

CROSS VIEW CLARION

August 2022



"Over the course of the week, we got to learn so much about how Christ is at work in our lives." -Jonathan Zellar

In All Things

by Jonathan Zellar, Director of Youth Ministries

Have you ever been to Houston Texas in the middle of July? If not, just a warning. ITS HOT! However, 34 of our Cross View Family got to go to Houston July 8-13 to experience the LCMS Youth Gathering where we learned about how Christ is In All Things. Over the course of the week, we got to learn so much about how Christ is at work in our lives from the bread in the grocery store, to the orange cone guys (construction workers), to the careers we are preparing for or are in, to the end words that He gives us in His cross. We got to experience travel delays, patience, record setting heat and humidity, sleeplessness, trials, joys, and the support of 20,000+ other LCMS Lutherans soaking in what God had to tell us.

When we read Colossians 1:16 it says that "For by him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things were created by him and for him." Christ was there at the beginning. He was at work throughout the creation in Genesis 1 & 2. He was there when all the Old Testament champions needed help, support, and encouragement.

He came bodily in the New Testament to show us His Truth, the saving message of the Gospel, and He is still with us today.

We also learned that many of the challenges we face are just middle words. Like the middle of the story when everything gets tense, and we can't see how things are going to end. Middle words like job loss, addiction, depression, loneliness, and change. Those times when it's hard to see Christ at work He is there. Thankfully those middle words don't define us and aren't the end of the story. Colossians 1:20 reminds us that Christ has given us end words because of the reconciliation He secured through the Cross. End words like eternal life, peace, joy, hope, child of God, and Grace! Next time you see any of the 34 people who attended the Youth Gathering be sure to ask them about how their middle words don't define them, only God's end words do! The same goes for you. Middle words and trials of life don't define you because Christ is In All Things. His end words of Grace and reconciliation define you and your story. Christ is In All Things!

Turn the page for photos from Houston.





Early Childhood Center

LLAMAS, BIKE PARADE, & OTHER JULY FUN

July was a very fun month for the kids. We started out with our annual Bike Parade, then Bruce the Bug Guy made a visit, llamas came to see the kids, and we had a shark presentation. In addition, we had sports day, planet/space day, show and tell day, and dress up day. On the right are some pictures of our fun events.

THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Thankyouforallyourprayersduringoursearchforteachers. At the end of June through the beginning of July, we hired a few new employees that will help us get closer to having a full staff.

Also, a big thank you to all our summer employees: Sam Oelschleager, Lauren Marquardt, Lauren Hoffman, and Rachel Kelzer. They all did an awesome job of sharing the love of Jesus with the kids and stepping up to let our full-time teachers take vacations. We are very grateful for each of them.



Financial Update Year-to-Date Results

- June 2022 member contributions were 94% of budget or \$5,971 less than budgeted.
- Year to Date income is 5.78% below budget or \$30,049 less than budgeted.
- Year to Date expenditures are \$7,683 less than budgeted.
- Year-to-date General Fund Deficit of \$58,590 is \$31,366 unfavorable to budget.
- ECC income was favorable and expenses nearly

on budget, resulting in a net surplus better than budgeted by \$14,151.

- No new pledges were received in June for Restored! \$209,204 additionally is needed to fully repay the Restored! loan.
- Thank you to those who have pledged to Restored! and those who have already fulfilled their pledge. Each contribution reduces principal and Cross View's interest cost.

6/30/22	2022 Actual Year to Date	2022 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$636,991	\$676,040	(\$39,049)
Total Expenses	(\$695,581)	(\$703,264)	\$7,683
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$58,590)	(\$27,224)	(\$31,366)

Cross View 4.0 Building Campaign

Contributions Received in June:	\$65,289
Total Pledges Made to Restored!	\$340,796
Total Contributions Collected:	\$110,774
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$31,620
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$471,000
Additional Pledges Needed to Repay Loan:	\$209,204



Community Light *School of Discipleship*

We are excited to announce the second year of Community Light School of Discipleship (CLSD)! CLSD is a Bible study designed to help each of us to grow as disciples who make disciples. This free series helps participants to become ready to “go” and make disciples wherever God has planted them.

If you didn't get a chance to be a part of CLSD last year, don't miss out this year. Invite a friend to join you for our study. Share our free online resources with family, friends, and others. It's as easy as giving them our website address www.crossview.net and encouraging them to click on the CLSD icon toward the bottom of the home page. We have been entrusted with the greatest message on earth. Let's get ready for the year ahead by making use of this incredible opportunity.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- ✦ **Onsite** – at Cross View in a combination lecture assembly and small group breakout format.
- ✦ **Online** – lectures and content live-streamed via a hosted, online platform so questions can be submitted to presenters.
- ✦ **On-Demand** – sessions and resources archived for ongoing availability.

TIMING

- ✦ Three nine-week sessions start September 15 and run until the end of April.
- ✦ Sessions will be held Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, both onsite at Cross View and via live streaming.
- ✦ All sessions will be archived for all participants.

SESSION FORMAT

- 6:30 – 6:40** Opening
- 6:40 – 7:25** Presenter Lecture
- 7:30 – 8:10** Small Group Discussion
- 8:15 – 8:30** Q&A with Presenter and Closing

CLASS OVERVIEWS 3 classes each lasting 9 weeks

This is My Story, This is My Song: Insights From Exodus

September 15– November 10



What a story! Shiphrah and Puah, Moses and Miriam, Aaron and Jethro—and don't forget the Red Sea and a mountain called Sinai! This story, fulfilled and completed in Jesus Christ, is your story as well. In nine sessions, participants will review it and learn again how to sing it.

Presenter — **Dr. Reed Lessing**, Professor of Theology and Ministry, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

Stories for Witness

December 1 – February 9

(No classes on December 22 & 29)



Participants will discover the witness value of stories. They will review the great sacred story arcing over every disciple's life and find themselves in the stories Jesus tells in the gospels. They will also consider their own stories for witness. The point of witness is just where the Christ story, the story of another, and my own story intersect. To emphasize the visual nature of Jesus' stories, art will be used extensively.

Presenter — **Dr. Dean Nadasdy**, President Emeritus, MN South District, LCMS

The Story in Our Communities

February 23 – April 27 (No class on April 6)



Jeremiah 29:7 says, “Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper.” Throughout God's Word, churches and communities are linked. One important key to connecting with your community is growing partnerships. This course will expose participants to Biblical insights and ministry leaders using best practices to inspire God's people to be in, and for, the community where they are located.

Presenters — **Dr. William Utech**, Assistant to the President, Missions, and **Dr. Phillip Johnson**, Assistant to the President, Mission Formation, both of MN South District, LCMS

CLSD is an incredible offering for our congregation to grow as disciples who make disciples. Let's all take advantage of it! In addition, let's be a light to our community near and far as each of us pass on the details of this opportunity to our networks of friends and churches.

Get more information and register for Community Light at www.crossview.net/communitylight (onsite space is limited) or via email at CLSD@crossview.net.

GALATIANS

SUNDAYS MORNINGS, 9:30–10:30 AM

RUNS THROUGH AUGUST 14 (ROOMS 210/211)

On Sundays during the discipleship hour in July and August we're going to dig into Paul's Letter to the Galatians. In his letter he addressed a number of false teachings that were running rampant in churches in Galatia. Paul's letter is just as applicable for us today because our society (and so do we) still struggles with many of the same false teachings. Join as we dig into Galatians together as Paul leads us back to the Truth revealed in Scripture and the promises of Christ. Register for this onsite class on [CV Connect](#).

NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

TAKE COURAGE: A STUDY OF HAGGAI

TUESDAY NIGHTS, 6:30–8:00 PM

BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 13

Do you ever feel like the ending of your story is a million miles away? Then you know how the Jewish people felt when they returned to their wrecked land after exile and began rebuilding the temple. They were distracted, discouraged and ready to throw in the towel. But the prophet Haggai reminded them they could take courage and work because God was with them. When the landscapes of our own lives feel wrecked and our hopes and purpose is in shambles, We, too, get distracted and discouraged. Yet, God's presence and His promises give us courage today to press on and trust Him!

"Take Courage: A Study of Haggai" is a video-based, seven-session Bible study taught by Bible teacher Jennifer Rothschild. This study will meet on Tuesday evenings, beginning Sept. 13, 6:30–8:00 PM at Cross View. All Cross View women are encouraged to join. Purchase your study book from Amazon or Lifeway.com and join us as we find courage in the God who declares, "I am with you!" Registration will begin in August. Questions? Call Vicki Weber at 952.838.5500.



Music Ministry

SPECIAL MUSIC

Do you sing or play an instrument? Cross View invites youth to play special music in worship. Contact Sue Quist for more information: sue@crossview.net.

MEN'S CHORUS

Like to sing? We would like to begin a men's chorus this fall to sing in 8:15 AM worship monthly. Join us to sing Praises to our Lord.

WOMEN'S CHORUS

The Cross View women's chorus will resume in September and invites all interested women to join them. All abilities welcome. They have weekly rehearsals

and sing for 8:15 AM worship monthly. Contact Sue Quist for more information: sue@crossview.net.

ADULT CHOIR

Inviting all interested singers to join the choir in the fall to sing for 8:15 AM service monthly. Join us to sing as little or as much as you would like. Contact Sue Quist for more information: sue@crossview.net.

HAND BELL CHOIR

The group will resume in fall — and they always need substitutes. This group rehearses Wednesdays from 6:30–7:15 PM and plays monthly in 8:15 AM worship.



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 one of Cross View's pastors.

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

—Galatians 6:2

Youth Ministry

(TC)² LOVE IN ACTION (ROMANS 12:4-8)

This year our (TC)² theme is based on Romans 12:4–8. We are all Love in Action.

What is (TC)²? (TC)² is our church family serving our neighbors and the greater community by doing outdoor projects to help and support them. Projects such as painting a garage, washing windows, cleaning up a yard, and cleaning up city parks were all ways the youth and families served last year. The event is Sunday, August 14.

Who can participate in (TC)²? Anyone! This year (TC)² is for all Cross View members and their friends. We will have multiple launch times for older kids and for families with young children so that all can participate in this event together!

What will (TC)² look like? The morning will start at Cross View with a single worship service at 9:30 AM before we head out into the community and serve. Boxed lunches and a dinner will be provided.

How do I get involved? Go to www.crossview.net/tc2 to register you and your families for this event. If you feel like you're more of a behind the scenes person there are jobs for you as well! We can always use the support help! The final registration deadline is August 3.

How much does it cost to participate? To help cover costs, there is a \$25 registration fee for each participant. (Scholarships available.)

If you have any questions or have any service project needs/ideas, please reach out to Jon Zellar by email or 952-243-2047. We can't wait for this event!

YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Youth group for grades 9–12 will continue on Sunday nights. Youth group starts at 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted!

August 7 – Youth Group at Cross View

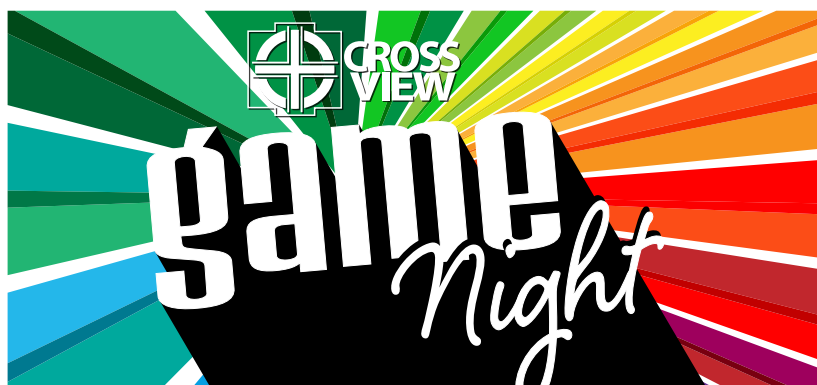
August 14 – (TC)² at Cross View

August 21 – No Youth Group

August 28 – Youth Group at Cross View

Cross View Game Night

Due to the (TC)² event on August 14, Game Night will be moved to August 21 from 6:30–8:30 PM in Rooms 209/210. Cross View Game Night is open to all teens and adults, including church members and their guests. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own board or card games. If you bring a game, be prepared to show others how to play. Questions? Contact John Daenzer (johndaenzer@gmail.com) or Michael Kibat (mgkibat@centurylink.net). Register for this event on [CV Connect](#) or the Event Registration kiosks.



Children's Ministry

TOPICS FOR AUGUST SUNDAY SCHOOL

August 7: God Blesses Those Whose Hearts are Pure in Matthew 5:8

August 14: No Sunday School

August 21: God Blesses Those Who Work for Peace in Matthew 5:9

August 28: God Blesses Those Who are Punished for Doing Right in Matthew 5:10

CHURCHWIDE PICNIC IN SEPTEMBER

The entire church is invited to Cross View's Churchwide Picnic on Sunday, September 18th, at 4:00–6:00 PM at Lake Riley Park Pavilion at 9180 Riley Lake Rd, Eden Prairie. Bring your own picnic dinner and come ready to play outdoor games. The park is beautiful with a large playground nearby and a lake. Please bring any outdoor games you want to play as well as your own chairs. Rain or shine! Any questions? Please contact Barb Coffin at barb@crossview.net.

LCEF Rates Are Going Up!

LCEF investment rates are increasing! Invest in a steward account, with easy access to your money, or a CD fixed-term note. LCEF investments are a financial resource for church building, additions, and renovations. To learn more, go to lcef.org.



Love to Garden?

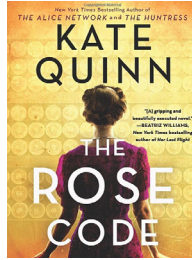
Cross View is putting together a "gardening" MAT team to keep our landscape beautiful. If you would be interested and willing to help, please contact Sue Hanson at 952-826-9401.



Women's Ministry

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

The women's book club is reading *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn for August. They will hold their meeting on Barb Janisch's pontoon boat on Lake Minnetonka. Meet at church on August 15 at 11:00 AM and car pool out to the Shorewood Marina in Excelsior, MN. Bring a lunch and beverage. If the weather is unacceptable (too windy or rainy), they will still meet at church at the same time, however, they will stay at church and have lunch and book discussion. Please contact Marcy (mpnordhus@gmail.com) if you have questions or are interested in joining.



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY IN SEPTEMBER! TAKE COURAGE: A STUDY OF HAGGAI

See page 5 for more information.

CROSS VIEW WOMEN'S PICNIC A SUCCESS!

The women of Cross View enjoyed a time of food and fellowship on Tuesday night, July 19. The weather was beautiful in the back yard of Cross View member, Barb Schaus. New friends were made, and old friends enjoyed reconnecting.

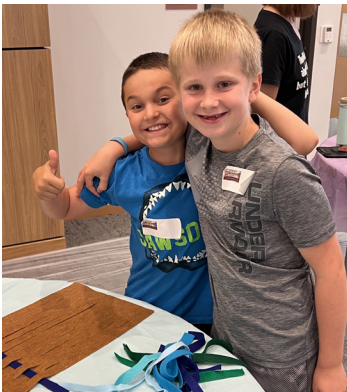
Women's Ministry offers Bible studies, book club, a quilter's group, and provides service to the Cross View community as well as the broader Twin Cities community. And save the date for the Women's Fall Luncheon on Saturday, November 5th.



Music/Art Camp: Faith News

Music/Art Camp was a wonderful week of fellowship, fun, creativity, and energy as we learned and performed Faith News—a heavenly news broadcast that introduced us to Noah and Mrs. Noah, as well as Moses and Pharaoh.

Thirty-two campers were introduced to daily themes of FAITH, TRUST, STRONG & COURAGOUS, MIRACLES, and THANKFUL that were supported by scripture and art activities. It was a memorable week!





Celebrating Pastor Toby's Ministry Among Us

In July of 2015, Cross View was blessed to receive "Vicar Toby Schmidt." A vicar is a pastor in training. It's like an internship. Normally, vicars go to seminary for the first two years. Next, they go out to a congregation to do their vicarage during the third year. Finally, they go back to the seminary for their fourth year of schooling. Because Pastor Toby had children in school, he was able to do a "deferred vicarage" which means that he went to the seminary for the first three years in a row and then went out to a congregation for his vicarage during his fourth year. This allowed his vicarage to convert into his first Call into pastoral ministry. We were blessed to be Pastor Toby's first congregation!

On July 24th of 2016, "Vicar Toby" became "Pastor Toby" as he was installed and ordained into the Holy Ministry at Cross View. For the past seven years, God has richly blessed our congregation with Pastor Toby's ministry among us. During that time, Pastor Toby has grown and so have we. He has faithfully shared the gospel with us through Word and Sacrament ministry, sermons, Bible classes, mission trips, community events, visitation, and more. His innate relational skills have built relationships that will last long beyond his ministry among us. Each of us will treasure those memories of love and joy shared.

Our Lord also used Pastor Toby's ministry to

impact people and ministries beyond our doors. He served as a co-lead for the circuit pastors of the Southwest Suburban Circuit. His bubbly personality and ability to connect with people helped him to strengthen bonds between area pastors as well as encouraging them to partner together in mission and ministry.

Pastor Toby's ministry has so beautifully impacted our congregation. Each of us will treasure the memories made in the past seven years. So many memories... The pictures in this article can hardly begin to paint the total picture. One memory (among many) that we will never forget is the year during Covid-19 where their family played the leading roles in the Vacation Bible School videos? It was "family ministry" at its best. Consider some of your favorite memories of Pastor Toby and of his family's ministry among us and give thanks to the Lord!

Pastor Toby, we send you with God's blessing and with our sincere thanks for your faithful and loving ministry among us. We also give thanks for your family...for the joys and memories forged with Rachel, Josiah, Karis, Micah, and Reuben. As you and your family follow our Lord's calling and transition to your new congregation, we pray God's blessing upon all of you saying, "Thank you so very much for making a real difference among us. Thank you for showing us Jesus!"



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

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

Jonathan Zellar, Youth Ministry
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Stacey LaMere, Early Childhood Center
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Barbara Coffin, Children's Ministry
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Renee Kirchner, Church Administration
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Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
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Amy Gundermann, Contemporary Worship Team Leader
amy@crossview.net

José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Harrison Lawrence, Organist
harrison@crossview.net

Julie Marquardt, President

Nader & 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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