

CROSS VIEW CLARION

April 2025



"As our world increasingly seems to encourage us to claim our struggles as our identity, Jesus asks us to bring them to Him." – Amy Gundermann



Redeemer, My Healer

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

During the month of April, we look forward to celebrating Easter together. It is the pinnacle of the church year, marking the moment that our redemption was won through Jesus' death and resurrection, conquering the sin barrier forever!

As we continue to journey through the final weeks of Lent internalizing Scripture and reflecting on the barren landscape of our own hearts, I am moved by the ways that God offers us healing. He not only brings about the complete restoration of our souls through Jesus as our Redeemer, but He also invites us to know His healing hand even now while living in this fallen world. No matter what pain you carry from the past or what you currently battle, He invites you to bring it to Him. God knows you, knows your hurts,

and wants to carry those burdens for you.

Some of us struggle with deep pain caused by something more traumatic such as the sudden death of a loved one, devastating loss of possessions, or betrayal by someone close to you. I received training through Trauma Healing Institute this January in order to facilitate a Healing Group at Cross View this spring for those looking for healing on a deeper level. You can learn more about this opportunity on page 4 in this issue of the *Clarion*. As our world increasingly seems to encourage us to claim our struggles as our identity, Jesus asks us to bring them to Him and lay them down. Matthew 11:28-30 says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give

you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.” This does not mean that we ignore what has happened in the past or its impact on us, but we are able to continue moving forward with God’s grace into the opportunities and experiences He has in mind for us. 2 Corinthians 9:8 reads, “And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.”

During this Healing Group, participants will find support through God’s Word and discover the power of connecting with others. The curriculum has been used around the world to help people heal from the pain of trauma, grief, and

loss. After experiencing the training, I believe everyone would benefit from participating in a Healing Group because it offers a way to acknowledge your own scars and equips you with tools for helping others around you who are struggling.

What a gift it is to know that our Redeemer and Healer is always near, always opening His arms to us, always eager to bring about restoration. Below are some of the lyrics from “Your Great Name” by Krissy Nordhoff and Michael Neale that touch on transformational love of Jesus. May you experience the healing touch of Jesus in the areas of life that have been painful, and may you rejoice daily in the complete restoration He has won for us on the cross.

Blessings and joy to you

*Lost are saved, find their way at the sound of Your great Name.
All condemned feel no shame at the sound of Your great Name.
Ev’ry fear has no place at the sound of Your great Name.
The enemy, he has to leave at the sound of Your great Name.
All the weak find their strength at the sound of Your great Name.
Hungry souls receive grace at the sound of Your great Name.
The fatherless find their rest at the sound of Your great Name.
The sick are healed, the dead are raised at the sound of Your great Name.
Redeemer, my Healer, Lord Almighty, Defender, my Savior, You are my King!*

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays
through April 9,
6:30–7:15 pm

*Lenten Dinners Served
5:15–6:30 pm*

*Dinners are hosted by Cross
View youth with proceeds
from these meals benefiting
the youth attending the LCMS
Youth Gathering in July.*

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, April 13

8:15 AM (Traditional) | 10:45 AM (Contemporary)

Maundy Thursday, April 17

7:00 PM (Traditional)

Good Friday, April 18

12:00 PM (Traditional) | 7:00 PM (Traditional)

Easter Sunday, April 20

8:15 AM (Traditional) | 9:15–10:45 AM Breakfast | 10:45 AM (Contemporary)



Financial Update

Year-to-Date Results

- Year to date income is \$56,464 unfavorable to budget and \$56,683 below YTD 2024.
- 2025 pledges were strong. Timing of contributions versus budgeted timing is likely causing the shortfall.
- Year to date expenses are favorable to budget.
- ECC Income was unfavorable to budget primarily due to openings in three rooms.
- ECC Expenses are favorable to budget.
- ECC Net Deficit is unfavorable to budget by \$5,707.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
2/28/25	2025 Actual Year to Date	2025 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$280,948	\$337,412	(\$56,464)
Total Expenses	(\$272,635)	(\$277,709)	\$5,074
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$8,313	\$59,703	(\$51,390)
General Fund Ending Balance	\$465,711	\$517,101	

Cross View Game Night

Do you love games? Join us for fun and fellowship every second Sunday of the month from 6:30–8:30 PM in Rooms 209/210. Cross View Game Night is open to all teens and adults, including church members and their guests. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own board or card games. If you bring a game, be prepared to show others how to play.

Questions? Contact John Daenzer at johnndaenzer@gmail.com or Michael Kibat at mgkibat@centurylink.net.



Music Ministry

EASTER HALLELUJAH CHORUS PRIMER

To close Cross View's April 20th, 8:15 AM Easter Sunday service, the congregation is invited to join the choir, brass, and organ in singing Handel's "Hallelujah Chorus." If you would like a refresher or introduction to this joyful anthem, please join the Cross View choir to practice the piece in the sanctuary on April 2 and/or April 9 immediately following the Midweek Lenten Service. Please contact David Mennicke at david@crossview.net for more information.

Christian Education

SINGING WITH THE EXILES: ISAIAH 40-55

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed Lessing
Date: Sunday mornings, 3/9–4/13

This study, led by Pastor Reed, compliments our Midweek Lenten Series that is based upon these chapters in Isaiah. You're invited to take a deeper look at the most influential sixteen chapters in the Bible.



STOP RUNNING SCARED

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed Lessing
Date: Sunday mornings, 4/27–6/1

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

1 TIMOTHY: USING YOUR GIFTS TO BUILD UP HIS CHURCH

Teaching Leader: Roy Campen
Date: 4/27–5/18

Location: Fellowship Hall

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

Outreach & Missions

HEALING GROUP

Many people have been wounded by traumatic experiences such as abuse, conflict, or loss. At Cross View, we are offering a Healing Group using mental health practices and Biblical wisdom to help us learn how to talk about our own pain and listen to the pain of others. As a church, we want to help those who are hurting to find comfort in Jesus who cares for them and walks the road of healing with them. If you would like to learn more, visit traumahealinginstitute.org or contact Amy at amy@crossview.net. [Sign up on CV Connect](#) to join the Healing Group. Space is limited and you must commit to attending all three sessions: April 21, April 27, May 5 from 5:00–8:30 PM.



LERT TRAINING

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

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

POBLO POTLUCK

You are invited to the POBLO International Friendship Center Easter Potluck on Monday, April 14th from 5:30–7:00 PM. The potluck will be held at Ascension Lutheran Church, 1801 Cliff Rd E, Burnsville. All are welcome! Please RSVP by texting Shari at (612) 552-3878 and bring a food dish to share. If you are interested in getting involved with ministering to refugees and immigrants, this is a great event!



CAREPORTAL MINISTRY

The CarePortal Ministry is off to a great start in 2025. So far this year, we helped meet the needs of twenty-two families and delivered to fourteen of them. Thank you to everyone who has participated in the CarePortal Ministry. Lives are being changed as we continue to do God's work here in our neighborhood.

We are still looking to expand our Delivery and Shopping teams. Everyone is welcome.

There is a training offered via Zoom for those interested in becoming a member of our CarePortal Response Team:

- Friday, April 11, 11:00 AM–12:30 PM
- Tuesday, April 15, 6:30–8:00 PM

If you'd like to get involved on any of these teams to help families in crisis, please contact Pam Olsen at careportal@crossview.net. God bless you and your families.

EASTERFEST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

We look forward to inviting the community to celebrate the story of Easter here at Cross View on April 12th from 10:00 AM–Noon!

EasterFest is a family-friendly event with lots of fun activities.

[Sign up on CV Connect](#) to volunteer and check out the Giving Trees in the lobby to donate needed items for the event.



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



Early Childhood Center

SUMMER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

If you are 16 years old or older and looking for a summer job and love kids and teaching kids about Jesus, consider working at the ECC for a few months. We are looking for summer employees starting in June through August. Please reach out to the ECC office at ecc@crossview.net.

SCULPTOR VISITS THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

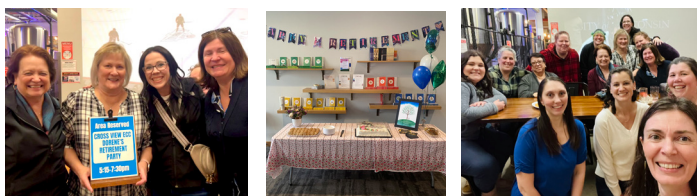
At the end of February, we had a very special guest. One of the ECC parents is an ice sculptor. He visited the ECC and made two polar bears out of a block of ice. The kids got to watch him carve and shave the ice to create the polar bears. Check out these pictures of the special day.



DORENE OAK RETIRES

Toward the end of February, the ECC also celebrated Ms. Dorene. Dorene has worked at Cross View for over 20 years. It is now time for her to retire. We had a celebration with the parents and kids. Many of the kids said, "Dorene please don't retire."

The next week as a staff we went out and celebrated. Many past staff came back to wish Dorene well in this next adventure of her life. Attached are some pictures of our events.



ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- Substitutes—so that our teachers can take vacations to get refreshed
- Tania Rivera Perez starting as the new Director
- Dorene's 20 years of service at Cross View and that she enjoys her retirement
- A generous donation to the ECC

Prayer Requests:

- For our NLSA visit, April 13–15. That the visiting team sees God's work done at Cross View.
- That we can fill our Toddler room with kids
- That we can fill our Infant Teacher opening

ECC MISSION STATEMENT

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

Children's Ministry

LAST DAY OF KIDSTITUTE PARTY

Cross View kids had so much fun on our last session of Kidstutue for this school year. They played games, made a fun cross craft, and ate creative snacks. Already looking forward to next year!

WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Come celebrate with our 5th grade students and their families as their children get to take their first Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 17, at 7:00 PM.

6TH GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL PROJECT

While the 5th grade students are taking the Welcome to the Lord's Table Stepping Stone series, Cross View's 6th grade class is creating a collage of our Life Verses sermon series during Sunday school.



SPECIAL WORKSHOP EMBRACING CHRIST'S LOVE: USING KINDNESS TO COMBAT BULLYING

On Sunday, April 27 6:00–7:30 PM at Cross View the Family Ministry MAT will offer a workshop for children and families on how to respond to bullying.

The first 45 minutes will be the presenter speaking and then he will offer a Q and A time. At 7:00–7:30 PM the presenter will address the older kids (with their parent) in the room. Childcare will be offered for any child in 6th grade and under during the 7:00–7:30 PM time frame.



SAVE THE DATE FOR VBS JUNE 16-20, 9AM TO NOON

Our kids will get to experience True North and learn to trust Jesus in a wild world.

APRIL CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DATES

- Saturday, April 12: EasterFest
- Thursday, April 17: Celebrate Welcome to the Lord's Table Stepping Stone (Fifth grade)

- Sunday, April 20: No Sunday School due to Easter
- Sunday, April 27: Sunday School Open House

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Be sure to come see what our kiddos have been learning all year long in Sunday school with our annual Sunday school Open House on Sunday, April 27. Parents are invited to stay the entire class time with their child.

PARENT CORNER



As the weather keeps getting warmer... why not engage in some random acts of kindness and spread smiles!

TOP TEN LIST

1. Give an unexpected compliment.
2. Offer to return a stranger's grocery cart to the front of the store.
3. Bring treats to your local fire station.
4. Pick up pieces of litter on the street and throw it out.
5. Post sticky notes with uplifting messages or Bible verses on someone else's bathroom mirror.
6. Write a thank you note to someone (a friend, neighbor, co-worker or teacher) who has encouraged or helped you in some way.
7. Offer to walk your neighbor's dog.
8. Tell your mom, dad or sibling that you love them.
9. Do chores for a family member that could use a little extra free time.
10. Figure out a friend or family member's half Birthday and surprise them with a treat.

Youth Ministry

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH APRIL SCHEDULE

- April 12: Sky Zone, 2:00–4:00 PM
- April 20: Easter Breakfast Fundraiser
- April 23: Confirmation Party; Last Day for 7th Graders
- April 30: Confirmation Rehearsals for 8th Graders

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH APRIL SCHEDULE

- April 6: Youth at CV
- April 13: Curling at Chaska Curling Center, 6:00–8:00 PM
- April 20: Easter Breakfast Fundraiser; No Youth
- April 27: Youth at CV

LCMS YOUTH GATHERING YOUTH HOSTING CAFÉ CROSS VIEW

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

SENIOR HIGH ESCAPE ROOM

Senior High youth had a fun weekend doing an escape room on Sunday, March 9. They were able to escape the room successfully! Afterwards, they stopped at Dairy Queen for a sweet treat!



JUNIOR HIGH AT SKY ZONE

The Junior High youth are heading to Sky Zone in Edina on Saturday, April 12. They'll meet at Sky Zone at 2:00 PM and have some fun trampolining from 2:15–3:45 PM. Pick up at Sky Zone no later than 4:00 PM. Cost is \$25.

Please sign up [here on CV Connect](#) by Sunday, April 6.

7TH GRADE SERVICE PROJECTS

On February 14, the 7th grade confirmation students presented their service projects in the Fellowship Hall. It was a nice celebration of the many different ways our youth served the community over the past several months!



YOUTH GATHERING AND SENIOR HIGH CURLING EVENT

The participants going on the Gathering and our senior high youth are invited to an evening of curling in Chaska on Sunday, April 13! This will be used as a team bonding opportunity for those attending the Gathering, but it is open to other high schoolers as well! Everyone will meet at the Chaska Curling Center at 5:45 PM for their session from 6:00–8:00 PM. Cost is \$25.

Please register [here on CV Connect](#) by Wednesday, April 2. We will not be able to add any late registrations.

CONFIRMATION FMSC SERVICE

The 6th, 7th, and 8th graders went to Feed My Starving Children in Chanhassen on Wednesday, February 26. We had 27 volunteers (both youth and adults) and packed 130 boxes for those in need! What a wonderful night of service!



LENTEN MEALS AND EASTER BREAKFAST

Lenten meals hosted by Cross View's youth started on Ash Wednesday (March 5). Menus are available to view at the Welcome Center, and registration is available on CV Connect.

Please register for a Lenten Meal the Sunday before in order to get accurate numbers. However, walk-ins are welcome!

Easter Breakfast will be hosted by the youth on Sunday, April 20, from 9:15–10:45 AM. Congregation help will be needed for the egg bakes. Please keep an eye out for the sign up in the lobby.

Proceeds from these meals will benefit the youth attending the LCMS Youth Gathering in July.



PRAYER CHALLENGE REMINDER

During Lent, you are invited to pray for Christians around the world who are persecuted for their faith. You can find current stories of Christians around the world in need of prayer and learn more at www.icommittoprayer.com.



CALLING ALL CROSS VIEW WOMEN!

PLEASE JOIN US for the Women's Ministry annual RENEW, REFRESH, REJOICE! event on Saturday, April 26th, from 9:00 AM–1:00 PM. We'll gather to enjoy coffee and pastries, view and discuss two short videos from RightNow Media's Lisa Harper on "Why We Need the Bible" and end our time together with a great lunch at The Tavern Grill on France Avenue in Edina.



The charitable outreach for this year's Renew, Refresh, Rejoice! is a bedding drive for the organization Sleep in Heavenly Peace which builds and donates twin-sized beds to kids in our community who do not have a bed of their own. From April 6–26 The Giving Trees in the upper lobby will have tags with information about how to purchase a "Bed in a Bag" set that we will be collecting. A representative from SHP will speak briefly at our event on April 26 and receive all the bedding that we have collected.



Hope to see you there! Ask a friend to join you! Celebrate spring with your sisters in Christ. QUESTIONS? Contact Marcia Johnson at marcia.sarahandemilysmom@gmail.com. You can find a [trailer to Lisa Harper's sessions here](#). Register on CV Connect beginning April 1st. Hope to see you there!

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Looking for small group Men's Bible Study? Join us at the Original Pancake House in Eden Prairie starting April 4th at 6:30 AM for a weekly study of Lamentations. Contact Dan Battcher at dtbattcher@gmail.com with questions.

ARISE WITH THE GUYS

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

MEN'S RETREAT AND WORK DAY AT CAMP OMEGA

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

DISTRICT GATHERING FOR SENIOR ADULTS

The SAGES Gathering for senior adults is coming up on May 5 & 6 in Mankato with Pastor Reed as the featured speaker. Hotel registration is due April 5 and gathering registration is due April 14. Paper copies are available at the Registration Desk or you can learn more online at www.mnsdistrict.org/sages.

JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

At Cross View, we know being a member of a small group can be transformational. Groups spend time together in God's Word, share life's joys and challenges, pray for one another, and serve others like Jesus did. If you'd like to join a group or become a small group leader, please contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net or complete the [interest form on our website](#).

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Seven Aunts by Stacci Lola Drouillard is the book chosen to read for April and then discuss at book club. The group will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, April 21, at 1:00 PM. New members are always welcome.



TNT – TWENTIES AND THIRTIES YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

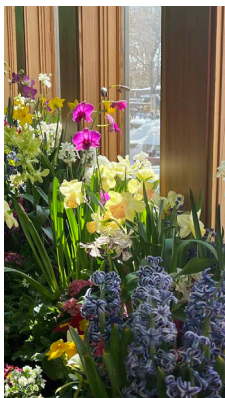
Come and get to know others in the same stage of life at TNT (Twenties & Thirties Young Adult Ministry) through Bible study and time hanging out together! Locations vary and there has been a change in time and days. Bible studies will be held on Mondays and outings on Thursdays; both running from 6:00–7:30 PM. Contact Nicole at nclvvo@gmail.com or Hannah at hannah@crossview.net with questions or to be added to the TNT GroupMe.

Spring Sessions:

- April 7: Bible Study at Cross Views
- April 24: Outing at Asia Mall in Eden Prairie
- May 5: Bible Study at Cross View
- May 22: Spring Service Project

WOMEN'S MINISTRY SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Cross View women had a lovely time at the Arboretum's Flower Show in February! The flowers and their wonderful fragrance provided a much-needed mid-winter treat. The lunch in the Arb Café was yummy too. Thanks for coming out to support your Cross View Women's Ministry.



FUNERAL PLANNING SEMINAR RESCHEDULED

Wednesday, April 23, at 1:30 PM at Cross View

The Senior Adult Ministry is hosting a funeral planning seminar. Pastor Wheeler will speak on topics including obituary writing, selection of scripture and hymns, pall bearers, family participation, preservice planning, funeral costs, and other related topics. This seminar is open to all Cross View members. Register [here on CV Connect](#).



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
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Brian De Young, Organist
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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

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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