

CROSS VIEW CLARION

May 2022

"The mission of the Christian Art Festival is to creatively communicate... our loving, growing relationship with Christ." -Sue Quist



Cross View's 38th Christian Art Festival Creating for God's Glory

by Sue Quist, Director of Music & Fine Arts

Cross View is excited to celebrate the return of the festival after a two-year break. In addition to Cross View's yearly Festival Art Exhibit featuring art by regional artists that is displayed in the Sanctuary, two additional exhibits will be featured:

- Eden to Eternity, Molas from the San Blas Islands
- Faith and Culture — Art from West Africa

The mission of the Christian Art Festival is to creatively communicate to the world around us our loving, growing relationship with Christ and bring glory to God with our gifts of creativity through the art form used and content of the work.



Eden to Eternity, Molas from the San Blas Islands

On loan from the Sandra Bowden Collection



The mola is the signature textile craft of the Cuna Indian women of the San Blas Islands, an archipelago of more than 300 islands on Panama's northern coast. Developed to provide elaborate front and back fabric panels for the traditional blouse worn by the women, the technique involves a process of reverse applique which combines layers of brightly colored fabrics stitched together and then cut into intricate patterns, exposing colors from underlying layers. The top layer is typically treated with both direct applique and embroidery to create an even richer surface. Animals and marine life are common motifs for the molas, as are geometric and mythological patterns. The collection in this exhibition features whimsical interpretations of Biblical stories and symbols.

Faith and Culture — Art from West Africa

Exhibit by Togo artist Fabrice Eteka



Fabrice Eteka was born, raised, and learned art in Togo, a small town in west Africa. His main inspiration is from Africa and all the things he has seen in different countries. Now as an American citizen, he connects the reality and abstract to express his ideas. His life experiences and his faith in God inspire the artwork.

Nationally Known Artist William Butler Presentation, May 22, 9:30 AM

William Butler is an established, nationally known artist living and working in Camden, NJ. He creates beautiful, inspirational commissioned, live, and studio artwork. His paintings have been purchased from coast to coast. William's paintings are luminous and layered embedded with themes of inspiration and hope. He brings more than 25 years of experience as an artist and a graphic designer to each painting.

On May 22nd, guest speaker William Butler will share his family's story of moving from the Midwest to Camden ten years ago and how his creative gifts and art are making a positive impact on the community. Plan to attend this presentation Sunday, May 22, at 9:30 AM. For more information on his art, check out <https://thomaslift.com/william-butler>.



Financial Update

Year-to-Date Results

- March 2022 member contributions were 97% of budget or \$2,868 less than budgeted.
- Year to Date member contributions are 10% below budget and 3% (-\$9,254) below what was given for the first three months of 2021.
- March expenses were \$7,262 less than budgeted.
- Year-to-date Net Surplus is \$37,876 less than budgeted
- and \$58,745 less than the same period for 2021.
- ECC income and expenses are favorable to budget, resulting in a net surplus better than budgeted by \$16,207
- The 4.0 Capital Campaign received contributions of \$14,235, which was sufficient to pay off the short-term bridge loan!

3/31/22	2022 Actual Year to Date	2022 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Greater (Less)
Total Income	\$300,295	\$334,746	(\$34,451)
Total Expenses	\$351,872	\$348,447	\$3,425
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$51,577)	(\$13,701)	(\$37,876)

Cross View 4.0 Building Campaign

Contributions Received in the Month:	\$14,235
3/31/22	
Balance in Campaign Savings Account:	\$8,252
Less: Remaining Costs to Complete:	(\$6,453)
Less: Bridge (Short Term) Loan to be Repaid:	\$0
Funds Available for Wish List:	\$1,799

Restored! Commitment Sunday – May 22

Our Restored! campaign is underway! With the same dedication and unity that we came together for the recent "Cross View 4.0" building project, we now delight in the opportunity to commit our financial support towards the restoration of the older portion of our building. The roof, HVAC units, and brick & mortar were all repaired or replaced last summer following a unanimous congregational vote to draw on our bridge loan. Funds collected from this capital campaign will be used to pay back the \$550,000 bridge loan.

If you did not pick up your campaign packet at church on April 24, please be looking in your mailbox for a white 6" x 9" envelope with the Restored! logo in the return address label. If you did not receive a packet in the mail,

please contact the church office and we can get one to you, with our apologies for the delay.

If you have any questions, please plan to attend one of our town hall meetings:

- Sunday, May 1 at 12:00 PM
- Tuesday, May 3 at 6:30 PM

Please prayerfully consider how you can help contribute to this campaign to fund these now-finished repair projects.

We will all commit our pledges as an act of worship on Sunday, May 22. If you cannot be present that day, we ask that you send in your pledge card by May 31. Thank you for helping us to restore Cross View!



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). Register for this [onsite class on CV Connect](#).

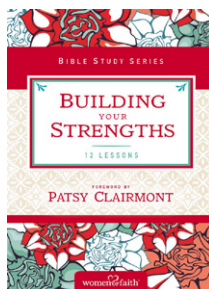
BUILDING YOUR STRENGTHS: WHO AM I IN GOD'S EYES?

A WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

MONTHLY ON THE FIRST MONDAY

9:30 AM, (ROOM 218)

Monday, May 2, is the last study before this group takes the summer off (June-August.) Then, they start back up again on September 12 and every FIRST Monday of the



month through the school year.

Join us as we read and discuss chapters from *Building Your Strengths: Who Am I in God's Eyes?* This book and study guide is available from Amazon. Questions? Contact Marcy Nordhus at (mpnordhus@gmail.com). [Register for this onsite class on CV Connect](#).



WHAT IS CV CONNECT AND HOW DO I USE IT?

Join us Sunday, May 8, from 9:30–10:30 AM in room 209 to learn how to register online for events, upload a recent picture to your CV Connect profile, check your financial giving, and more. Questions? Contact Ann Ryan (annryan@hotmail.com) or Pastor Toby (toby@crossview.net). Register for this onsite class [here on CV Connect](#).

Early Childhood Center

Notice of Nondiscriminatory Policy As to Students

Cross View Early Childhood Center admits students of any race, color, national and ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs, and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national and ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, admission policies, and athletic and other school-administered programs.



ECC UPDATE

The Early Childhood Center celebrated the Week of the Young Child in April. The celebration included a magic show, dress up day, a dance party, and pajama day. The children enjoyed all the events throughout the week.

On April 14th we had our Easter Parties. Each classroom had their own party to celebrate Jesus. See photos at the right.

Children's Ministry

SUNDAY SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

On Sunday, May 15, all the Sunday School classrooms, Little Lambs to 6th grade, will be open for parents to visit. Please come from 9:30–10:30 AM and see what your kiddos have been learning all year in Sunday School.

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

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 starting June 5th at 9:30-10:30 AM in room 216/217. We will be diving into the Beatitudes and picking out God's promises in them with active learning experiences, interactive Bible stories, and life applications.

PARENT CORNER



Look here monthly for tips and resources to help you be your child's key faith shaper at home!

Fun ideas to do as families

- 1. Attend Sunday School as a family.** There are classes (9:30 AM at church) for adults at the same time as children ages 3 to high school.
- 2. Share highs and lows for the day.** Ask how your child saw God working today.
- 3. Play tourist.** Grab a tourist book from your library and take in the sites. Take lots of pictures, buy candied apples, and enjoy an ice cream cone. What tourists do best is to enjoy wasting time.
- 4. Ask your child how they can be a Disciple for Jesus at their school today.** Maybe they can befriend a new

kid or help someone carry their heavy load of books.

- 5. Colorful leaves collection walk.** Take a walk to have them collect different colored leaves. Return home and pick a handful to put up.
- 6. Google the state parks around you and plan for a 30-minute "hike."** To keep kids entertained, tell them to look out for banana slugs, squirrels, birds, or lizards. Make a big deal when they find one. It keeps them walking and busy. Distance is not the goal. Just time together.
- 7. Involve the Community.** Invite your neighbors to form a costume parade. Publicize a time for families to meet and parade through the neighborhood. Discourage scary costumes.

VBS REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

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.](#)

Register by May 29 to guarantee receiving a t-shirt.

Cost is \$15 per child

Contact Barb Coffin at barb@crossview.net with questions

VBS VOLUNTEERS & DONATIONS

To volunteer, please [register on CV Connect](#), email 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!

Music Ministry

CROSS VIEW WELCOMES AMY GUNDERMANN!

On April 24th, Amy Gundermann begins her service as Cross View's Contemporary Worship Team Leader. The primary responsibilities of the Contemporary Worship Team Leader are to serve as the lead vocal, lead weekly rehearsals with vocalists and musicians, carry out the scheduling of vocalists and musicians for each worship service, to send out needed communications, to ensure copyright compliance and music distribution to vocalists and band members, to ensure lyrics are sent to the church office in a timely manner (as well as any edits that may result from the weekly rehearsals), to schedule paid musicians when needed to fill the schedule, and to work with the senior pastor and the staff liaison to plan songs for the upcoming worship services (incorporating them into the schedule).



Amy is a graduate of Concordia University, Saint Paul. She is certified as a Director of Christian Outreach, but also majored in vocal performance. Not only is Amy a gifted vocalist, but she also plays piano, guitar, and violin. Most recently, Amy served as the Worship Music Leader at St. Stephanus Lutheran Church in Frogtown (a neighborhood in St. Paul) from 2015-2021. She loves the theater arts and served as an actor for the Rochester Children's Theatre (in Rochester, NY) from 2010-2013. She also possesses gifts in administration and communications. In the past she has served as the Administration and Communications Coordinator for LINC-Twin Cities, the Associate Executive Director for the Franklin Community Development Center, and as the Executive Director for the Lexington-Hamline Community Council.

Amy has a lovely family that is also very musically gifted. No doubt, you will see them participating as a part of Cross View's praise team. We are so blessed to have Amy join our ministry team. Let's all give her a very warm Cross View welcome!



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

Youth Ministries

YOUTH GROUP

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

May 1 – Youth Group at Cross View

May 8 – No Youth Group (Mother's Day)

May 15 – Youth Group at Cross View (*8th graders welcome*)

May 22 – Youth Group at Cross View

May 29 – No Youth Group (*Memorial Day weekend*)

Youth Families: Please watch for the summer calendar of events to come out this month.

JUNIOR HIGH TRANSITION EVENT

On April 24th, Cross View's 6th through 8th graders engaged in a Bible study following the life, trials, and changes in the Apostle Paul's life. It was a great event to build fellowship opportunities for our current junior high youth and the incoming class of 6th graders.



LENTEN DINNERS

Thank you! Thank you, thank you, thank you! Lenten Dinners and Easter Breakfast were a resounding success because of everyone who volunteered and participated. This year we were able to raise over \$5000 for the youth who are attending the National Youth Gathering this summer in Houston, TX. We greatly appreciate the love and support shown to our youth.

NYG TEAM BUILDING CURLING EVENT

On Sunday April 24th our group that is attending the National Youth Gathering went curling at the Chaska Curling Center. It was a great time to try something new and work on getting to know our group as we prepare for our trip.



A Thank You from Sam Ruth

Cross View,

During the last several months, I have served at Cross View as a field worker, a student from Concordia University-Saint Paul that has been a part of your congregation and has learned a great deal through observations and teachings. I am so grateful for my time here as well as all I have learned through Cross View.

I want to express my gratitude for Cross View's congregation and leadership as they have all contributed to the growth I have experienced over the past months. Cross View's youth program has given me opportunities to learn, observe, and teach — giving me a far greater understanding of ministry than I ever would have received in a classroom. Youth are the group that I want to work with most and I am so happy that I got to learn so much from the youth and the adults who help lead the youth programs.

I greatly appreciate all the guidance, help, and encouragement that has been given to me while I've been at Cross View. Pastors Steve and Toby have been amazing role models and have offered advice and guidance when I have needed it. DCE Jon Zellar and Deaconess Barb Coffin have been instrumental in my learning an experience here at Cross View. I also want to thank the whole of the congregation for being open and welcoming to me during this time. I hope others in my program feel the same joy at their congregations as I have had at Cross View.

Thank you so much.

In Christ,
Samuel C. Ruth

Women's Ministry

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

In May, the women's book club will be reading and discussing *The Violets of March* by Sarah Jio. They will meet at church on Monday, May 16, at 1:00 PM in room 120. Please contact Marcy (mpnordhus@gmail.com) if you have questions or are interested in joining.



WOMEN'S CRAFTING RETREAT

The Women's Crafting Retreat was held at Good Earth Village March 24–27. Thirteen women attended, which included Cross View members as well as friends and family of those members. There were a lot of amazing projects worked on by the group including scrapbooking, cross stitching, quilting, card making, and diamond art painting. The group took time for devotions each morning and evening where they learned how to live a life of worship. Socializing, hiking, and good meals were also enjoyed.



Small Group Ministry

RE:GROUP ON SATURDAY, MAY 21

Looking for life beyond your sphere of one? Maybe you already have them – authentic relationships you can rely on to grow and serve as you follow Jesus. Or perhaps you need to find and cultivate such friends. Saturday, May 21, from 9:00–11:30 AM in the Great Commission Room, Cross View's small groups MAT is hosting RE:group, a time for re-energizing established small groups and for launching new ones.

If you are a member of a small group, join us and renew your ties! If you are seeking a small group in which to connect, grow, and serve, come get in one of the new launch groups. Sign up for the [RE:group Brunch](#) on CV Connect or at the Event Registration desk. If you are hoping to join one of the new launch groups, complete the [Small Group Interest Inquiry](#) on CV Connect or stop at the Event Registration desk by May 10 to find out how to sign up. Questions? Contact Jan Schrader (jschrader1010@gmail.com), Carol Niemira (carolniemira@yahoo.com), or Pastor Toby (toby@crossview.net).

SMALL GROUP MAT LOOKING TO EXPAND

Cross View's Small Group MAT (Ministry Action Team) has been meeting recently to create a process to launch new groups and plan ways to foster healthy groups once they are established. The Small Groups MAT is seeking individuals to be part of this MAT to support people in small groups as they build authentic relationships with Jesus and each other by growing spiritually and serving others in love. We would love for you to prayerfully consider being a part of this MAT. Contact Carol Niemira (carolniemira@yahoo.com), Jan Schrader (jschrader1010@gmail.com), or Pastor Toby (toby@crossview.net) if you would be interested in becoming involved.

Outreach & Missions

WATER FOR LOS VASQUEZ, GUATEMALA, WORK HAS BEGUN!

The faithful community of Los Vasquez gathered for an outdoor prayer service to celebrate the kickoff of the Water for Los Vasquez project. Since this prayer service celebrating the kickoff, great progress has been made on the water project. Work on Phase I of the project is ahead of schedule.

Collaboration with the municipality of La Union has been reestablished and the mayor has now volunteered workers and heavy equipment to assist with the project. As you can see from the photographs, a backhoe was used to prepare the ground for the main holding tank. The members of the community were originally planning on digging this by hand. Needless to say, there were a lot of smiling faces when the backhoe arrived!

The main holding tank is now 30% completed.

Our brother Helio was able to negotiate with a local supplier and was able to upgrade the size of the pipe from the collection site to the main holding tank at no additional cost. This pipe was originally to be 2 inches in diameter and will now be 3 inches in diameter. The installation of the piping from the collection site to the main holding tank was scheduled to be completed by April 9th. This pipe section is over a mile long. All the digging required to bury the piping was dug by hand.



We thank and praise God that there have been no mishaps or injuries on the job site since the project began. Please keep praying for our brothers and sisters in Los Vasquez as they continue working on this project.

VISITING MISSIONARY – REV. DR. FUNG LO.

On Sunday April 24, our ministry partner, Pastor Fung Lo, shared with us our purpose in life. He challenged us in our role as “Ambassadors for Christ” (based on 2 Cor 5:17-21.) Pastor Fung Lo also shared about everything that is going on with Hmong International Mission (HIM). God has been busy in the lives of the Hmong people in Southeast Asia.

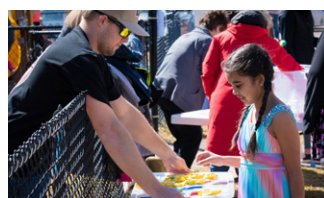
If you are looking for a ministry to get involved in globally consider HIM. They need your prayers and financial support. You can partner personally with them by sending your tax-deductible donations to: Mission of Christ Network; P.O. Box 533; Concordia MO 64020 (or giving online at <https://missionofchrist.org/lo/>). Or contact Pastor Lo at lolegacy@gmail.com.



EASTERFEST CELEBRATION WELCOMES 500 VISITORS

At EasterFest on Saturday, April 9, we welcomed over 500 visitors from our community. Of those, 78% did not list Cross View as their church home. Plus, 32 (about half) of our Early Childhood Center families attended. Praise be to God!

God orchestrated everything with great weather, outdoor experiential centers (carrying Jesus' cross, seeing and feeling the nails of Jesus, and making cards to tell the Good News of the Resurrection), a storyteller, a bounce house, a petting Zoo, and of course an Easter egg hunt. This year we also had our ministry partner, POBLO (People Of the Book Lutheran Outreach), with us to raise awareness of all the good we get to do the good in our community with immigrants, internationals, and people who might seek a little help. The pictures tell how fun the morning was! Thanks to our MAT (Ministry Action Team) and all volunteers who helped in countless ways.



Lent & Holy Week Memories

by Pastor Steve Wheeler

The season of Lent and the Holy Week powerfully help us to remember and to celebrate the heart of the gospel message. We have a God who loved the world so much that He “gave” His one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. This year’s Lent and Holy Week activities were especially memorable. The Wednesday after Easter, I asked the Cross View staff to share one of their favorite memories of Lent and the Holy Week. We all struggled to name just one...there were so many! What was your favorite memory?

The season of Lent began with our youth hosting the first of many incredible Wednesday suppers. These meals facilitated much-needed weekly fellowship for the Cross View membership. About 270 people took part in our worship offerings on Ash Wednesday.

Each Wednesday and into the Holy Week, we journeyed to different locations in our series *Places of His Passion*. We visited places like Gethsemane, Gabbatha, and Golgotha. We witnessed the depth of our Savior’s love and the lengths He was willing to go to redeem us. On Sundays, we saw the Word of God intersect with experiential activities in the series *Experience His Love*. As we sought the face of God, repented of our sins, engaged in prayer, received from our God, and experienced His forgiveness, we saw the rubble of the curse of sin, death, and hell transformed into resurrection victory through an unforgettable mosaic.

The Holy Week was definitely one to remember.

On Maundy Thursday, we not only gathered to worship, but we witnessed ten of our 5th grade students from the Welcome to the Lord’s Table class receive a “Stepping Stones” blessing from their parents as well as their first communion from our Lord. At 4:30 PM on Good Friday, children and families enjoyed an interactive and age-appropriate worship service. This service equipped Cross View’s youngest members with the training, resources, and tools they needed to go and to share the story of Good Friday with others. Two traditional worship offerings that same day provided a powerful experience for Cross View members to journey to Golgotha.

Finally, on Easter Sunday, Cross View celebrated the holiest day of the Christian Church year. It was an incredibly festive day! Between the two services, we saw over 512 worshippers which was, by far, the most we have seen on a Sunday since before the pandemic. The music, the message, the singing, and the energy that filled the sanctuary boldly testified that: “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed. Alleluia!” The Easter breakfast put on by Cross View’s youth enabled about 200 people to enjoy fellowship and joy on this great day of resurrection victory.

Special thanks to everyone who contributed gifts of time, talent, and resource to make this Lent and Holy Week one to remember. We have so many reasons to give thanks to our God! So...what’s your favorite memory this Lent and Holy Week? Good luck keeping it to just one.







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

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Rev. Toby Schmidt, Associate Pastor
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Jonathan Zellar, Youth Ministry
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Amy Gundermann, Contemporary Worship Team Leader
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José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Harrison Lawrence, Organist
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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.



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

CONNECT

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