

# CROSSVIEW CLARION

January 2020



**"Of the total number of people who ever make New Year's resolutions, 92% fail to keep them, and most fail by the end of January "**



## Re:Solution

by Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor

HAPPY NEW YEAR! This season is usually framed around self-improvement. A common practice this time of year is to challenge ourselves to get slimmer, stronger, and smarter. So, we make "new year's resolutions." I've never been one for that. It's not that I think I'm slimmer, stronger, or smarter, far from it. I just don't really want to change anything, so why go through the torment and guilt of it all? Besides, did you know that only 45% of Americans usually make New Year's resolutions? I didn't. And you want to know what the real kicker is? Of the total number of people who ever make New Year's resolutions, 92% fail to keep them, and most fail by the end of

January (<http://www.statisticbrain.com>).

I'm not talking about resolutions to depress anyone. And yes, there are a number of things we probably should make resolutions for. There are many areas of our lives where we need a new beginning. Instead, I want to talk about God's answer Re:(the)Solution.

Do you remember our annual theme? "Soul Food", from Deuteronomy 8:3, "Man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." It reminds us that God's Soul Food for us, His Word, speaks to us re:(the)Solution. His Word tells us about the Word made flesh, Jesus, ►

and everything He has done for us. **Jesus is God's Re:Solution.**

Because of God's Re:Solution, we are re-deemed. Which means we are re-newed, re-centered, and re-focused. This is what we celebrate during Advent and Christmas, that God's kingdom broke through, in a real, tangible way: in human flesh. Jesus, God's Re:Solution came down to be the solution for everything that hinders us, everything that's broken in us, everything that's broken because of us.

God's Re:Solution "Bethlehem's Gift: A Redeemer for All" came to usher in a real new beginning, a real and eternal solution. Jesus freed us from everything we need to make a resolution for, and He freed us to do it. It is because of Him that we are able to make re-solutions at all. Jesus ties us to Himself, His sacrifice, His righteousness, His redemption, and His mission.

Now we are a part of God's Re:Solution to the world. "If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation, the old has gone, the new has come." (2 Corinthians 5:17) God's Re:Solution gives us the re-start we need, every day, and every time we fail to keep our re-solutions. Because of Jesus, we are empowered, and encouraged, to be a part of God's kingdom, God's mission, and God's Re:Solution to the world.

My challenge to myself, and you this New Year, is to live in God's Re:Solution for us. In our daily habits, family habits, work habits, social habits, let us resolve to live re-newed, re-centered, re-focused, and re-deemed. Let us worship our Redeemer and God, as we love people and share with them how, because of God's Re:Solution, they can have new beginning, too.

Happy New Year! And Happy New Beginnings!

## Voters' Assembly Meeting January 19, 2020

Please join us for our Voters' meeting on January 19 following the second service at noon in the Fellowship Hall. Meeting agenda includes the following topics:

- 2019 year-end preliminary financial results (operating budget and capital campaign)
- 2020 budget
- Building update
- Endowment Fund introduction

## Cross View Cards and Games

**Friday, January 10 at 7:00 PM**

**Cross View, Room 218**

**RSVP to Hosts**

**Mary & Chuck Daenzer 952-200-0924  
or JoAnn Ridgway 952-935-0884**

Cross View Cards and Games meets the 2nd Friday of each month from September through May. 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!

# THANK YOU!

*The staff of Cross View extends our sincere thanks to the members and friends of Cross View for your Christmas gifts. Thank you for your support and encouragement throughout this last year. We are grateful for your partnership in the ministry and look forward to an exciting 2020! Blessings on your New Year.*





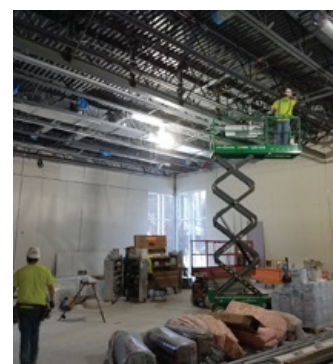
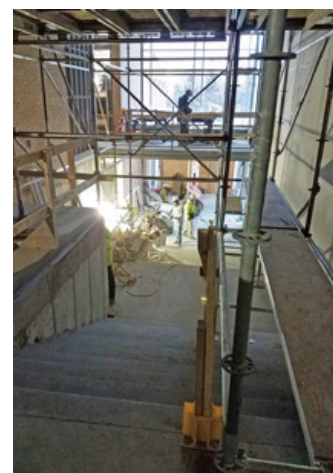
# CV 4.0 – Building for Generations Update



Did you begin 2020 with a New Year resolution? Many people do. Many people look to start a new behavior, stop an old behavior, or change a condition in their life.

Cross View begins 2020 eager to occupy construction areas, expand outreach, and begin new ministries. We continue to witness God's presence through flexible and creative programming and worship opportunities. Your prayers and regular worship ensure continued growth. Cross View members are prayer warriors. Below are some 2020 Cross View 4.0 Building for Generations prayer requests:

- Guidance as our plans for His house become reality.
- That reinstalled sanctuary technology will work properly.
- For a joyous sanctuary reunion.
- Continued worker safety.
- An addition that will bring new people to know God's grace.
- ECC security, classroom and activity space that benefits students.
- Designated junior/senior high youth areas for Christian fellowship.
- Members fulfill their 4.0 Building for Generations pledge.



## Financial Update

- November year-to-date income was 2%, or \$17K less than budget. Budget includes a 9% year-over-year increase. The 2020 budget will be proposed to the Voters in January. An income increase of about 19% will be required in 2020 to meet expenses related to our expansion.
- The net surplus is \$55K favorable to budget due to lower expenses than planned, primarily driven by the lower than expected interest expense on the construction loan. Thanks to members for your early campaign pledge receipts that result in a smaller loan balance than budgeted.

- Your generous contributions to both the operating and capital campaign remain critical in 2019 and as we look ahead to our first year in the expanded space in 2020. Cross View council thanks you for your prayerful giving during this exciting time in our history.

Cross View			
November 30th, 2019	2019 Actual YTD	2019 Budget YTD	Actual Better/(Worse) vs. Budget
<b>Total Income</b>	\$999,468	\$1,016,960	(\$17,492)
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$1,006,398	\$1,079,869	\$73,471
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	(\$6,930)	(\$62,909)	\$55,979

## Early Childhood Center

### ECC WRAPS UP 2019 AND LOOKS FORWARD TO THE COMING YEAR

The Early Childhood Center ended the 2019 year with a Christmas program and classroom Christmas parties to celebrate Christ's birth. The Christmas program was about the special night of Christ's birth. The Christmas parties are an annual event in the classrooms, where the children have special activities, fun games and a yummy treat! Both of these events are a great time to connect with the families, as

we invite the parents and extended relatives to the Christmas program and ask for parents or grandparents to volunteer for the classroom parties.

We look forward to all God has in store for our Early Childhood Center in 2020, especially with the completion of the new building additions at Cross View. We plan to participate in the 10:30 AM church service on January 26th to celebrate National Lutheran Schools. We are excited to share some songs with you at this service.

## Women's Ministries

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will be hosted by Sherry Greenhagen on Monday, January 20, and will meet at 1:00 PM at the church. We will be reading and discussing *Great Expectations* by Charles Dickens. New members are always welcome. Please contact Marcy at [mpnordhus@gmail.com](mailto:mpnordhus@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

### WOMEN'S DINNER JANUARY 23

The January Women's dinner will be at Campiello in Eden Prairie (6411 City West Parkway) on Thursday, January 23rd, at 6:45 PM. Please sign up in the Connection Center and let Quynn Iske ([qunika@msn.com](mailto:qunika@msn.com) or 612-816-3657) know if you have any questions or need to order ahead.

### WOMEN'S SPRING CRAFTING RETREAT COMING IN APRIL!

The annual women's ministry spring crafting retreat, Living a Life of Worship, will be April 24-26, 2020. Mark your calendars to plan to attend this time of fellowship and Bible study, while completing those unfinished projects you have at home. Not a crafter? Come with other projects from home that you might have, or a time to read and reflect. A service project for participants will also be available.

Watch for more information and registration details in the weekly connections coming soon!



## STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

### Did the holidays wear you out and wear you down?

We like to think of holidays as being an enjoyable time with family and friends, full of happy memories. But hurts, struggles, crises, and problems do not understand this. Many times, our difficulties seem even worse during the holidays because everyone else seems to be enjoying life while you are feeling down.

If you are experiencing a difficult time; emotionally, spiritually, or relationally—you do not have to suffer alone.

Our Stephen Ministers are trained caregivers who are ready to listen, care for and encourage you, pray with you and for you and provide one-to-one Christian care to help you through whatever it is that you are facing. It's FREE! It's CONFIDENTIAL. And it will make a difference in your life.

Please contact Pastor Steve or Pastor Toby for a Stephen Ministry referral.

*"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God."*

—2 Corinthians 1:3-4

## Outreach & Missions

### LOOKING AHEAD – SAVE THE DATE!

#### February 16: Service Sunday

Do you have ideas for projects we can do? Please contact Pastor Toby or Christine Eid.

### COINS 4 THANKSGIVING

During the month of November, Cross View collected 6,605 coins for a total of \$983.75 to be donated to POBLO to help with their ministry.

### CHRISTMAS GREETING FROM A TRINITY FIRST STUDENT

Merry Christmas!  
Dear, friend of our school,  
Thank you for supporting Trinity First.  
Your support and prayers are very valuable to  
Thank you for your generosity  
which makes it possible for me to  
get this christian education.  
Merry christmas and A  
happy new year!



~~Simon~~ Simon

Age: 10

ps. sorry for my weird smile

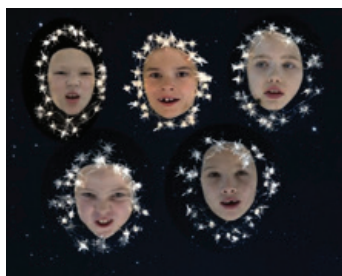
But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. (Galatians 4:4-5)



# Christian Education

## CHRISTMAS PROGRAM THANK YOU!

We give thanks for awesome presentations of the Christmas Gospel from the children at Cross View. Here are just a few pictures showing their joyful singing and message.



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Yes, the snow is falling, and temperatures are dropping but we are in the beginning stages of planning our summer activities! Mark your calendars for these events coming up!

- **VBS: Rocky Railway: Jesus' Power Pulls Us Through!** – June 22-26, 2020
- **Music Camp** – July 20-24, 2020

Registration will open online in late January. Watch the weekly announcements for when!

## 5TH GRADE – WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE – MARK YOUR CALENDAR

"Welcome to the Lord's Table" is a Sunday class for 5th graders and parents in preparation for their first communion. Class begins Sunday, February 23, with first communion on Maundy Thursday, April 9. Details for class will be mailed out to families in January.

## KIDSTITUTE UPDATE

### Dates to know for January:

**January 1:** No Kidstitute for holiday celebrations

**January 8, 15 and 22:** Kidstitute resumes after the holidays

**January 29:** Special Kidstitute/Confirmation service trip to Feed My Starving Children

## WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY: MIRACLES

Curious about miracles? Join us Wednesday nights January through February, as we explore the miracles. We're covering miracles from the Old Testament, miracles Jesus performed during His ministry on earth, and questions people have about miracles today. Join us in room 218 at 6:30-8:00 PM. Contact Pastor Toby for questions ([toby@crossview.net](mailto:toby@crossview.net)).



## SUNDAY ADULT EDUCATION: WHO AM I? WHAT AM I DOING HERE?

These big questions eventually confront everybody. Usually they start to nag us in childhood as we become aware of our expansive universe and wonder about our place within it. And of course, these questions refuse to go away. Join us we dig into God's answers to these questions. Sundays in January and February from 9:30-10:15 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Contact Pastor Toby for questions ([toby@crossview.net](mailto:toby@crossview.net)).



# Guatemala Mission Update

On November 17th, Cross View sent a team of six people to Guatemala to engage in missionary exercises among the people of Los Vasquez. The team included Vicki Barton, Laurie Koch, Tom Koch, RoseAnn Meier, Andrea Olson, and Pastor Steve Wheeler.

We started our journey with a 4:30 am prayer and communion service at the Minneapolis/St. Paul airport. We arrived in Guatemala City shortly after noon and then drove the five-hour drive to La Union.

Each day our team rode in the back of a four-wheel drive pickup truck from La Union, where we stayed, to the community of Los Vasquez. This was a 45-minute drive each way through a scenic mountain pass. The elevation is about the same as Denver, Colorado.

The overall goal of this Mission Trip was to build relationships with the people of Los Vasquez. On Monday

morning, the first thing we did was to meet with the Cocode, the elected leaders of the village of Los Vasquez. We listened to the concerns they expressed.

On Monday afternoon, we, along with our Guatemalan counterparts, presented three days of Vacation Bible School. The theme of the vacation Bible School was Heroes of the Bible. We focused on David and Goliath, Shadrach, Meschach and Abednego, and finally, the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. We had 75 children on Monday, 100 on Tuesday, and 135 on Wednesday! In addition to reenacting these three Bible stories for the children, each day we provided a craft to go along with the Bible story and a fresh fruit snack.

One of the primary concerns the people of Los Vasquez have expressed to us is the lack of drinkable water and the lack of water during the dry season. After a short jeep ride,





four of our team members hiked up the mountain for 35 minutes to the source of the villages' water. Their primary source of water is a mountain stream. They use a PVC pipe system, along with the pull of gravity, to transport the water down the mountain to their village. The water that comes down to the village is a cloudy, brown color. The village currently uses a series of three concrete block cisterns that hold less than a hundred gallons of water each. The village has no large holding tanks or storage units for the water. All of the concrete block cisterns leak and a substantial amount of water is lost throughout the year.

During our stay in Guatemala, RoseAnn Meier and Andrea Olson were able to conduct multiple home visits in Los Vasquez. They were able to speak and pray with the residents of the village and give them wooden crosses lovingly made by Cross View member, Stephen Koepcke. The people of Los Vasquez loved the crosses!

On Thursday, the last day we were in Los Vasquez, we were told of a second source of water. This is a spring below

the village. After a fifteen-minute walk down the mountain, we were able to see that this spring actually produced clear water that some of the local men were drinking the water without boiling. The rest of the day on Thursday was spent preparing the "asado," the community meal. Fortunately, we had a lot of help in preparing the meal. The Cross View Mission Team served 540 men, women and children from Los Vasquez!

Los Vasquez is a wonderful village that has so much potential. We thank God for the many strong Christians in this village. The people of Los Vasquez are praying for you the members of Cross View. We ask that you pray for the people of Los Vasquez. Please also pray for the Cross View Guatemala Mission Team as they continue to plan for the next mission trip in 2020. If you would like to serve on a future mission team, please contact Tom Koch or Pastor Steve. Thanks for your support and prayers that made this trip possible.









# CROSS VIEW

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

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Items for inclusion should be sent via email to [clarion@crossview.net](mailto:clarion@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](http://www.crossview.net/calendar)

## CONNECT WITH CROSS VIEW

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