CROSS VIEW
CLARION
October 2026

"As Christians, we are all God's workers, and we are all called to share the good news to those around us." –Hannah Zahrte

The Harvest

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

October is one of my favorite months of the year: the leaves are changing, the air is crisp, pumpkins and apples are ready to be picked, bonfires are waiting to be enjoyed, and activities at church and school are back in full swing.

There's so much to do during this season, and sometimes we can get bogged down with the busyness of it all. A new routine is settling in, and I hope and pray that one of those items is getting involved and building community at Cross View.

This year's ministry theme is Every Part Matters. Every single one of you matters. We all have different gifts and talents that we can use to move ministry forward and reflect God's love to others.

Along with having different gifts, we have also been set apart: set apart as Christians to carry out God's will, set apart to serve those around us, set apart to exemplify Christ in how we act and what we say, set apart to love others as Christ loves us, and set apart to bring those who don't know God to Him. In Luke 10:2, Jesus tells us, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field."

A lot of times, this verse can be interpreted to mean that only those in church work (i.e. pastors, deaconesses, church directors) are considered the "workers." But as Christians, we are all God's workers, and we are all called to share the good news to those around us. As Luke says, "the harvest is plentiful." There are so many people in this world that don't know the good news of Jesus. They don't know His grace, mercy, and forgiveness.

So, during this month of October, this month of harvest, challenge yourself and your family. Reach out to those you haven't seen at church in a while and invite them back. Strike up a conversation with someone at the grocery store or gas station. Hold the door open for someone. Smile and show kindness to someone who looks like they're having a tough day. If you're feeling bold and the opportunity is there, offer to pray with that person— and actually pray **with** them, not just **for** them later on when you might forget. As we each use the gifts God has given us, may we always remember that every part matters in His harvest field.

Financial Update
Year-to-Date Results

- Total Income was unfavorable to budget by $159,010, or approximately 13% lower than budget.
- Total Expenses were favorable to budget by $152,470 largely due to open positions remaining unfilled.
- As a result, Cross View is just behind budget by $6,540 through August 31st.
- The ECC Total Income was $172,720 unfavorable to budget. Fewer students compared to budget expectations is the primary driver.
- The ECC Total Expenses were $140,060 favorable to budget. With fewer students, fewer teacher positions have been filled.
- The ECC is $32,660 behind budget and the church carries an over $220,000 receivable from the ECC to support cumulative operating deficits.

Cross View Lutheran Church

8/31/26	2026 Actual Year to Date	2026 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	$1,020,777	$1,179,787	($159,010)
Total Expenses	($1,062,980)	($1,215,450)	$152,470
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	**($42,204)**	**($35,663)**	**($6,540)**

Welcome Cross View's New Field Work Student

Hello! My name is John Thomsen, and I am a DCE student at Concordia University St. Paul! For the duration of the school year, I will be shadowing Deaconess Barb Coffin at your congregation. My likes include meeting new people, music, animals, reading, and Dr. Pepper! During the summer I reside in New Richmond, WI, with my family. Looking forward to meeting all of you!

Christian Education

THE BOOK OF ACTS
Sunday mornings, September 20–November 22
9:30–10:30 AM in the Sanctuary
Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed

Come and study the Book of Acts! This New Testament book tells the story of how the early Christian church began at Pentecost. It's jamb-packed with exciting adventures of how the Holy Spirit gave believers the power to share the message of Jesus from Jerusalem to the rest of the world.

ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS
Sunday mornings, September 20–November 8
9:30–10:30 AM in Room 209
Teaching Leader: Jeff Coffin

The main thrust of the ministry of Jesus was always found in the Lord's Prayer in the words, "on earth as it is in heaven." Everywhere Jesus went he brought heaven, God's healing presence, to earth in the lives of everyone he met and who had faith to trust him. This class will study Jesus's encounters with the Roman Centurion, the Woman at the well, the Gerasene demoniac, Mary the mother of Jesus, and the Disciples on the road to Emmaus among others. Come and learn how Jesus will meet us in our lives and how we can take Jesus to the world to meet others with God's healing.

PARENT FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP
Sunday mornings, September 20–October 11
9:30–10:30 AM in the Children's Ministry Reception Room (Room 220)
Teaching Leader: Meggin Carlson

THE ART OF MARRIAGE
Sunday mornings, October 18–November 22:
9:30–10:30 AM in Rooms 210 & 211
Teaching Leader: Pastor Steve

The Art of Marriage is a new 6-session video-based marriage enrichment seminar produced by Family Life and facilitated by Pastor Steve. Stay posted for the upcoming signup as the class is limited to eight couples.

Community Light

School of Discipleship

Community Light School of Discipleship (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. This will be Cross View's sixth year offering CLSD!

If you haven't had a chance to be a part of CLSD in previous years, don't miss out this time. Invite a friend to join you for our study. Share our free online resources with family, friends, and others. It's as easy as directing them to www.crossview.net/communitylight. We have been entrusted with the greatest message on earth. Let's get ready for the year ahead by making use of this incredible opportunity.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- **Onsite** – Attend Community Light School of Discipleship at Cross View in a combination lecture assembly and small group breakout format.
- **Online** – Lectures and content for Community Light School of Discipleship are live-streamed. Go to www.crossview.net/communitylight.
- **On-Demand** – Sessions and resources are archived for ongoing availability.

TIMING

- The fall session begins in September 2026 , and a spring session begins in March 2027. Sessions will be held Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 PM both at Cross View and via live streaming.
- Sessions are archived online for all participants and are available at any time on-demand.

SESSION FORMAT

6:30 – 6:35	Opening
6:35 – 7:15	Presenter Lecture
7:15 – 7:25	Q & A with Presenter
7:25 – 8:00	Small Group Discussion (Onsite Only)

CLASS OVERVIEWS

Genesis 12–50: From Abraham to Joseph

Sept. 16, 23, 30; Oct. 7, 22, 28; Nov. 4, 11, 18

This fall we begin our sixth year of Community Light School of Discipleship with a study of Genesis 12–50: From Abraham to Joseph. These are the foundational stories in the Bible: Abraham and Sarah, Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob and his Twelve Sons. Then there's Joseph who is sold by his brothers into slavery in Egypt. This class will not only explore how the rest of the Bible builds on these narratives. It will also apply them to our lives—especially our lives as they are lived out in our families. The presenter is **Dr. Reed Lessing**, The Edwin F. and Esther L. Laatsch Chair of Old Testament Studies at Concordia University, St. Paul

Christians and Their Culture

March 31; April 7, 14, 21, 28; May 5, 12, 19

The class will address the Biblical understanding of the role of Christians in their culture by addressing such questions as these: Should Christians escape or embrace their culture? How does a Christian converse with the culture? What cues does the culture offer Christians for their witness? To what extent should the language and arts of the culture shape the Christian? What is the role of the Christian in politics? The class includes weekly study and small group discussion guides. **Rev. Dean Nadasdy,** former Cross View pastor, former Concordia Seminary professor, and MN South District President Emeritus, leads this class.

Get information at www.crossview.net/communitylight, via email at info@communitylight.net, or by calling us at 952-941-1094.

MORE THAN CONQUERORS
ROMANS 8:37

Bring a friend and enjoy a lovely catered lunch and an inspirational presentation.

Cross View Women's Ministry

Fall Luncheon

Saturday, November 7
11:00 am–1:00 pm
in The Great Commission Room at Cross View

Catered lunch
Cost: $20 per person
Register on CV Connect

Featuring Jean Abbott presenting "When Life Rewrites Your Story: Choosing Faith Over Fear"

Charitable Ingathering

Chairs for Kids

The Women's Ministry Charitable Ingathering this year is called "Chairs for Kids." With your help, we will provide 44 new chairs for our Early Childhood Center. Starting Oct. 1, The Giving Trees will have tags with instructions to donate funds for a chair.

BREAKFAST WITH CHRIS EGERT

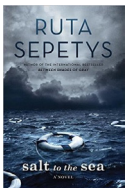
Cross View Men's Ministry will be hosting a breakfast for all (men, women, adults and youth) on October 24th at Cross View. In 2017, KSTP news anchor Chris Egert made the decision to amputate his foot. In the months that followed, he struggled to find meaning in the loss— until the meaning found him. Join us for fellowship, a meal, and Chris' inspirational story.

Please plan to arrive at 7:45 AM and the event will conclude at 10:00 AM. Cost is $35/person or host a table for 6 for $180. Register and pay at CV Connect or my mailing a check to Cross View with a note in the memo section. Registration closes Monday, October 19.

SENIOR ADULT "GIVING THANKS" POTLUCK

On Sunday, November 1, at 3:30 PM, Cross View seniors are invited to a "Giving Thanks" potluck dinner held in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to have all Cross View senior adults join us as we rejoice together and share how we have been blessed by our Almighty God. Please bring a delicious salad, main dish, or dessert, as well as an item to donate to the food shelf. You can sign up on CV Connect or at the registration desk. We are looking forward to an afternoon of fabulous food and Christian fellowship.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB



Women's Book Club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, October 19, at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing the book *Salt to the Sea* by Ruta Sepetys. 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)!

A TNT Bible study meets on Sunday mornings between services from 9:30–10:30 AM at Cross View.

In addition, TNT has monthly social events scheduled:

- Saturday, October 10: Oktoberfest at Cross View, 3:00–6:00 PM
- Friday, November 20: Friendsgiving Potluck at Cross View, 6:00–7:30 PM
- Thursday, December 10: White Elephant at Cross View, 6:00–7:30 PM
- Thursday, January 21: Bowling and Dinner at Park Tavern, 6:00–7:30 PM
- Wednesdays starting February 10: Lenten Meals at Cross View, 5:15–6:15 PM
- Sunday, March 21: Palm Sunday Breakfast at Cross View, 9:15–10:45 AM
- Thursday, April 15: Axe Throwing at MOA or Burrow in Victoria, 6:00–7:30 PM
- Thursday, May 20: Potluck Picnic at Cross View or Park in Edina, 6:00–7:30 PM

Contact Hannah at hannah@crossview.net with questions or to be added to the TNT GroupMe.

Early Childhood Center

FALL FUN IN THE ECC

The transition from summer to fall has brought many changes to the ECC. Kids and teachers alike have been enjoying the more moderate temperatures, spending lots of time outside in the beautiful fall weather. We have welcomed many new faces to the ECC this fall, including nine new families and a new toddler teacher, as well as several students returning after a summer at home. Teachers have moved from temporary summer classroom assignments into their fall teaching positions and are thriving along with the kids they are teaching. After a summer of praising God with well-loved VBS songs, we are learning new songs in chapel and welcoming church staff back into our leadership rotation. God is on the move in the ECC, and we are so excited to be a part of it!

ECC REFRESH IN PROGRESS

One of the most obvious changes in the ECC this fall is the continued refresh work. By the time of this publication, we anticipate 4 or 5 classrooms will be completed with classes enjoying their new spaces. The final ECC classroom(s), Sunday school classrooms, and hallway are next on the list.

Thank you not only to the ECC staff and families, but also to the Cross View congregation, for your patience, support, and understanding throughout this long project. We recognize the impact this has made on everyone from Sunday school families and teachers to the quilting group and other groups that use not only the downstairs spaces, but also the upstairs rooms that the babies occupied for the first couple weeks of September. Although inconvenient to be displaced for a time, it will be well worth everyone's effort once the refreshed spaces are complete. Again, thank you to everyone impacted by this project. We can't wait to invite you to visit when our refresh is complete!

ECC CHILD AND STAFF OPENINGS

Child Openings: The ECC currently has openings in the preschool classrooms. If you know of anyone looking for childcare, please refer them to Cross View's ECC.

Staff Openings: The ECC is looking for toddler teacher, assistant director, and an in-house cook. If you know of anyone qualified for any of these positions with great love for the Lord and children, please refer them to the ECC.

ECC office contact information: Email tania@crossview.net or call the office at 952-941-0009.

ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- For all the new and returning children that started in September
- For continuing inquiries, tours, and enrollments
- For Nayibe Romero, the new toddler teacher that started in the Cubs room in September

Prayer Requests:

- For more families to hear about openings at the ECC and for open spots to be filled with more of God's precious children
- For qualified staff – with great love for the Lord and for children– to join our team

ECC PHOTO ROUNDUP

Every day in the ECC is filled with joy, learning, friendship, and the love of Christ! Here's a look at some fun moments from the ECC over the last month.

ECC MISSION STATEMENT

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

Children's Ministry

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY OCTOBER DATES

- Saturday, October 10: Oktoberfest 3:00–6:00 PM
- Sunday, October 11: Celebration of First Bible Stepping Stone (two-year-olds) and Adventure Bible Stepping Stone (second grade) at both services
- Wednesday, October 14: No Kidstitute due to MEA weekend
- Sunday, October 25: Sunday School Open House 9:30–10:30 AM
- Sunday, October 25: Children's Christmas Celebration practices begin 9:30–10:30 AM
- Wednesday, October 28: Kidstitute Fall Party 6:30–7:30 PM

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NOVEMBER DATES

- Wednesday, November 11: Children's Christmas Celebration set creation night 6:30–8:00 PM

CHRISTIAN FAMILY CONNECTION

Cross View's Family Ministry MAT wants to help grow the family relationships within Cross View this year. Sign up with this QR code or on CV Connect if you are willing to be matched up with another family at Cross View. The sign-up time frame is September 13 to 27.

The point is to share life and time with another family and maybe even gain wisdom and experience from a family that is just one or two stages ahead of yours in life. There are no requirements once you sign up. We just want families to have the chance to connect, share prayer requests, and support one another.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, October 25, at 9:30 AM come attend your child's Sunday School class and see what they are doing in Sunday school. This is also a great opportunity to get to know your child's teacher and other classmates.

KIDSTITUTE FALL PARTY

Wednesday, October 28, will be a fun party of fall activities and fellowship for our Wed night kids. All kids in kindergarten to 6th grade are welcome 6:30–7:30 PM.

SUNDAY SCHOOL MEMORY VERSE FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER

Joshua 1:9

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY HALLWAY IS COMPLETE

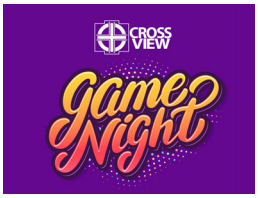
Please be sure to walk the beautiful murals that start with Creation all the way to Christ's Resurrection located down the Children's Ministry hallway upstairs. Laura Johnson, a local Christian muralist, completed it in September. The Bible stories in the hallway are Noah's Ark, Jonah and the Whale, David and Goliath, The Crossing of the Red Sea, Jesus Walks on Water, Jesus Washing the Disciples' Feet, and Jesus with the Children.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PARENT CORNER

The best ways to bring Christ into Fall

1. Paint your pumpkins with Bible verses
2. Read about Biblical heroes at bedtime
3. Dress up as your favorite Bible character
4. Do apple bobbing and talk about how God provides for our needs
5. Light candles and talk about God being the light of the world
6. Collect canned good for those in need and pray together for those you give them to
7. Clean up trash at a park and talk about God's amazing creation
8. Memorize Bible verses about being thankful

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 (johndaenzer@gmailcom) or Michael Kibat (mgkibat@centurylink.net.

Thank You!

To all the members and those who sent cards and text messages to me while I was being treated for Lg B Cell Lymphoma. I have finished radiation and infusions recently and want to thank you for all the wonderful prayers. It is still hard to believe I had cancer and I am so thankful for the Frauenshuh Cancer Center at Methodist. They were all wonderful. God bless you all.

— Linda Reznick

Heartfelt Appreciation

To the Cross View community, I want to express my heartfelt appreciation for your prayers and well wishes over the past three months before, during, and after two successful hip replacement surgeries. All praise be to God the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, who loves us, saves us, and comforts us.

—Blessing to all,
Stephen Koepcke

Youth Ministry

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 10: Mentor Opportunity, Oktoberfest at CV, 3:00–6:00 PM

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 4: Youth at CV
- October 10: Oktoberfest at CV, 3:00–6:00 PM
- October 11: No Youth
- October 18: Youth at CV
- October 25: Youth at CV

RAKE AND RUN

The junior and senior high youth will do their annual Rake and Run fundraiser on Saturday, November 7. 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 November 1 to give a rough estimate of what time the youth and adults will be at your house. The youth ask for a suggested donation of $8–$10 per bag raked to help fund the Senior High's summer retreat 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 Challenge to Reality" on November 13–14. 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 November 1.

Conference Details:

- When: 4:00 PM November 13 through 7:00 PM November 14 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: $85 per person (adults as well)
- Transportation: We are asking our chaperones to drive youth to and from the conference

CONFIRMATION

The 2026–2027 confirmation year has started! Fourteen seventh and eighth graders, and their parents, met for the first class on Wednesday, September 16. This year, we are diving into God's Word.

September 18–19 was the confirmation retreat at Camp Omega in Waterville. The confirmands and adult leaders spent time in God's Word through different lessons, a movie, and a solitude Bible study time. They also served the camp, played games during their free time, and participated in archery.

Kickoff Sunday Celebrates Cross View Connections

Cross View kicked off a new year of ministry on September 13 by coming together as ONE body of Christ for a special morning of worship, fellowship, and fun! Following one combined worship service, we looked ahead to the year in ministry, shared a meal together, and enjoyed activities for all ages. It was a joyful reminder of this year's theme, Every Part Matters—and of the blessing we have in being connected to Christ and to one another as His body.

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

CROSS VIEW

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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
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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

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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