# C R O S S V I E W THE STATE OF THE STATE OF

December 2023

"God was preparing every detail for Jesus to be born at just the right time, fulfilling the prophesies about the Messiah." – Amy Gundermann



# **Preparing A Place**

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

In Advent, we are waiting... with anticipation! The Savior of the world is coming and the plan for a permanent sin-solution is in motion. We enjoy so many special traditions this time of year that help to build the sense of anticipation leading up to the birthday of Jesus. Decorations, lights, music, food, and even the ugly sweaters remind us that Christmas is getting closer!

Since the fall of mankind in the Garden of Eden, we see evidence of God working toward this rescue mission. For thousands of years, God's plan to redeem the world was unfolding. He was preparing every detail for Jesus to be born at just the right time, fulfilling the prophesies about the

Messiah. He was preparing Mary and Joseph to be His parents, the shepherds to be proclaimers, and the wise men to follow the curious new star to worship the baby King.

This same God prepares our hearts, too. He prepares our hearts to hear the Gospel and know Jesus as our Lord. He prepares our hearts to be a place where the Holy Spirit dwells. As 1 Corinthians 3:16 says, "Do you not know that you are a temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?" He prepares us to live in a way that shares His incredible redeeming love with the world.

This month, our congregation is going to



express this love by "preparing a place" for a refugee family settling in Minnesota. Refugees are people who flee their country for various reasons such as persecution, famine, or war. Last year, Arrive Ministries helped to settle roughly 500 refugees from 19 different countries. Through a 90-day program, families are provided help with housing, medical needs, school registrations, English class registrations, cultural orientation, and more to help them get acclimated in the United States. We are creating a Welcome Kit through Arrive Ministries that will include all the basic essentials for a household of five such as bedding and kitchen supplies. Providing these basics will allow the family to have a strong start to rebuilding their lives in a foreign place. See page 8 to learn more and watch for a display in the lobby during the month of December. We pray that the family that receives our Welcome Kit would be

blessed by the worldly things that we prepare for them to receive, but more importantly that they would know of the eternal home God is preparing for all those who believe in Jesus!

Every year when we recall the coming of Christ as a baby, we are mindful of His promise to return again. We live in great anticipation for that day knowing that Jesus says to be ready, "Yes, I am coming soon!" (Revelation 22:20) May the Lord prepare us for that promise to be fulfilled. May our church be about the task of getting ready for that glorious day. "And let us consider how to spur one another on to love and good deeds. Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have made a habit, but let us encourage one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching." (Hebrews 10:24-25)

Blessings on your Advent and Merry Christmas!

## Financial Update

#### **Year-to-Date Results**

- Year to Date Total Income is \$93,316 or 9.21% favorable to budget.
- Year to Date Expenses are \$127,655 favorable to budget primarily due to open staff positions and reduced call committee expenses.
- ECC Income is \$25,940 favorable to budget. ECC expenses are \$40,020 unfavorable to budget.
- ECC Net Surplus of \$29,598 is \$14,080 unfavorable to budget.
- Additional pledges of \$27,250 were received in October, closing the gap for Restored! Thank You!
- The Restored! campaign is currently \$11,959 short in pledges to fully repay the loan by the May 2024 maturity date.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
10/31/23	2023 Actual Year to Date	2023 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$1,106,911	\$1,013,595	\$93,316
Total Expenses	(\$1,000,949)	(\$1,128,604)	\$127,655
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$105,962	(\$115,009)	\$220,971
General Fund Ending Balance	\$274,679	\$53,708	



Contributions Received in October:	\$50,676
Remaining Pledges to Be Received:	\$106,500
Total Contributions Collected:	\$431,481
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$42,777
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$164,000
Additional Gifts Needed to Repay Loan:	(\$11,959)

**Cross View Restored! Building Campaign** 

## CHRISTMAS SEASON SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10

8:15 AM Traditional Service 9:30 AM Education Hour

10:45 AM Children's Christmas Celebration

CHRISTMAS EVE, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24 NO SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP OR BIBLE CLASSES

> 1:00 PM Traditional Service 3:00 PM Contemporary Service 5:00 PM Traditional Service

CHRISTMAS DAY, MONDAY, DECEMBER 25

9:30 AM Traditional Service (with communion)

New Year's Eve, Sunday, December 31

9:30 AM Traditional Service (No Bible classes)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 7 (REGULAR SCHEDULE RESUMES)

8:15 AM Traditional Service 9:30 AM Education Hour 10:45 AM Contemporary Service

Services available both onsite and via live stream.

## 2023 Year-End Offering Deadline

IRS regulations make it very clear that for a contribution to be credited to the 2023 tax year, it must be received on Cross View's premises by December 31st or postmarked no later than midnight on December 31, 2023. Dropping it off in January with a December date on the check does not qualify. Please note that December 31st falls on a Sunday this year, so you may drop your final year-end contributions in the offering plate. Thank you for your attention to this important detail.

### **Christian Education**

## ADVENT SUNDAY MORNING ADULT BIBLE CLASS: THE CASE FOR CHRISTMAS

Dates: December 3-December 17, from 9:30-10:30 AM

**Location:** Fellowship Hall (Room 209–211) **Teaching Leader:** Pastor Reed Lessing

Consulting experts on the Bible, archaeology, and messianic prophecy, this class, led by Pastor Reed, searches out the true identity of the child in the manger. Join this Lee Strobel video study as he asks the tough, pointed questions you'd expect from an award-winning legal journalist. The Case for Christmas invites you to consider why Christmas matters in the first place. Somewhere beyond the traditions of the holiday lies the truth. It may be more compelling than you've realized. Weigh the facts... and decide for yourself.

#### **COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP**

**Dates:** Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM **Location:** Great Commission Room

We're excited to report that 90 Cross View members are attending Community Light School of Discipleship (CLSD) on Wednesday nights in-person and online. This year, we have made the materials accessible to churches throughout our Synod!



Dr. Dean Nadasdy is presenting "Hope Revealed – Revelation Part 2 (Chapters 11–22)" during this winter session. Lectures will be followed by Q & A and discussion in small groups. Sessions are available live online and on-demand at <a href="https://www.communitylight.net">www.communitylight.net</a>. Please contact Amy Gundermann (<a href="mailto:amy@crossview.net">amy@crossview.net</a>) with questions or register on <a href="mailto:CV Connect">CV Connect</a>.

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

**Winter session:** November 29–February 7 (No classes on December 27 & January 3)

#### THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY (YOUTH AND ADULTS)

Dates: Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM

Location: Sr. High Youth Room

Using the video series "The Chosen", we explore what it means to be chosen by God while revisiting the Biblical stories of Jesus' life on earth. Each week, we watch an episode and then discuss the themes. Amy Gundermann leads this class for senior high youth and adults. Bring your Bible!

**Winter session:** November 29–February 7 (No classes on December 20 & 27)

#### **RECHARGE ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

It's not too late to jump into the classes on Wednesday nights. Below is a list of all the classes, ages, and locations.

- Childcare: 0-3-year-olds Nursery
- Kidstitute: (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

## **Early Childhood Center**

#### **ECC UPDATE**

In November the Early Childhood Center partnered with the church and collected items for Operation Christmas Child. The children were so excited to bring items for other children who don't get presents at Christmas. Attached are some pictures of the kids decorating our box, holding up some items they brought, and a final picture of all the items the church and ECC collected.

Also, in November we had our annual get together of past children who still attend our School Age program. We played outside, did a Thanksgiving BINGO game, and played in the gym. It was a fun day for all. Again, you can see a few pictures of the day.

We are working hard on our Christmas Program. We are excited to share the Birth of Jesus through song and finger plays.

Thank you to everyone who has purchased items from the Amazon wish lists, and to all families who came to the Davanni's night. We appreciated all the support!













## Children's Ministry

#### **STELLAR CHRISTMAS**

Save the date for the Children's Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 10th, at 10:45 AM. It's going to be a Stellar Christmas. No. Really it is! The theme for the program this year is a follow-up to our VBS theme from this past Summer. Our program Stellar Christmas will teach the children to Shine Jesus' Light.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SCHEDULE — MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- January 7: Sunday school Mission Festival
- February 4: Together We Worship Stepping Stone

for four year olds

- February 11: Welcome to the Lord's Table begins for 5th graders
- February 9: Popcorn, Pizza, and PJs family movie night

#### **PARENT CORNER**



#### 7 easy tips to thrive during the holiday season.

- 1. Make time for God.
- 2. Make time for friends and family.
- 3. Make time for yourself.
- 4. Make time in your to-do list.
- 5. Make every moment count.
- 6. Make "good enough" enough.
- 7. Make room for God!

## Youth Ministry

#### **RAKE AND RUN**

On October 28, both Junior and Senior High youth went around to different houses, raking leaves as a youth fundraiser. The youth split into four groups, raking a total of 17 yards. Thank you to all who signed up to get their lawns raked and to the youth and adult volunteers who helped rake the lawns!







#### JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH DECEMBER SCHEDULE

 Dec 10: Jr High Christmas Party at Cross View (3:30– 5:30 PM)

#### SENIOR HIGH YOUTH DECEMBER SCHEDULE

- Dec 3: Sr Youth at CV
- Dec 10: Sr High Christmas Party at CV (6:00–8:00 PM)
- Dec 17: Sr Youth at CV; College Freshman Invited
- Dec 24: No Sr Youth (Christmas Eve)
- Dec 31: No Sr Youth (New Year's Eve)

#### **REALITY APOLOGETICS CONFERENCE**

The youth spent the weekend of November 10-11 at Grace Church in Eden Prairie attending the Reality Apologetics Conference: "Man or Maker: Who Says Who You Are?" There, both youth and adult volunteers learned about where their identity lies: in people or in God. It was a wonderful, faith-shaping experience for both youth and adults!





#### **NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING**

Save the Date! The LCMS National Youth Gathering is scheduled for July 19–23, 2025, in New Orleans. Youth



participants must be 14 years old or entering his or her ninth-grade year at the time of the Gathering.

The theme for 2025's Gathering was just released: Endure! The youth will be diving into Hebrews 12:1–3. For more information visit <a href="mailto:lcmsgathering.com">lcmsgathering.com</a> or contact Hannah at <a href="mailto:hannah@crossview.net">hannah@crossview.net</a>. More details will come as the dates get closer.

#### **YOUTH MINISTRY WISH LIST**

As Junior and Senior High youth are settling into their new spaces downstairs, they have identified a few things that they would like to do to make the space more youth friendly. If you are able to help in one of the following ways, please contact Hannah Zahrte at <a href="hannah@crossview.ne">hannah@crossview.ne</a>t. Thank you for your support of our youth!

- Pool table in good condition: If you know of a pool table either to donate or for low cost, we would love to see if it's a good fit for the Senior High Youth room.
- Do you have a knack for decorating? We have a few ideas for decorating the youth spaces but need people to help finalize and execute the plans.

## **Adult Ministry**

#### **TNT EVENTS**

Come and get to know others at TNT (Twenties & Thirties Young Adult Ministry) in the same life stage through Bible study



and time to hang out together! Locations vary, but events will be on Tuesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM. Contact Nicole (nclvvo@gmail.com) or Michael (michaelmunl2018@gmail.com) with questions or to be added to the GroupMe for TNT.

The TNT group served at Feed My Starving Children on October 24. 66 boxes were packed (14,256 meals total) which will feed 39 kids for a year! It was a great evening packing meals for those in need.

On November 7, TNT gathered for a Friendsgiving potluck at Cross View. It was a night filled with tasty food and good fellowship.

TNT will be taking a break during the holiday season and will reconvene on January 9 at Cross View.









#### **WOMEN'S LUNCHEON**

Thanks to the many Cross View women who attended the annual Fall Luncheon! It was a wonderful time of fellowship, yummy food, beautiful music, and spiritual encouragement. Jane Horn gave a great presentation which inspired us all to approach each day with a heart of gratitude for all the many blessings given to us by God. Thanks also to the entire Cross View family for your generous contributions to our Operation Christmas Child collection. Glenda Kibat and Barb Schaus delivered all donations to an OCC collection center in Bloomington.

With thankful hearts,

Cross View Women's Ministry M.A.T. Marcia Johnson, Vicki Weber, Glenda Kibat, Barb Schaus, Meggin Carlson, Shanda Langaard, Wendy Finley, Kayla Helland















#### **WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB**

Women's Book Club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, December 18, at 1:00 PM. We will be discussing the book *Hello*, *Sunshine* by Laura Dave. Please



feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.

#### **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) or complete the interest form on our website.

#### **MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY**

Do you know someone who could use help with a few extra meals...a new mom, someone recovering from surgery, a family dealing with the loss of a loved one? Meal Train is a wonderful way to make that happen. To learn more about Meal Train, check it out at www.mealtrain.com. Cross View's Women's Ministry has designated two young Cross View members, Emma Julkowski Megan Jarvis, to oversee this process. They'll set up the Meal Train and send out the notification to all who'd be willing to prepare a meal. If you know of a need, let the Cross View office know and they will set the wheels of love and service in motion.



## 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

## **Stewardship Reminder**

Did you receive your Cross View Living Generously stewardship brochure mailed to your home? If not, contact the church office at (952) 941-1094 or frontdesk@crossview.net. And, if you have not completed your financial commitment card, it's not too late! Simply mail or bring your commitment card to the church office.



## **Sharing Your Gifts**

How is the Lord calling you to use your gifts at church? Take the time to pray about this and then complete the Skills and Interests survey (previously referred to as Time and Talents). You can complete the survey by visiting the "Serving" tab on CV Connect or by completing a paper form which can be found at the Registration Desk in the lobby. "Skills" refer to areas where you have specialized training and "Interests" refer to areas where you simply have a willingness to serve. We will use this information for future volunteer opportunities at Cross View Lutheran Church. With family accounts, you can find "Skills and Interest" under the "Personal Information" tab of each person's profile. If you have questions on how to access the survey, contact Amy Gundermann (amy@crossview.net). May Jesus be glorified in all that we do!

## **Outreach and Missions**



#### NATIVITYFEST SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2, 10 AM-NOON

NativityFest, our Christmas outreach event, is a great way to kick off the Advent season! The activities will point to Jesus as the reason for the season with something for everyone to enjoy. We will have a live nativity, crafts, treats, story time, and more. Invite a friend or neighbor to come and celebrate with us! Sign up here to help with the event.

#### WELCOME KIT – LOVING OUR NEWEST NEIGHBORS

Our congregation is collecting items during the month of December to bless a refugee family of five as they get settled in Minnesota. We are creating a Welcome Kit through Arrive Ministries which will include many of the household basics a family would need. Watch for a display in the lobby during the month of December to sign up and bring donated items to church by January 1st. Add a Welcome Kit item to your Christmas shopping list or invite your small group to purchase an item together. All donations must be new. In addition to the specific items listed on the display, the Sunday School children are invited to donate cleaning supplies and the youth will be collecting hygiene items for the family.

#### **GIVING AND GRATITUDE**

When is the time right to help your neighbors?

- When it's convenient?
- When you have extra time?
- When you know them?

What does God say to us about helping our neighbors? We all know this familiar scripture passage Matthew 25:31, "I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me."

It couldn't be simpler. This is a call to action and the time is now.

Our Cross View community of believers is strong. We step up and help each other daily. We see it everywhere. Car rides given, cards written to shut-ins, volunteering here at church and at events outside the church, doors held open, hugs that are needed, love that is shared so freely to all. We also see it in your generous response to the CarePortal ministry.

Fifteen families' needs have been met in this first month. AMAZING! Three deliveries were made by Cross View members. Multiple deliveries were also made by other churches. The mothers we met were so appreciative and their sweet children will benefit from staying in their loving care.

#### The CarePortal ministry needs you!

**Prayers:** Continually pray for the families and caseworkers who are working to keep these families together and thriving. See the blue bulletin for updates on the families we are serving.

**Shoppers:** Who likes to shop? Shoppers are needed now. When someone funds an item, someone needs to shop. These shoppers would use the Cross View CarePortal VISA card to pay for the items. Shoppers would be provided information on the specific items needed and dollar amounts associated with the items. This process would be coordinated through Pam Olsen who downloads the funds and who holds the CarePortal card. Shoppers would then drop the items at Cross View in a designated area.

**Deliverers:** Deliver items to the family. We go twoby-two (minimum) and at least one person needs to have attended the CP training session.

Fund the program: Give to the Cross View Care Portal Fund. Dollars given to this fund will be used to purchase items needed when they are not readily available from other resources. Copy this URL to go to CV's CarePortal page (https://system.careportal.org/church/cross-view-lutheranchurch/100076) and click on the "Give to our CarePortal Fund" button near the top of the page. You may also make out a check to Cross View and write "CarePortal" in the memo line.

**Training:** Attend a training session in the New Year and join us on this journey.

As we serve in this ministry, God accepts the gifts we give to these families as an offering to himself. God is blessed and honored as we bless and honor these families. If this sharing was common practice, there would be no poverty.

THANK YOU to all who have stepped up and given of their time, talents, and treasures! God bless you this day.

#### PRAYING FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED

Our CarePortal Response Team has been very busy responding to needs in our community through this new ministry at Cross View. Please join us in praying for the families we have served so far:

- Family with one male child who has autism and food aversions
- Single mom with 2 boys and 2 girls who are currently homeless
- Single mom of 13- and 16-year-old girls who have clothing and food needs
- Pregnant mom with 2 boys unable to work due to son's disability

- Mom with daughters 11 and 13 and son 9
- Kinship Foster family: Grandparents taking in grandson
- Kinship Foster family: Mom with 2 kids taking in 3 nieces/nephews
- Mom with 2 young children
- Mom with two boys and two girls experiencing homelessness
- Pregnant mom with 2 boys, 1 boy has a disability
- Parents with a 2-year-old boy and 3-month-old girl were homeless now setting up in a new home
- Mother with 3 children struggling to meet basic needs of family
- Mom with 1 son and 2 daughters currently living in a shelter
- Mom with 1-year-old son moved into a shelter and have nothing
- Grandparents with 2 adopted children moved to MN to care for 94-yearold grandmother, settling into their new home

## Thank You, Vicki Barton!

On Sunday, October 29, our congregation celebrated Vicki Barton's volunteer service to Cross View's junior high and senior high ministry. We took a moment in both of our worship services to publicly recognize her labors of love for Cross View's youth and parents. We also had a food and card reception between the services, celebrating her service among us.

During the 2022-2023 year of ministry, Vicki served in a 3/4 to full-time capacity as a volunteer. Her service enabled our youth program to seamlessly move forward without a single cancelation of any events or programming. She led and oversaw all weekly activities, events, and communications.

She organized and led two mission trips, as well as serving on the leadership team for TC2. Vicki even expanded some of our offerings, improving our meeting spaces as our ministries gained momentum following the pandemic. Following Hannah's Zahrte's installation, Vicki provided training and support for Hannah.

Vicki's goal was that not a single student's faith would be impacted by the vacancy, but instead that each student would continue to have ample opportunity to grow as a disciple of Christ until the position was filled. This goal was accomplished by God's grace. Thank you, Vicki, for making a difference. We thank God for you!

## **Thanksgiving Tree**

At our Thanksgiving Eve service, those in attendance created this Thanksgiving Tree, sharing those things for which they were thankful.



# Decorate with Poinsettias

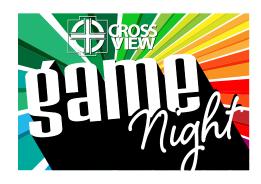
Volunteer to decorate our worship spaces with live poinsettias Saturday, December 23, 9:00–11:00 AM.

## What Goes Up Must Come Down

Mark your calendars for Sunday, January 7th, from Noon–2:00 PM to volunteer your time to take down the beautifully decorated Christmas trees and greens placed throughout our church. Questions? Call or email Marian Kratzke at 952-941-1094 or marian@crossview.net.

# **Cross View Game Night**

Do you love games? Join us for fun and fellowship every second Sunday of the month from 6:30–8:30 PM in Rooms 209/210. Cross View Game Night is open to all teens and adults, including church members and their guests. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own board or card games. If you bring a game, be prepared to show others how to play. Questions? Questions? Contact John Daenzer (johndaenzer@gmail.com) or Michael Kibat (mgkibat@centurylink.net). Register for this event on CV Connect or Event Registration kiosks.



# THE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY OF HARRY & CHLORIS WENDT Part 2 of a 2-Part Series



Cross View has been blessed for so many years through Pastor Harry and Chloris Wendt. Their primary mission was to teach the meaning of the overall story of Scriptures through Crossways International publications. This is the conclusion to their interview which first ran in the November *Clarion*.

Q. Please share some more examples of lives that were changed through Crossways International Ministries.

General Noriega (and his family) became a follower of Jesus through a Crossways International course while he was in prison. He wrote frequent notes of gratitude to Harry. Likewise, a member of the Manson gang. A Federal prisoner's life had totally fallen apart as a result of a serious crime. He attended CI classes, became a committed Christian, was released, remarried - a lawyer. Together they developed a successful rehab. ministry among 180 recently released prisoners which caught the attention of Chicago's mayor. "How did you accomplish this amazing feat?" he asked. "Through Harry Wendt's incredibly effective teaching graphics," came the reply.

Laypersons established CW classes in their neighborhoods creating and cultivating servant communities. Pastors noted astonishing growth, donations, and service in their congregations. Even their own growth was cause for amazement and thanksgiving. Some congregations turned their facility into a welcome center for the needy and/or immigrants, offering assistance with food, English classes, accommodation, furniture, worship in other languages, and various other resources. Individuals began non-profit organizations that offer help with employment, disaster relief, comfort dogs, and sundry CI classes. Some

CI students changed careers that better reflected Jesus' mission or founded special servant groups. Even a farmer was highly motivated by a CI podcast while driving his tractor.

Q. In retrospect, how as the Gospel impacted your personal lives since you are living in retirement at Friendship Village?

Friendship Village was not founded by a Christian group. We joined a community of over 600 persons from all walks of life who are at the eventide of their earthly journey. We are served by two devoted chaplains who encourage us as followers of Jesus. Staff members represent different denominations or religions. However, we meet Jesus every day — as a staff member, a resident, a guest, or a dependent or needy person. More than at any other stage in life, Jesus reaches out to reassure us of His presence, love, promises, and intention for our own role in God's kingdom.

Q. What would you urge your brothers and sisters at Cross View to focus on?

To our beloved brothers and sisters at Cross View Lutheran Church, we offer prayers to enable you to be a loving force wherever God has placed you. Further, that Cross View Church would be a space where the community can learn to know the Bible's Big Story and be groomed to be the "body of Christ"that restores a loving and serving relationship between fallen humankind, our Creator, and all creation.

Q. Any other words of encouragement for those following Jesus?

We pray that each member of Cross View Lutheran Church would be more and more aware of Jesus' presence in your family, your employment, home, church, community, and the world. Indeed, you are Jesus' presence...we are so very grateful for the thoughtful love and prayers given on our behalf by Jesus' sisters and brothers at Cross View during this eventide of our lives. We pray for its shepherds of the faith and all of Jesus' followers — that God's kingdom will come, and God's will be done.



Paul Emmel is a retired pastor in the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and a member of Cross View Lutheran Church.



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

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Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, Associate Pastor 952-941-1094, reed@crossview.net

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#### **SUNDAY WORSHIP**

8:15 AM Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary Worship in the Great Commission Room

Sunday services are also live streamed.

Communion is on 2nd & 4th Sundays.

#### **SUNDAY EDUCATION**

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

#### **RECHARGE**

Wednesdays, Sept. – May 5:15 PM Meal 6:30 PM Programming www.crossview.net/recharge

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

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

#### **CALENDAR**

Our most current calendar is always available at <a href="https://www.crossview.net/calendar">www.crossview.net/calendar</a>

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