

# CROSS VIEW CLARION

June 2022



**"If a child doesn't have their faith strongly developed by age thirteen it becomes increasingly difficult for faith to develop." -Barb Coffin**

## Developing Faith in Children

**by Deaconess Barb Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry**

I am excited to write my first Clarion article and share a little bit about me and my initial experiences in Minnesota. Thank you for all the care in making my family's and my arrival here so welcoming. I am always being asked, "How do you like it here in Minnesota?" Well, besides the six months of very cold weather, I enjoy it here. I love seeing all the trees and pretty lakes. My family and I are proud to be here and make Cross View our home. As my family and I transition here, Christ has been with us the entire way.

I accepted the call to Cross View as your Director of Children's Ministry because Cross

View is very welcoming to families and children. You don't just talk about teaching and loving on kids...you actually do it. I came because I want to support you and join you in this mission.

If a child doesn't have their faith strongly developed by age thirteen it becomes increasingly difficult for faith to develop. This is why children's ministry is very important. Please come along side of me and pray for the children of Cross View. Please pray for the parents and guardians of these precious children as they are the key faith shapers of the children. Pray also for our summer programming of Vacation Bible School and Music

and Art Camp where we can come alongside these children and help shape their faith.

Let's pray together: *Dearest Lord, thank you for your precious children that you dearly love. Please use the two upcoming events of VBS and Music and Art Camp to draw these children closer to you. Please develop*

*in them lifelong faiths. Lord, please provide for the volunteers to serve these children. May all that we do be to your glory and to the spreading of your kingdom. Amen.*

Thank you for a wonderful start to my call here to Cross View. I am blessed to be able to serve along such a godly congregation and staff.

## Financial Update Year-to-Date Results

- April 2022 member contributions were 121% of budget or \$30,093 greater than budgeted!
- Year to Date member contributions are 1% below budget however \$57,185 above what was given for the first four months of 2021.
- April expenses were \$3,382 more than budgeted, primarily due to higher missions payments tied to greater member contributions.
- Year-to-date Net Surplus is \$11,291 less than budgeted and \$6,672 less than the same period for 2021.
- ECC income was favorable and expenses unfavorable to budget, resulting in a net surplus better than budgeted by \$15,989
- A second disbursement of \$25,192 from the Redeeming Christmas fund for the Los Vasquez water project was made. A total of \$54,610 has now been disbursed.

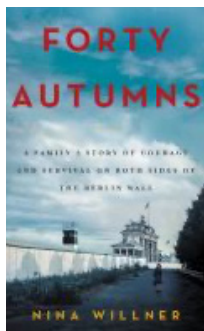
4/30/22	2022 Actual Year to Date	2022 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Greater (Less)
Total Income	\$472,017	\$476,502	(\$4,485)
Total Expenses	\$468,091	\$461,285	\$6,806
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$3,926	\$15,217	(\$11,291)

Cross View 4.0 Building Campaign	
Contributions Received in the Month: 4/30/22	\$150
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$1,098
Less: Loan Balance to be Repaid:	(\$550,000)
Net Balance in Restored! Fund	(\$548,902)

## Women's Ministry

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

In June, the women's book club will be reading and discussing *Forty Autumns* by Nina Willner. They will meet at church on Monday, June 20, at 1:00 PM in room 120. Please use lower-level doors as they will be open for members. Please contact Marcy ([mpnordhus@gmail.com](mailto:mpnordhus@gmail.com)) if you have questions or are interested in joining.



## Tuition Support

Cross View supports member families who send their children to Cross View's Early Childhood Center, LCMS elementary and secondary schools and adults enrolled in professional church worker programs in post-secondary institutions and seminaries. As a congregation, we feel that it is important to commit ourselves to members who seek this kind of educational experience. Therefore, the congregation annually budgets for tuition assistance and the Early Childhood Center has a line item in their budget for reduced tuition.

### Application Timeline and Process:

Families and individuals seeking tuition support for elementary and secondary schools and post-secondary institutions

and seminaries shall apply annually by completing a Commitment Form. The application period is June 1–July 1 of each year. Forms are available online [by clicking here](#), at the church office, or by emailing Renee Kirchner in the church office ([renee@crossview.net](mailto:renee@crossview.net)).

The Tuition Assistance Ministry Action Team (MAT) will review membership and attendance records to determine eligibility. Tuition support is determined annually and is based upon funds available and number of applicants.

**Notification and Payment:** Eligible applicants and their learning institutions will be notified of the tuition assistance amount in August of each year.



## Christian Education

### EVERYONE HIS WITNESS

**SUNDAYS MORNINGS, 9:30–10:30 AM**

**MAY 8 & 15 AND JUNE 5–26, (ROOMS 210/211)**

Are you uncomfortable sharing your faith, or knowing when or how you might talk about Jesus? Join us for this series that's designed to equip disciples of Jesus to share the Gospel in their everyday lives with the people whom God has placed into relationships with them. We'll explore the Biblical foundation of witnessing and explore how to witness through the LASSIE approach.

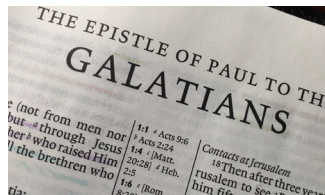
The goal of this class is familiarized you and I, Jesus' disciples, with the basics of witnessing to the people in their everyday lives. The simple truth is witnessing is all about finding that natural way of share your faith in the relationships where God has planted you as you care for others who have been broken by sin. Questions? Contact Loren Rehmer (952-447-9954) or the church office at 952-941-1094 or Pastor Toby Schmidt ([Toby@crossview.net](mailto:Toby@crossview.net)). Register for this [onsite class on CV Connect](#).

### GALATIANS

**SUNDAYS MORNINGS, 9:30–10:30 AM**

**JULY & AUGUST, (ROOMS 210/211)**

On Sundays during the discipleship hour in July and August we're going to dig into Paul's Letter to the Galatians. In his letter he addressed a number of false teachings that were running rampant in churches in Galatia. Paul's letter is just as applicable for us today because our society (and so do we) still struggles with many of the same false teachings. Join as we dig into Galatians together as Paul leads us back to the Truth revealed in Scripture and the promises of Christ. Register for this [onsite class on CV Connect](#).



## Early Childhood Center

### ECC SUMMER FUN

During the summer months in the Early Childhood Center (ECC), they have a lot of special days/events for the kids. They offer bike days and water days every month. They also bring in special guests. This year they will have llamas, an animal farm, a bubble party, a bounce house, a presentation on sharks, the Bug Guy, and an ice cream truck. Also, the teachers each take a day with a theme and make the day special for the kids. Examples of these days are Disney Character Day, Garden Day, Dress Up Day, Mud Day, and so many others. Watch for pictures during the next few Clarion newsletters to see all these activities in action for the kids.

In June the Hopper Class will have a Graduation Party. The Early Childhood Center staff wishes all 21 kids and their families the best as a new adventure is beginning in their lives.

## Children's Ministry

### SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Summer Sunday School starts June 5th at 9:30–10:30 AM. Since parents are the key faith shapers of their children, they are invited to learn alongside their children in Summer Sunday School for ages 2 to 6th grade in room 217/216. We will be diving into the Beatitudes and picking out God's promises. See the fun lesson themes below.

- June 5: Jesus calls his disciples in Matthew 4:18–22
- June 12: The crowds follow Jesus in Matthew 4:23–25
- June 19: The Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 5:1–2
- June 26: God blesses those who are poor in Matthew 5:3

## REGISTER NOW FOR VBS

**June 20–24, 2022**

**9:00 to 11:30 AM**



Ages: Three-year-olds who are potty trained through 5th grade.  
Children who are rising 6th graders can volunteer as a youth leader.

[Click here for registration](#). Cost is \$15 per child.

Contact Barb Coffin at [barb@crossview.net](mailto:barb@crossview.net) with questions.

## VBS VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS

To volunteer, please register on CV Connect, email [barb@crossview.net](mailto:barb@crossview.net), or fill out a volunteer form located on the donation board in the narthex. Also grab an item to donate on the board in the narthex while you are there. Thanks for supporting our little people and VBS!

**Attention VBS volunteers:** A volunteer training meeting will be held in room 122 on Sunday, June 5, at 9:30–10:30 AM. At this meeting we will provide an overview of the week of VBS and answer any questions.

# Youth Ministries



## CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

On Sunday, May 1st, nine young people were confirmed into the Cross View community. It was a beautiful morning and service to celebrate their reaffirmation of their baptism.

## YOUTH GROUP

Youth group for grades 9–12 will continue in person on Sunday nights. Youth group starts at 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted!

June 5 – Youth group/NYG get-together at St. Michaels (6:00 PM)

June 12 – No youth group (RSE trip)

June 19 – No youth group (Father's Day)

June 26 – Mini golf and ice cream

## 8TH GRADE WELCOME

On Sunday, May 15th, the recent confirmands were welcomed into youth group on Sunday nights with a kickball game and ice cream social! It was a blessing to have almost all of our 8th graders there and everyone had a blast!

## ROCHESTER SERVANT EVENT

On June 12th, twelve youth and adults leave for Rochester, MN, for the Rochester Servant Event. We ask that you pray for this group as they go and serve in the Rochester community!

Matthew Barton	Nathaniel Coffin	Reuben Schmidt
Vicki Barton	Don Klingel	Megan Stapf
Meggin Carlson	Erik Knudson	Liam Thompson
Vera Carlson	Micah Schmidt	Jonathan Zellar



## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

On Sunday, June 5th, we will be recognizing our High School Seniors for their accomplishments and their time in youth ministry! We hope you'll join us to celebrate these fine young people.

Alicia Stillwell	Gates Northrup	Hailey Heimkes
Jacob Farrell	Andrew Barton	Luke Daenzer
Ryan Fitzpatrick	Joe McGurgan	Lauren Marquardt
Daniel Porisch	Josiah Schmidt	Ezekiel Gorshe
Daniel Weber	Henry Bushey	Paul Wentzien



## Outreach & Missions

### POBLO UPDATE

Dear Cross View Family, we wanted to share some exciting news with you! The Lord brought an Afghani family into POBLO Twin Cities' lap (a lot more are coming as well, <https://mn.gov/dhs/afghan-evacuees/>.) They were dislocated from the recent Taliban attack and are currently residing in St. Paul. Please pray for them. They are a family of six, totally lost and alone. This is an opportunity to serve the Lord and share the Gospel. But first, the oldest son sent me the following message of their physical needs. We need your help.

- A car (for work)
- Clothes for Asal (1 year old girl)
- Clothes for Wazir Ahmad (father): Size large. Sweatpants, polo shirt, sports suit
- Clothes for Nahida (35-year-old mother): Size medium. Dress, blouses, trousers, leggings, shirt dress, blue denim jeans
- Clothes for Aseel (19 year old male): Size medium. Sports suits
- Clothes for Mudaser (13 year old boy): Size medium. Sweatpants
- Clothes for Halina (16 year old girl): Size small. Dresses, blouses, wide leg pants, shirt dress, denim drawstring joggers

Please coordinate with us to provide for them. Contact Nader ([nader@poblo.org](mailto:nader@poblo.org); 402-968-6486), Georgette ([georgette@poblo.org](mailto:georgette@poblo.org); 402-889-6162), or Shari ([shari@poblo.org](mailto:shari@poblo.org); 612-552-3878). Many blessings!

As always, we need your support — your prayers, your time, talents, and experience, and your financial support. To learn more about how to get involved with us, and the immigrants and international in our midst (in our backyard and next door), just visit our website at <https://www.poblotwincities.org/>.

We are a part of God's answer to the question, "What's Cross View Lutheran Church doing about climate change, the Afghanistan War, the Israeli/Palestinian conflict, and the humanitarian crisis in Ethiopia?"

## Music Ministry



**REGISTER TODAY**  
**MUSIC/ART CAMP**  
**JULY 25-29**

For campers who have completed  
1st thru 5th grade.

**AT CROSS VIEW • INVITE YOUR FRIENDS!**



## 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 Cross View's pastors.

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

-Galatians 6:2

# Small Group Ministry

## ENGAGING GROUP MEMBERS DURING SUMMER BREAK

*I've been working with our Small Group MAT (ministry action team) for over 3 months to plan our **RE:group** event this last weekend. In the midst of this I came across this great article by Joanna R. Loucky-Ramsey (she's a usual writer for one of our small group study options, "[Wired Word](#)" which often engages in a soul-searching Christian dialogue of contemporary issues). Her article follows, and is full of great ideas for groups to do to RE:group throughout the summer.*

If the last several months have been challenging for your group, you're not alone! Navigating relationships during a pandemic, with all the challenges of social distancing, lockdowns, and meeting each other on small screens, hasn't been easy. Many groups have experienced losses and change.

Whether or not you normally take a break over the summer months, consider how you might renew the bonds of the Spirit that connect us by spurring "one another to love and good deeds...encouraging one another" (Hebrews 10:24-25).

Be intentional about creating opportunities for meaningful and joyous interactions to counteract feelings of loneliness and isolation, lift spirits, and deepen relationships. Consider alternative ways to connect and renew friendships (through social media, pairing up, prayer/praise chain, community service, etc.).

Ask group members for input on the type and frequency of gatherings they would enjoy during the weeks you plan to vary your normal routine.

Some ideas to get you started:

### **Getting to Know You (Icebreakers):**

- **2 Truths & a Lie.** Taking turns, make three statements about yourself, two of which are true and one of which is false. Others try to guess which statement is untrue.
- **Identity.** Your dream vacation? Your favorite subject in high school? What you like to do for fun? A skill you'd like to learn? Something you're good at? The greatest challenge you've ever faced?
- **Commonalities.** Pair up with another group member. Identify 10 things you have in common. Look for deeper connections beyond the obvious.
- **Connection.** Reveal something about yourself. Someone else in the group who shares that fact in common says, "Connection," and adds a fact about themselves. Proceed in this way until everyone has made a connection with someone else.
- **Differences.** What makes you unique?
- **Sparkles.** What sparked joy for you recently?
- **Preferences.** Cats or dogs? Coffee or tea? etc.

**Outings:** Athletic events (as participants and/or spectators), state or county fairs, picnic, hike, visit a park, beach, museum, or amusement park, attend film screenings or outdoor concerts, overnight camping trip, scavenger hunt, letterboxing, geocaching.

**Volunteering:** Lend a hand in a local, national, international, or denominational service project, such as signing up for a charity walk or a fun activity (e.g., dunk tank, polar dip) to raise money for a good cause, adopt a neighborhood or section of highway to pick up litter, work at an animal shelter, a food bank or distribution center, thrift store, nature center.

**Secret Pals:** Sign up to be another group member's secret pal during the group's hiatus. Decide together what secret pals will do for each other. When regular meetings resume, see if you can guess who your secret pal was.

**How-to Class:** Teach a 10-minute lesson about something you know (how to string a guitar, quilting, weatherizing a house, juggling, origami).

**Online Sharing:** Periodically launch a new themed page on your group/church website or social media channel so participants can share documents, photos and videos of pets, recipes, collectibles, gardens, virtual home tours, brief biographies or testimonies, member brags.

**Back to the Future:** Collect and post "Then" and "Now" pictures of participants (one baby photo and one recent photo); other members try to match them.

### **Storytelling:**

- **Cliffhangers.** Tell a story about an event that happened in your life, without providing an ending. Others then try to guess what happened next.
- **Collective Creativity.** One person starts to tell a story with one sentence. Others each add a sentence to the story, until everyone has had a chance to contribute.
- **Poetic License.** Each member of the group draws the name of another participant and writes a positive poem about that person, to be shared privately with the individual or publicly in the group.
- **It's Not a Box.** Grab a random object and create an absurd one-minute story about it.

**Imagination Improvisation:** Create a band using household objects, such as pots and pans, wooden spoons, and power tools. Or one person describes a hidden picture for other members to draw in three minutes.

Some of these activities may appeal to members of your church and community who haven't participated in your small-group Bible study before. Offering a variety of activities may give you added opportunities to minister to new people.

Whatever your choices, proceed with prayer, keep it simple, and have fun! And may God bless you with new connections with others!

<https://blog.homileticonline.com/special-installment/engaging-group-members-during-summer-break/>



## LIFE BEYOND YOUR SPHERE OF ONE

On Saturday morning, May 21, we had over 30 people come out and learn about groups (aka. RE:group) and join others in authentic relationships as they follow Jesus. Our morning started by talking about group life at Cross View, specifically small groups of disciples gathering to connect, grow, and serve together. This was followed by a delicious brunch and a heartwarming testimony from Renee Heimkes about group life, and how her small group became her family and support during her late husband's (Paul) illness, death, and her family's life afterwards. Attendees then participated in a series of mix & match activities to

see the similarities and differences they had with others (e.g., geographical location, where to meet, established, or launch group). We then broke up into established and launch groups and talked about our "group" goals over the summer. We praise God that three new launch groups were formed! About 20 people decided to join a small group at Cross View and try life together for a while.

Please keep these groups in your prayers; and if you're interested in a small group to connect, grow, and serve together please contact Jan Schrader or Carol Niemira ([jschrader1010@gmail.com](mailto:jschrader1010@gmail.com), or [carolniemira@yahoo.com](mailto:carolniemira@yahoo.com)) or Pastor Toby ([toby@crossview.net](mailto:toby@crossview.net)).





# Christian Art Festival Concludes June 3

Cross View's 38th Christian Art Festival "Creating for God's Glory" was warmly received. 45 pieces were displayed in the sanctuary, 36 molas from the Sandra Bowden Collection were displayed in the Great Commission Room, and 12 pieces from West African painter Fabrice were in the lobby. Highlights of the month were the live



paintings done by Fabrice in both worship services on May 8th. William Butler was unable to speak on May 22nd due to a family member with COVID-19. However, thank you to Cyndee Buck, a Cross View member, for the heartfelt arts presentation in his place. School groups from Agape Christi Academy and Southwest Christian High school came to view the exhibits.







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

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Jonathan Zellar, Youth Ministry  
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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

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional Worship  
in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary  
Worship in the Great  
Commission Room

*Sunday services are also  
live streamed.*

*Communion 2nd & 4th  
Sundays*

### SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

### OFFICE HOURS

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

### CALENDAR

Our most current calendar  
is always available at  
[www.crossview.net/calendar](http://www.crossview.net/calendar)

## CONNECT

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