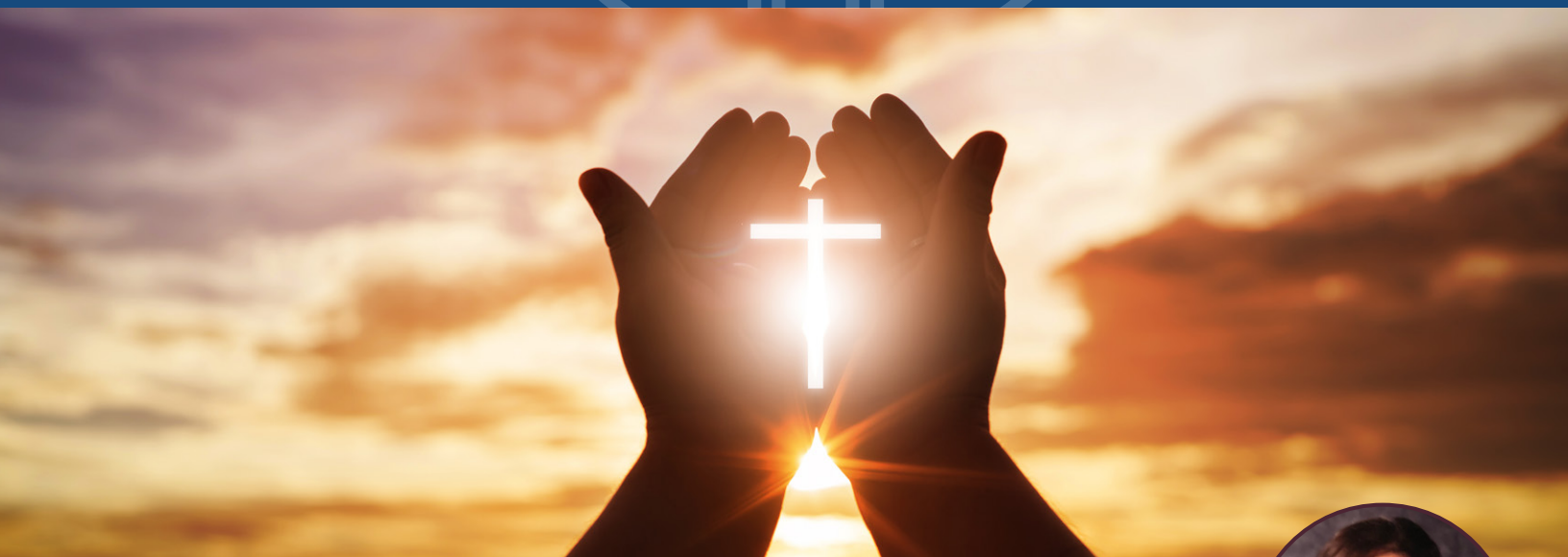


# CROSSVIEW CLARION

January 2021



**"Ask the Lord to energize you with the talents He has given you to serve the interests of the Gospel with the world today." -Julie Pos**



## Reflect on Your Relationship with God

**by Julie Pos, Preschool Teacher/ECC Office Assistant**

As we look to a new year, we will struggle to not look back on all the historic events we faced in 2020. In Philippians 3:13b it reads, "Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead."

- State shut down
- Restaurants closed
- Stores boarded up
- Curfews for the Twin Cities
- Vacations were cancelled
- Masks were required
- Family gatherings and holidays were minimal

God knew every one of those events was going to take place and He is aware of what we will encounter and face in our future (Jeremiah 29:11). So, as we look to making 2021 a better year, let us consider making it a year to remember the following.

*Who you are:* God's child

*Why you are here:* To serve and glorify Him

*Where you are going:* Heaven, where you will spend eternity in His presence.

As God's child, listen to the Lord, take time for



your relationship to grow with Him daily, and ask the Lord to purify your heart and open your eyes to His good and perfect will. “Yet to all who received Him, to those who believed in His name, He gave the right to become children of God.” (John 1:12).

As a servant of the Lord, be reminded that Jesus also lived His life on earth as a servant. The perfect example of a servant. Jesus asks us to be servants and for us to glorify Him and increase God’s Kingdom. Ask the Lord to energize you with the talents He has given you to serve the interests of the Gospel with

the world today (Philippians 2:5-7).

As a future resident of Heaven, God extends to us all the rights and privileges of our heavenly citizenship. Let that assurance encourage you to live each day for His glory. Let it also remind you to rely on the Lord’s heavenly provisions. Philippians 3:20 reads, “Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ.”

Blessings to you in 2021!

## Financial Update – Year-to-Date Results

- Cross View’s Paycheck Protection Program loan (Church: \$167,134 and ECC: \$206,066) has been forgiven and paid in full by the Small Business Administration.
- Those amounts are now included in Total Income resulting in the church being \$162,528 greater than budget and ECC being \$88,203 over budget.
- Year to date contributions are 87% of budget while expenses have been managed to 88% of budget.
- November contributions were \$51,451 less than budget while expenses were over budget by \$3,431.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
November 30, 2020	2020 Actual Year to Date	2020 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Greater (Less)
<b>Total Income</b>	\$1,213,446	\$1,194,861	\$18,585
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$1,083,644	\$1,227,587	(\$143,943)
<b>General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	\$129,802	(\$32,726)	\$162,528

Total Income includes PPP Loan Forgiveness proceeds of \$167,134 in principal and \$2,331 in interest.

### *Farewell Celebration for Christine Eid January 10th*

Cross View will celebrate Christine’s 30+ years of service to LCMS congregations, including 13+ years at Cross View, with a Card Shower Sunday, January 10th. While COVID-19 prevents gathering around food and drink, we can still deliver our thanks through cards of appreciation. Let’s shower Christine with personal cards of thanks. Members can drop off cards at the Church Office or mail them to Cross View Lutheran Church, Attn: Finance Office. Personal cards of appreciation as well as cards with a donation inside, if you are so moved and able, will be presented to Christine on Sunday, January 10th.

The card drop-off deadline is noon, Friday, January 8th. Questions? Contact Renee Kirchner in the church office at 952-234-2045 with questions.

# 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 presentation of "Christmas at the Movies."



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

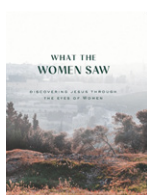
"Welcome to the Lord's Table" is a Sunday class for 5th graders and parents in preparation for their first communion. Class begins Sunday, February 14, with first communion on Maundy Thursday, April 1. Details for class will be mailed out to families soon.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

While the goal at Cross View is to start having classes meet in person, Sunday School will remain in the home for the month of January. Materials/lessons will be emailed to parents. More information and a start date for resuming in person classes will be available in January.

## NEW WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY

Women of CV, ring in the New Year by joining us for a virtual Women's Bible study! We'll meet (via Zoom) on **Tuesday evenings, beginning January 5, from 7:30–8:45 PM**, and concludes February 9. Our new study is titled, "What the Women Saw."

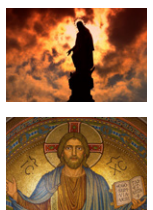


In this study, we'll discover Jesus through the unique perspective of women in the Bible. As we study the lives of Mary, Martha, Mary Magdalene and others, we'll learn from their faith and failures and can be reminded that Jesus cared for and valued the women He was surrounded by. He equipped them, listened to them, walked with them, healed them and empowered them. And He does the same for each of us today! Vicki Weber will be facilitating this study. Contact her for more information by email at [mvweber1@yahoo.com](mailto:mvweber1@yahoo.com).

You can register online through Cross View Connect. Just [click this link](#).

## THE HOLINESS OF GOD

Do you ever wonder why people are both fascinated and terrified by a holy God? Join us for this 6-week series as we explore the meaning of holiness, God's character, new insights on sin, justice, and grace. Together we'll come out on the other side with a new awareness of our dependence upon God's mercy and a discovery of the awesomeness of His majestic holiness.



"The holiness of God affects every aspect of our lives—economics, politics, athletics, romance—everything with which we are involved." — Dr. R.C. Sproul

Dr. Marc Johnson will be facilitating this study series. Contact him for more information at [solalogos@gmail.com](mailto:solalogos@gmail.com).

**Sundays, 9:30–10:30 AM, January 10–February 14, online**

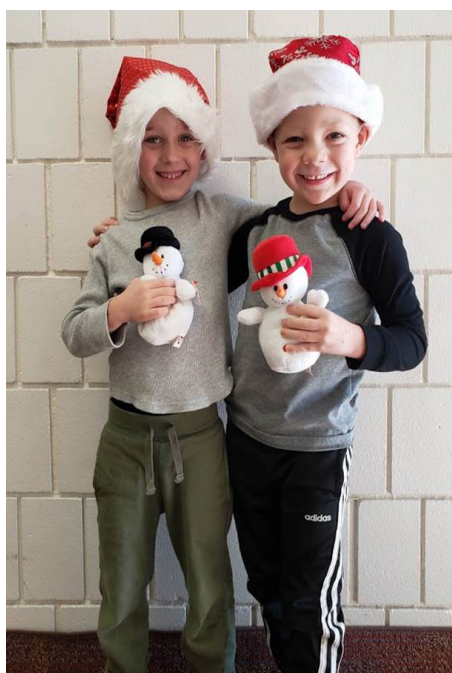
You can register online through Cross View Connect. Just [click this link](#).

# Early Childhood Center

## ECC CELEBRATES CHRISTMAS

The Early Childhood Center ended the 2020 year with a Christmas program on video and classroom Christmas parties to celebrate Christ's birth. Each classroom did an individual Christmas program this year to celebrate Christ's birth. The link was then sent out to all families so they could enjoy it in the comfort of their own home. The Christmas parties are an annual event in the classrooms, where the children have special activities, fun games and a yummy treat. Santa also came to visit the children and each child had their picture taken with him (socially distanced of course).

We look forward to the direction God will lead us in 2021, and also give Him thanks and praise for all the blessings in 2020.



## STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips laypeople to provide one-to-one Christian care to people in our congregation and community who are experiencing difficulties in their lives. Stephen Ministry is a confidential ministry. The identity of those receiving care and everything they discuss with a Stephen Minister remain private.

A Stephen Minister is...

- A child of God who walks beside someone who is hurting.
- A congregation member who is carefully selected to serve in this role because of his or her caregiving gifts.
- A layperson with 50 hours of training in providing high-quality, distinctively Christian care.
- A caring Christian friend who listens, cares, prays, supports, and encourages.
- Someone who meets faithfully each week with his or her care receiver for as long as there's a need.

If you need a Stephen Minister, or are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact one of the Pastors.

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

-Galatians 6:2

## Women's Ministries

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

The Women's Book Club will meet online using Zoom on Monday, January 18th at 1:00 PM. We have chosen *Small Great Things* by Jodi Picoult to read and discuss. Contact Marcy at [mpnordhus@gmail.com](mailto:mpnordhus@gmail.com) if you have any questions or wish to join.



# Outreach & Missions

## ADVENT IN A BOX

Thank you to everyone who helped with the Advent in a Box.

Lots of parents and families have been telling us how much they have enjoyed the Advent in a Box. Parents have been sharing with the ECC preschool teachers. Church families have been posting on social media. Other families who signed up to receive the box or are from Trinity First School or POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach), have sent emails letting Cross View know how much they appreciate the activities inside. Everyone has shared about how much they have enjoyed these opportunities to learn more about Jesus, Advent, and Christmas, and have fun at the same time.

Here are some quotes from families:

- "This has been such a nice way to gather each week - thank you!"
- "We've enjoyed the fun activities. Balloons are always a hit! And jingle bells :)"
- "We also really like the movie discussion ideas - thank you!"
- "The advent in a box has been nice. We have modified it to fit our 3-1/2 year old, June. We did peace today and she loved making the snowflake craft."

Join us as we give thanks to God for the opportunities and blessings these boxes have brought families to grow in the faith and give praise to the Christ Child.



## TRINITY FIRST THANKSGIVING – THANK YOU!

A big thank you, and thank God, for all the Cross View servants who helped with the Trinity First Thanksgiving Turkey-Takeout bags! Here are some thank you notes from Trinity First Lutheran School staff and students.

Dear Family at Cross View,

I am so thankful for you and the decades-long partnership in sharing the real-tangible love of Christ with everyone at Trinity First! I am humbled by your personal care and gift. Thank you so much for sharing your love with us!

Your Sister in Christ,

Sarah W.

Dear Members of Cross View,

Thank you for the many blessings you have given to Trinity First for so many years. We are so thankful for the ways you show His love to our school families. While we are sad that COVID-19 will deep us apart this year, we are so thankful for the creative way to keep our Thanksgiving banquet going. Thank you especially for the Aldi gift card. It was a special surprise. Your generous gift is both humbling and encouraging.

Thank you again. We are truly blessed

Mark & Chrissy T.

Thank you for your support of our ministry at Trinity First. We continue to give thanks for the opportunities God gives us to witness in our neighborhood. Over the years, the sharing of your congregation's talents, time, and treasure has been a blessing to our ministry at TFL.

Looking forward to sharing Thanksgiving with you next year!

Steve D., longtime member at TFL

## Merry Christmas

Dear Friend in Jesus,

Merry Christmas!  
Thank you for helping us,  
respecting, encouraging,  
and showing love. We  
hope you are safe  
and healthy. God loves



you more than you can imagine. Because  
of you, we get to learn about Jesus  
at TFL. We can't wait to see you again. We  
hope you know you make a big difference  
here at TFL. May the Lord bless and  
keep you safe.



Jesus Loves you,

Servantes

## WELCOME MAT A WORK IN PROGRESS

The new Welcome MAT ministry presented in the last two Clarion issues is still in the planning stage, but we are making great headway! The ministry's design team, consisting of Tonya Bushey, Sue Harrison, Barb Martenson, Gregg Poppe, Phil Johnson and Pastor Steve Wheeler, has continued to meet over the past months to fine tune the goals we have for getting the new ministry implemented. Getting people connected is at the heart of our planned relaunching of the welcome ministry. We want to assist visitors in answering any questions they may have and let them know that Cross View is a place where they belong. Our goal is to not only make their first visitor experience a great one, but to help them find a point of connection that will make them want to come back again.

As noted in the previous article, we had hoped that we could launch this ministry in the middle of the first quarter of 2021, but, as you are all aware, the current surge in COVID-19 cases in our area has made us take a more realistic approach

to implementation. The launch is now being tentatively pushed to the third quarter of 2021 in hopes that, by then, there will be a shift in resuming somewhat normal activities. The design team will still be meeting until then, continuing to work on goals, recruiting Welcome MAT members and facilitating the training for the ministry.

As you can imagine, we will need an active, coordinated response from the congregation to make this a success. The response to date has been minimal, which we understand due to the current circumstances that are dictating our lives. We are reaching out to all members to prayerfully consider being a part of this exciting new ministry. If you would like to volunteer, please reach out to any of the design team members listed below. We need you and look forward to growing Christ's Kingdom with you!

Sue Harrison, [kharrison1111@gmail.com](mailto:kharrison1111@gmail.com) (713) 269-9657

Tonya Bushey, [tonyabushey@gmail.com](mailto:tonyabushey@gmail.com) (612) 716-5583

Barb Martenson, [blynnmart@gmail.com](mailto:blynnmart@gmail.com) (952) 240-3597

## Handbell Choir

The handbell choir is exploring rehearsals beginning January 13th, 2021. Our tentative plan is:

### January 13, 20, & 27

- 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Rehearsals in the sanctuary
- Play in worship live or via video, Sunday, January 31

### February 3 & 10:

- 6:30 – 7:30 PM
- Rehearsals in the sanctuary
- Play in worship live or via video, Wednesday, February 17 (Ash Wednesday)

Interested in joining the group? Please contact Sue Quist, Director of Music & Fine Arts, at [sue@crossview.net](mailto:sue@crossview.net).



## Voters' Assembly Meeting

### January 17, 2021

Please join us for our Voter's Assembly meeting on January 17th at noon at Cross View. The meeting agenda will include results from the 2020 year-end financial results and the 2021 budget. Full agenda to come.

## THANK YOU!

*The Cross View staff extends our sincere appreciation to the members and friends of Cross View for your Christmas cards and gifts.*

*Your continued support and encouragement lifted us through the challenges of 2020. We are blessed and thankful for the opportunity to serve as your ministry partners in our various areas. We look forward to working with you in 2021 as we continue Christ's mission at Cross View, in our community and in the world.*

## Update on the water study in Los Vasquez, Guatemala!

Guatemala and a large portion of Central America were recently damaged by the two hurricanes/tropical storms. As you have probably seen in the news, there was significant damage done, both to homes and infrastructure. The road just inside the village of Los Vasquez, was washed out. This prevented traffic traveling from La Union, the largest city nearby, to pass through Los Vasquez and to the rest of

the province.

In addition to the hurricanes/tropical storms, Covid-19 is affecting our brothers and sisters in Guatemala. Both Guatemala City and Antigua, have been hit hard by the second wave of the virus. Fortunately, Los Vasquez and La Union, have escaped this second wave, so far.

The water study for Los Vasquez was delayed due to the road being washed

out. Ironically, the ground was too wet to begin the water study. The engineering company has since sent their water assessment team to Los Vasquez and has begun the water study project. We are looking forward to receiving the water study report in either January or February 2021.

Please continue to pray for our brothers and sisters, in Christ, living in Los Vasquez, Guatemala.



## Thank You!

*I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone at Cross View for your support in children's ministries over the last 13 years. It has truly been an honor and privilege to serve beside you as we share the message of God's love to all ages. I pray God's richest blessings upon everyone as you continue to connect with other Christians, grow in God's Word, and serve each other and the community. The body of Christ is big, and yet, in some ways it is small, and with that knowledge I know that we will continue to be in touch and be able to support one another. May 2021 be a rich and abundant year for you all.*

*Your sister in Christ,  
Christine Eid*





# CROSS VIEW

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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor  
952-941-5453, [steve@crossview.net](mailto:steve@crossview.net)

Rev. Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor  
952-243-2053, [toby@crossview.net](mailto:toby@crossview.net)

Christine Eid, Children's Ministry  
952-243-2062, [christine@crossview.net](mailto:christine@crossview.net)

Jonathan Zellar, Youth & Young Adults Ministries  
952-243-2047, [jonathan@crossview.net](mailto:jonathan@crossview.net)

Stacey LaMere, Early Childhood Center  
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Renee Kirchner, Church Administration  
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José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Harrison Lawrence, Organist  
[harrison@crossview.net](mailto:harrison@crossview.net)

Paula Wilson, Interim Lead Vocalist - Contemporary

Julie Sherman, President

Nadar & Georgette Alaraj, POBLO

The *Clarion* is published monthly by Cross View Lutheran Church.  
Items for inclusion should be sent via email to [clarion@crossview.net](mailto:clarion@crossview.net).

## GROW WITH CROSS VIEW

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional Worship  
in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary  
Worship in the Great  
Commission Room

**Both services are also  
available via [live stream](#).**

### SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

### OFFICE HOURS

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

### 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

6645 McCauley Trail West  
Edina, MN, 55439-1076

952-941-1094 (Office)  
952-941-5513 (FAX)  
952-941-0009 (ECC)



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