

CROSSVIEW CLARION

February 2019



"Jesus gave the perfect example of love, and all of us want to love like Jesus."

-Julie Pos



Immeasurable Love

by Julie Pos, ECC Office Assistant

We all desire to be loved. Love is one of the most powerful emotions we can experience. Humans crave love from the moment of existence. Love is defined as an intense feeling of deep affection. We are loved by our parents. We are loved by our spouse. We are loved by our children. We are loved by a friend. We are loved by co-workers. But most importantly, we are loved by our Creator and Lord.

- Love from a parent is tender and warm.
- Love from a spouse is full of intimacy, passion and devotion.

- Love from a child is affectionate and comes with the sense of an attachment and fondness.
 - Love from a friend is an endearing, compassionate and a caring kind of love.
 - Love from a co-worker is an affirmation of doing a good job or sharing a funny joke.
 - Love from our Creator presents itself in many different ways. It is not a love we need to strive to receive. It is an immeasurable love that is incomparable, perfect, sacrificial, and pure.
- Jesus gave us the perfect example of love ►

◀ (Romans 5:8 and John 17:26), and all of us want to love like Jesus. We want to be forgiving, generous, and compassionate enough to love people unconditionally. But no matter how hard we try, somehow we fall short because our humanness gets in the way. We can love; however, we can't do it perfectly. The secret to loving like Jesus is by abiding in Him. We need to follow John 13:35 which says, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

50th Anniversary Worship Feb. 10



Festive worship will celebrate Cross View's 50th Anniversary on Sunday, February 10. Pastor Wheeler will preach, Charter Member Wayne Hellbusch will share memories, and Charter Members and former Cross View Staff will be recognized. Café Cross View will host a reception for members and guests. 8:15 AM service music will be a brass quintet, organ and Adult Choir; 10:45 service music will be led by the Praise Team. Come...be a part of the celebration!

Altar Flower Sign-Up

Altar flowers are given to Cross View to beautify our worship space. You may designate a particular occasion or remembrance in the bulletin for which you have given the flowers. A 2019 flower signup is posted on the bulletin board near the kitchen. Flowers may be ordered through Cross View's regular florist or provided by you personally.

Women's Ministries

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Marcia Johnson will host book club on Monday, February 18, 2019. We will meet at 1:00 PM at the church in the Fireside Room. We will read and discuss *The Same Sky* by Amanda Eyre Ward. New members are always welcome. Please contact Marcy at mpnordhus@gmail.com if you have any questions.

WOMEN'S DINNER OUT

The next women's Dinner Out will be on Thursday, March 28, at the Golden Nugget in Minnetonka! More details to come in early March!

WOMEN'S SPRING RETREAT: "RENEW, RESTORE, REFRESH"

Ephesians 4:23 reads, "Be renewed in the spirit of your mind." As the basis for this year's annual women's spring crafting retreat, our Bible study and devotions will take us into God's Word and how through it we can be renewed.

Join us for our annual women's spring crafting retreat at Good Earth Village Retreat Center (south of Rochester), March 29-31, with Bible study and devotions focused on this theme. The cost for Friday and Saturday overnight is \$150 (includes sleeping rooms, crafting space, program fees, and dinner on Friday and Saturday nights). Participants sign up to help with brunch on Saturday and Sunday, and snacks. The cost for those coming on Thursday is an extra \$45. Watch for signup sheet coming in mid-February. Questions? Contact Linda Baule or Christine Eid.



Early Childhood Center

ECC CELEBRATES LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

At the end of January, we celebrated National Lutheran Schools Week by having events throughout the week. We started the week by joining the congregation for worship on January 27. Monday we celebrated national kazoo day with kazoos. The children were asked to bring a secret item to share with their friends during Show and Tell. We also had a birthday cake to celebrate the Early Childhood Center, sled day, and backwards day. We finished the week with pajama day.

The ECC plans to participate in a service project to help people in need of sneakers and families battling cancer. All donated sneakers will be given to developing countries. The company, Dunk Your Sneakers, will donate a dollar to families who have a child battling cancer for every pair of sneakers collected. Please donate your sneakers in the box outside the ECC office.



Cross View's Fifth Decade 2009-2018

This is the final piece in our Clarion series looking back on Cross View's journey from our humble beginnings to our development and growth into the Church we are today.



Top: 2012 Music Camp.

Middle and Bottom: July 2012 Family mission trip to West Virginia.

As Cross View entered its fifth decade, the congregation continued to focus on ways to connect, grow and serve. In the fall of 2009, 26 people joined the congregation, and Craig McCourt was installed as Dir. Of Youth & Adult Ministries. For the annual Thanksgiving dinner event at Trinity First Lutheran in Minneapolis, Cross View members served 340 meals in person and another 40 for take home.

On Ash Wednesday 2010, Pastor Wheeler shared a 40-day Bible reading guide with the congregation. In May, members packed meals for the people of Haiti who had survived a devastating earthquake. Missionaries Todd and Kim Roeske led several Bible studies which included updates on their work for Alaska Missions for Christ. In December 2010, the annual children's Christmas program "Angels We Have Heard" had to be canceled after 17 inches of snow fell in the hours preceding the program. A week later, Cross View's choir presented pieces from Handel's Messiah to overflow crowds at both services.

New lighting was installed in the sanctuary in 2011. Jason Paulson joined Cross View as the Director of Contemporary Music. Members served through Urban Homeworks to clean up parts of north Minneapolis damaged by a tornado. Seventeen new members joined the congregation.

The annual Christian Art Festival opened with a striking collection of Biblical scenes from acclaimed Japanese printmaker Sadao Watanabe. Later in the year, another 25 new members joined the congregation. In December, Interim Pastor Jim Gimbel accepted a call to become President of Concordia Lutheran Seminary in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. The Rev. Don Taylor stepped in as interim assistant pastor.

In 2014, several town hall meetings were organized to discuss changes to church governance. The measures were overwhelmingly approved by a congregation-wide vote. The changes in governance are credited with transforming how church leaders and the congregation could plan for and carry out the mission of the church through ministry. That same year, Jonathan Zellar accepted Cross View's call to become Director of Youth and Young Adults. Twenty-seven new members joined the congregation.

In the summer of 2015, 16 Cross View members took part in a family mission trip to the Crow Agency in Montana, where they led a sports camp and housing repairs during a week-long visit. About 20 members and friends joined Pastor Wheeler on a pilgrimage to Israel. During the fall and winter, the congregation raised money through a variety

of giving and fundraising activities organized by members of all ages as part of Redeeming Christmas, a church-wide effort through which money was raised to purchase equipment for a dental clinic in Tenwek, Kenya. The clinic is the site where Cross View member Dr. Tim Clavin continues to carry out medical mission trips.

The congregation in 2016 voted overwhelmingly to call Toby Schmidt as associate pastor. Three adults and 8 kids from the youth ministry led by Jonathan Zellar traveled to the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. That fall meetings began to discuss a potential building expansion at Cross View. There was record participation in the annual drive for Christmas gifts for veterans. After serving at Cross View for more than three decades, Jan Stockman-Sater accepted a call to work in the children's ministry at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Plymouth. Planning meetings about a potential church expansion project continued.

In the fall of 2017, Stacey LaMere was installed as the new Director of the Early Childhood Center. Hundreds of members and neighbors from the community turned out to celebrate Oktoberfest in Cross View's parking lot for an afternoon of lively music, food, and fellowship. As planning began in 2018 for events to celebrate the church's 50th anniversary, several years of prayerful planning and pledging toward an exciting new building expansion project called "Cross View 4.0 – Building for Generations" culminated in a near-unanimous vote by the congregation to proceed with the project.

Since our inception, Cross View has always desired to share the Gospel with others and make a difference beyond the walls of the church. In the last 10 years, though, the congregation has taken that mindset to a new level. Cross View has added more mission trips and created church-wide service projects that are being led by members of all ages. We've established a growing video streaming ministry and started Ministry Action Teams to plan for Cross View's future for generations to come.

"It's incredible to see how God has blessed this congregation over our first 50 years," Pastor Wheeler said recently. "But that's just the beginning. With such a strong mission and so many great people in our congregation stepping up to lead Cross View into the future, I am incredibly excited to see what God has in store for our church over our next 50 years."

Below: In March 2017, Cross View hires The Timothy Group to conduct a feasibility study for a building expansion. By the end of 2018, plans are in place and the congregation approves a loan to begin construction.



Top and Middle Left: Redeeming Christmas raised over \$100,000 for Tenwek Dental Clinic in Kenya in 2015.

Bottom Left: July 2016: Toby Schmidt ordained and installed as Associate Pastor in July 2016.

Top Middle: 5th Sunday Service Day begin in October 2016.

Bottom Middle: Jan Stockman leaves Cross View's ECC in February 2017.

Top Right: 2017 Oktoberfest neighborhood party.



Voters' Meeting Recap

The January Voters' meeting included a handout summarizing 2018 staff goals and key accomplishments. Extra copies are available at the Connection Center. What an amazing year for Cross View! Pick up a copy and thank our faithful Church and Early Childhood Center (ECC) leaders. The meeting also included a review of 2018 financial results and the 2019 budgets for the church and ECC.

Cross View generated a surplus of \$3,275 in 2018.

- Receipts were \$40,000K lower than 2017 and less than budgeted.
- Expenses were also lower than budgeted, allowing for the small surplus.
- The general fund balance is strong and exists to cover unexpected shortfalls
- Commitment to ongoing operating fund pledges is as essential as 4.0 Building for Generations campaign pledges. A 9% increase in receipts is required to meet the 2019 budget which includes interest expense associated with the expansion.

Cross View			
	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	Difference vs. 2018
Total Receipts	\$ 1,079,258	\$ 1,179,264	9%
Total Expenses	\$ 1,075,984	\$ 1,179,264	
Receipts Over (under) Expenses	\$ 3,275	\$ -	
General Fund Balance	\$ 178,436		

ECC 2018 results were \$10K less than expected due to the timing of income the week of 12/31/18.

- A 5% receipt increase is required for the 2019 budget

which includes interest expense associated with ECC's portion of the new loan.

- ECC classrooms remain consistently full.

Early Childhood Center			
	2018 Actual	2019 Budget	Difference vs. 2018
Total Receipts	\$ 1,216,276	\$ 1,277,340	5%
Total Expenses	\$ 1,227,102	\$ 1,277,299	
Receipts Over (under) Expenses	\$ (10,826)	\$ 41	
General Fund Balance	\$ 33,965		

LCEF was selected as the lender for our building expansion.

- Up to \$5.1M will be drawn as needed
- \$2M bridge loan at 4% interest during construction, 3.875% fixed rate for first year after construction
- \$3M long term loan: 30 year term, 4% fixed interest rate for 5 Yrs
- Principal payments begin year 3, no prepayment penalties

Building Update

- Subcontractor bid pricing is underway
- Ground breaking is expected as soon as the frost is out of the ground

Please feel free to connect with Lynn Pahl if you have any questions regarding the meeting. Cross View Council is grateful for continued support from the congregation and looks forward to the exiting year ahead!

-Lynn Pahl, Council President

Twelve21

Twelve21 is a group of post-college, early career young adults. While we are a newer Cross View group, we are growing strong! We meet every other Tuesday night to discuss either a bible study or have a social night.

Currently, we are reading *Joining Jesus on His Mission: How to Be an Everyday Missionary* by Greg Finke. This book is giving us great insight on how to engage with friends, coworkers, and family members who may not have ever experienced Christ. Similarly, it speaks to how we can be local missionaries and begin to serve just within the boundaries of our own neighborhoods.

In the weeks we were not diving into our new book, we are planning social events such as holiday gatherings and game nights.



CROSS VIEW

CARDS AND GAMES

2nd Friday, Sep – May:

Friday, Feb. 8 at 7:00 PM

Location: Cross View, Fellowship A

RSVP to Hosts:

Steve & Marilyn Koepcke (952-546-2197)

or Gene & Addie Menzel 952-897-3826

Connect with Cross View members and friends (adults of all ages) for several hours of fun and fellowship by participating in cards and games of your choice.

New participants are welcome!

Christian Education

VBS IS COMING



Life is wild, but God is good! Each day during this summer's VBS, Roar!, we will discover that God is good through all of life's challenges. Life is wild – full of ups and downs and twists and turns. It can often feel chaotic and out of control. This week we will experience the solid foundation of God's goodness which empowers us to boldly face life's challenges. Join us June 17-21, 9:00-11:30 AM for a great week! VBS is open to students age 3 (potty trained) through entering 4th grade. The cost is just \$12 for the week! *(Students entering 5th grade and older are invited to volunteer throughout the week.)* To guarantee a T-shirt, please register by Monday, May 20. Registration for both participants and volunteers is now open by going to www.crossview.net.

SUMMER MUSIC CAMP

Music camp is a great opportunity for kids entering grades 1-5 to learn and perform a musical! We hope you will join us July 22-26; 9 AM to 12 noon for a wonderful week! Under the direction of Sarah Fincham, students learn

music, create costumes and sets, and learn choreography to present their show on Friday morning at 11:15 AM. Cost is \$45 for the week. Registration is now open for Summer Music Camp online at www.crossview.net. Sign up today! Space is limited to 50 students and fills up fast!

5TH GRADE – WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE

5th graders and a parent/adult, will begin a special class, "Welcome to the Lord's Table" on Sunday, February 24 during the education hour. This 7-week class will introduce students to the Lord's Supper, and prepare them for their first communion on Maundy Thursday, April 18. Letters were mailed with more details. If you did not receive this letter, or have questions, please contact Christine Eid or Pastor Wheeler.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

On January 16, 65 students and adults from Confirmation and Kidstitute went on our annual service night to Feed My Starving Children, Chanhassen, to pack 107 boxes with 23,112 meals for Haiti. It was a great night of fun and fellowship while serving the community and world.



Heart for the Harvest

Cross View's theme for the 2018-2019 year in ministry is "Heart for the Harvest" based on Matthew 9:35-38. Jesus urgently invites us in these verses saying, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the Harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field." We need Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) workers sent into the harvest like never before. Our national church body, the LCMS (like almost every other North American church body), is facing an unprecedented shortage of full-time trained pastors, teachers, and Directors of Christian Education (DCE).

As a national church body and as a congregation, we need to sincerely encourage the next generation of men and women to step up and to serve in the Lord's church as faithful ministers of the Gospel. Look for opportunities to encourage your child, a grandchild, or a young person you know to consider this important calling. When our young people do step up, we need to do all we can as a congregation and as individuals to support and encourage their schooling and training.

Cross View is honored to currently have two students preparing for full-time church work. Ben Oelschlaeger is enrolled at Concordia Seminary. Esther Kelzer is enrolled at Concordia University, Seward, Nebraska, studying to be a DCE. You may have already seen Esther leading a children's message at Cross View. Ben will be delivering a sermon June 30. Take some time to read their biographies. Also, please keep them in your personal prayers as they complete their training. The next time you see them, make sure to thank them for their heart for the harvest.

FROM ESTHER KELZER

I am currently a junior at Concordia University in Seward, Nebraska. I am studying Theology and Christian Educational Leadership with an emphasis on youth ministry to become a certified Director of Christian Education in the LCMS. At school, I am involved in a women's small group Bible study, intramural sports, and our youth ministry club that sends teams of students to area churches to lead lock-ins.

During the summers and my holiday breaks from school I work in the Cross View ECC. In addition to being able to work with the children of the ECC, I have also been given other opportunities to practice the skills I will use later on as a DCE. I have been blessed to have been able to give Children's messages, help lead Youth Group, work with the children's Sunday School, and help lead at VBS. Cross View has been an invaluable tool in my preparation to become a church worker. I am incredibly grateful for my church family here at Cross View and for all the opportunities they have given me.

FROM BEN OELSCHLAEGER

I'm guessing a lot of you will know me as the guy who wore shorts all year round. I am in my second year at the seminary and so excited to be here. I have just passed the halfway mark for classwork required and will be going on vicarage, a pastoral internship, starting this summer. I am excited to see where God will send me

in my life.

I have felt the call to ministry since high school and I knew that I wanted to be a pastor eventually, though



I also wanted to be an engineer. So, I applied to Valparaiso University because I knew it would give me an opportunity to explore both fields while in school. Though my summer engineering experiences were gratifying, I wanted to interact with people more than I had in engineering. So, when I heard the seminary was discounting tuition for the Reformation, I decided to apply. I am so glad I did. I have met so many wonderful teachers and mentors who have helped me navigate the transition into ministry. I could not be happier with my decision.

During my time here, I have been serving at a church near the seminary helping with liturgy, confirmation and a little bit of preaching. I also have been working part-time in the seminary IT department, which has been a great learning experience in its own way.

I am especially thankful to Cross View. The people of Cross View have been such a blessing to me, from helping send me to two national youth gatherings and numerous other youth events to getting me involved in worship and servant events. It has been a joy to know so many of you. I will be home for a little while this summer, and I look forward to worshipping with you all again.



Senior Adult Ministries

CARING FOR THE CAREGIVER

"Caring for the Caregiver and Minnesota Help.info" was the title of a presentation given to our Seniors, by Community Outreach Specialist Lukus Zuker on January 15. He shared information about who is a caregiver and what is the impact of being a caregiver. He also provided information about the services available and where to go for needed help. The 40 adults attending enjoyed breakfast provided by Thrivent and Julie Sherman. If you are interested in a copy of the presentation, copies are available at the Connection Center or contact Mary Daenzer at 952.200.0924.

UPCOMING DATES FOR SENIORS

- February 10 – 50th Anniversary Banquet & Program
- March 20- Lenten Dinner sponsored by Senior M.A.T.



Small Group Facilitator Potluck

On Sunday February 24, from 5-8 PM, Cross View is hosting a Small Group Facilitator Potluck. So if you're a Small Group facilitator or want to be one, put February 24 on your calendars now! You'll learn:

- Who other facilitators are.
- How small groups fits into Cross View's larger mission and vision
- About resources available through Right Now Media & Cross View Connect.
- About what other groups do, and talk about various studies, homework or not, ideas for kids, etc.

Join us on February 24 and come with a dish to share. More information will follow in your bulletin connections. Questions? Talk to Jan Schrader (jscharder1010@gmail.com) or Pastor Toby Schmidt (toby@crossview.net).



Youth Gathering Needs Volunteers!

Registration is now open for local volunteers to serve at the 2019 LCMS National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, July 11-15. This is a great way to serve the 25,000 youth and adults who will be celebrating our Real. Present. God. We need hundreds of volunteers to help before, during, and after the Gathering in the following areas:

- Behind-the-scenes (office help, audio/visual, setup)
- Crowd interaction (traffic safety, hospitality, interactive space)
- Transportation (supplies, equipment, and people)

The volunteer registration form is now live on the Gathering website (www.lcmsgathering.org) through April 2019. As part of the registration process, background checks will be run on volunteers at no cost to the registrant.

Your volunteer role will be assigned to you based on information you share in your application and the needs of the Gathering Programming and Planners. The Local Volunteer Team will communicate your assigned area via email prior to the convention. If you have further questions, please contact Rebecca Waller: rebecca@crossview.net.





Cross View Lutheran Church's 50TH ANNIVERSARY BANQUET & PROGRAM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2019

SOCIAL HOUR AT 4:00 PM

DINNER AT 5:00 PM

PROGRAM AT 6:00 PM

MINNEAPOLIS MARRIOTT SOUTHWEST
5801 OPUS PKWY, MINNETONKA, MN

DINNER IS COMPLIMENTARY.

A FREE WILL OFFERING WILL HELP OFFSET THE EVENT COST.

Reservations for this event are closed.

There will be open seating, so please plan to coordinate with friends and family.

Questions? Contact rebecca@crossview.net.



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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
ext 203, steve@crossview.net

Rev. Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor
ext 206, toby@crossview.net

Christine Eid, Children's Ministry
ext 215, christine@crossview.net

Jonathan Zellar, Youth & Young Adults Ministries
ext 207, jonathan@crossview.net

Stacey LaMere, Early Childhood Center
ext 222 • stacey@crossview.net

Renee Kirchner, Church Administration
ext 204 • renee@crossview.net

Rebecca Waller, Music & Fine Arts Ministries
ext 210, rebecca@crossview.net

Margaret Garrison, Administrative Assistant
ext 200, margaret@crossview.net

Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
ext 205, alyssa@crossview.net

Claire Oie, Administrative Assistant
ext 200 • claire@crossview.net

Jason Paulson, Contemporary Music
jason@crossview.net

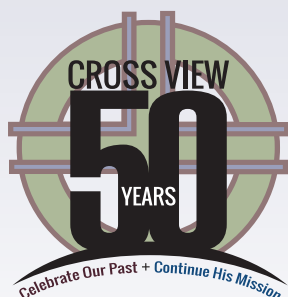
Russell Draeger, Organist
russell@crossview.net

Lynn Pahl, President

Nadar & Georgette Alaraj, POBLO

Todd & Kim Roeske, Evangelistic Missionaries in Alaska

The *Clarion* is published monthly by Cross View Lutheran Church. Items for inclusion may be dropped off in the church office or sent via email to rebecca@crossview.net.



GROW WITH CROSS VIEW

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional

10:45 AM Contemporary

SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM

OFFICE HOURS

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

Closed Monday

CALENDAR

Cross View's most current calendar is always available on our website at

www.crossview.net/calendar

CONNECT WITH CROSS VIEW

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952-941-0009 (ECC)



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