

# CROSSVIEW CLARION

August 2023

**"The Winchester Mystery House is what many churches look like.  
*Busyness, not blueprints, defines success.*" – Reed Lessing**



## The Church's One Foundation

by Reed Lessing, Associate Pastor

Nestled away in the suburbs of San Jose, California, is a house built by the heir of the Winchester rifle fortune. In 1884 a wealthy widow, named Sarah Winchester, began a thirty-eight-year construction project. Winchester was convinced that continuous building would appease the evil spirits of those killed by the famous Winchester rifle, "the gun that won the West." So, she kept carpenters' hammers pounding for 38 years. *Thirty-eight years!*

The Victorian mansion came to be filled with so many unexplained oddities that it's now known

as the Winchester Mystery House. Even though it has 160 rooms, three elevators, forty staircases, and forty-seven fireplaces, its size alone doesn't account for the architectural marvel. It's called the Winchester Mystery House because stairs open up into ceilings. Windows decorate the floor. And doors open into blank walls! *Busyness, not blueprints, defined success. Profusion, not a plan, was the goal.*

The Winchester Mystery House is what many churches look like. *Busyness, not blueprints, defines success. Profusion, not a plan, is the goal.* ►

◀ How can we make sure Cross View stays focused and moving forward? We turn to Paul's letter called Romans.

In 1545 Martin Luther recalled reading Romans 1:17 as a young monk — some thirty years earlier — and being struck with God’s free gift of salvation. The Reformer writes, “Here I felt that I was altogether born again and had entered paradise itself through open gates.” Luther’s friend and fellow-reformer, Philip Melanchthon, called Romans “a compendium of Christian doctrine.” The letter quickly became the foundation for Lutheran thought and life.

It is fitting, then, that Cross View Lutheran Church take up Romans to sharpen, highlight, and further our understanding of what we’re doing and why we do it. I’m calling this series “The Church’s One Foundation.” Here’s our lineup of sermons:

- August 13: **Our Mandate**, “In view of God’s mercy ... be transformed” (Romans 12:1–2)
- August 20: **Our Motives**, “Christ-Centered, Discipleship-Directed, Family-Focused and Mission-Minded” (Romans 1:16–17)
- August 27: **Our Mission**, “Connecting People to Jesus” (Romans 8:28–39)
- September 3: **Our Map**, “Bring, Belong, Become, Bless” (Romans 12:9–16)

Bible studies on August 20 and 27 will present **Our Marks**, “Doctrinal Beliefs, Practices and Virtues” (Romans 6:1–11).

Helen Keller was once asked, “What could be worse than being born blind?” She replied, “Having sight without a vision.” That’s not us. Through this series God will give us more than sight. He will sharpen our vision for Cross View. *I invite you to attend, learn, and prepare for the next chapter for Cross View.* What a wonderful time it will be.

# Financial Update

## Year-to-Date Results

- Year to Date Total Income is \$55,669 or 8.6% favorable to budget. YTD Expenses are \$56,100 favorable.
- ECC Income is \$19,907 below plan due to openings in some rooms.
- ECC expenses are favorable to plan by \$16,070 resulting in Net Surplus \$50,650.
- The Restored! campaign is currently \$133,941 short in pledges to fully repay the loan by the May 2024 maturity date.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
6/30/23	2023 Actual Year to Date	2023 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$703,120	\$647,451	\$55,669
Total Expenses	(\$614,143)	(\$670,243)	\$56,100
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$88,978	(\$22,792)	\$111,770
General Fund Ending Balance	\$257,695	\$145,925	



Cross View Restored! Building Campaign	
Contributions Received in June:	\$4,749
Total Pledges Made to Restored!	\$358,336
Total Contributions Collected:	\$318,391
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$9,184
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$241,000
Additional Gifts Needed to Repay Loan:	\$133,941

# Meet and Greet and Special Voters' Assembly Meeting on Sunday, August 20

The Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Search Committee recommends Hannah Zahrte to fill the vacant Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry position. The congregation is invited to a "Meet and Greet" opportunity with Hannah after second

service (approximately noon) Sunday, August 20th. Cross View members will receive a Background Statement and have an opportunity to dialogue with Hannah. A light lunch will be served.

Following the "Meet and Greet", a special Voters' Assembly will convene

to vote on extending Hannah a Call.

Hannah's Background Statement will be available at the "Meet and Greet". A Voters' Assembly agenda will be provided by the Church Council in accordance with Cross View By-laws.

## Summer Schedule

One worship service on August 13 at 9:30 AM in the GCR, no Bible class

## Worship Arts Guests on August 20

We are excited to welcome guests from the Christian-based Dancin' Feet Dance School to enhance our worship services on August 20th! Students will present liturgical dance to the song

"Resurrecting" by Elevation Worship at both services. The choreographer for the piece is Mariah Guenther, a student at Concordia University and an instructor at the dance school.

## Christian Education

### MISSIONARY GUESTS: PAUL AND KRISTIN HUMBER

**DATE: AUGUST 6 FROM 9:30–10:30 AM**

**ROOM: 209–211/FELLOWSHIP HALL**

Missionary guests Paul and Kristin Humber will join us to share about their work as Bible translators with Wycliffe in Congo and Cameroon. The Humber family are new to our list of missionaries that we support at Cross View, so this is a great opportunity to meet them in person while they are visiting the United States.

### OUR MARKS

**DATES: AUGUST 20 & 27 FROM 9:30–10:30 AM**

**ROOM: 209–211/FELLOWSHIP HALL**

This class continues the emphasis of our sermon series, "The Church's One Foundation." We will study our church's MARKS which flow from the power and promises of our baptism as outlined by Paul in Romans 6:1–11. [Register here on CV Connect.](#)

### NEW MEMBER CLASS

**STARTING SEPTEMBER 17 AT 9:30 AM**

Join us at 9:30–10:30 AM on Sundays this fall for our Welcome to Cross View series. This is a series of classes for anyone interested in becoming a member and for those who have been members and want a refresher. You'll get an overview of the Cross View family, learn the heart of the Cross View family, and learn how our heart works itself out in our Cross View Family.

- **September 17–October 1: Joining the CV Family** Go a little deeper and learn the heart of the Cross View family. In this class, you'll learn about our Lutheran faith and beliefs.
- **October 8–October 22: Going All In With the CV Family** Go all in and learn how to get involved with your gifts, talents, and how God created us to Connect, Grow, and Serve.
- **October 22: New Member Sunday** Formally become a member of the CV faith family during the 10:45 AM worship service.

[To register, click here.](#) Questions or need info, contact Ann Ryan ([annryan@hotmail.com](mailto:annryan@hotmail.com)) or the church office at 952-941-1094.

### BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF) FOR WOMEN & PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

Cross View women, please join us for Bible Study Fellowship's study of John on Tuesday's from 12:30–2:00 PM.

Women today face a multitude of challenges, like struggles with insecurity, broken relationships, guilt, overwork, or loneliness. Countless women have found peace, comfort, hope, security, and answers to life's big questions by exploring God's Word. As a group member, you will personally study Scripture and answer questions each day. Once a week, you will meet for a small-group discussion of the lesson, hear from a teaching leader how

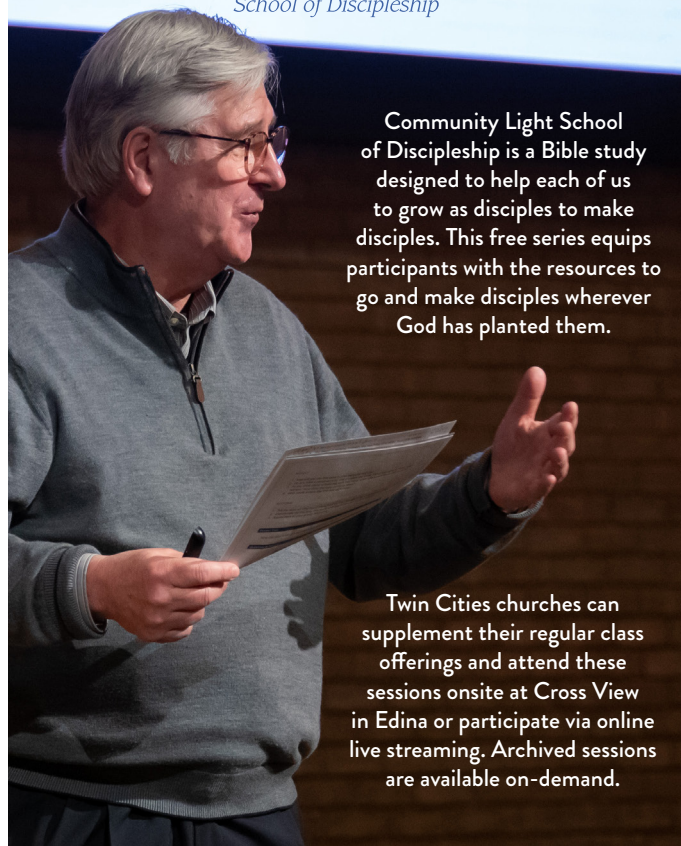
the truths of Scripture can be applied to daily life and receive comprehensive notes on the Scripture passages you studied.

BSF's Preschool Program gives children a biblical foundation upon which to build a love for God and spiritual matters. Loving, well-trained and committed leaders teach little ones about God and the Bible in age-appropriate ways. The leaders pray for the children and encourage them to continue learning with their registered adult throughout the week. (The preschoolers' curriculum is based on the lessons the adults study to help foster spiritual conversations at home.) The children also learn other important life skills, such as how to obey instructions, cooperate, sit, and listen — all taught in an atmosphere of love.



## COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP

### Grow As Disciples To Make Disciples



Community Light School of Discipleship is a Bible study designed to help each of us to grow as disciples to make disciples. This free series equips participants with the resources to go and make disciples wherever God has planted them.

Twin Cities churches can supplement their regular class offerings and attend these sessions onsite at Cross View in Edina or participate via online live streaming. Archived sessions are available on-demand.

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- ✦ **Onsite** – Attend Community Light School of Discipleship at Cross View in a combination lecture assembly and small group breakout format.
- ✦ **Online** – Lectures and content are live-streamed.
- ✦ **On-Demand** – Sessions and resources are archived for ongoing availability.

### TIMING

- ✦ Two nine-week sessions start September 13, 2023 and run through February 7, 2024.
- ✦ Sessions will be held Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 PM, both onsite at Cross View and via live streaming.
- ✦ Sessions are archived online for all participants.

### SESSION FORMAT

- 6:30 – 6:35** Opening
- 6:35 – 7:15** Presenter Lecture
- 7:15 – 7:25** Q & A with Presenter  
*Live streaming concludes following Q & A*
- 7:25 – 8:00** Small Group Discussion  
*Onsite Only*

### CLASS OVERVIEWS Two areas of focus each lasting nine weeks

#### Hope Revealed – Revelation Part I (Chapters 1-10)

September 13 – November 15 (No class on October 18)



What a hope! And it's revealed in the book of Revelation! Pastor Reed will provide an overview, offer an in-depth study of the seven churches, then take us into the throne-room vision in chapters 4 and 5. Pastor Dean will continue the study starting in November, leading us into Revelation 6–22. **Presenter – Dr. Reed Lessing, Professor of Theology and Ministry, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN**

#### Hope Revealed – Revelation Part II (Chapters 11-22)

November 29 – February 7 (No classes on December 27 & January 3)



In chapters 11-22 of Revelation, John's visions prepare us for the culmination of history in the defeat of Satan, Armageddon, the last judgment, and the new heaven and new earth. It's one "Wow and Hallelujah!" after another! **Presenter – Dr. Dean Nadasdy, President Emeritus, Minnesota South District, LCMS**

Get more information and register for onsite sessions at [www.communitylight.net](http://www.communitylight.net), via email at [info@communitylight.net](mailto:info@communitylight.net), or by calling us at 952-941-1094.

Community Light School of Discipleship is a ministry of Cross View Lutheran Church in partnership with Concordia University, St. Paul & the Minnesota South District

# Youth Ministry

## COLORADO SPRINGS SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP

God met the Senior High youth in a literal and figurative mountaintop experience on the Colorado Springs mission trip in mid-July. Along with two other churches and several college interns from Next Step Ministries, the group served in the Colorado Springs community, worshiped together, built stronger relationships with God and each other, learned new skills, met new people, and grew in their faith. Thank you for your support, encouragement, and prayers!

The Cross View group of 14 youth and four adults was divided into two work groups for the week. Since one of the rental vans held a maximum of 7 passengers and there were 7 male participants, it became clear how the groups would be divided...

The boys' group learned a lot about using new tools, the importance of accurate measurements and trust in God as they worked on a variety of projects, including building a fence, a gate, and a relationship with an elderly woman in the community. The boys had fun swinging axes to remove tree stumps and using their muscles to move a large tub of dirt. They also poured concrete and helped build a shed at a local

church. Ask them about their fun toolkit team name and nick-names.

The girls ascended Pike's Peak to the Crystal Reservoir every day to paint and stain railings, log seating at an amphitheater, several bathroom buildings, a shed, and the trim of a gift shop. Amazing views at the worksite location, chipmunk companions trying to join the group for lunch, devotions by the reservoir, and interacting with visitors, rangers, and other workers were some highlights for the girls' group.

All groups also spent one evening playing with children at Family Life Services while the moms attended class. A meal was shared by all, many played tag or parachute, some made sand art. Several youth and adults lent their faces as a canvas for face painting from the sweet children. It was a meaningful time of interacting with them, filled with lots of smiles, laughter, joy, and love.

Join us in praising God and giving Him the glory for an incredible trip! Please continue to pray for and encourage the mission trip participants as they bring home what they learned and share their gifts, experiences, and God's love to those around them in Minnesota too.





## JUNIOR HIGH JULY FELLOWSHIP

Lots of fun, laughter, and energy were shared at the Junior High Fellowship Night in mid-July. After several rounds of wall ball, the youth enjoyed their fill of snacks, then got creative. What fun it was to play dodge ball and sculpt interesting creations with hot dog buns! They are already looking to the next fellowship event in August.



## JUNIOR HIGH AUGUST SCHEDULE

- Aug 9: Jr High Fellowship at CV 6:00–8:00 PM
- Aug 13: Taking Care of the Twin Cities (TC)<sup>2</sup>

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP AUGUST SCHEDULE

- Aug 6: Sr High Youth at CV
- Aug 13: Taking Care of the Twin Cities (TC)<sup>2</sup>
- Aug 20: Sr Youth at CV
- Aug 27: Sr Youth at CV

# Early Childhood Center

## SUMMER STAFF

A big THANK YOU to all the ECC summer employees — Sam Oelschleager, Eva Gundermann, 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 the full-time teachers take vacations. The ECC staff is very grateful for each of them.

## TECHNOLOGY REQUEST

The ECC is in need of new iPads. Their current iPads are outdated. They use their iPads daily as a way to communicate with parents. If you have any connection on getting new iPads please email the office at [ecc@crossview.net](mailto:ecc@crossview.net). Or if you feel like donating to help the ECC purchase new ones that would be very much appreciated. You can donate by writing a check or you can donate your Thrivent Choice Dollars to the ECC.

## BIRTHDAY BAGS OUTREACH

As mentioned before, this summer the ECC did outreach projects with all the classrooms. Here are some

pictures from the classes that made the birthday bags. The birthday bags went to families in the Twin Cities who cannot afford gifts for their little ones when it is their birthday.



# Thank You, Gardening Volunteers!

Thanks to Sue Hanson for heading up our project and to the 18 volunteers that came on a recent Saturday morning with their wheelbarrows and tools to mulch the upper lot gardens. With such a great turn-out, we were able to finish our project in just over an hour! We had volunteers of all ages and several families participating.

If you are interested in participating in upcoming Cross View landscaping projects, contact Sue Hanson ([hansons96@gmail.com](mailto:hansons96@gmail.com)) or Renee Kirchner ([renee@crossview.net](mailto:renee@crossview.net)).



# Children's Ministry

## PARENT CORNER



### Sharing Highs and Lows

In just 5 minutes a day you can have a family devotion. Pick a time. It can be at the dinner table or before bed...whenever. Here is the simple structure.

1. Share a Bible verse. Here are some examples: John 3:16, Deuteronomy 6:5, 1 Corinthians 13:13, Jeremiah 29:11, Matthew 28:5-7, Mark 2:23-3:6
2. Share highs and lows from the day. Highs are always required but lows are not.
3. Ask what is God telling me?
4. What am I going to do about it?
5. Bless one another.

Once you get used to this structure you can add another question that can be asked during highs and lows which is "What mistake did you make today?" Be sure to answer it yourself too. It shows that not everybody is perfect, and we need God's grace. Secondly, it lets kids practice talking about their mistakes with their parents while the stakes are low, which hopefully will make them more likely to talk when the stakes are higher. It also presents an opportunity for family members to apologize to one another if it is needed. Be vulnerable with them because it will show them how to be vulnerable with you. Finally, you can also ask "How can I be praying for you?"

# Adult Ministry

## 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. Several new groups are starting to form over the summer. If you'd like to join a group or become a small group leader, please contact Amy Gundermann ([amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net)) or complete the [interest form on our website](#).

## SMALL GROUP LEADERS ROUNDTABLE AUGUST 23 FROM 6:30–8:00 PM IN THE GCR

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. Summer treats will be provided! Contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) with questions.

## SMALL GROUP STORY

The Cross View small group "Sanctified" met at the home of the Flos for their annual picnic and to bid fond farewell to Bob Schmidt who has been with the group for the past eight years. Bob will be relocating in the Pacific Northwest close to his son. They have enjoyed him and his talks on the mission of the church and knowing his late wife, Karen. Since the average age of this small group is now "north of eighty," they treasure their moments together as gifts of grace from our merciful Lord. Truly, in this fellowship they experience relationships that are enduring and affirming, the essence of the family of Christ. This is what the church is meant to be.



## TNT = TWENTIES & THIRTIES

Cross View's revamped Young Adult Ministry is now called TNT which stand for Twenties and Thirties. Get to know others in the same stage of life! Contact Nicole ([nclvvo@gmail.com](mailto:nclvvo@gmail.com)) or Michael ([michaelmunl2018@gmail.com](mailto:michaelmunl2018@gmail.com)) to be added to the GroupMe for TNT updates.

## MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

A new Men's Ministry is starting at Cross View to offer opportunities for men of all ages to gather for fellowship and growth. Save the date for the first event: a Men's Ministry

Breakfast on October 14th in the GCR. Watch for more details to come and contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) if you'd like to help on the planning team.

## LWML SOUTH DISTRICT 2023 FALL WOMEN'S RETREAT SEPTEMBER 15–16, 2023

**CAMP OMEGA: 22750 LIND AVE, WATERVILLE, MN**



The women of Cross View are invited to attend a retreat sponsored by Minnesota South LWML this September. Come get away, relax, and be comforted by God's real and present peace as author and speaker Michelle Dierks leads us in her Bible study Promised Rest. This one-day women's retreat, with optional Friday night activities, is open to all women (junior high age and older.) The Minnesota South District Lutheran Women's Missionary League is hosting this fabulously refreshing event. The registration deadline is Friday, August 25.

A block of rooms has been reserved for Friday night at the Days Inn, Faribault. Call 507-334-6835 to reserve a room. Book your room by August 4 for this special retreat rate.

For more details, [click here](#).

## MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS

Please consider joining this ministry of help and comfort. If you'd be willing to prepare a meal for an individual or family at a time of need (surgery, death in the family, birth of a child) PLEASE email Megan Jarvis at [megpat123@gmail.com](mailto:megpat123@gmail.com). On the Meal Train website, you will be able to choose from several available dates to provide the meal. It's a simple process and so very helpful. To learn more about Meal Train, check it out [here](#).

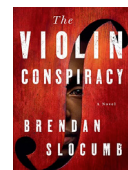
## SAVE THE DATE!

Mark your calendars for another **Women's Ministry Fall Luncheon!** Additional details to come soon.

- Date: Saturday, November 4, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM
- Location: Great Commission Room
- Caterer: Lunch Thyme
- Speaker: Jane Horn



## WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB



Women's Book club will meet at church on August 21 in the upper parking lot at 11:15 AM and carpool to Barb Janisch's pontoon boat. They will discuss the book The Violin Conspiracy by Brendan Slocumb. Bring your lunch and a drink. If the weather is too windy or rainy, they will meet at church in Room 120 at 11:15 AM to have lunch and discuss the book.

# Outreach & Missions

## (TC)<sup>2</sup> REGISTRATION EXTENDED

The registration deadline has been extended to August 6th for (TC)<sup>2</sup> – Taking Care of the Twin Cities! Don't miss this chance to serve our community as a congregation on Sunday, August 13, from 9:30 AM–7:30 PM.



Our theme this year is “Shine Bright” based on Isaiah 58:10 which reads, “Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon.”

We will start with worship at 9:30 AM in the GCR, then have lunch at church and deploy to different service sites. There will be a second launch in the afternoon for those with small children and those who will help with sit-down projects. We will finish the day with a closing devotion and wrap up by 7:30 PM. Lunch and dinner are included in the \$25 participation fee. Visit <https://www.crossview.net/ministries/events.cfm> to register and learn more. Contact Amy Gundermann ([amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net)) with questions.

## POBLO NEWS

Many of our congregation members volunteer with POBLO ministries and have gotten to know Nader and Georgette Alerag along with their family as they have provided leadership in the Twin Cities for classes and programming for the past seven years. The Alerags are moving to Nebraska to start a new International Friendship Center there with POBLO. We are eager to welcome the new missionaries for the Twin Cities, Issa, and Diana Safadi. Please pray for both families during this time of transition and for the ministry of POBLO as they impact immigrants and refugees from around the world!

## BIBLE TRANSLATION SUPPORT

Cross View's mission giving now includes Paul and Kristin Humber, missionaries with Wycliffe Bible Translators. They have been in the field working with several language

projects for over 20 years in Congo and now Cameroon. On August 6, you can meet them and hear from them directly during Bible class. We are blessed to have them visit during their short stay in Minnesota before returning to Africa in September. Learn more about the ministry of Wycliffe at [www.wycliffe.org](http://www.wycliffe.org).

## WELCOME MAT BADLY NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

Summer is almost over with a new fall/winter/spring church season ahead of us. Staffing the Welcome MAT spots was challenging during the summer with vacations and all. When this MAT was established two years ago, our goal was to have enough volunteers to not have to schedule anyone in back-to-back months, but that still hasn't happened. As we approach September, as leader of this team, I am making a plea for volunteers to help make this possible going forward.

The positions of Host and Welcome Center Attendant are quite simple jobs with no real training involved. If you can smile and say welcome, you qualify! Please prayerfully consider joining our team and helping us out as we joyfully welcome not only our members, but the visitors who walk through our doors, as we work to grow the Kingdom of our God.

If you are interested in volunteering, or if you would simply like more information on the Welcome MAT, please contact Sue Harrison at [kharrison1111@gmail.com](mailto:kharrison1111@gmail.com) or 713-269-9657.

## CAREPORTAL – SERVE OUR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Cross View is launching a response team this fall with CarePortal, a network that helps to meet the needs of children and families in crisis within our community. Please pray for this new ministry and watch for details about joining the team this September! Pam Olsen has been trained as our team lead at Cross View and you can reach her at [pamolzen11@gmail.com](mailto:pamolzen11@gmail.com) with questions. Visit [www.careportal.org](http://www.careportal.org) to learn more.



## 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

# Recharge on Wednesday Nights

Make sure to reserve Wednesday evenings to “Recharge” for the 2023–2024 year in ministry! Below is a list of all the classes for all ages and their locations on Wednesday nights.

- Childcare: 0–3-year-olds – Nursery
- Kidstute: (4 rooms) 217, 216, 218, & 223. The children will be learning about different attributes of God’s character this year as the focus on the heart of God and how to reflect it in everyday life.
- Confirmation: Jr. High Room
- Choirs: Sanctuary
- Community Light School of Discipleship: (6 groups +) 209, 210, 211 (Fellowship Hall), 213 (Fireside), 224A

& 225B (Great Commission Room), 118 A, and 118 B (Lower Level Classroom)

- Monthly Mom’s Group: 113
- Women’s Bible Study: 119
- Chosen Bible Study for youth and adults in Sr. High Youth Room
- Wednesday Nights meal details: The meal will be catered by Chef Jeff and there will be a cost per individual of \$7 with a family max of \$25 per family. The menu will be announced weekly via email and the bulletin. Registration is required and is due by the Monday prior to noon.

## Kick Off Sunday September 10

The entire congregation is invited for Kick Off Sunday, September 10th, during the Sunday school hour 9:30–10:30 AM in the sanctuary to learn about all the education opportunities for all ages at Cross View. We will spend the first few minutes focusing on children and youth, and then fam-

ilies will be dismissed to meet their children’s Sunday School teachers. Adults without children can stay in the sanctuary to learn about all the adult education classes this year. At 10:00 AM we will all gather back in the narthex area to have a time of fellowship with coffee and donuts.

## Churchwide Picnic on Sunday, September 10

The entire church is invited to a family picnic on Sunday, September 10th, from 4:00–6:00 PM at Lake Riley Park Pavilion at 9180 Riley Lake Rd, Eden Prairie, MN 55347. Bring your own picnic dinner, beverages, 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. Any questions please contact Barb Coffin at [Barb@crossview.net](mailto:Barb@crossview.net). The event is rain or shine.

## Altar Flowers Sign-Up

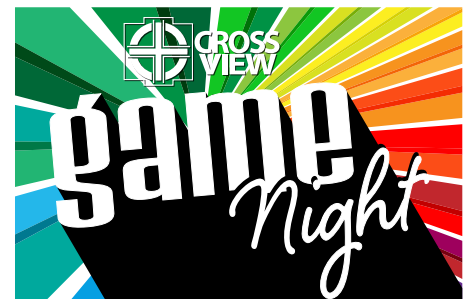
Altar flowers are given to Cross View to beautify our worship spaces. You may designate a particular occasion or remembrance in the bulletin for which you have given the flowers.

Sign up either online at <https://www.crossview.net/resources/flowers.cfm> or on the flower chart posted in the church office.

## Cross View Game Night

Due to (TC)<sup>2</sup> taking place on August 13, Game Night moves to the third Sunday in August. Join us for fun and fellowship normally 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 ([johndaenzer@gmail.com](mailto:johndaenzer@gmail.com)) or Michael Kibat ([mgkibat@centurylink.net](mailto:mgkibat@centurylink.net)). Register for this event on [CV Connect](#) or the Event Registration kiosks.





### BE WITH HIM AND SERVE HIM

Often in our conversations with one another at Cross View we fail to share our interior life of faith, how we are personally growing in our daily walk with Jesus. I asked one of our vital members, Carol Niemera, these questions so that our readers might be encouraged in their lives of discipleship.

**Q. Who has God put in your life to inspire you to follow Jesus more closely?**

Jesus himself through his words, Paul, and authors of the Bible; and books and speakers help me learn about Jesus, i.e., Pastor Wheeler and Dr. Lessing, Dr. Jordan Peterson, author Pastor Timothy Keller, and other biblical authors.

**Q. "I am with you always, to the close of the age." How is that promise comforting to me?**

A. This is the most important scripture to me personally as I used to wrestle with feeling alone being an only child. Believing this scripture started me on the road to peace, recognizing that in the end, we are all alone with God at the end of life. This scripture has helped me become courageous and accountable for my time spent living on earth. Now I know I am never alone — that none of us who believe are ever alone, that we are born with Him, we die with Him, and while we are here, it is most important that we be with him and serve him. It is most important to know this. We are never without him unless we do not recognize him.

**Q. What is the most amazing thing about God's grace?**

A. First, it is most amazing that God continues to love people despite their sinfulness and awfulness and hardness of heart towards him and other people; and second, that his love is so great for us that he has provided a perfect "savior" for us that we may be in his holy presence and care forever.

**Q. What have I found to be the most challenging thing about following Jesus?**

A. Dealing with myself and educating myself to deal with people as Jesus wants me to deal with them can be a challenge. Jesus says, "Apart from me, you can do nothing" so I need to remember to get out of my own way and pray to Jesus (and listen) and ask myself WWJD?

**Q. How do you maintain joy in your daily life?**

A. I maintain my prayer life and an attitude of gratefulness in my prayer life, recognizing my time here is a gift, and



knowing that God is in total control. The frustrations in life are not all there is and they, too, will pass, so I make sure daily that I am serving God! And I try to remember the words "If Jesus is for me, who can be against me?" Knowing I am not alone and knowing he will help me, I can be more courageous and less fearful. Lastly, believing in Jesus' love for me makes forgiveness of myself and others possible. This gives me peace and joy.



Paul Emmel is a retired pastor in the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and a member of Cross View Lutheran Church. Paul regularly shares his writings which reflect God's beauty and the world around us. If you would like to subscribe to these emailed messages, email him at [paulspatter@aol.com](mailto:paulspatter@aol.com).



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

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## 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](http://www.crossview.net/calendar)

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