

CROSSVIEW CLARION

August 2021



"Once upon a time, people knew their neighbors. They talked to them, had barbecues with them, even went to church with them." -Toby Schmidt



The Art of Neighboring

by Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor

When I hear the word, "neighbor" two songs pop into my head: "Who are the people in your neighborhood? In your Neighborhood? In your neighborhoodoo-oo-ood?" ...from Sesame Street; and "Won't you be? Won't you be? Oh, please won't you be, my neighbor?" ...from *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*.

This spring our family sat down to watch *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood* with Tom Hanks. It was wonderful. Tom Hanks did an incredible rendition of Fred Rogers, and the movie

gave amazing insight into just who Mr. Rogers was (his personality, character, and quirks). In this COVID world that we live in, God has taught us so much about ourselves, humanity, and our yearning for relationship and community.

That brings me to "The Art of Neighboring." See, once upon a time, people knew their neighbors. They talked to them, had barbecues with them, even went to church with them. In our time of extraordinary mobility and increasing isolationism (especially in 2020), it's hard to make lasting



connections with those who live right outside our front door. Think about it, you and I have hundreds of “friends” on Facebook or Instagram, but do we know the full name of the person who lives right next door (or even more impressive, their kids’ or pets’ names).

In Luke 10:25-29 (also recorded in Matthew 22:34-40 and Mark 12:28-34), Jesus is asked what the greatest commandments are. He responds, love God and love your neighbor.

As I make my way through a new book, *The Art of Neighboring*, I keep going back to the question: “When I leave my house in the morning, when I return in the evening, when I am in the yard with my kids, when people are over at my house, ‘How am I at loving my neighbors?’” Which makes me think about how: in Ephesians 5:1 Paul reminds us to **be imitators of God**; in 2 Peter 3:9, Peter reminds us that **God wants all people to know Him and the Gospel**; and in Matthew 10, Jesus tells (and challenges) us **you’ve freely received, so freely give**.

Which brings me back to this thought, “What’s the most loving thing I can do for the people who live on my street or in my apartment building?”

So here is my challenge to you and me (especially in this COVID world, and as we wrap up summer and enter a new school year): **Be a neighbor. Get to know your neighbors.** Learn the “art of neighboring” as you have coffee with them, eat meals with them, build relationships and community with them, and freely share what God has shared with you — Himself and all your blessings.

How about even opening yourself and your home up to celebrate **National Night Out (NNO) 2021 on Tuesday, August 3rd**. By the way, did you know that Minneapolis leads the country in participation in NNO? NNO takes place every year on the first Tuesday in August. Events are held in neighborhoods across the city.

Every year, thousands of residents take part in the festivities.

Holding an NNO gathering gives you and your neighbors:

- A reason to have a social gathering with your neighbors
- A chance to get to know each other and your local police officers
- Time to build important relationships that keep your neighborhood safe

Each neighborhood plans its own event. Examples include:

- Block parties (*The Art of Neighboring* even has a Block Party guide: https://www.artofneighboring.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/block_party_kit.pdf)
- Festivals
- Parades
- Cookouts
- Youth activities

While you’re at it, pick up a copy of *The Art of Neighboring* by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon. There’s also a small group video curriculum for this book on RightNow Media (<https://www.rightnowmedia.org/Content/Series/392825>).



Financial Update

Year-to-Date Results

- June member contributions were 77% of budget or \$24,863 less than budget.
- Year to Date income is now \$71,387 behind budget and \$2,614 less than last year.
- Year to Date expenditures are less than budget primarily due to lower wage and benefit expenses with open positions.
- Net Income is \$9,772 better than budget year to date as expenses are below budgeted amounts.
- ECC Tuition income remains below budget with some openings in one room.
- Please prayerfully consider your remaining pledge to the Cross View 4.0 campaign. Collection of remaining pledges are needed to pay final construction expenses.

Cross View Lutheran Church

6/30/21	2021 Actual Year to Date	2021 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Greater (Less)
Total Income	\$576,519	\$647,906	(\$71,387)
Total Expenses	\$591,107	\$672,266	(\$81,159)
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$14,588)	(\$24,360)	\$9,772

Cross View 4.0 Building Campaign

6/30/21	
Balance in Campaign Savings Account:	\$470,525
Plus: Pledges Expected by 12/31/2021:	\$162,994
Plus: Nine Mile Creek Watershed District Receivable:	\$82,800
Less: Remaining Costs to Complete:	(\$63,199)
Less: Bridge (Short Term) Loan to be Repaid:	(\$613,179)
Projected 4.0 Balance at Completion:	\$39,941

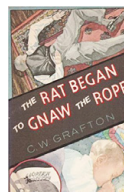
Women's Ministries

WOMEN'S DINNERS TO RESUME IN AUGUST

The August Women's Dinner will be at Pinstripes in Edina (3849 Gallagher Dr.) on Thursday, August 12th at 7:00 PM. Please register through [CV Connect](#) and let Quynn Iske (qunika@msn.com or 612-816-3657) know if you have any questions or if you need to place an order ahead.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club is reading *The Rat Began to Gnaw the Rope* by C.W. Grafton for August. They will meet this month at the Shorewood Yacht Club in Excelsior, MN, on Monday, August 16, at 12:00 PM for their "almost" annual picnic. Please contact Marcy at mpnordhus@gmail.com if you have questions or are interested in joining.



New Stephen Minister Training Scheduled for Fall

Stephen Ministry leaders from Our Lady of Grace and Cross View will be leading a training course for new Stephen ministers, beginning on August 30. Cross View will be hosting many of the training sessions which will be on Monday evenings for about 2-3 hours, ending on November 15. For now, please prayerfully consider whether or not your spiritual gifts and talents could be used in this compassionate ministry.

Since 1975, over 600,000 people from all walks of life have been trained as Stephen Ministers — lay caregivers who, in turn, have brought God's healing love to millions of hurting people going through difficult times in life. These people are drawn to Stephen Ministry training by the desire to make a significant difference during a time of great need in someone's life. What often surprises them is the tremendous personal and spiritual growth they themselves experience.

If you are thinking about becoming a Stephen Minister, here are some next steps:

- Pray for discernment about your gifts, your passions, and how God is asking you to grow in ministry.
- Let a pastor or Stephen Minister know about your interest in training to become a Stephen Minister.
- Visit stephenministries.org/SM for additional stories and information about serving as a Stephen Minister.
- If you need a Stephen Minister, please contact a pastor.

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"Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ."

—Galatians 6:2

Christian Education

COLOSSIANS

**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY, 9:30-10:30 AM
JUNE 27-AUG. 29, ONSITE IN ROOMS 209-210 & ONLINE**



What we think about Jesus matters. Our perception of Him shapes us—what we say, how we treat others, even what we think. If we paint Jesus as any less than who He is as supreme over all creation and savior of the world, not only

does our theology slip, but the working

out of our faith also suffers. Join us for this 8-session summer Bible Study as pastor Louie Giglio takes us through the book of Colossians to help us form a complete picture of Jesus. What we believe about Jesus influences everything in our lives. Now alive in Christ, we can live a life worthy of God instead of falling back into the ways of the world.

Pastors Steve and Toby will be facilitating this study. Register on [CV Connect](#). If you have questions or need information, email Pastor Toby at toby@crossview.net.

BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP IS COMING TO CROSS VIEW THIS SEPTEMBER

Cross View is delighted to host a Tuesday afternoon Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) class for women and preschool

children, starting Tuesday, September 14th, 12:30–2:00 PM. This year, BSF will be studying “The Unexpected King — Matthew’s Account of Jesus.”

For more than 60 years, BSF has offered free, in-depth Bible study, now serving more than 400,000 class members on six continents in more than 120 nations. The BSF Children’s Program for infants and preschoolers (newborns to kindergarten-age) lovingly teaches the truths of Matthew at their age-appropriate level.

Want to learn more about BSF? Go to bsfinternational.org to see how BSF studies the Bible.

Tell me more about the study of Matthew! Check out bsfinternational.org/our-studies/matthew.

Want to hear more about the BSF Children’s Program? Go to bsfinternational.org/childrens-groups to learn more about how BSF teaches little ones God’s Word in a loving, safe environment.

Interested in Joining? Please email the Class Administrator, Ros Wright, at bsf.edina@gmail.com and she’ll be happy to get you and your preschool children registered for this class.



Early Childhood Center

SUMMER FUN AT THE ECC

August is a time of many changes at the ECC. Children move into a new classroom or graduate and move on to Kindergarten. They will miss their Hopper graduates but can rejoice over the developmental growth they have made at Cross View. The staff takes assurance in the fact that not only are they ready for Kindergarten, but that they have also begun a new phase of their life journey and faith walk. They pray that they may continue to grow in God’s love.

The ECC would like to say thank you to all the summer workers who enthusiastically helped this summer. They thank Breah, Martha, Lauren, Sam, Nick, and Rachel for all their help this summer!

In July they had the following special events:

- Fourth of July parade
- Olympic week
- Christmas in July week
- Bubble party
- Beach week

In August, they are anticipating the following special events:

- Disney week
- State Fair week
- Magic week with a magician
- The Bug Guy
- Family Fun Day
- Ice Cream Truck



Outreach & Missions

WELCOME MAT LAUNCH COMING SOON!

The Welcome MAT Design Team is making final preparations for the fall launch of this new and exciting ministry for welcoming visitors to Cross View!

The team had their initial role overview with videos on Saturday, July 17th, which was open to the congregation. They want to thank all those volunteers who have stepped up and committed to this ministry, but as stated before, they still need more volunteers to make this a truly successful effort. They need additional Hosts (formerly known as greeters) and Connectors (new roles to assist interested visitor families get more oriented with Cross View). There are also a couple of lead roles to be filled at this time. If you missed the July 17th video overview, the videos will be shown prior to services in coming Sundays, and a recording of the overview session will also be available for viewing if you still might be interested in being a part of this team. Stay tuned for information on where exactly the videos can be accessed, as they will be helpful regarding new parking information, the new CV member event registration area and visitor Welcome Bundles.

If, after viewing the overview videos, you think you might be interested in becoming a member of the Welcome MAT, please contact any member of the Design Team (Phil Johnson, Tonya Bushey, Sue Harrison, Gregg Poppe), and they will be happy to plug you into a spot of your choice!

The congregation's prayerful consideration to serve on the new Welcome MAT is greatly needed and appreciated, as the harvest is plentiful for growing God's Kingdom at Cross View! Sincere thanks go out to all who have stepped up to support this vital ministry.

A RETURN TO LOS VASQUEZ, GUATEMALA — DENTAL ASSISTANT OR NURSE NEEDED FOR THE OCTOBER 30TH MISSION TRIP!

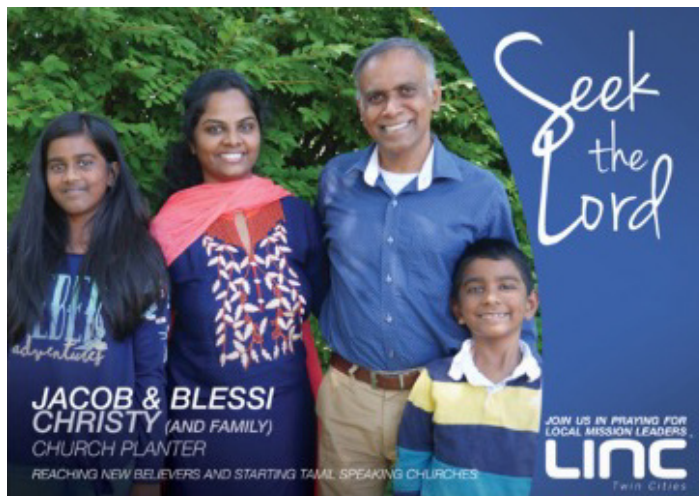
On July 14, 2021, Cross View's Guatemala Mission Action Team met for a planning session. Our team is planning to return to Los Vasquez, Guatemala, on October 30th and staying until November 6th.

Once again, we are planning a full schedule while in Guatemala. We plan on passing out Bibles for children during worship services on Sunday morning. During the week, we will lead a Bible study for women and provide Bibles for the participants.

We are scheduling a local Guatemalan dentist to conduct a dental clinic in Los Vasquez during the week as well. We are looking for either a dental assistant or nurse to assist the dentist in Los Vasquez. Please contact Tom Koch, tjkoch47@gmail.com or 612-386-3901, or contact Pastor Steve or Pastor Toby for more details.

The water investigation continues as we look for the best way to provide for Los Vasquez's water needs.

Please keep the people of Los Vasquez in your prayers. Please also keep the Cross View's Guatemala Mission Action Team in your prayers as we prepare for our fall trip to Guatemala. Our team consists of Vicky Barton, Rose-Ann Meier, Laurie Koch, Pastor Steve, Pastor Toby, and Tom Koch.



LINC – TWIN CITIES

In July Cross View had the ministry partners from LINC – Twin Cities (Lutheran Inter-City Network Coalition) come and share about all the work God is doing to grow His kingdom through them. In the service Pastor Ben shared how 1/3 of our population in the Twin Cities is 1st or 2nd generation immigrants. He shared that, the biggest need is not among the Hmong, the Indian, or the Sudanese, but rather the next generation. In raising up local Gospel-focused leaders in our in our communities, all of them are saying the same thing, there is a parenting issue. Not necessarily a lack of parents, but the major issue is the lack of spir-



itual parents. In other words, we (the church) are not very strong at passing on the Legacy of Faith that we have been taught. Pastor Ben's emphasized this by pointing to three major commands God gives us in scripture:

1) Love God, 2) Love others, and 3) Pass it On. Pastor Ben shared that passing on this spiritual legacy is just answering God's call to be "spiritual parents" to those around us. Simply put, it's 1) inviting people to our spiritual journey; 2) letting them see our faith on good and bad days; and 3) making unhurried quality time a priority with the people God has put in our lives.

HOW TO BE A SPIRITUAL PARENT

- 1- Invite someone in
- 2- Let them see your faith at work in the good days and the bad days
- 3- Make unhurried quality time a priority

HOW TO LEAVE A SPIRITUAL LEGACY

PASTOR BEN GRIFFIN

During the discipleship hour, Pastors Kevin Saunders and Jacob Christy shared how LINC is equipping local leaders to do just that, to pass on the spiritual legacy God, through our spiritual parents, has blessed us with. Pastors Saunders and Christy share more of what LINC's focus is and how God is directing the various leaders and ministries around the Twin Cities, including the Indian church plant here at Cross View.

If you'd like to know more about what God shared through Pastors Ben, Saunders, or Christy you can watch the sermon and presentation from July 11 on our website in our sermon archives. Here's the link: https://www.crossview.net/worship/media.cfm#detailid_383628

If you'd like to learn more about LINC- Twin Cities or how to support or partner with them, you can do that here: <https://linc.org/twincities/>.

If you'd like to worship with our Indian Church plant; they worship at Cross View every third Saturday of the month from 10:30 AM–1:00 PM. Feel free to attend and worship with our brothers and sisters in Christ.

Welcome Julia Montgomery, Cross View's New Administrative Assistant

Julia was born in Minneapolis and moved to Iowa when she was five years old. Her family spent the next 13 years there before they moved to Madison, WI, where Julia finished her last year of high school. She attended college at the UW–Platteville and got her degree in Electrical Engineering. Julia met her husband at college, and he is also an electrical engineer. A year after they were married, they moved out to California and spent the next 19 years living in the Bay area. Her husband got a job in Jordan, MN, and they moved there in June 2019. Winters have been a little challenging to acclimate to, but now that they are getting more MN winter clothes (not to be confused with CA winter clothes), it is easier to handle the cold! Julia and her husband enjoy the outdoors and try to get out for walks or hikes year-round. She also enjoys roller blading and was on a speed skating team back in the Bay area. She competed regionally with the team. She enjoys card making and other crafts. Julia has also been a member of Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) for a while along with being group leader both in the Bay area and the New Prague satellite group. She has gotten to know some of the women in the church through the Tuesday night women's Bible study and looks forward to getting to know the rest of you!



**OKTOBER
FEST**

SUNDAY, SEPT. 26 • Noon - 3 pm

Lower Parking Lot
German Food & Beer/Soda/Water
Games

Music by the Musikmeisters
Free — Invite your neighbors and friends!



CROSS VIEW

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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
952-941-1094, steve@crossview.net

Rev. Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor
952-243-2053, toby@crossview.net

Jonathan Zellar, Children's Ministry (Interim) & Youth Ministry
952-243-2047, jonathan@crossview.net

Stacey LaMere, Early Childhood Center
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Renee Kirchner, Church Administration
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Sue Quist, Music & Fine Arts Ministries
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Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
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Julia Montgomery, Administrative Assistant
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Claire Oie, Administrative Assistant
952-941-1094, claire@crossview.net

José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Harrison Lawrence, Organist
harrison@crossview.net

Julie Sherman, 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

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 2nd & 4th
Sundays**

SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

OFFICE HOURS

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

CALENDAR

Our most current calendar
is always available at
www.crossview.net/calendar

CONNECT

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952-941-5513 (FAX)
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