

CROSS VIEW CLARION

November 2019



"God's plans are for giving us hope and a future. He wants us to prosper and not be harmed. And so, we trust in Him." -Christine Eid



Oh, the Lessons I've Learned!

by Christine Eid, Director of Children's Ministry

Prior to coming to Cross View, I participated in the planning of two different builds/renovations in congregations I served. God had called me to a new ministry before the building began, though, so Cross View's is the first building program that I have actually participated in. As a result, as with many of you, this has been a growing process. I thought for this month's *Clarion* article I would share some of the things that I have learned, and maybe some might resonate with you.

I always knew that a "firm foundation" was important for a building. A previous home I lived in

didn't have one, and a corner of the basement blew out. But in observing our building process, and the large quantities of rain we had this summer, there's a new meaning to the extent of a firm foundation. It's not just about the right soil – Cross View's soil had been tested and it was good...as long as it was a certain level of dryness. However, due to all of the rain, work was delayed, again, and again, until new dirt was brought in to firm up the foundation. And then it rained...again. So, water was pumped out and dirt brought in, again, so that it would be a strong and stable foundation for many years to come. ►

◀ We began our program year, "Soul Food," talking about being in the Word of God. God's Word gives us the firm foundation we need for our lives and to walk in the way of the Lord. But it's not a "one and done" type of thing. We may think we have it together, and then the rains come. We need to continue to turn to God's Word and hear it again and again for the foundation to stay firm and hold us up during the rainy periods. I knew this. But, with the build, it has been re-emphasized in a new way.

The second lesson I've been reminded of is that building can be messy. As I look out the window of Jon's & my office, there have been a lot of days where it's been really muddy. I watch the workers in their wader boots slug through the mud to do the work that they have been called to do. I am sure there are days, that the workers would really like to turn around and go home. But they don't. They pump out the water, and work around the puddles as best they can.

So, this lesson is that life and ministry can be, and will be, messy. God has given each one at Cross View different gifts and roles to live out in our lives and in Cross View's ministry. Sometimes it's like a beautiful, sunny day, and everything goes easy. Yet, other days, it can be sloppy and hard, and we just want to turn around and ask God to have someone else do the work. But God promises to be there. He will help each one of us through whatever we are facing, even when it is "muddy". He promises in Isaiah 40:28-31, *"²⁸Do you not know? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom. ²⁹He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. ³⁰Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; ³¹but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary; they will walk and*

not be faint."

The third lesson I've seen is that God's timing isn't my timing. Through the build we have received timelines of when things will be done. Then, the order changes, and something is delayed. I am one who prefers to have information and be able to plan out and know where things are going. But with adjustments and changes always happening, I need to trust in God's timing of things and remember that He has it all under control.

In life too, God's timing isn't my timing. Sometimes things change and are out of my control, and that's hard. But it's a reminder that God does have it all under control and I don't need to stress about it. He knows what I need and when I need it, and He will take care of it. Another scripture, one I saw on the board for the sanctuary ceiling, is from Jeremiah 29:11-12, *"¹¹For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you."*

God's plans are for giving us hope and a future. He wants us to prosper and not be harmed. And so, we trust in Him. So often vs. 11 is alone, but it's important to remember what our response is; we will go to God in prayer. He will hear and listen to us and will answer according to His timing.

We are just over ½ way through the building project. I am sure that in the upcoming months God will teach me more lessons. I don't know what He wants to me to learn. But I trust in Him, and in this month of November & giving thanks, I truly do give thanks for all that He has done. He is an amazing God who supplies all t we need, at just the right time. Not always when we think we need it, but definitely when we DO need it. May we come together remembering the mighty gifts that we receive through our God, especially the gift of salvation.

CV 4.0 – Building for Generations Update



A weather forecaster recently spoke about the abnormally high precipitation that began last February. Near record levels of rain continue to impact the Cross View's 4.0 Building For Generations construction project. While replacing clay-based soil with sandy soil improved drainage, concrete pour delays continue to negatively impact our construction schedule. When the metro area does experience a dry stretch, sub-contractors and suppliers scramble to a plethora of desperate work sites. Each site hopes to complete projects prior to fall freeze up. Multiple east-side roof joists arriving too short caused an additional delay. Completing outside work continues to be challenging.

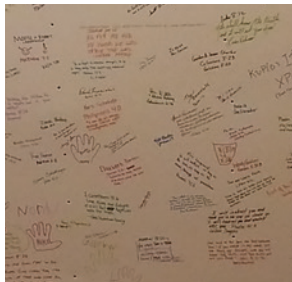
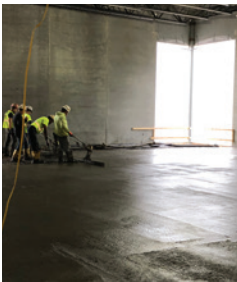
Interior work is moving along. Sanctuary sheet rock installation is complete. The cedar wood ceiling will soon

cover Bible verses and signatures. Additional time for sanctuary wiring as well as delays in ceiling wood delivery make Thanksgiving sanctuary worship doubtful. We hope to resume sanctuary worship in early December.

The multi-purpose room received a top floor concrete covering, interior wall framing, and heating and air conditioning runs. The lower youth area concrete floor is poured, and wall framing is complete. Xcel energy installed a higher capacity transformer on the north side of the building and electricians are updating internal electrical service.

The west side storm water runoff chamber is in place underneath the new cul-de-sac upper entrance drop off. A retaining wall near the southwest building corner supports the upper level drop off area.

We hope you are enjoying the weekly Cross View 4.0 Building for Generations construction updates. Contact the Church office at Margaret@crossview.net if you want to be added to the distribution list.



Financial Update

- September year-to-date income was 6%, or \$55K less than budget. Budget includes a 9% year-over-year increase. As noted in the Fruitful Discipleship materials mailed in October, the church council anticipates the need to increase annual income 19% in 2020 to meet expenses related to our expansion.
- The net surplus is \$11K favorable to budget due to lower expenses than planned and capital campaign contributions resulting in no debt incurred to date.
- Your generous contributions to both the operating and capital campaign remain critical in 2019 and as we look ahead to our first year in the expanded space in 2020. Cross View council thanks you for your prayerful consideration of increased giving during this exciting time in our history.

Cross View			
September 30, 2019	2019 Actual YTD	2019 Budget YTD	Actual Better/(Worse) vs.Budget
Total Income	\$803,677	\$859,109	(\$55,432)
Total Expense	\$822,279	\$889,105	\$66,826
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$18,602)	(\$29,996)	\$11,394

Progress of the MAT to Re-imagine the Vision and Staffing for Cross View's Music & Fine Arts Ministry

Cross View Lutheran Church has a heritage of strong Music & Fine Arts Ministry to enhance the worship experience and support the Christian growth of its members, largely thanks to the 35 years of dedicated service from our beloved Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministry, Rebecca Waller. In May when Rebecca chose to retire and our organist Russell Draeger resigned to dedicate more time to his organ repair business, followed shortly after that by Jason Paulson's decision to leave Cross View so that he could lead a praise team at a church much closer to his home, we could have just sought to fill the same three jobs according to the existing job descriptions.

Instead, a MAT was formed to define a vision for how we could build upon our recognized strength in this area and to re-imagine our approach to staffing our Music & Fine Arts Ministry. The revamped job description is not yet finalized, but we will be seeking a new Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministry that will not only lead the musical elements of either the traditional-format or contemporary-format worship service (or possibly both, if able), but who will also:

- Strategically create a yearly vision for how music ministry will utilize its resources to integrate with and complement Cross View's mission
- Develop an overarching, themed experience that coordinates with the annual worship planning guide designed by the Senior Pastor
- Manage music ministry teams for all services
- Hire and recruit musicians and lay members for all service formats and music genres
- Leverage the strength of Cross View's music and fine arts ministry to expand Cross View's outreach to the community, both off and on campus

The MAT will be recommending to the Personnel Committee and to the Church Council that in order to accomplish this broader set of responsibilities, the new Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministry role will be converted to a full-time position, and that the organist and the leader of the other style of worship service will be part-time positions that will report to (and be hired by) the new Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministry so there is better alignment of all facets of this ministry area.

If the MAT's recommendation is approved, a national search to fill this exciting new position will be launched. Please pray that God will lead the perfect candidate to Cross View to boldly vision, innovate, develop, and lead Cross View's Music & Fine Arts Ministry into the future!



STEPHEN MINISTRY CORNER

What is Stephen Ministry?

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips lay people 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.

The Stephen Ministry logo symbolizes that we are all broken people, and that only Jesus can make us whole.

Contact a Pastor or a Stephen Leader if you would like more information.

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

-Galatians 6:2

Join Adult Choir; Childcare provided!

Adult Choir welcomes new members to join us. Love to sing?... then we want you! Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, 7-8 PM in the Chapel. Starting October 9, childcare will be provided for children too young to participate in Midweek activities.

Adult Choir typically sings three Sundays each month at the 8:15 AM service. Perfect attendance is not required! Join for the year or join for a season (Advent; winter; Lent; spring). Don't delay...sing today! Questions? Email Ben Henschel (ben@crossview.net).

Senior Ministries

NOVEMBER SENIOR BRUNCH BUNCH

All Cross View seniors are invited to the "Senior Brunch Bunch" on Monday, November 18, from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. Enjoy a potluck meal at Cross View and Pastor Toby's presentation about his missionary work in Taiwan. Sign-up sheet is in the Connection Center.



Cross View Cards & Games

Friday, November 8 at 7:00 PM

Cross View, Room 218

RSVP to Deb Wagner, 612-731-5449 or
Roxann Pengelly, 763-202-9669

Cross View Cards and Games meet the 2nd Friday of each month from September through May. Connect with Cross View members and friends (adults of all ages) for several hours of fun and fellowship by participating in cards and games of your choice. New participants are welcome!

Did You Know You Can Give to Cross View Via Text?

Have you tried our text giving option? In a matter of seconds, you can make a weekly offering or respond to a special appeal.

- No login or account set-up required
- Easy debit/credit card registration through your smartphone
- Fast one-time donations
- Option to make gifts recurring

If you would like to give by text, contact the church office.

Christian Education

SUNDAY SCHOOL – SOUL FOOD!!

CHRISTMAS IS COMING! CHILDREN ARE PREPARING!

Sunday School children have started to work on their Christmas programs to share the Christmas Gospel with family and friends! Mark your calendar for these special dates!

- Preschool-1st Grade Program – Sunday, December 15, 9:30 AM during the education hour.
- 2nd-6th Grade Program – Sunday, December 15, at the 10:45 AM service.

Rehearsals for this program will be during the opening of Sunday School. Information for the program was sent out to families. If you have questions, please contact Christine Eid at Christine@crossview.net.



CHILDREN'S NATIVITY

In light of the construction, we're doing Children's Nativity differently. This December, we'll send a Children's Nativity package out to all the families without a church home who came here in the last two years, to our ECC families, and through Nader & Georgette Aleraj to families who come to POBLO.

We're excited that families are going to get to hear and experience the Nativity story in their homes gathered around fun faith activities for the whole family. We're asking families to tag us in their pictures on [Instagram, @crossviewlutheran](https://www.instagram.com/crossviewlutheran). We look forward to seeing how families celebrate this season together!



WEDNESDAY ADULT BIBLE STUDY IN THE WINTER

On November 20, we'll start to explore the Miracles of Scripture. We'll be looking into miracles that happened throughout the Bible, especially the miracles of Jesus. Please sign up at the connection center and join us as we gather to study how God did miracles in and around the early believers and how He is still doing miracles in and around us today. Questions? Contact Pastor Toby (toby@crossview.net).



LINKS IN THE CHAIN

Sundays in November, we will be studying Discipleship. Specifically, we'll be studying how discipleship is more than you being a learner, it also means that you are a teacher. There are people in all of our lives that we learn from and who learn from us. As Jesus disciples, it's important to realize that we are links of the chain of discipleship that is anchored in Christ. Join in November as we learn how God designed us to pass the faith along. Questions? Contact Pastor Toby (toby@crossview.net).



WE ARE ALL LINKS IN THE CHAIN.

Early Childhood Center

ECC CELEBRATES PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH

During the week of October 21st, we recognized Pastor Steve and Pastor Toby for Pastor Appreciation Month. We also took this time to recognize Jonathan and Christine for everything they do for Cross View and the ECC. We made art projects for them and surprised them with special treats.

ECC ANNUAL BOOK FAIR

November 6th-8th, we will have our annual book fair, where you can purchase books for your family and friends. It is also a great opportunity for the school to bring in books to the classrooms and to the children we serve during the weekdays. Please come shop during the days that we are open or order online at <https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/crossviewearlychildhoodcen> between Oct 31st-Nov. 13th.



NEWLY REMODELED CLASSROOMS

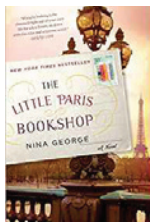
The Toddler and Young Preschool Rooms have been back in their newly remodeled classrooms for 2 months and they are enjoying the newness of the rooms and the bathroom. We would like to thank all who have donated to the construction/remodeling project. The bathroom between the toddler and young preschool room is the biggest change and a much-needed change with 2 toilets for toilet training, a new changing table and two sinks. The two classrooms also had cabinets, carpet and tile changed. The new Waddler room is opening this month and we are thrilled for the additional classroom space and the opportunity to serve more families in the community.



Women's Ministries

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Book club in November will be hosted by Pam Olsen and she has chosen *The Little Paris Bookshop* by Nina George to read and discuss. We will meet at church at 1:00 PM on Monday, November 18, 2019. New members are always welcome. Please contact Marcy at mpnordhus@gmail.com if you have any questions.



SEPTEMBER WOMEN'S DINNER

Cross View ladies enjoyed fellowship and food during the September Women's Dinner at Cocina del Barrio in Edina.



DIY WORKSHOP AT BOARD & BRUSH

Women of Cross View and their guests are invited to a DIY workshop at Board & Brush in St. Louis Park on Sunday, November 10th from 2:00 to 5:00 PM. During the workshop, you will create your own unique wood decor project from scratch. Materials and step-by-step instructions are provided. You will leave with a beautiful piece for your home or for a gift. Cost is \$68, **but use Discount Code: MINISTRY** to access the page and when reviewing your registration to receive **\$18 off** prior to payment. [Click on this link to register](#). During registration, you will select a project from the gallery and include any personalization the project requires. This allows them time to print the stencils and prepare the materials in advance of class. Please review the selections in the gallery [here](#). Don't worry about paint and stain choices now, you will select those during class. **Registration closes on November 8th at 2:00 PM.** You may contact Jana Poppe at jana@teampoppe.com for more info on this fun event.



Outreach & Missions

TRINITY FIRST THANKSGIVING 2019

Trinity First Thanksgiving 2019 is coming quickly, Saturday, November 23, from 5:00-6:00 PM (the Saturday before Thanksgiving). This is a great opportunity for families to serve together and a great way to take care of confirmation service hours.



We'll meet up at Trinity First (times dependent on task) to set up and get to know our specific roles for the evening and pray for this ministry experience. Doors are open from 5:00-6:00 PM and take down is from 6:00-7:00 PM. Please sign up go and [sign up today](#) at our [Signup Genius page](#).

We're excited to come alongside Trinity First Lutheran School in this service opportunity. Trinity First serves families in the Phillips neighborhood. Our hope is to encourage and show appreciation for the staff and families by providing an opportunity to share in thanksgiving to our God together. SIGN UP NOW, put it on your calendar, and participate in this night of blessing. It requires many individuals with willing hands.

If you have any questions or need further information or assistance please contact Edie McGurgan, at Egm1999@msn.com or at 952-583-0351.

COINS 4 THANKSGIVING

During Sundays in November and all the way through Thanksgiving, any change that is deposited in the offering baskets will be collected and donated to our local POBLO (People Of the Book Lutheran Outreach). POBLO reaches out to immigrant community around us and has an IFC (International Friendship Center) at Mt Hope Lutheran Church, Bloomington.

MISSION TRIP TO GUATEMALA

On November 17th through 24th, Vicki Barton, RoseAnne Meier, Andrea Olson, Pastor Steve Wheeler, Laurie Koch, and Tom Koch, will participate in our first mission trip to Los Vasquez, Guatemala. The purpose of this trip is building relationships between the Cross View mission team and the people of Los Vasquez.

Cross View's mission team is going to work alongside of our Guatemalan brothers and sisters in Christ in a variety of activities. We are: picking coffee beans, meeting with people in their homes, meeting with the leaders of Los Vasquez to assess how we can assist them in the future, working with a Guatemalan Lutheran parochial school teacher to present a three-day Vacation Bible School, and serving a community dinner on the last day of our visit.

The theme of the Vacation Bible School is: "Heroes of the Bible." There will be Bible studies on David slaying Goliath; Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the fiery

furnace; and the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. In addition to the Bible studies, we will be working on craft projects with the children to go along with each of the individual Bible stories. Each day, Cross View will provide snacks for the children

The Cross View mission team has been working very hard in preparation for this trip. This has truly been a team effort. RoseAnne Meier has been teaching Spanish to our team. Christine Eide has assisted in selecting the curriculum for Vacation Bible School. Pastor Toby Schmidt has provided a presentation on cross-cultural ministry. Laurie Koch has led a discussion of the book: "How Helping Hurts, How to Alleviate Poverty without Hurting the Poor...and Yourself." Andrea Olson, RoseAnne Meier and Vicki Barton have worked on multiple mission trips previously. Between the six members of our mission team, there are over one hundred years of teaching experience.

A second mission trip to Los Vasquez has already been scheduled for February 9th through 16th, 2020. We are presently working with the leaders of Los Vasquez to determine the final plans for this trip but believe we will assist in water projects around their village. Three people have already committed to participating in this February mission trip. If you are interested in participating in this February mission trip to Guatemala, please contact Tom Koch.

Our mission team covets your prayers as we prepare to leave for Guatemala. We ask that you would pray for the people living in Los Vasquez; that their faith would be strengthened; that strong relationships would be established between the people of Los Vasquez and the Cross View mission team; for the safety of the faithful in Los Vasquez; and for the safety of the Cross View mission team.

MISSION OF CHRIST NETWORK: A CROSS VIEW-SPONSORED MISSION

By Fungchatou Lo, Thailand

Will You Be in Heaven Should You Die Today?

This past month our family hosted a training to instruct the Hmong pastors and evangelists on how to teach what they had learned. In addition to the training, we also took them to visit and do outreach at two different Hmong villages in Thailand. Here is a link to a short video of our outreach efforts at the Hmong villages: <https://vimeo.com/365423460>. It was a blessing to have them share their



faith in Christ with the villagers.

A member at one of our mission churches recently died, and we also went to help with the funeral services. Because the funeral was three-days long with two sermons per day, the family invited some non-Lutheran Pastors to preach at the funeral services. What we heard from their preaching provided no assurance that the deceased person is in heaven. The preachers kept saying, "If Mr. Chang really believed in Jesus Christ, then he will be in heaven." On the morning of the last day of the funeral, it was Fung's turn to preach. In his sermon, Fung said, "Mr. Chang was baptized into Christ when the Holy Spirit brought him to faith years ago. During Mr. Chang's period of illness, we went and prayed for him often. He never once got angry with God or denounced Jesus as his Lord and Savior. It was not the extent of Mr. Chang's faith that saved him, but it was the extent of God's love that saved Mr. Chang. It was not "if" Mr. Chang really believed in Christ, but it was that Christ really died for Mr. Chang's sins. Mr. Chang was baptized and he was a child of God. Nothing can separate Mr. Chang from the love of God. Therefore, Mr. Chang's spirit is now in heaven with the Lord, even though his body will be placed in the ground to go back to be dust again." We pray that this Gospel message gave comfort and assurance to Mr. Chang's family members that their father is in heaven with the Lord.



Mr. Cha's Funeral

Many Hmong Christians and pastors in Southeast Asia are not even sure if they were to die today, whether or not they would be in heaven. This is why our Lutheran doctrine and confessions are needed in Southeast Asia. Furthermore, it is why our family is needed to be here to share our powerful and pure doctrine and confessions to the people. Please continue to keep our family in your prayers as we continue to be in need of your prayers and financial support.

Prayer Requests:

1. For continuing financial support for our family to continue to serve the Lord in Southeast Asia
2. For our outreach plan of sending two evangelists to Long Cheng, Laos
3. For our outreach plan of sending one local evangelist to be stationed in Hanoi, Vietnam
4. For our visa documents to come soon



The Lo Family

To financially support the Lord's work through our family, please send your tax-deductible donations to: Mission of Christ Network, P.O. Box 533, Concordia, MO 64020.

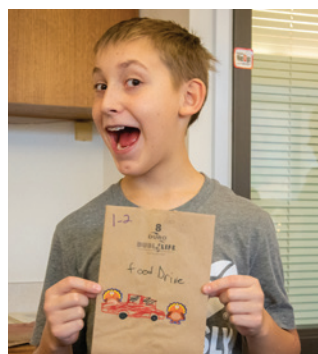
To donate online: <https://missionofchrist.org/service/lo-fung/>
The Lo family can be reached via lolegacy@gmail.com or (612)564-3533.

SERVICE SUNDAY THANK YOU!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our Service Sunday on October 27. A wide variety of activities and projects were done that will impact our community, including the following:

- College Care Packages
- Bookmarks for domestic abuse
- Crocheting plastic mats from garbage bags
- Trinity First table decorations
- Trinity First school supplies & decorating bags
- Christmas Devotion Mailing for community
- Cards to go with Christmas Devotion Mailing
- Christmas Cookie Challenge for Cross View Members

Our next service Sunday will be February 16. Do you have an idea for a project to do? Please let a staff member know!







CROSS VIEW

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

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Ben Henschel, Interim Choir Director
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Paula Wilson, Interim Lead Vocalist - Contemporary
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Lynn Pahl, 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 WITH CROSS VIEW

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional

10:45 AM Contemporary

SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM

ROUND TABLE WORSHIP

Wed., 6:00 - 6:50 PM

OFFICE HOURS

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

Closed Monday

CALENDAR

Cross View's most current
calendar is always available
on our website at
www.crossview.net/calendar

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