of eternal importance that we have an authentic faith in Jesus. The Bible Study lineup is as follows:

- September 7, 14 and 21: An Overview of 1 John
- September 28: 1 John 2:3–11
- October 5: 1 John 2:18–29
- October 12: 1 John 3:20–21
- October 19: 1 John 4:1–6; 5:6–8, 21

Please join us as we dig deeply into this amazing letter from John. You will come away with a much better idea of what following Jesus looks like. You'll have Real Faith!

WELCOME TO CROSS VIEW NEW MEMBER CLASS SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14–OCTOBER 19 9:30–10:30 AM

Join us at 9:30–10:30 AM on Sundays this fall for our Welcome to Cross View series. This is a series of classes for anyone interested in becoming a member and for those who have been members and want a refresher. You'll get an overview of the Cross View family, learn the heart of the Cross View family, and learn how our heart works itself out in our Cross View family. If you have questions, contact Ann Ryan at annryan@hotmail.com or the church office at 952-941-1094.

GRACE & TRUTH FOR MOMS SUNDAYS, SEPTEMBER 14–OCTOBER 12 9:30–10:30 AM (\$22 FOR MATERIALS)

Have you ever felt stuck in negative patterns with your children? Do anger, anxiety, or other emotions like shame or discouragement plague your interactions with your kids? If so, Mama, you're not alone! We want you to get to the root of difficult emotions and interactions in parenting so you can be set free by the grace and truth God has for you. This class will include video content and group discussions facilitated by Meggin Carlson. Learn more at connectedfamilies.org/courses/grace-truth-moms/. Sign up on CV Connect or contact Meggin Carlson with questions at meggincarlson@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP (CLSD) – FALL 2025

CLSD is a community Bible study that is offered free of charge to individuals and congregations to help them grow as disciples who make disciples. Our 2025 fall class will be "Genesis 1-11: From Creation to Confusion" with Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing. You can choose to join in person or online.



When:

- Wednesdays, September 10 through November 19
- No class October 15
- Onsite and livestream - Wednesday evenings 6:30–8:00 PM
- Archived meetings accessed by offsite participants on demand.

Our Regular Evening Schedule

- 6:30–6:35 PM: Opening
- 6:35–7:15 PM: Presenter Lecture
- 7:15–7:25 PM: Q & A with Presenter
- 7:25–8:00 PM: Small Group Discussion

Make sure to register on CV Connect. Use the pull-down menu to select either "IN-PERSON - Class (limited onsite seating)" or "ONLINE - Class via <https://crossviewedina.online.church/>."

We are still looking for more leaders. If you are willing to serve as a Discussion Group Leader, select the "Yes" button.

If you have questions or need information, contact Pastor Steve at steve@crossview.net.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY AT AMBROSIA

Join us for a continued study on the book of Hebrews starting on September 13th from 9:30–11:00 AM. We meet every other Saturday at Ambrosia Coffee Shop, 7373 France Ave. S., Edina.

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY

Have you ever wanted to learn from the Bible and others in a discussion-oriented format? Fellow Christians have been meeting every other Thursday at 9:30–11:00 AM in the fireside room at church to study and discuss how the Old Testament Tabernacle and God's message to Moses guided the Israelites through the wilderness to the chosen land. They are looking at how God's guidelines and covenants made between Him and His people have impacted the New Covenant and true Temple, Jesus Christ. Come join us September 4th and every two weeks thereafter. Contact Steve Koepcke if you have any questions.

Early Childhood Center

TRANSITIONS AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER OPEN HOUSE

The start of the new school year brought many changes in the Early Childhood Center. Not only did most preschool students transition to the next classroom, but we also welcomed many new families to the center over the past month.

To aid in transitions of all students and allow an opportunity for children and parents to meet their new teachers and see their new classrooms, the ECC hosted an open house at the end of August. Teachers and staff welcomed many new and familiar faces as families explored the center together.

NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Amy Bassett started working as the new Assistant Director of the Early Childhood Center on September 2nd. Amy has worked in the early childhood field for over 11 years and loves watching kids learn and grow. As a Sunday school and Vacation Bible School teacher, Amy knows that faith starts early and is excited to work at the ECC. Amy has lived in Minnesota her entire life. She has two grown boys, ages 28 and 25. Amy enjoys a wide range of music, spending time with her girlfriends and her children, and attending various fairs and events throughout the Twin Cities.



NEW TEACHERS HIRED

The Early Childhood Center welcomed two teachers in September. Mikaela Cox joined the team on September 15th and 3 days later, Markeda Dixon started. Mikaela is one of the ECC support/float teachers assigned to various classrooms as needed. Markeda will be working with toddlers as a teacher in the Teddies classroom. Staff, children and families are excited to get to know the newest members of the teaching team!



GRANDPARENTS DAY

At the time of this writing, Early Childhood Center children and teachers are preparing to celebrate Grandparents Day on September 26th. Grandparents will be welcomed into classrooms where they will read stories, do crafts, enjoy a snack and time with their grandchildren. Stay tuned for pictures in next month's *Clarion*.

MUSIC WITH MS. SUSAN

The Early Childhood Center is blessed to have Susan Bentley return on Mondays this school year to sing and explore music with each classroom. Susan has been sharing

her musical gifts with ECC children and teachers for a number of years, and everyone is excited to spend time with her again this year. It is a highlight of our week!



ENJOYING TIME IN THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

There's always a lot of fun and a lot of learning happening in the ECC. Enjoy these photos that show some of what's been going on.



ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- For Amy Bassett, the new ECC Assistant Director
- For 2 new teachers, Mikaela Cox and Markeda Dixon
- For several new families that started attending the ECC

Prayer Requests:

- For all new children, families, and employees to feel warmly welcomed with the love of Jesus from all other staff, children and families
- For health and safety of everyone in the ECC— children and staff

ECC MISSION STATEMENT

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

Children's Ministry



TRUNK OR TREAT

Save the date for Sunday, October 26, at 3:00–5:00 PM for our fun family ministry and outreach event—Trunk or Treat. The donation trees in the narthex are up and requesting candy and drink donations. [Cross View Connect](#) has the sign up for decorating trunks and all the volunteers we need to make this a successful event. We need your trunk! This is a fun event for all. Please contact Barb Coffin with questions.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Parents, come check out what your kiddos are learning and going to learn in Sunday School this coming year on Sunday, October 12, at 9:30–10:30 AM in each of your children's classrooms. Once you know what is going on in their class you can then talk about it at home.

KIDSTITUTE HALLOWEEN PARTY

All kids in kindergarten to 6th grade are welcome to come to a fun fellowship night on Wednesday, October 29, at 6:30–7:30 PM. We will have Halloween/fall themed games and snacks for the kids to enjoy!

FAMILY MINISTRY SEEDS OF FAITH

The Family Ministry challenge for October is praying together. So, let's move those seeds at the Family Ministry display in the narthex and put a seed in the vase for every time you pray together! Check out this month's bulletin for a great insert of tips of how to pray together as a family.

UPCOMING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DATES — OCTOBER 2025

- Sunday, October 5: Celebration of First Bible Stepping Stone (two-year-olds) and Adventure Bible Stepping Stone (second grade)
- Sunday, October 12: Sunday School Open House
- Wednesday, October 15: No Kidstute due to MEA weekend
- Sunday, October 26: Children's Christmas Celebration practices begin
- Sunday, October 26: Trunk or Treat 3:00–5:00 PM
- Wednesday, October 29: Kidstute in-classroom Halloween party 6:30–7:30 PM
- November 2025
- Wednesday, November 26: Thanksgiving Eve—No Kidstute

PARENT CORNER



How do we put Christ into Halloween?

1. Hand out glow sticks and talk about Christ being the light of the world
2. Put Bible verses on the candy you pass out
3. Have your kids dress up as Bible characters
4. Decorate a pumpkin with a Bible message or picture
5. Make it a service day as a family

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



Youth Ministry

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 11: Youth District Day at CSP, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM
- October 25: Rake and Run Fundraiser
- October 26: Service Opportunity – Trunk or Treat, 3:00–5:00 PM

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 5: Youth at CV
- October 11: Youth District Day at CSP, 10:00 AM–4:00 PM
- October 12: No Youth
- October 19: Youth at CV
- October 25: Rake and Run Fundraiser
- October 26: No Youth; Service Opportunity – Trunk or Treat, 3:00–5:00 PM

DISTRICT YOUTH DAY

Junior and Senior High youth are invited to join youth in grades 6–12 from all over Minnesota at Concordia St. Paul for time in Bible study, worship, fun activities, and break-out sessions as we learn about our new identity in Christ. Register by September 30th.



Event Details:

- Date: Saturday, October 11
- Time: 10:00 AM–4:00 PM

Schedule:

- 9:30–10:15 AM: Registration open
- 10:00–11:00 AM: Opening Mass Event
- 11:00 AM –12:00 PM: Interactive Zone
- 12:00–1:00 PM: Pizza Lunch
- 1:00–3:00 PM: Breakout Sessions
- 3:00–4:00 PM: Closing Mass Event



RAKE AND RUN

The Junior and Senior High youth will do their annual Rake and Run fundraiser on Saturday, October 25. As of now, there are no additional lawns needed. Keep an eye on any announcements if anything changes.

For those that are supplying lawns, Hannah will contact you the week of October 19 to give a rough estimate of what time the youth and adults will be at your house. The youth ask for a donation of \$7 per bag raked to help fund the Senior High's summer mission trip as well as other youth activities. However, this donation is not mandatory. We are happy to rake your lawn regardless.

If any youth and adults are planning to help rake and drive, please sign up [via CV Connect](#).



REALITY APOLOGETICS CONFERENCE

Junior and Senior High youth, along with leaders and chaperones, have the opportunity to attend a conference at Grace Church titled "The Story of Reality" on November 7–8. This conference is put on by the company Stand to Reason (STR) and discusses Christian Apologetics (defending the faith) and hot topics like creation, sexuality, social media, mental health, and many others. Please [sign up via CV Connect](#) by October 19.

Conference Details:

- When: 4:40 PM November 7 through 8:00 PM November 8 at Grace Church
- Drop off and pick up at Cross View
- Housing: We will be staying at Cross View overnight to eliminate drop-offs and pick-ups
- Cost: \$75 per person (adults as well)
- Transportation: We are asking our chaperones to drive youth to and from the conference

Adult Ministry

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's book club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, October 20, at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing the book *West With Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge. Please feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.



MEN'S MINISTRY FALL BREAKFAST

The Men's Ministry will be hosting a breakfast on October 4th at Cross View with guest speaker Jerrod Sebesta, author of *Life-Undeferred* and former meteorologist for KARE11. Please plan to arrive at 7:45 AM and the event will conclude at 10:00 AM. Cost: \$30/adult, \$15/youth, or reserve a table for 6 for \$160.



[Register on CV Connect](#) by October 1st. Contact Dave Wagner with questions at dave@ambrosiacoffeemn.com.

FALL POTLUCK— SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Join us for a Fall Potluck hosted by the Senior Adult Ministry at Cross View for those 60+. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, October 12, from 4:00–6:00 PM. [Sign up on CV Connect](#) or at the Registration Desk. Contact Kathy Fulkerson at kkfulkerson@yahoo.com or Sue Harrison at kharrison1111@gmail.com with questions.

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 and show others how to play. Questions? Contact John Daenzer at johndaenzer@gmail.com or Michael Kibat at mngkibat@centurylink.net.



Thank You Note

"Many thanks to you all for the thoughtful gift bag you sent to me. Your kindness is much appreciated."
—Gene Menzel

WOMEN'S FALL LUNCHEON 2025

All Cross View women are invited to attend our annual Fall Luncheon on Saturday, November 1, from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM. The event will once again be held in The Great Commission Room here at Cross View. Bring a friend and enjoy a lovely catered lunch and an inspirational presentation. Our theme this year is "Shine Like Stars" based on Philippians 2:15 and our guest speaker will be Gaye Lindfors (gayelindfors.com). Registration is open at CV Connect.



TNT – TWENTIES & 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! Bible studies and outings are held every second and fourth Thursdays of the month; 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.



Fall Sessions:

- October 9: Bible Study and painting (Cross View)
- October 23: Dinner and FMSC
- November 14: Friendsgiving Potluck and making tie blankets (Krueger's)

Music Ministry

BELLS OF THE LAKE CONCERT AT CROSS VIEW

The Bells of the Lakes handbell ensemble will present: *Music is Life*, an hour-long concert on Saturday, October 25, at 6:30 PM at Cross View Lutheran Church in the Great Commission Room (GCR). This group is a semi-professional 17-member handbell ensemble based in Minneapolis and led by founder director William Mathis, a nationally renowned handbell and choral clinician/arranger. This concert kicks off the group's 30th season. Price: Freewill offering to Cross View Lutheran Church. All ages are welcome, so please invite any and all!

Bells of the Lakes, founded in 1996, is a Twin Cities community handbell ensemble. Recognizing the unique role the arts play in building strong communities, their mission is to promote musical excellence in performance, collaboration, and education through the medium of handbells. They accomplish this through collaborative, professional-calibre performances and educational events.

For more information about the ensemble and their upcoming performances, see bellsofthelakes.org.



Outreach & Missions

MN SOUTH BASIC LERT AND BASIC CHAINSAW TRAINING October 24–25, Camp Omega

Consider attending a “combo” training weekend for those wanting Basic Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT) training and/or Basic LERT Chainsaw training.

The weekend of sessions at Camp Omega starts on Friday, October 24, with Basic LERT training on Friday afternoon/evening from 4:30–8:30 PM. (This session is especially for those who need to complete Basic LERT training, a requirement to take the Basic Chainsaw training.) On Saturday, October 25, MN South District’s FIRST Basic Chainsaw training will take begin at 8:00 AM and conclude between 4:00 and 5:00 PM. If you wish to attend both and stay at Camp Omega, we’ll have housing options available!

PLEASE NOTE that if you already have your LERT Volunteer Basic Training, you do NOT have to take it again to take the chainsaw training! You can simply register for the chainsaw training on Saturday. As well, Friday’s LERT training is perfectly “stand-alone” without the chainsaw training, so please encourage your friends to attend if they have not taken the basic LERT training!

Check out the training sign-up information on the LCMS LERT website at <https://www.lcms-lert.org/need/index/>. There are a limited number of slots available for both sessions.

CHARITABLE OUTREACH FOR FALL LUNCHEON

The Women’s Ministry Fall Luncheon Charitable Ingathering this year will be to collect donations for the Greater Minneapolis Crisis Nursery (crisisnursery.org) which provides support for the children of at risk families. Starting Sunday, October 12th, The Giving Trees will have tags with suggested items for you to donate to this worthy cause. Let’s be the hands and feet of Jesus to these families in need.



FALL FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Thank you for your generous response to our Fall Food Drive for VEAP. We collected 237 pounds of food! May God’s love be known to those who are in need in our community.

CAREPORTAL TRAINING

The next trainings offered via Zoom for those interested in becoming a member of our CarePortal Response Team will be on Monday, October 6, from 6:30–8:00 PM or Friday, October 24, from 11:30 AM–1:00 PM. If you’d like to get involved in helping families in crisis, please contact Pam Olsen at careportal@crossview.net.



HEARTFELT GRATITUDE FROM SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Following the bedding drive and bed building event, Cross View received a heartfelt thank you letter from Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Here’s part of what Susan Ryan, vice president of our local chapter, said:

Your generous donation of bedding will have a significant impact on our community, particularly for the children who will soon have the comfort of a cozy bed to sleep in... We were delighted also to have a group of volunteers from Cross View join us to build beds on Thursday, June 12th. Now we have something on which to put the bedding gifts you blessed us with. We know there is still work to be done and your ongoing support is crucial in our mission to ensure that NO KID SLEEPS ON THE FLOOR IN OUR TOWN!



Kick Off Sunday— September 7

On Sunday, September 7, we worshiped the Lord, connected with old and new friends, ate delicious cake, commissioned teachers, learned about educational

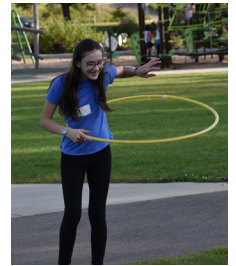
opportunities, and got fired up for a new year of mission and ministry at Cross View! We can't wait to see what God has in store for 2025-2026.



Church Picnic on Sunday, September 7

What's the perfect way to end a day that started with the kickoff to a new year of mission and ministry? How about a church picnic? That's exactly what Cross View members did

on Sunday, September 7. Families gathered at Lake Riley Park Pavilion for an evening filled with food, fun, games, and so much fun!





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
952-243-2045, renee@crossview.net

Hannah Zahrte, 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

6645 McCauley Trail West
Edina, MN 55439-1076

952-941-1094 (Office)
952-941-0009 (ECC)



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