

# CROSS VIEW CLARION

May 2023

**"With prayer and the help of the Holy Spirit we need to help kids discover what it means to trust Christ and draw close to Him." - Barb Coffin**



## Sticky Faith

by Dcs. Barb Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry

Research from Fuller Institute shows that 40 to 50 percent of kids who graduate from a church or youth group will fail to stick with their faith in college. Something I have been thinking a lot about lately is family ministry and how to equip parents to be their children's main faith shapers. Since I have been helping with the middle school and youth students and have been preparing for my adult education class called Sticky Faith, I would like to use this opportunity to share a little bit about how to help a child's faith stick after they leave your household or our congregation. It is a team effort to raise up a child in the faith and that includes the entire congregation. To give credit where credit is due, all the research and quotes in this article are from the book "Sticky Faith" by Dr. Kara Powell

and Dr. Chap Clark. Sticky Faith is where a young adult's faith "sticks" with them and guides their life when they move out of their childhood support structures and begin making big decisions of their own. Research has also shown that when you ask a group of graduating seniors to rank the group they received top support from, they will say their parents are their number one source for receiving support. But for parents, it is more than their support that shapes your child, it's who they are.

"Most teenagers and their parents may not realize it, but a lot of research in the sociology of religion suggests that the most important social influence in shaping young people's religious lives is the religious life modeled and taught to them by their parents." So how do we help our kids





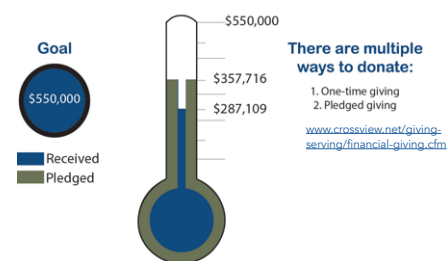
develop a Sticky Faith? With prayer and the help of the Holy Spirit we need to help kids discover what it means to trust Christ and draw close to Him. “In life and faith, growth is a process. Our job as parents throughout this process is twofold: First, we help our kids learn to trust God and create the kind of environment where they are able to explore faith and trust while practicing their freedom to respond in love. Second, we model an unconditional, nonjudgmental, and ever-embracing love in which our kids can do nothing that jeopardizes or even lessens that love. We suggest three ways to help foster this kind of faith: teach your kids that obedience is our response to trusting God, frame all family discussions and activities as opportunities to know and trust Christ, and respond with grace when your child misbehaves.”

As a congregation, what can we do? The variable most correlated with mature faith in high school and college is involvement in intergenerational worship and relationships. It is important to surround our young people with five adults who know their name, pray for them, and support them when they fall. An interview study has shown one of the primary ways a church can contribute to a kids’ faith is by providing intergenerational relationships and connections. Parents are more grateful for these relationships above and beyond even peer community, worship, Bible study, and other communal spiritual practices. So, what is your role? Go find a young person to become one of their five! There is a lot more to share on this topic. I hope I will see you at the Sticky Faith class on Sunday mornings so we can continue to talk about it.

# Financial Update

## Year-to-Date Results

- March member contributions were 128% of budget or \$27,699 more than budgeted. March expenses were \$7,052 less than budgeted.
- Year to Date, Total Income is \$31,305 or 9.99% favorable to budget. YTD Expenses are \$38,228 favorable.
- ECC Income is \$25,973 below plan due to openings, vacation time, and state assistance payments are behind.
- ECC expenses are favorable to plan by \$26,816, resulting in Net Surplus \$843 favorable to budget.
- The Restored! campaign is currently \$147,163 short in pledges to fully repay the loan by the May 2024 maturity date.



Cross View Lutheran Church			
3/31/23	2023 Actual Year to Date	2023 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$344,590	\$313,285	\$31,305
Total Expenses	(\$301,365)	(\$339,588)	\$38,223
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$43,225	(\$26,303)	\$69,528
General Fund Ending Balance	\$211,933	\$142,405	

Cross View Restored! Building Campaign	
Contributions Received in March:	\$10,754
Total Pledges Made to Restored!	\$357,716
Total Contributions Collected:	\$287,109
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$14,830
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$278,000
Additional Gifts Needed to Repay Loan:	\$147,163

# Exciting Changes this Fall

## Mark Your Calendars Now!

Make sure to reserve Wednesday evenings for the 2023-2024 year in ministry! Cross View's ministry staff has diligently worked together to streamline, forward, and enhance our ministries for the 2023-2024 year in ministry. Perhaps the most significant change will occur on Wednesday evenings. Starting September 13, 2023, we will move several major ministry programs for people of all ages to a single evening of fellowship, education, and music. Our goal is to boost overall congregational involvement and to facilitate intergenerational fellowship each week.

Here's how it might look. Wednesday nights will begin with meal (not unlike our Lenten suppers) followed by a variety of program offerings. The schedule below is not yet finalized but provides a conceptual idea of how the evening might flow.

- Fellowship Dinner: 5:30–6:25 PM — Fellowship Hall
- Community Light School of Discipleship: 6:30–8:00 PM
- Nursery Care: 6:30–8:00 PM (0–3 years old)
- Confirmation: 6:30–8:00 PM
- Kidstitute: 6:30–7:30 PM
- Supervised playtime available: 7:30–8:00 PM (children 4 years old through 6th grade)
- Music Ministry: 6:30–8:00 PM

Our goal in moving these programs to a single evening is to provide equipping opportunities for disciples of all ages while bringing our congregation together in table fellowship each week. This will also be an excellent chance for you to invite a friend or neighbor to join you. We pray that you and your family will carve out Wednesdays next fall.

## 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.

### WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

We 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.

### ECC EASTER PARTIES


On April 6th we celebrated Easter! We had a special Chapel where all the families were invited. Then after chapel we had a preschool party and toddler party. The preschool party included face painting, dancing, art, a special snack, and lots of stickers. The toddler party had many stations: make a cross necklace, putt putt golf, Easter egg toss, lots of stickers, and water fun. Finally, the kids ended up at the Easter Egg hunt. Thank you, senior high kids, for stuffing the eggs! The ECC children loved the egg hunt! Here are some pictures from the parties.



# Children's Ministry

## STELLAR — SHINE JESUS' LIGHT VBS



Plan to attend an onsite Vacation Bible School experience for children aged 3 (potty trained) to 5th grade, taking place the week of June 19–23. Launch into memorable stations that reinforce relevant Bible Points, and engage in new adventures built around rugged moonscapes, colorful constellations, and lunar landers! There will also be plenty of praise-worthy music, crafts, snacks, games, and fun with friends! [Register here](#) by June 4. With your registration, each family will receive a Streaming Card, a t-shirt, and supplies for each person's activities for the week. 

## STICKY FAITH ADULT EDUCATION CLASS

Plan to attend! On Sundays, April 23 through May 14, at 9:30–10:30 AM in the chapel room 223, Barb Coffin will be leading a small group discussion on the book "Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids" by Dr. Kara Powell and Dr. Chap Clark. This book teaches adults how to develop robust and long-term faith in kids of all ages using academically verified data from the Fuller Youth Institute. [Click here to register on CV Connect.](#)

## PARENT CORNER



### Some ideas of how to create a Sticky Faith for your kids.

- God talks provide opportunities to integrate faith and the Lord into our normal conversation.
- Go deeper with your kids. If they only offer Sunday School answers, ask why. Or what makes you say that? Or as we trust Jesus for our entertainment and fun, how does that change how we make our weekend plans?
- Schedule family giving meetings when you talk about how the family will give their money.
- Build into your family life regular patterns that remind you that all your money belongs to God.
- Offer to pray for your waiter or waitress at the restaurant.
- Take on a community service project together.
- Make dinner time special by giving the 30 minutes before and after to fellowship. Make dinner together and clean up together.
- Open your home to those who need to experience a family.
- Create family traditions.
- Explore with them how their family was shaped in both environment and genetics-make a family tree.
- Debrief about your child's day-focus the conversation on how they felt about the day, where they felt like they could be themselves, and what held them back from doing so at other times.
- At birthdays, have each person pray a word of thanksgiving for the unique gift of the one whose birthday it is. Bless the child with an affirmation of their character and place in the family.

## SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

This year Cross View is trying something new with our families for Summer. Rather than a structured curriculum-based Summer Sunday School program, we invite all children and parents to come to the playground (or the inside gym if the weather is bad) to have fellowship among our families during the 9:30–10:30 AM Sunday School hour.



## 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 Pastor Steve.

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

—Galatians 6:2



# Christian Education

*Note: There will be no Education Hour on May 28 for the Memorial Day holiday weekend. Adult Bible Class will resume June 4th at 9:30 AM. Summer classes will mirror the sermon series. After the Ezekiel class, we will take a deeper look at the 10 Ten Commandments. Join us!*

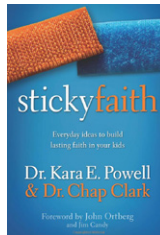
**DATES: SUNDAY MORNINGS, APRIL 23–MAY 14**

**ROOM: 218/SMALL CHAPEL**

**CLASS: STICKY FAITH**

**TEACHING LEADER: BARB COFFIN**

Barb Coffin will be leading a small group discussion on the book "Sticky Faith: Everyday Ideas to Build Lasting Faith in Your Kids" by Dr. Kara Powell and Dr. Chap Clark. This book teaches adults how to develop robust and long-term faith in kids of all ages. Some topics we will discuss are connecting and relating to your teenager, tough faith conversations, how to build faith in downtime or on vacation, handling mistakes and offering forgiveness, becoming a family of service, and much more. [Click here to register on CV Connect.](#) If you have any questions, please contact Barb Coffin at [barb@crossview.net](mailto:barb@crossview.net).



**DATES: SUNDAY MORNINGS, APRIL 23–MAY 14**

**ROOM: FIRESIDE ROOM/213**

**CLASS: INTRO TO SMALL GROUPS**

**TEACHING LEADER: JAN SCHRADER**

Are you interested in joining or helping to lead a new small group? You are invited to a four-week introduction to small groups using the Circle Up approach by Andy Stanley. We will get to know the core principles through a short-term small group experience with the opportunity to create on-going groups at the conclusion. [Click here to register on CV Connect.](#) Contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) for more information.

**DATES: SUNDAY MORNINGS, APRIL 23–JUNE 4**

**ROOM: 209–211/FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**CLASS: EZEKIEL — ALL THINGS NEW!**

**TEACHING LEADER: PASTOR REED LESSING**

The prophet Ezekiel's extensive use of symbolic actions, angelic intermediaries, numerology, and vivid visions make him one of Israel's greatest spokesmen. Through it all, Ezekiel describes the death of one world and the rise of a new one. God will make all things new! [Click here to register on CV Connect.](#) Note: There will be no class on May 21 or 28.

**DATE: SUNDAY MORNING, MAY 21**

**ROOM: 209–211/FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**CLASS: MISSION SPOTLIGHT: TRINITY FIRST LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

Come and hear about the ministry at Trinity First Lutheran School in Minneapolis! Principal Sarah Wippich will be here to share about what God is doing and how you

can get involved. You will learn about partnership projects that Cross View is doing this summer with specific ways you can donate and volunteer to impact the lives of Trinity First students. Register on [CV Connect here](#).

**DATES: TUESDAY EVENINGS, APR 11–MAY 23**

**ROOM: 218**

**CLASS: WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY WHAT LOVE IS**

**TEACHING LEADER: VICKI WEBER**

The letters of 1, 2 and 3 John were written to encourage followers of Jesus to remain faithful to the Truth. Believers are challenged to look at contrasting themes such as walking in the light instead of darkness, truth versus lies and deception, loving God more than loving the world, and the meaning of true fellowship rather than shallowness.

This 7-session study, in DVD format led by Bible teacher Kelly Minter, reveals the heart of John but also the heart of Jesus. Meets Tuesday evenings, 6:30–8:00 PM at Cross View. Purchase the study workbook, "What Love Is" on Amazon for \$19.50 and [register to join](#) on Cross View Connect. This class runs Tuesdays, April 11 through May 23. We'd love to have you join us as we connect with one another, grow in our faith, and encourage each other in the Truth of God's overwhelming love! Call Vicki Weber with questions at 952-838-5500.



**DATES: THURSDAY MORNINGS**

**LOCATION: AT CROSS VIEW (ONSITE AND ONLINE)**

**CLASS: JEREMIAH**

**TEACHING LEADER: CHUCK DAENZER**

Jeremiah served as a prophet in the most turbulent times of Israel's history. The last remnant of 12 tribes of David and Solomon's Kingdom perished. Throughout his life, Jeremiah stood alone declaring God's messages of doom. He preached about all that contributed to Judah's destruction. God's message through Jeremiah is one of judgment, and also of hope. Contact Chuck Daenzer at 952-200-0802 for information.

**DATES: TUESDAY AFTERNOONS**

**CLASS: BSF FOR WOMEN & PRESCHOOLERS**

Cross View is delighted to host a Tuesday afternoon Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) class for women and preschool-children. This year, BSF will be studying "People of the Promise: Kingdom Divided." This study will unpack a fascinating period in Israel's history across 15 books, from its split into two nations, through dozens of kings and prophets and ultimately to the heartbreaking exile into Babylon.

Interested in joining this BSF class? Please email the Class Administrator, Ros Wright, at [bsf.edina@gmail.com](mailto:bsf.edina@gmail.com) and she'll be happy to get you and your preschool children registered for this class.



## CONFIRMATION CELEBRATION

Sunday, May 7

10:45 AM Worship Service

*Both services that Sunday will be in the Sanctuary*

### EASTER BREAKFAST THANK YOU

Just as the Lenten suppers were a huge success in March, the Easter Breakfast in April was also! Thank you to everyone who volunteered and participated! If you made an egg bake but did not receive a thank you card on Easter morning, please pick one up in the church office this month. We greatly appreciate the love and support shown to our youth for their mission trip to Colorado Springs this summer.



### JUNIOR HIGH EVENTS

Although it was only a small group, a few junior high students enjoyed jumping, ICEEs, and spending a fun evening together at Sky Zone Trampoline Park on April 15th. All junior high students enjoyed more fellowship time at the end of their confirmation class on April 19th and at their confirmation party on April 26th. This was the last of the junior high events for this year's 8th graders who are invited to attend Senior High Youth Group beginning Sunday, May 21st.

Current 6th and 7th graders should mark your calendars for a few junior high events this summer:

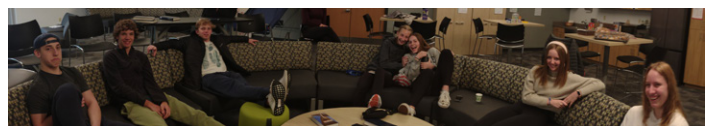
- Rochester Servant Event: June 11–14 — If you're not already signed up and are interested in attending, this is your last opportunity to let Vicki know!
- Junior High Fellowship Events at Cross View: Come for a fun night of games, activities, and treats! — Wednesdays, July 12 and August 9, from 6:00–8:00 PM



### JUNIOR/SENIOR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

At Sunday School on April 16th, the 7th and 8th grade students began enjoying the Junior High room as intended with the Building for Generations expansion that was completed in 2020! The 9th through 12th grade students spread out and enjoyed their own space in the Senior High room that morning. It was wonderful for the students to have their own spaces along with deeper discussions and connections within the age groups as they finish out this school year together. If you haven't seen the youth spaces in a while, stop by to see the fun changes and decorations that have been added as the youth are finally beginning to feel at home in their space after the pandemic.

Sunday, May 21st will be the last day of Sunday School for the school year. There will be no youth Sunday School class during the summer. Youth are invited to attend the adult class during the education hour this summer.





## YOUTH GROUP MAY SCHEDULE

Youth Group for grades 9–12 continues in person on Sunday nights starting at 6:30 PM.

- May 7: Youth Group at Cross View
- May 14: No Youth Group (Mother's Day)
- May 21: Youth Group at Cross View (8th graders welcome)
- May 28: No Youth Group (Memorial Day weekend)

## JR/SR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL MAY SCHEDULE

- May 7: Habitudes of Leaders 11 (Discipline Bridge)
- May 14: Habitudes of Leaders 12 (The Half-Hearted Kamikaze)
- May 21: Habitudes of Leaders 13 (Drivers and Passengers)
- May 28: No Sunday School (Memorial Day weekend)

## COLLEGE STUDENTS

At the end of April, cards were sent to Cross View's college students encouraging them as they finish the school year. The cards were signed by congregation members, staff, children, and youth. Please continue to keep the college students in your prayers and give them a warm welcome as many of them return home for the summer.

There will be a College Student "Welcome Home" Lunch on Sunday, May 21st from 12:00–2:00 PM at Cross View. This will be a time for students to reconnect as they return home after the year away. Additional fellowship times are being planned throughout the summer and students will have an opportunity to connect with Cross View's Young Adult group as well. More details to come.

## Small Group Ministry

### JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

At Cross View, we know being a member of a small group can be transformational. Groups spend time together in God's Word, share life's joys and challenges, pray for one another, and serve others like Jesus did. If you'd like to join a group or become a small group leader, please contact Amy Gundermann ([amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net)) or complete the [interest form on our website](#).



## Women's Ministry

### WOMEN'S MINISTRY ENJOYED SPRING FLOWER SHOW

Beautiful blossoms, floral aromas and a delicious lunch were enjoyed by our Cross View women in February.

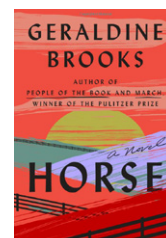


### MISSION OUTREACH TO TRINITY FIRST

This summer, the Women's Ministry team will be part of a significant outreach to Trinity First Lutheran School. Their part will be to paint and furnish an existing space and turn it into a "Sensory Room" for young students who need a calming environment. The target date to have the room ready for staff and students is August 1, 2023. With your generous help, they'll collect all the money needed for Trinity to make this special room a reality. Thank you, Cross View, for loving the kids, staff, and faculty of Trinity First! Look for a display in the upper lobby in June to see the needs and how you can help!

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, May 15, at 1:00 PM. We will be discussing the book *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks. Contact Marcy at [mpnordhus@gmail.com](mailto:mpnordhus@gmail.com) if you have any questions or wish to join.



Cross View  
WOMEN'S MINISTRY

# Outreach & Missions

## ADDITIONAL SUMMER WELCOME MAT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

While it's been a long time coming, spring and summer are upon us! After this long winter, I'm anticipating that many of us will be taking vacations this summer. We still need new volunteers for the Welcome MAT and that need will be greater in the summer when people start traveling. The positions of Host and Welcome Center Attendant are quite simple jobs with no real training involved. If you can smile and say welcome, you qualify! Please prayerfully consider joining our team and helping us out as we joyfully welcome not only our members, but the visitors who walk through our doors, as we work to grow the Kingdom of our God.

If you are interested, please contact Sue Harrison. Her email address is [kharrison1111@gmail.com](mailto:kharrison1111@gmail.com), and her phone number is 713-269-9657.

## LOCAL SERVICE OPPORTUNITY AT TRINITY FIRST

Our congregation is supporting a week of summer programming, the Summer Bridge to Success (SBS), at Trinity First Lutheran School in Minneapolis from June 5-8. This is a daytime VBS and summer school blend designed to help children succeed academically by bridging the summer gap. High school age youth and adults are invited to volunteer for the areas listed below. We are looking for lots of volunteers to support teachers in the classrooms, serve lunches, help with SBS children after care (Tiger Club), and chaperone a field trip. Registration is open on CV Connect, join us in making a difference!

Volunteers Needed for Summer Bridge to Success:

- Classroom Volunteers, June 5, 6, & 8 from 8:30 AM-1:00 PM
- Field Trip Volunteers, June 7 from 8:00 AM-3:00 PM (need to be mobile, able to sit on the ground)
- Tiger Club Volunteers (childcare outside of classroom time), June 5, 6, 7, & 8 from 1:00 PM-4:00 PM
- Lunch Volunteers (prep and serve lunch), June 5, 6, & 8 from 10:00 AM-1:00 PM



## LABORS OF LOVE

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." These powerful words of Jesus remind us of the beautiful joy of Christian service. When we "love on" others, we "love on" Christ. Cross View is a family of believers that is filled with loving people who find great joy in "loving on" others. An incredible example of this is Cross View's Quilters.

With great joy, these loving ladies gather each Wednesday, putting the time and talents entrusted to them into service for others. Their labors of love truly make a difference, wrapping people all through our community with the love of Christ. Already, during the 2022-2023 year in ministry, these ladies have created and gifted 104 quilts! They delivered them to about a dozen organizations throughout the Twin Cities and beyond... organizations like: City Life Center, Friendship Village, Frauenschuh Cancer Center, Healing Flats, Martin Luther Manor, State of MN Veterans Home, and more.

Thank you, Quilters, for your labors of love (seen and unseen) that truly make a difference in our community. We pray God's richest blessings on you as you "love on" others.



## THANK YOU, EASTERFEST TEAM!

Although EasterFest was sadly cancelled due to the blizzard, we would like to thank everyone who stepped up to help. We had a great group of volunteers who worked for many months on planning, 70 people signed up to help during the event, and a generous collection of donated treats. All donations have been utilized in other ministry areas. Thank you for your eagerness to serve and share the message of Easter with our community!

## BLESSING OTHERS IN SMALL WAYS

The missional service project that had been planned for EasterFest this year was to create 100 kits to bless those experiencing homelessness through the street ministry of Unite Twin Cities. The kits included healthy snacks, new socks, hand wipes, and a water bottle. Although EasterFest was cancelled, we were able to reschedule the service project to Good Friday and engage volunteers of all ages to help assemble the kits. The supplies needed were collected by one of our small groups. What a perfect way to mark the day that Jesus poured out His life for us



in perfect love. Pray that those who receive these kits and hear the Gospel through Unite Twin Cities would know God's love. Thank you to everyone who helped to make this possible!



## SAVE THE DATE FOR (TC)2

Mark your calendar for a day of Taking Care of the Twin Cities on August 13! We invite people of all ages to join us for a variety of service projects as we shine the light of Jesus in our community.

## IMMIGRANT MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The mission of POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach) is to meet the physical, social, and spiritual needs of Muslims and other immigrants and refugees in the United States by sharing the love of Jesus in practical and culturally relevant ways. Currently, Citizenship Teachers are needed for a class at 4:30 PM Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at Mt. Hope, Bloomington. ESL teachers are needed at the Prior Lake location on Monday and Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM. Contact Shari at 612-552-3878 for more information or visit their website at [poblotwincities.org](http://poblotwincities.org).

## Journey to the Holy Land with Pastor Reed

You are invited to join Rev. Reed Lessing and Rev. Nabil Nour, a native of Israel born in Nazareth, on a Journey to the Holy Land Israel for an experience of a lifetime. We will depart from Chicago on December 27, 2023 (waiting confirmation) and return on January 6, 2024. Walk where Jesus walked...where every page of the Bible is seen in its original context alive...cruise the Sea of Galilee...climb the Mount of Olives and view the Old City of Jerusalem...visit Tabgha, scene of the Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes...the Mount of Beatitudes, site of the Sermon on the Mount and where Jesus chose His Twelve Apostles...walk the Via Dolorosa (road of suffering) to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher...stroll in the Garden of Gethsemane...visit Bethlehem...the Church of the Nativity, and much more.

What to expect: During this 11-day tour, you will experience the sounds, smells, and sights of two civilizations, the old and the new...living by the law or living by the Gospel. You will stand at the crossroads of history and feel

the vibrant influence of how this land shapes all other lands.

We will do more than just visit sights. We will go off the beaten path and have personal and daily devotions. The Bible will be our map and guide but more importantly our compass. Experience the Holy Land — a place like no other. Please join us on this blessed adventure in the footsteps of the Savior.

The price is \$5,300.00 includes air fare departing from Chicago to Tel Aviv and back to Chicago, hotel accommodations (for double occupancy), tips, entry fees, and all meals.

For further information contact:

**Rev. Nabil Nour**

46448 263rd St.

Hartford, SD 57033

605-526-3571 (O)

[preachermanfootwasher@gmail.com](mailto:preachermanfootwasher@gmail.com)

**Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing**

1737 Jefferson

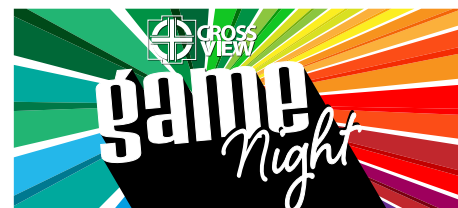
St. Paul, MN 55105

651-294-4000 (O)

[lessing@csp.edu](mailto:lessing@csp.edu)

## Cross View Game Night

Do you love games? Join us for fun and fellowship every second Sunday of the month from 6:30–8:30 PM in Rooms 209/210. Cross View Game Night is open to all teens and adults, including church members and their guests. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own board or card games. If you bring a game, be prepared to show others how to play. Questions? Contact John Daenzer ([johndaenzer@gmail.com](mailto:johndaenzer@gmail.com)) or Michael Kibat ([mgkibat@centurylink.net](mailto:mgkibat@centurylink.net)). Register for Cross View Game Night on [CV Connect](#) or the Event Registration kiosks.



## LCEF Ministry Update

The Lutheran Church Extension Fund is thankful for investments members of Cross View make or have made to help equip LCMS pastors, churches, schools, and organizations. LCEF offers competitive interest rates and invites you to learn more at [lcef.org](http://lcef.org).



# Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Alleluia!

"You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him." The celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ is without a doubt, the holiest celebration of the Christian church year! Everything in the Christian faith depends upon the resurrection.

As one reflects upon our Lenten Journey, our Holy Week experience, and our Easter celebration at Cross View in 2023, there are so many powerful memories to cherish. Each Wednesday during Lent, we gathered together for a meal, followed by our Lenten worship series Witnesses to Christ. It was a joy to see Pastor Reed Lessing begin his work among us during the season of Lent. Each Sunday, we gathered for our Lenten worship series Creation Cries Out. Throughout the entire season we were blessed with inspirational music both in our traditional and contemporary worship services. During Lent, our seventh-grade confirmation students presented their service projects to the congregation. On Maundy Thursday, our fifth-grade

students received the Lord's Supper for the first time. On Easter Sunday we all experienced an amazing celebration of Christ's resurrection.

Our journey through Lent and the Holy Week involved many, many people who helped to make it so memorable. Special thanks to Susan Charles, John Bentley, the adult choir, the bell choir, and special ensembles for their roles in traditional worship. Special thanks to Amy Gundermann and the Cross View Praise Team for the contributions in contemporary music. Thanks to our AV, streaming, and tech teams. Thanks to our altar guild and to all who helped to decorate the church. Special thanks to Vicki Barton and Cross View's Youth for the Lenten Suppers and Easter breakfast. Finally, special thanks to Cross View's staff and the many other members, not mentioned here, who truly made a difference during the season. Our greatest thanks are offered to the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit who make possible our Easter Joy. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!







### CONTINUING TO SERVE THE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Cross View is fortunate to have among its family Pastor Emeritus Robert Schmidt who served many years in the overseas mission field and later as professor at Concordia College, Portland. His special interest is in missiology and current international affairs. He lectures to community groups and shares his expertise in the following interview.



**Q. From your knowledge of mission history, where do you see the LCMS today?**

A. Like many other denominations it is getting smaller and weaker. Not only is it closing some congregations, the number of seminary graduates to serve congregations is also small. I believe the LCMS missed an opportunity several years ago to certify dedicated and equipped lay people for word and sacrament ministry, modeled after the ministry in the book of Acts. This would have allowed the synod to continue to serve smaller congregations and begin new specialized ministries.

**Q. What mission important opportunities do you see for Cross View in the next few years?**

A. I believe the community events such as EasterFest, Oktoberfest, and others have been successful and should be continued. It may also be possible to help some other congregations that will be fighting for their existence in a few years.

**Q. What mission lessons can Cross View learn from its past?**

A. Cross View has been exceptionally successful in the raising of funds for the dental clinic in Kenya, the water project in Guatemala, and the Thanksgiving events at Trinity First. I believe that in these efforts we copy Christ and his demonstration of the coming Kingdom in healing, feeding, and helping others as part of the good news he announced in Mark 1:15.

**Q. In retrospect, what were some highlights of your vocation as both a missionary and a college teacher?**

A. My biggest thrill was to be able to connect the Gospel to people with issues in a different culture. In Africa it meant applying the Gospel to people in an animistic culture, sometimes using their name for the high God. On a college campus the task was to connect it with an academic, often secular, understanding of the world. Is capitalism a false god? What about nationalism?

**Q. How do you seek to represent Christ in the world?**

A. I have the opportunity to lecture on contemporary issues in a retirement community and, when appropriate, illumine the discussion with reference to Christ and the Christian faith. I also work alongside the Indian community that worships at Cross View and, when invited, preach at local churches as the ambassador of POBLO.

**Q. How has Cross View supported you in your personal faith life?**

A. Cross View's regular ministry and the fellowship of our small group ministry has been very valuable. Cross View and its members were especially supportive at the death of my wife, and I appreciated that very much.

**Q. What can Cross View parents do to keep their children active in church?**

A. If they will talk, listen. According to many reports many youth are fighting depression. While some of that is for personal reasons, others are because of the hate in communication and the seeming hopelessness of the world's future. The application of Christian hope to some actual problems is really needed.

**Q. What keeps you vital and hopeful?**

A. Jesus said that the Kingdom of God was near. It seemed preposterous at the time in an occupied country with uneven wealth and facing the destruction of the capital and the entire nation. If our churches are weak, their whole temple is totally destroyed. Yet, he proclaimed the nearness of the kingdom and backed it up with healing, feeding, teaching, and loving. It started small, like a mustard seed, but it is still growing.



Paul Emmel is a retired pastor in the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and a member of Cross View Lutheran Church.



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

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## 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)

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