

CROSS VIEW CLARION

April 2020



"He provides the peace and love beyond all understanding, each and every day." -Christine Eid



"Peace! Be Still!" (Mark 4:39)

by Christine Eid, Director of Children's Ministry

It's March 18 as I write this. Things seem to be changing every time I listen to the news, open CNN news alert, or just talking to people. I don't know what things will be like by the time this gets sent out to everyone. We might be looking back over the last couple of weeks and say "Woo! Glad that's over." Or we might be in the next stage of being at home alone or with our family & kids. Uncertainty is hard.

At the beginning of March, I began a new Bible study, "Dwelling in God's Peace." I had no idea when I picked it up how much it would ground me each day to start with words from God's Word on peace. God's peace is with us all the time and through different avenues. There are so many passages in scripture that talk about peace!

I've also been reflecting on ministry and the opportunities at hand. 35 years ago, when I began ministry, I was excited that I had an electric typewriter! There were only landlines. I thought about what it would be like to do ministry this week with just those tools. Now we have computers, the web, cell phones, and opportunity for virtual education and meetings. How blessed we are that God has provided us with the means to stay connected even as we might be staying home from work and school. We can regularly connect with family members, or those who are caring for them, so that we are reassured that everyone is ok.

And ministry does go on. Cross View has a beautiful building, and it's disappointing to so many that we aren't having opportunity to worship ►

and celebrate in it. But the church isn't the building; the church is the people. It is the people that are the body of Christ and using their hands, feet, and voices to share His everlasting love. The church continues in ministry in a variety of settings. You are the church as you check in on your neighbors to be sure they are OK. You are the church as you worship online with the Cross View community. You are the church as you spend time in God's Word and grow in your faith, knowing that He provides the peace and love beyond all understanding, each and every day.

We know this and have experienced it in different ways. But it's helpful to hear it again. The words Christ spoke in Mark were to the winds and waves during a tumultuous storm. We might not have the literal wind, waves and rain right now, but life seems to be swirling and storming around us. Know that God is there, and will speak, "Peace. Be still." And in the meantime, take time each day to be in His Word, reflect on what He is speaking to you right now, and how you might serve Him by serving the people around you.

God's peace be with you.



"And my God will meet all your needs according to His glorious riches in Christ Jesus. To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen"
Philippians 4:19-20.

Anchor Points in the Storm

by Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor

To say that these last few weeks have been difficult, trying, and painful would be to grossly understate the matter. Every single one of us has experienced very real loss in some way, shape or form. With no real definitive "end-point" to this health crisis in which we find ourselves, it would be easy to lose hope in the midst of the storm. Don't!!! Instead, fix your eyes on Jesus.

When the winds blow and the waves crash, remember that He who rules the winds and the waves hasn't abandoned you. He's in the boat with you! If He doesn't calm the storm in the immediate future, He will calm your heart to get through it. As St. Paul sat in chains, falsely accused with a death sentence looming over his head, he reminded the Philippian Christians to rejoice in the Lord always. He reminded them that God would supply all of their needs according to His glorious riches in

Christ. The same is true for us. Even in the midst of the storm we have so many reasons to rejoice. We have solid anchor points.

School may be canceled. Work may be canceled. Gatherings may be canceled. Yet, let us rejoice in what cannot be canceled. Worship isn't canceled. Prayer isn't canceled. Love isn't canceled. Kindness isn't canceled. Conversations with each other aren't canceled. Our hope in Jesus Christ isn't canceled. In the midst of the storm, fix your eyes on Jesus. He is this world's only hope. May His love and the hope that cannot be taken shine brightly through our lives as we reflect His love to one another, our neighbors, and our community! He is the rock to which our anchor clings. In these uncertain times, may we, the people of Cross View, find hope and strength in Jesus, giving witness to Him whose love and promises never change!

CV 4.0 – Building for Generations Update



Our **4.0 Building for Generations** project moves towards completion despite COVID-19 restrictions. State and National guidelines continue to impact completion timelines for items below:

- Sanctuary reinstallation of sound, video, and streaming equipment.
- Great Commission Room installation of sound, video, streaming, and theatre lighting equipment.
- Subcontractors completing “punch list” items.
- Staff and volunteer training for:
 - Setting and changing interior light zones
 - Heating and air conditioning
 - Fire alarm system
 - Building radio relay system
 - Video door bell and security system
 - Video presentation software
 - Live streaming operation
 - Direct dial phone system

Last summer’s wet conditions and project delays caused rescheduling of some construction items to spring and early summer. These items include:

- Second asphalt layer
- Parking lot “construction area” restriping
- Spreading black dirt stored on church property
- Landscaping
- Irrigation system
- Light pole reinstall in lower east parking lot
- Sewer system capacity enhancement
- Sacristy supplemental heat

Church Council and Staff continue to review and edit future “wish list” items. Currently we have over 30 items. A sampling includes:

- Safety barriers on main stairway seating areas
- Kitchen supplies and appliances
- Stain glass and other artistic enhancements
- Furniture and storage items
- Technology hardware and software
- Additional sanctuary enhancements
- Ongoing building maintenance items:
 - Existing roof top unit replacement
 - Existing roof replacement
 - Northeast corner area moisture issue
 - Parking lot drainage and restriping
 - Parking lot LED lighting

Our goal is to finish spring and summer construction project items by the end of June. The unknown impact of COVID-19 on Cross View’s annual budget and **4.0 Building for Generations** pledge fulfillment requires increased fiscal caution and restraint. Church Council will review **4.0 Building for Generations** construction funds and annual operating budget to make appropriate fiduciary decisions.

Cross View will limit building project expenditures to “items deferred to spring and early summer”. Wish list items will require pre-approval from Church Council. Groups hoping to fundraise for a particular area or item are asked to obtain pre-approval from a Staff member and President Lynn Pahl.

As we struggle with COVID-19, let’s not focus on brick and mortar and wish list enhancements. To quote Pastor Steve’s March 15th sermon: “In these uncertain times, we have the opportunity to share with the world around us the One who never changes. Jesus is our refuge and our fortress – a rock that cannot be moved. In Jesus, God has shown us His salvation. Let’s show the world Jesus. Amen.”

Let’s focus our hearts and minds on the love of Jesus through reading the Bible, the **Red Letter Challenge**, and Christian care while social distancing.

Financial Update

Don’t let Coronavirus quarantine the Great Commission!

- February income was 25%, or \$55K less than budget year-to-date.
- Expenses continue to be managed tightly, especially at this time when the building is closed to worship and programs. We are taking advantage of our new smart utilities that adjust heat and light by sensing bodies in the space.
- Most of our costs are not variable and will continue while the building is closed. Church staff continues working every day on recording worship content for the week, developing virtual adult and youth bible studies and programming for the future.
- Feel free to use any of the methods we have available for collecting offerings (mail, Simply Giving, text, Cross View website). The church office would be happy to answer questions about these donation methods. Your generosity is appreciated!

Cross View			
February 29, 2020	2020 Actual YTD	2020 Budget YTD	Actual Better/(Worse) vs. Budget
Total Income	\$164,407	\$219,064	(\$54,657)
Total Expense	\$175,437	\$198,160	\$22,723
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$11,030)	\$20,904	(\$31,934)

Seeking Nominations for Cross View Church Council

Are you interested in helping to create Cross View's strategy to fulfill our Mission? Join the church Council! Council is seeking nominations for two to three new members to replace members at the end of their term. We are looking particularly for people who have financial and legal skills. We are also looking for an at-large Council member, with no specialized experience required.

Please contact Lynn Pahl (LynnMPahl@gmail.com) or Julie Sherman (Julie.sherman@thrivent.com) by April 12, 2020, if you are interested in a council position, would like to nominate someone or if you would like additional information about serving on Council.

Starting April 1!

Short daily devotionals
by Pastor Steve

5 days a week

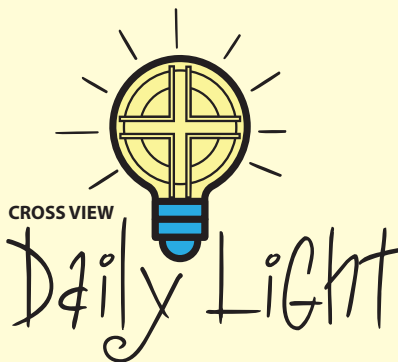
Posted daily at noon on

[Facebook](#)

(CrossViewLutheran)

and [Instagram](#)

(@crossviewlutheran)



HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Cross View will be offering online services throughout Holy Week. Schedules will be posted to our website, as well as shared through other means of communication.

Building Dedication Services and Community Open House Postponed

Future dates will be selected so that we may dedicate the newly built and the newly remodeled spaces to the glory of God—as tools for use in His kingdom—and to share our mission with our community.

EasterFest 2020

In light of COVID-19, we're doing EasterFest differently. This April, we'll send an EasterFest package out to all the families without a church home who came here in the last two years, to our CV & ECC families, and through Nader & Georgette Aleraj to families who attend POBLO.

We're excited that families are going to get to hear and experience the Easter story in their homes gathered around fun faith activities for the whole family. We're asking families to tag us in their pictures on Instagram, [@crossviewlutheran](#). We look forward to seeing how families celebrate this season together!



Early Childhood Center

ECC CHILDREN LEARN THE EASTER MESSAGE

We will spend most of April teaching and learning the lessons of Holy Week with the children in preparation for our Easter celebration, which will take place on Wednesday, April 15th. The children will make palm branches and act out the procession into Jerusalem. Some classrooms will learn the Easter story with flannel boards and props. All of the children will learn the message of Easter: that God loves each of us

and sent His Son to be the Savior of us all.

Later this month, we will be celebrating the Week of the Young Child. The celebrations included fun activities throughout the week.



rightnow MEDIA

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

by Pastor Toby Schmidt

With COVID-19, practicing social distancing (groups of 10 or less and 6 feet from anyone) and being told to quarantine ourselves, we're trying to figure everything out. What that looks like for Adult Bible, I'm not quite sure, but I know it involves moving a lot of things online and using things like videoconferencing through something like ZOOM or WebEx.

But, please don't forget about the awesome resource we have in **RightNow Media**. Really, now more than ever, I have realized what a wonderful resource library this is. They have something for all ages and or spiritual seasons. You can search by category, topic, or speaker. They have links to workbooks and leader guides. And don't forget, you can stream directly to your computer, tablet, or mobile device. (If you don't have access yet, [request it here](#).)

Here are just a few items I thought would be important in our lives right now:

In times of uncertainty and crisis, are you looking for answers human reason cannot provide?

Let me introduce you to: [Facing Disaster like "a Man"](#) with LCMS Pastor Kurt Klaus

Life's catastrophes come in many shapes and sizes and often unexpectedly. We're left in their wake with grief and uncertainty and often with more questions than can be answered. Let's look to God's Word for comfort and peace.

This was published by Lutheran Hour Ministries twenty years ago, but it is fitting to us today. Pastor Kurt Klaus is the son of former Lutheran Hour Speaker Ken Klaus and the senior pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church in Lakeville, Minnesota.

Are you trying to figure out how to live as a Christian in our post-Christian world?

Let me introduce you to: [Thriving in Babylon](#) by Larry Osborne (5 session study) Here's a synopsis:

These are confusing times. Traditional Biblical values are not only rejected; it seems as if they're attacked on every front. It's all happening at warp speed, leaving many of us spiritually and culturally disoriented or even fearful, frustrated, and angry. How can we spiritually survive in an increasingly spiritually hostile environment? And is there any hope for the next generation?

Want some answers to hard questions today? Like why does God allow suffering?

Try, [What Are The Toughest Questions Christians Face?](#) with Bobby Conway.

The One Minute Apologist provides quick and credible answers to faith questions. This resource helps people with a hunger to defend their Christian faith. (Episode 3 talks about – Why does God allow suffering?)

Or try [Quick Shots: Fast Answers to Hard Questions](#) with J. Warner Wallace. (Session 16 talks about [Why does God allow evil and suffering?](#))

In *Quick Shots*, cold-case homicide detective J. Warner Wallace offers brief answers to common objections to the Christian worldview.

Is your home stressed right now? Your marriage or family?

Maybe your marriage is stressed right now because you're spending more time with your spouse than you have in a long time. Or because your kids are everywhere right now. Or because of all the uncertainty right now, with jobs and the economy.

A great starter study I'd recommend is [Staying in Love](#) by Andy Stanley.

He says, "We all know what's required to fall in love...a pulse. Falling in love is easy. But staying there—that's something else entirely."

Or maybe you need a boost in your parenting. Your kids are home with you ALL...THE...TIME. You're having parenting mood-swings—one minute with things going great, and the next with ...sorry, I have to go right now, I hear screaming. If that's you, check out [Grace Based Parenting](#) by Tim Kimmel (2012, 10 sessions).

This is a good study with some great ideas on how to add some grace to your parenting style, and to your and your kid's lives and interactions.

What help does God offers when you are discouraged, depressed, or fear the future?

Invest time with [God's Comfort](#) by Joni Eareckson Tada.

You'll hear from two gifted individuals uniquely suited to discuss how God can help us through pain, suffering, and discouragement- Joni Eareckson Tada and Dr. Michael Easley.

CPH FAITHCOURSES

Concordia Publishing House (our synodical publisher) has just launched an online learning platform where you can dive deeper into studies with exclusive author-led videos. (Think of this like an LCMS RightNow Media Bible study library.) These courses we created to guide personal devotion time or group Bible study—or anything in between. You can learn more and sign up for a free course at cphfaithcourses.com.

VBS IS COMING!

Rocky Railway! Jesus' Power Will Pull Us Through is this year's Vacation Bible School theme. Join us June 22–26, 9:00 to 11:30 AM for a week of learning about how Jesus helps us through difficult times and has rescued us from sin. VBS is open to students age 3 (potty trained) through entering 4th grade. Cost is just \$12 for the week! (Students entering 5th grade and older are invited to volunteer throughout the week). To guarantee a t-shirt, please register by Wednesday, May 20.

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP!

The week of music camp is an unforgettable experience for all, and we hope you'll join us! Music camp is July 20–24; 9 AM to 12 noon for a wonderful week learning and performing a musical. Under the direction of Mrs. Sarah Fincham, students entering 1st through 5th grade learn music, create costumes and sets, and learn choreography to present their show on that Friday morning at 11:15 AM. Cost is \$45 for the week.

Registration for both Vacation Bible School and Summer Music Camp is online at www.crossview.net. Sign up today! Space fills up fast!

Women's Ministries

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will tentatively meet on Monday, April 20th, at 1:00 PM at church. We will be reading and discussing *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* by Kim Michele Richardson. Linda Baule will be our hostess. Please contact Marcy at mpnordhus@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to join.



SAVE THE DATE: MAY WOMEN'S DINNER

The May Women's Dinner will be at 6:45 PM on Thursday, May 28th, at Pub 819 in Hopkins.

Senior Ministry

Due to the plea from our government and health care officials to practice "social distancing" in the midst of the Coronavirus, the Senior MAT is opting to postpone planned social gatherings for now. For April that was to be the musical "9 to 5" at Normandale Community College. Watch for the next issue of the *Clarion* for updated information.

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Cross View students, with a significant adult in their life, have participated in "Welcome to the Lord's Table" class in preparation for their first communion. While students will not be able to receive their first communion on Maundy Thursday, they continue to take classes on Sunday mornings from their homes. Once restrictions are lifted, we will welcome the following students to join us at the Lord's table:

Ben Alba
Melena Blazquez
Evie Carlson
Vera Carlson
Lucca Duraippa
Cassidy Goehner
Michael Olson
Megan Stapf
Henry Swiggum
Ezra Wachholz
Jordan Wohlforth
Owen Wohlforth

Cross View Cards and Games Temporarily Cancelled

As we adjust our lifestyles due to the impact of COVID-19, Cross View Cards & Games will temporarily cancel our fun gatherings. During this time, consider how you can reach out to one

another, encourage one another, and share the love of Christ.

Cross View Cards and Games normally meet the 2nd Friday of each month from September through May.

Tuition Support For Lutheran Schools

Cross View offers tuition support for children and young adults who are attending Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) grade schools, high schools and post-secondary institutions. If you have a child who will be attending an LCMS school in the fall or if you are enrolled in an LCMS post-secondary institution, your completed

Commitment form must be returned to the church office by June 15, 2020, in order to receive tuition support during the coming year. [Online forms](#) are available by [clicking here](#) or request one via email to Renee Kirchner at renee@crossview.net. Renee can also answer your questions via email or (952) 941-1094.

Thanks to Beth White

Beth White, Cross View's DCE student from Concordia, St. Paul completed her time at Cross View on Sunday, March 18. Because the university has gone to online classes for the remainder of the academic year, Beth will no longer be serving with us. We appreciate the work that Beth has done this year, especially in the areas of youth & children's ministries. Beth graduates this year with a DCE degree, and is looking forward to her first call, hopefully in Texas. Thanks, Beth, for your work and ministry among us!

Outreach & Missions

SEWING SKILLS SHARED AT POBLO

Cross View member Linda Baule taught sewing weekly for a year to Babitha and Maria at the Bloomington International Friendship Center. Linda says, "The friendships that developed were very special. One of the ladies invited us to come to her daughter's school for Grandparents Day since she had no relatives here. We helped the students sew items that would be useful to them, and that they wanted to make. Sometimes we had to create our own patterns. I received just as much from the students as we gave them. Another very special time was the cooking classes once a month. Sometimes they were taught by Georgette (POBLO missionary), and other times by students from different countries. The different foods were amazing. It was fun making the foods and sharing the meal together was a bonus!"



CROSS VIEW GUATEMALA MISSION TEAM'S TRIP POSTPONED!

The six-member Cross View Mission Team was half way through planning and training for the April 18-26, 2020 mission trip when it was decided it would be unwise for us to travel to Guatemala. Even though our team is not able to go to Guatemala in April, we are looking forward to rescheduling in the not too distant future.

Our Cross View Mission Team had planned to offer a women's four-day Bible study, giving each home a Bible, providing a dental clinic, making home visits, meeting with the scholarship recipients, presenting the children with a children's Bible, and continuing to investigate the water situation in Los Vasquez. While we are waiting to reschedule the mission trip, we continue to work on some projects from afar. We are looking to hire an engineering company to formally assess the water situation at Los Vasquez.

Please keep the people of Los Vasquez in your prayers, for good health and safety. Please also keep our mission team in your prayers so we can visit Guatemala in the near future.

CROSS VIEW GUATEMALA MISSION TEAM'S STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The members of Cross View Lutheran Church's mission team promise:

To glorify God and to share Jesus' message of salvation
with the people of Los Vasquez;

To walk with the faithful of Los Vasquez as fellow brothers and sisters
in Christ;

To assist the people of Los Vasquez, in using their God given gifts
and abilities to God's glory.



STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

In the current COVID-19 crisis, most of us feel as if we are in very unfamiliar territory, like the ground is shifting underneath our feet. We feel confused, sad, upset, anxious, and worried. Maybe some of us even feel angry at God. But we strive to keep a "stiff upper lip", and don't want to admit our feelings. We seek to appear strong and in control, not showing any signs of fear or anxiety.

There is often a heavy price to pay for hiding our true feelings. Being honest with our true feelings is healing. Crying is healing. We need to release the tension and get painful feelings out into the open. We can trust that God understands our tears and frustrations. We can get as frustrated with God as our feelings demand and pour out our hearts to Him. He can handle anything we can dish out, and longs to comfort us in all our troubles. If you feel the need for support during this time, ministry can still occur via phone calls, Face Time, Skype, etc. Please don't hesitate to request a Stephen Minister as needed and don't stop pouring your hearts out to God.

**O my people, trust in Him at all times.
Pour out your heart to Him, for God is
our refuge. (Psalm 62:8)**

Want To Join Cross View's Guatemala Mission Team?

Contact Tom Koch,
Pastor Toby, or Pastor Steve



CROSS VIEW

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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
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Rev. Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor
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Christine Eid, Children's Ministry
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Margaret Garrison, Administrative Assistant
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Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
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Harrison Lawrence, Interim Organist
music@crossview.net

Ben Henschel, Interim Choir Director
ben@crossview.net

Paula Wilson, Interim Lead Vocalist - Contemporary
paula@crossview.net

Lynn Pahl, President

Nadar & Georgette Alaraj, POBLO

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

GROW WITH CROSS VIEW

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional

10:45 AM Contemporary

SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

Tues.-Fri., 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM

Closed Monday

CALENDAR

Cross View's most current
calendar is always available
on our website at

www.crossview.net/calendar

CONNECT WITH CROSS VIEW

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