

CROSSVIEW CLARION

April 2024

"So many people...are still living in this restricted world without knowing the redemption that Jesus offers. They long to be set free." – Amy Gundermann



Restricted to Redeemed

by Amy Gundermann, Director of Outreach & Adult Ministries, Contemporary Worship Team Lead

V-I-C-T-O-R-Y! We celebrate that our status has gone from restricted to redeemed by Jesus on Easter Sunday! It has been accomplished! One of my favorite worship songs about Easter is "Death was Arrested." It describes our redemption as a great reversal: We are set free and death itself is restricted. One of the verses states:

*Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom
in hand
That's when death was arrested and my
life began*

I was recently in New York to help manage care for my aunt who has suffered a series of strokes. She is struggling to recover physically and mentally. One of the harder moments was when she was excited to see me, and her chair alarm went off as she got up to greet me. Even her joyous moments were tainted by a reminder of her limitations, her restrictions.

At times, we can become consumed by the things that restrict us in this fallen world. Pain and sorrow, suffering and grief, our own sinful nature — it all points us to our restricted status.



But Jesus has taken all of it, everything that restricts us, and buried it forever. Death itself has been conquered and the weight has been lifted. We know true freedom because of Jesus. Victory!

So many people around us are still living in this restricted world without knowing the redemption that Jesus offers. They long to be set free. Our calling as Christians is to proclaim His victory and invite others into the freedom that He offers. We have many opportunities coming up at Cross View to actively enter into the restriction that others are experiencing in order to point to the redemption that Jesus has accomplished. Get involved with CarePortal, set aside time this summer to serve through the Rochester Servant

Event or the Family Mission Trip to Montreal, attend LERT training to be ready to respond when there is an urgent need, or volunteer to work with new immigrants through POBLO.

As it is written in 1 Corinthians 15:54-57, "When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory. 'Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?' The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." Nothing, not even death can restrict us now that we are set free in Christ. Let's celebrate the victory!

Death Was Arrested

Songwriters: Heath Balltzglier, Adam Kersh, Brandon Coker, Paul Taylor Smith

Alone in my sorrow and dead in my sin
Lost without hope with no place to begin
Your love made a way to let mercy come in
When death was arrested and my life began

Ash was redeemed, only beauty remains
My orphan heart was given a name
My mourning grew quiet, my feet rose to dance
When death was arrested and my life began

Released from my chains, I'm a prisoner no more
My shame was a ransom He faithfully bore
He cancelled my debt and He called me His friend
When death was arrested and my life began

Our Savior displayed on a criminal's cross
Darkness rejoiced as though heaven had lost
But then Jesus arose with our freedom in hand
That's when death was arrested and my life began

Oh, Your grace, so free, washes over me
You have made me new, now life begins with You
It's Your endless love, pouring down on us
You have made us new, now life begins with You

Oh, we're free, free, forever we're free
Come join the song of all the redeemed
Yes, we're free, free, forever, amen
When death was arrested and my life began

Financial Update

Year-to-Date Results

- Year to date income was better than planned and 2023 actual.
- Year to date expenses are \$1,340 favorable to budget and higher than 2023.
- The primary expense variances were higher missions expense (tied to higher contributions) being offset by lower utility costs.
- ECC Income was less than budget while expenses are favorable to budget.
- ECC \$22,355 Net Surplus is favorable to budget by \$2,636.
- The Restored! campaign has achieved its pledge goal! Payment of the remaining pledges will allow for the Restored! loan to be paid off by the May 2024 maturity date.



Cross View Lutheran Church			
2/29/24	2024 Actual Year to Date	2024 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$337,631	\$237,802	\$99,829
Total Expenses	(\$228,622)	(\$229,962)	\$1,340
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$109,009	\$7,840	\$101,169
General Fund Ending Balance	\$381,506	\$280,337	

Cross View Restored! Building Campaign	
Contributions Received in February:	\$15,754
Remaining Pledges to Be Received:	\$37,422
Total Contributions Collected:	\$545,202
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$10,752
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$16,000
Restored Surplus:	\$32,174

Christian Education

CANDID DISCUSSIONS ON TODAY'S HOT ISSUES

Teaching Leaders: Pastor Steve and Pastor Reed

Dates: April 7–May 19

Location: Rooms 209-211

Starting April 7–May 19, Cross View will offer a Sunday morning Bible class from 9:30–10:30 AM each week in the fellowship hall (rooms 209-211) entitled “Candid Discussions on Today’s Hot Issues.” We will discuss issues of human sexuality, Wokism, and more. The class will present a Biblically based, gospel-response to some of today’s hot issues, taking into account how they relate to our lives as Christians as well as our lives as citizens of the USA.

The class kicks off on April 7 with guest speaker, Rev. Mark Schultz, Pastor Emeritus of Trinity Lutheran Church in Mission, Kansas. He will give a presentation entitled: “How do I (as a Christian) talk with my LGBTQ friend (or family member, coworker, or neighbor)?”



Pastors Reed Lessing and Steve Wheeler will teach the sessions from April 14–May 5.

On May 12, the entire session will be dedicated to

Q & A from class participants. The course will wrap up on May 19 with a presentation by guest speaker, Rev. Fred Hintz, Public Policy Advocate for the MN North & South Districts. The Rev. Hintz will provide us with an update on local political issues that intersect with religious liberty and the church.



BOUNDARIES PARENTING CLASS

Teaching Leader: Barb Coffin

Dates: April 14–May 19

Location: Chapel

Barb Coffin will be leading a Family Life adult education class for parents of all ages of kids starting Sunday, April 14 to May 19 at 9:30–10:30 AM in room 223 (the chapel upstairs). We will be using the book Boundaries with Kids by Drs. Henry Cloud and John Townsend. The class will discuss biblically based principles to define appropriate boundaries and consequences for your kids, set limits and still be a loving parent, bring balance to an out-of-control family life, and much more. Register on [CV Connect](#). Please join us!

Children's Ministry

SPECIAL NEEDS SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

A Special Needs Sunday School class to start in October! There has been a Cross View MAT (Ministry Action Team) hard at work creating a new special needs Sunday school class to be held once a month on every second Sunday at 9:30–10:30 AM starting on October 13th. The MAT is looking for volunteers to help with the monthly class and there will be a volunteer training on June 9th. They are also looking for students to attend. Please invite any child ages 3 to 12 who has developmental special needs. We also ask you to pray for this start up as it could be a great community outreach in the future, but we want to start slow. Our goal is to have five children to attend to learn about Jesus starting in October. Please see Barb Coffin barb@crossview.net or Nicole Krueger nclvvo@gmail.com with any interests in volunteering or to receive an information packet for any potential student.

MARK SCHULTZ TO PRESENT ON HOW TO SHOW GOD'S LOVE TO OUR LGBTQ FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, AND NEIGHBORS

Mark Schultz, a retired LCMS pastor, has started his own ministry called Fully Known and Truly Loved that seeks to help churches to recognize blind spots, grow in their understanding, and reach out in a loving way to LGBTQ people who are eager to be part of a caring faith community. Mark will be at Cross View to lead the adult Sunday school class on Sunday, April 7, at 9:30–10:30 AM. He will also present to families at 6:30–8:00 PM that evening. Please bring your questions and come ready to learn how to love your neighbor actively.

SCRIPTURE SHARE NIGHT

Cross View's last night of Kidstute will be Wednesday, April 24, at 6:30–7:30 PM and it will be a special celebration. They will have the second annual Scripture Share Night. The kids have been working hard memorizing Scripture to share on the Great Commission Room Stage with one another. Adults are welcome to share Scripture, too. If your child isn't comfortable memorizing, they can read Scripture. Come on out and watch our kids and enjoy some snacks and fellowship afterwards.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, April 21, at 9:30–10:30 AM we will have our yearly Sunday School Open House. Parents, please attend with your child or children in their Sunday School classroom and experience what they have been learning all year long. This is a great way for you to know what is going on in their classroom so you can discuss it later as a family together.



CROSS VIEW VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DIVING INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD

An onsite VBS experience for children aged 3 (potty trained) to 5th grade, during the week of June 17–21. Join the experience through stations as we dive into friendship with God.

With your registration, each family will receive a t-shirt, snacks, and supplies for each person's activities for the week. Note: If registering after May 27th, then a t-shirt cannot be guaranteed.

If paying by check, please make check out to Cross View Lutheran, with VBS in the memo line.

Register on [CV Connect](#).

PARENT CORNER



Shake off the winter blues and try any of these fun, family spring activities that will have you and the kiddos enjoying the fresh air.

- Blow bubbles
- Fly a kite
- Play hide-and-seek
- Make a bird feeder
- Ride a bike
- Learn about dinosaurs
- Go camping
- Collect rocks
- Play hopscotch
- Go for a hike
- Build a race car
- Wash your car
- Paint rocks
- Check out a conservation area or greenhouse
- Dance in the rain
- Walk your dog together
- Visit a petting zoo or farm
- Jump in puddles
- Build a fort
- Take a road trip
- Jump rope
- Go to the library
- Draw with chalk
- Go bird-watching
- Play with outdoor toys
- Read outside
- Put together a scavenger hunt
- Roll down a hill
- Star gaze
- Have a swinging contest
- Have a picnic at a park
- Watch the sunset

THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS!

We would like to thank this month the volunteers who help keep Cross View Early Childhood Center run smoothly. We thank members on the property team who help fix all our repairs – Denny and Pete. We also thank members of our Advisory committee who help with decision making and a great sounding board for ideas – Jackie, Angela, Alison, Tracy, Emily, and Claire. Finally, we thank Darlene and Cal for their dedication in getting paper for us to cut and use as diaper paper. Again, THANK YOU to all the volunteers in the church and ECC.

LOOKING FOR REFERRALS

We are looking for a new Preschool Teacher. If you know of anyone that has childcare/preschool experience and would love working with 3–5-year-olds and sharing the love of Jesus every day, please refer them by giving our email ecc@crossview.net or phone number 952-941-0009.

ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- All the amazing turnout at our Easter Parties and sharing the resurrection story with families
- Friendships made time spent at Cross View
- Beautiful weather to play outside
- Generous donation from church members to help update the ECC

Prayer Requests:

- Cancer – for healing, patience through treatment, and doctors who help our families dealing with loved ones who have cancer
- For all the sick children – healing from Strep Throat
- For families struggling with children who have difficult behaviors
- The beginning of the call process for a new ECC Director
- That we can find the right person for our preschool teacher opening



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH APRIL SCHEDULE

- April 13: Sky Zone
- April 24: Confirmation Class Party; Last day of confirmation for 7th graders

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH APRIL SCHEDULE

- April 7: Youth at Cross View
- April 14: Whirlyball in Bloomington, 6:00–8:00 PM
- April 21: Youth at Cross View
- April 28: Youth at Cross View

SENIOR HIGH ESCAPE ROOM

The Senior High youth participated in a couple escape rooms on March 3. The 12 youth and 5 adults had a fun time trying to solve puzzles, competing boys vs. girls. Both teams successfully escaped, with the girls breaking the record on their room with fastest time escaped!



Records			
	# of players	Time Left	# of Clues
Cuckoo's Clock	9	20:22	0
Cross View Chicks	8	17:19	0
Running Late	4	11:07	1
6 feet and up	8	10:00	0
Loco Nohos	9	10:53	1
The Clock Destroyers			
Final Frontier			
	# of players	Time Left	# of Clues
Team Reuben	4	8:46	1
The Scuba Divers	6	12:18	1

SENIOR HIGH WHIRLYBALL

The Senior High will be heading to Bloomington for some Whirlyball on Sunday, April 14. To sign up, visit [CV Connect](http://CVConnect). Sign up closes April 10.



JUNIOR HIGH SKY ZONE

The Junior High youth are invited to a fun time jumping at Sky Zone in Edina on Saturday, April 13. Sign up via [CV Connect](http://CVConnect) by April 10.



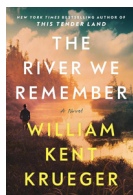
LENTEN MEALS AND EASTER BREAKFAST

The Lenten suppers and Easter Breakfast were a huge success this year! Praise God for this time of fellowship with one another! The youth would like to thank everyone for their support as well as all of those who helped cook and prepare the meals and egg bakes. God is good!

Adult Ministry

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book club will be reading *The River We Remember* by William Kent Krueger in April. They will meet to discuss the book at church in room 120 on Monday, April 15, at 1:00 PM. Please feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.



MEN'S MINISTRY: ARISE WITH THE GUYS ON APRIL 20



You are invited to attend Arise with the Guys (arisewiththeguys.com) program at Grace Church in Eden Prairie and then have lunch together at Cross View on April 20th. Meet at Cross View at 7:45 AM and carpool together to Grace for the program from 9:00–11:00 AM followed by lunch. The cost is \$15 which includes the program and lunch. [Register on CV Connect](#) by April 13th. Contact Dan Battcher at dtbattcher@gmail.com or Dave Wagner dave@ambrosiacoffeemn.com at with any questions.

TNT

Come and get to know others in the same stage of life at TNT (Twenties & Thirties Young Adult Ministry) through Bible study and time hanging out together! Locations vary, but events are on Tuesdays from 6:30-8:00 PM. Contact Nicole (nclvvo@gmail.com) or Hannah (hannah@crossview.net) with questions or to be added to the TNT GroupMe.



The TNT group is back for their spring sessions:

- April 9: Cross View
- April 23: Culver's in Golden Valley
- May 7: Cross View
- May 21: Picnic Potluck (Medicine Lake/Normandale Lake)

CROSS VIEW'S WOMEN'S RENEW, REFRESH, REJOICE SPRING GATHERING SATURDAY APRIL 27TH 9:00 AM–2:00 PM

The Women's Ministry team invites you to their annual Renew, Refresh, Rejoice! Spring Gathering on Saturday April 27th, from 9:00 AM–2:00 PM. You can attend one or ALL the events we have planned for the day...whatever works for you.

- 9:00–11:00 AM: Coffee, goodies, and two short video presentations by Lorie Hartshorn on her new book "Found." What was lost in the Garden of Eden is FOUND in Jesus Christ!
- 11:30 AM–1:00 PM: Lunch at The Tavern on France in Edina

- 2:00–3:00 PM: Visit the "Candleberry on the Lakes Spring Boutique and Craft Show."

We will be collecting items to fill "Welcome Baskets" for Mayo Clinic patients staying at the Healing Flats accommodations "Mike's House" and "Gordon's House." Read about Healing Flats at healingflats.org. Check out the article in this issue "Healing Flats Ingathering" for additional information.

Welcome spring with your friends and sisters in Christ! Register on [CV Connect](#).

Questions? Call/text Marcia Johnson (812-454-4129) or Vicki Weber (952-838-5500).



HEALING FLATS INGATHERING

Please help the Women's Ministry fill "Healing Flats Welcome Bags" for each guest who stays at either Mike's House or Gordon's House in Rochester, Minnesota. Healing Flats (healingflats.org) is a non-profit ministry begun by Chen Mellema and joined by Susan Bentley to provide short term affordable housing for people undergoing treatment for chronic illnesses at the Mayo Clinic. The following are what Chen and Susan would appreciate having to prepare the Welcome Bags.

- Large plain gift bags to fill with the following items:
- Individually wrapped cleaning sponges
- Hand soap
- Bars of soap
- Kleenex boxes
- Individually wrapped toothbrushes
- Full size shampoo and conditioner
- Boxes of ziploc bags
- Paper towels
- Blank cards (to write letters), stamps
- Bottled water

Other things that are helpful that we always try to leave extras in each house:

- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Dishwasher detergent

Donation receptacle will be located in the upper lobby and donations will be accepted through April 27th at the Renew, Refresh, Rejoice! Spring Gathering.



HEALING FLATS

Outreach & Missions

GETTING OUR HANDS DIRTY

Training: April 6th from 8:30 AM–3:00 PM

Do you enjoy working shoulder-to-shoulder to make a difference in the lives of others? Our congregation is hosting a specialized training session for those interested in helping with disaster relief with Christian care. Cross View is partnering with the Minnesota South District to offer the training necessary to join a Lutheran Early Response Team (LERT). Once we have a team of people trained, we can be ready to deploy when a community is hit with a disaster such as a hurricane, flood, or forest fires. Sign up at www.lcms-lert.org/need/detail/?need_id=902426. Contact Phil Johnson at philj23@gmail.com or Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net with questions.

FAMILY MISSION TRIP TO MONTREAL!

Dates: August 4–10, 2024

As we live out our mission to Equip & GO at Cross View, you are invited to prayerfully consider taking a family mission trip to Montreal, Quebec. This trip is open to anyone 7 years old and up and will include a variety of service opportunities. Family mission trips can be life-changing experiences as you step outside of your comfort zone together and share the love of Jesus. Brochures and applications can be found at the Registration Desk. Contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net with questions.

CAREPORTAL MINISTRY

Virtual Training Dates:

Monday, April 8th, 6:30–8:00 PM

Friday, April 26th, 8:30–10:00 AM

Our CarePortal Team is busy ministering to families in need in our community. There are still lots of opportunities to help with our CarePortal ministry, even if you have not attended the training. We need people to volunteer to help with shopping, delivery, and collecting items from partnering churches. We also are looking for people who have children's clothes and furniture to donate. Contact Pam Olsen at careportal@crossview.net or 612-412-2330 to find out how you can help.

CarePortal

SMALL GROUP LEADERS ROUNDTABLE

Date: Sunday, April 28th, 6:30–8:00 PM

Location: Fellowship Hall

If you are a current small group leader, please plan to join us for ongoing training and supportive conversations with other leaders. You may choose to send another representative from your group if you are unable to attend. Contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net with questions. Register on [CV Connect](#).

"IN GOD'S HANDS" ART EXHIBIT COMING TO CROSS VIEW!

"The Heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands." Psalm 19:1

Our church will be hosting an art exhibit through Great Commission Artists from April 14–28. Artwork created by multi-generational artists including students from four area high schools (including Concordia Academy, whose association Cross View belongs to) will be featured in the exhibit titled "In God's Hands". Drawing from the theme verse Psalm 19:1, we are given a beautiful opportunity to reflect on the truth that in an unpredictable world, we have a sovereign God who never changes. To learn more, check out their website at greatcommissionartists.com. Contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net with questions.



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.msj@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 home.



THANK YOU, EASTERFEST TEAM!

Our EasterFest was a wonderful way to share the salvation story of Jesus' death and resurrection with our community on March 9th. Thank you to everyone who volunteered and donated treats to make the day a huge success! We welcomed 332 attendees, over 80% of whom are not members of Cross View. Also, there were 50 school kits assembled for Lutheran World Relief by families during the event. It was amazing to see the body of Christ in action serving throughout our campus. May the seeds of faith that were planted be watered and grow!



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 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? Questions? Contact

John Daenzer (johndaenzer@gmail.com) or Michael Kibat (mgkibat@centurylink.net). Register for this event on [CV Connect](#) or Event Registration kiosks.



'Focus on the Family of Cross View' Articles Conclude

A special thank you to Paul Emmel who has contributed regularly to the *Clarion*. Paul wrote and organized "Focus on the Family of Cross View" for the past year and a half. Here's what he had to say.

Focus on the Family of Cross View by Paul Emmel

A FINAL WORD

I wish to thank the many families whom I interviewed this past year for the *Clarion* column "Focus on the Family of Cross View." My purpose of the interviews was to introduce members of our own church family in their own words. When we share our faith stories, we see how the Lord draws us together into one Family, the Body of Christ.

We all need to be part of a family, especially a family that keeps us close to Jesus. As we focus on Him, we always have a family.

— Paul Emmel





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

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Julie Marquardt, 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

5:15 PM Meal

6:30 PM Programming

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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