# CROSSVIEW REDARD

November 2022

"Stepping Stones are a way to encourage parents in their role of being their children's key faith shapers." - Barb Coffin

## **Stepping Stones Ministry**

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

Fall Greetings family and friends at Cross View,

As I sit here at my desk, I look out my large office window and praise God for the beauty in fall! God sure does have a way of making his world so beautiful all year around. I am very thankful to sit here and have the freedom to write this article that focuses on God and how He is working in His world. I am thankful also for a new ministry Cross View has been able to experience over the last year. The new ministry is called Stepping Stones. You may have seen one or more of them being celebrated in the worship service. In fact, just last week we celebrated the second graders of Cross View with the Adventure Bible Stepping Stone.

What are Stepping Stones you might ask? Well, I would love to share with you what they are. There are seven Stepping Stones that we celebrate in Children's ministry that start at Baptism and end in sixth grade. Stepping Stones celebrate certain faith milestones in a child's life. Each Stepping Stone has classes, a blessing ceremony, a gathering of fellow parents, and some ways of commemorating the day. Stepping Stones are a way to encourage parents in their role of being their children's key faith shapers. Every Stepping Stone offers a family encouragement and instruction on how to share and develop faith at home and in their children's daily life.

Baptism is usually the first family Stepping Stone celebrated since it is generally with infants. This Stepping Stone called Faith and My Infant instructs families on the theological meaning of the sacrament of Baptism and prepares the family for the act of Baptism in the worship service.

The first Bible Stepping Stone is celebrated when a child turns two years of age and can now attend the Little Lambs Sunday School class with their parent. At this faith Stepping Stone the child receives their first toddler Bible and learns age appropriate ways to read the Bible.

Together We Worship is the third Stepping Stone that celebrates a three year old "graduating" from the use of church nursery. At the class for this celebration, we tour the sanctuary to learn its significant pieces and we talk about the different parts of the worship service to help create more comfort and understanding of worship on a three-year-old level.

The Adventure Bible Stepping Stone is celebrated by second graders and their families. It is at this Stepping Stone the second grade student gets an NIV Bible that contains a lot of engaging activities, fun Biblical facts, and highlights key verses for children to study. During the three session class families learn an overview of the entire New Testament, Old Testament, and tips of how to study the Bible by oneself.

The fifth faith Stepping Stone is focused on service and outreach for children in the third grade. The purpose of this Stepping Stone is to engage children in a service project and to be-

### **Coins for Thanksgiving**

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 Mount Hope Lutheran Church, Bloomington. Learn more about POBLO here.

gin opening their minds to missions. Children can tend to be very self-centered so another focus of this Stepping Stone is to talk about being thankful and giving to others.

Rising fifth graders celebrate the Stepping Stone of Welcome to the Lord's Table on Maundy Thursday. On this day the student gets to partake in Holy Communion for the first time. This seven-week course teaches the children and their families the theology and significance of the Lord's Supper.

The final Stepping Stone that is celebrated in the area of Children's ministry is called Journey Stepping Stone. Transitioning into middle school can be very challenging and present a lot of new ideas to sixth graders. The classroom discussion for this Stepping Stone is lead mostly by the parent and they discuss their child's identity in Christ and how we honor God with our bodies.

I personally have really enjoyed seeing the love and joy on the Cross View parent's faces as they verbally bless their children at the altar. The celebrations have been very moving and motivating for the families to continue to fight the good fight of sanctification in their and their children's lives. Let us continue to pray for our Cross View families, for the Lord to strengthen the family units, and that they would be bright lights in our communities for Christ.

### **Volunteer to Decorate Trees**

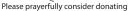
Christmas trees will be put up and decorated on Friday, November 25th, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Can you join us? Our decorating team makes this fun day run smooth and easy - most trees will already be put together. We need help placing them in their places and making them look beautiful. We welcome all ages to help. Treats and refreshments provided. Contact Sue Quist to volunteer at sue@crossview.net.

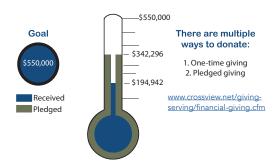
### Financial Update Year-to-Date Results

- September 2022 member contributions were 108% of budget or \$5,901 better than budgeted. September expenses were \$14,224 less than budgeted.
- Year to Date income is 4.12% below budget or \$38,504 less than budgeted.
- Year to Date expenditures are \$38,828 less than budgeted primarily in lower wage expense due to open positions.
- Year-to-date General Fund Deficit of \$101,000 is essentially where we planned to be through September. We hope for strong final months to make up this deficit by year end.
- ECC income is at plan and expenses unfavorable to budget, resulting in a net surplus less than budgeted by \$26,848.
- Thank you to those who have pledged to Restored! and those who have already fulfilled their pledge. We need \$153,482 in addition to the outstanding pledges to pay the loan off.
- Each contribution reduces the loan balance and Cross View's interest cost enabling those funds to support ministry programs.

Cross View Lutheran Church				
9/30/22	2022 Actual Year to Date	2022 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	\$896,502	\$935,006	(\$38,504)	
Total Expenses	(\$997,502)	(\$1,036,330)	\$38,828	
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$101,000)	(\$101,324)	\$324	







In May 2021, the congregation unanimously approved borrowing \$550,000 for roof replacement, HVAC replacement, and brick and mortar repair. We need additional pledges to fulfill this commitment. Please prayerfully consider donating and be sure to fulfill pledge commitments.

Cross View 4.0 Building Campaign			
Contributions Receieved in September:	\$21,744		
Total Pledges Made to Restored!	\$342,296		
Total Contributions Collected:	\$194,942		
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$15,539		
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$371,000		
Additional Pledges Needed to Repay Loan:	\$153,482		

### **Small Group Ministry**

#### SMALL GROUPS ARE FLOURISHING

Not only are almost all the pre-COVID small groups meeting again on a regular basis this fall, but five new groups have been launched over the summer, involving over one hundred fifty adults and thirty children and youth! In May and September the small groups ministry action team sponsored RE:group, a time to form new groups, connect people to existing groups, and encourage small groups, providing opportunities for people to connect, grow, and serve as they follow Christ. If you would like to

Victoria Niemira, Vicki Weber, Karen Moschkau, Jan schrader, Sara Spande and Althea sell enjoyed a potluck supper at Anna Grossbach's home (Photographer and hostess) as part of their new small group launched this summer.



become involved in a small group as a participant or leader, contact Brad Ost, Carol Niemira, or Jan Schrader and the team will work with you to find a group with whom you share affinities that meets at a time and place that fits your schedule.

#### **GOD'S BIG LOVE IN A NUTSHELL**

In order to explore and celebrate God's love "small groups style" while probing the depths of John 3:16, Cross View's small groups MAT will lead four Sunday morning experiences in Advent 2022 during the Education Hour from 9:30 to 10:30 AM. Starting November 27, and continuing during the first three weeks in December, attendees will have the opportunity to sample elements from small group experiences to deepen their appreciation of God's love. Join us as we sing, study God's Word, pray, and do some hands-on activities together, readying ourselves to share our experiences of our Heavenly Father's incredible love with friends and family over the Advent and Christmas season. Watch for registration information in the Weekly Connections beginning in mid-November.

# **Consecrated Stewards**

November is a month that we reflect upon how thankful we are to God for his incredible provision and rich generosity to us...for His countless blessings both seen and unseen...material and spiritual. As we reflect on all that God has done and is doing in our midst through the mission and ministry of Cross View, we cannot help but pause and say, "Thank you Lord! Every good gift that we have in this life abounds from Your overflowing generosity to us."

As we give thanks to the Lord and reflect upon His goodness to us, we are reminded that God sets us apart to be stewards (or managers) of all that He has entrusted to us. In love, He makes us His Consecrated Stewards. The Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-30 calls Consecrated Stewards to use the gifts, abilities, and resources that God entrusts to them in a way that truly makes a kingdom difference. When they do, it brings the master great joy to say, "Well done, good and faithful servant." onsecrated Stewards

What a difference God's people have made at Cross View in the past year as we have partnered together to empower mission and ministry locally, nationally, and internationally. In 2022,

we immersed ourselves in God's Word through worship, Bible Studies, small groups, youth group, and Sunday school. Jesus was daily proclaimed through the ministry of our Early Childhood Center. We saw 27 of Cross View's high school students attend a national youth gathering, nine junior high students confirmed in their faith, a vacation Bible school offered to children in our community. We witnessed the second year of our Community Light School of Discipleship, the 38th annual Christian Art Festival, and a music and art camp for children. We shared the love of Christ with immigrants in our community, partnered in the church plant of Bloom for Jesus Indian Fellowship, served our community through TC2, and walked with our friends in Los Vásquez, Guatemala, to see a totally new water system completed that will serve 90 families for decades to come! This is but the tip of the iceberg. We have so many

reasons to give thanks to God!

As we set our sights upon 2023, we know, by faith, that God will continue to work wonders among us and through us. Our desire is to move boldly forward in mission and ministry, keeping Christ and the truth of His Word before us. To empower such ministry will require a united partnership of Consecrated Stewards, who joyfully desire to use the time, abilities, and resources that God has entrust-

ed to them to make difference in God's kingdom. Pray for an increased outpouring of volunteers and financial commitments for the year ahead. We need both to keep our ministries strong and to move them forward.

Be on the lookout for a self-enclosed mailing that should arrive around the second week of November. In it, you will find instructions on how to access our new online time and talent survey www.crossview.net/timeandtalent (printed copies

> available at the registration desk). You will also find a detachable financial commitment card. Prayerfully complete the financial commitment card with a sacrificial and proportionate gift. Please bring your commitment card to worship on

Sunday, November 20th, where we will offer them as an act of worship or mail them if you are unable to attend in person. Below are some key dates for Consecrated Stewards:

- Oct 30–Nov 20: Sermon series in worship
- Oct 30–Nov 20: Bible study for children, youth, and adults during the education hour
- Nov 6: Prayer vigil in the sanctuary from 9:30 AM -12:30 PM
- Nov 20: Commitment Sunday during worship
- Nov 23: Thanksgiving Eve Worship with Pie Fellowship In the coming weeks, prayerfully consider how God

can use you as His Consecrated Steward at Cross View in the year ahead. Pray for a generous response from the entire congregation — one that springs forth from truly thankful hearts.

### **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) or Michael Kibat (mgkibat@centurylink.net). Register for this event on <u>CV Connect</u> or the Event Registration kiosks.



#### In Search of Natural Christmas Decorations

Cross View Christmas decorations this year will once again have a nature theme. Do you have hydrangeas, pinecones, dog wood, or berries you could share? Items can be brought to the church anytime through Wednesday Nov 23rd. Contact Sue Quist at sue@crossview.net.

### **Music Ministry**

#### PRAISE GOD THROUGH SONG

Please contact Sue Quist for more information regarding these groups.

- Women's Chorus: Rehearsals resume Wednesday, September 14, 7:15-8:00 PM
- Full Choir: Sing in worship one Sunday per month. Rehearsals will be on select Wednesdays 7:15-8:00 PM
- Men's Chorus: Interested in joining this group? Rehearsals TBD.

### **Christian Education**

#### **CONSECRATED STEWARDS** SUNDAYS, OCT 30-NOV 20 9:30-10:30 AM (ROOMS 209/210/211)

What does it mean to consecrate something? It simply means to set it apart, to make it sacred or holy. God sets Christfollowers apart for His holy purposes. The time, the abilities, and the resources that Consecutated God entrusts to us are to be managed-well



and put to use for His glory and for the building of His kingdom, here on earth as it is in heaven. In this congregation-wide study, we will reflect on God's Word, considering how He can use us individually and corporately as a congregation to empower gospel mission and ministry through Cross View. Questions? Contact Pastor Steve (steve@crossview.net). Register for this onsite/online class at <u>CV Connect</u> or the Event Registration kiosks.

#### COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP



We're excited to report that 90 Cross View members are attending Community Light School of Discipleship (CLSD) on Wednesday and Thursday nights in-person and online. Each week, 20 people are downloading the archived

videos and materials to lead studies in their churches around the country, as well. Dr. Reed Lessing has been leading the fall session, "This is My Story, This is My Song: Insights from Exodus and the enthusiasm for Dr. Lessing's lectures is growing every week! It will be hard to see the session draw to a close.



And yet, we're eager to join Dr. Dean Nadasdy as the winter session begins December 1! "Stories for Witness" will help participants discover the witness value of stories. They will review the great sacred story arcing over every

disciple's life and find themselves in the stories Jesus tells in the gospels. They will also consider their own stories for witness. The point of witness is just where the Christ story, the

story of another, and my own story intersect. To emphasize the visual nature of Jesus' stories, art will be used extensively.

Presenter: Dr. Dean Nadasdy, President Emeritus, MN South District, LCMS Winter session: December 1–February 9 (No classes on December 22 & 29)



#### **BUILDING YOUR STRENGTHS: WHO AM I IN GOD'S EYES?** MONTHLY ON THE FIRST MONDAY 9:30 AM (ROOM 218)

In this women's Bible study, we are reading and discussing chapters from Building Your Strengths: Who Am I in God's Eyes? book and study guide. Questions? Contact Marcy Nordhus at mpnordhus@gmail.com. Register for this onsite class at <u>CV Connect</u>.



#### **BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF) FOR WOMEN &** PRESCHOOL CHILDREN TUESDAYS, 12:30-2:00 PM

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 and she'll be happy to get you and your preschool children registered for this class.



### Interim Director of Outreach

Cross View announces Amy Gundermann will expand her role to Interim Director of Outreach and Adult Ministries. Amy has been our Praise Band lead and will assume additional responsibilities starting November 1 and continue through May 1, 2023. Her new duties will include Trinity First, EasterFest, local mission support, as well as staff liaison for adult ministry, small group ministry, and new member assimilation.

Amy received Director of Christian Outreach certification from Concordia University, St. Paul. Her training includes cross-cultural Christian outreach and vocal performance. She is excited to work with

Cross View members to expand His Kingdom during Cross View's Associate Pastor vacancy.

### Associate Pastor Vacancy

process continues. Hiring an Interim Director of Outreach and Adult Ministries, our first priority, insures 2022–2023 programming will continue.

Cross View is working with the Minnesota South District Office of Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod to complete pastoral Call documentation. Once completed, our Call Committee will convene and begin Cross View's Call process. The committee includes the Senior Pastor and representation from the Personnel Committee and the Church Council in addition to at least three Voting Members from the congregation who are distributed across the lifespan and who are not

Cross View's Associate Pastor Call currently serving on the Personnel Committee or Church Council. The committee will be led by the Senior Pastor or his delegate.

> The Call Committee will receive nominations from Cross View members, Minnesota South District, and complete paperwork for the possibility of a Seminary graduate placement. The Voters' Assembly has the sole authority to call a Pastor or Called Professional Church worker. Cross View's Call Committee membership will be communicated after Church Council's approval.

> Please direct questions to Scott Douglas, Call Committee Chair, at sldouglas1@Icloud.com.

### **Director of Youth and** Young Adult Ministry

Our focus since Jonathan's announcement has been ensuring seamless youth ministry programming. ALL 2022-2023 youth programs will go on as scheduled. Barb Coffin and Vicki Barton will coordinate programming. Volunteers will serve as teachers and supervisors. Cross View youth will grow in faith through educational programming, retreats, service events, and connecting with Jesus and peers in a

Christian setting.

The Personnel Committee is revising the job description and formulating Call Committee nominations for submission to Church Council at their November meeting. Please contact Scott Douglas, Personnel Committee Chair, at sldouglas1@ icloud.com if you are interested in serving on this committee.



### STEPHEN **MINISTRY CORNER**

Our congregation's Stephen Ministry equips laypeople to provide oneto-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

### **Children's Ministry**

#### PRESCHOOL KIDSTITUTE FOR NOVEMBER

Attention kids age Kindergarten and younger come to our next Preschool Kidstitute class on Wednesday, November 2, at 5:30–6:30 PM. We will gather in room 216–217. A parent is asked to stay while we engage in singing, crafts, Bible stories, and a lot of fun. Please RSVP to <u>barb@crossview.net</u> by Oct 31 as a light pizza dinner is served. Hope to see ya there!

#### CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION PRACTICE

Can you believe Christmas is fast approaching and therefore so is our yearly Children's Christmas program. This year our Children's Christmas Celebration will be at 10:45 AM on Dec 4 and will involve all the Sunday School children ages 2 to 6th grade. We are not having any Saturday practices, but we will practice during the Sunday School hour every Sunday until the 4th. Therefore, traditional Sunday School will be replaced by practices for the Celebration. Please see the practice schedule below. Please plan on having your child attend these practices even if they won't be able to attend the Celebration on Dec 4. If you know for sure your family won't be at the Celebration on the 4th, please email barb@crossview.net to let her know.

- Sunday, October 30: 9:30–10:30 AM practice
- Sunday, November 6: 9:30–10:30 AM practice
- Sunday, November 13: 9:30–10:30 AM practice
- Sunday, November 20: 9:30–10:30 AM practice
- Sunday, November 27: as needed, all participants will be notified
- Sunday, December 4: 9:30–10:30 AM dress rehearsal
- Sunday, December 4: Celebration in the Sanctuary at 10:45 AM

#### **PARENT CORNER**

With Thanksgiving right around the corner here are two activities to help teach thankfulness to your kiddos.

#### The Thankfulness Tree

Being thankful doesn't have to wait until November. Let us get our kids focused on being grateful starting as soon as you can get your "Thankfulness Tree" assembled. Here is a <u>link to order from Amazon</u>, or you can create your own. You'll need:

- Cut-out tree and leaves
- Markers
- Tape

Choose a wall and put up your fall tree, bare of all its leaves. Place a table nearby and spread blank leaves all over the table along with some markers and tape. Invite everyone in your family to write something they're thankful for EVERY day leading up to Thanksgiving, and tape it to your tree. Below are questions to get you thinking about ways you are thankful.

- 1. Think of your favorite meal this week. Who prepared it? What did God create that made it so good?
- 2. What's your favorite activity or hobby?
- 3. Think of the fun things you get to do as a family. What are they? What makes them fun?



4. What's something extra or special you've gotten to do this year?

#### **Thankfulness Catchers**

Gather the supplies and then bring the family together to make "Thankfulness Catchers!" Make one or many, it's really up to you. You'll need:

- Mason jar or an empty food can (rinsed and dried)
- Tissue paper or crepe paper
- Glue
- Markers
- Ribbon, raffia, or twine
- Construction paper, cut into strips

Glue pieces of tissue paper or crepe paper around the can or jar (paper can just be torn.) Tie a piece of ribbon, raffia, or twine around the top. Write the words "We are thankful for..." on a strip of construction paper and glue to the can/jar.

Leave your "Thankfulness Catcher" somewhere in the open, like the kitchen counter or dinner table. Leading up to Thanksgiving, have everyone write things they're thankful for on strips of paper, and place it in the catcher.



Then, as you're gathered around the table for your Thanksgiving meal, pass the catcher around the table and have everyone pull out the strips and read them out loud until all the strips have been read. Thank God for all those things as you pray for your meal!



### Women's Ministry

#### **COMFORT & JOY**

#### 2022 FALL LUNCHEON SPONSORED BY CROSS VIEW WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Location: Cross View Great Commission Room

Date: Saturday, November 5, 11:00 AM-1:30 PM

Speaker: Susanne Hanson presenting "Comfort and Joy in All Seasons"

Cost: \$15.00 per person

Register and pay online at the event registration desk, crossview.net, or CV Connect here.

Su says about her presentation: "Whether Christmas or the Fourth of July, autumn or spring, young or old in age, through times of joy or sorrow, as a newlywed or widow, a young mother or empty-nester — whatever might be considered a season – there is a need for the blessings of God's comfort and joy in our



personal lives and in the world around us...in other words, IN ALL SEASONS!"

#### **TRINITY FIRST THANK YOU**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Trinity First Back to School Supply Drive. Your donation benefited multiple classrooms supply their rooms with school supplies.



Trinity First Lutheran School

1115 East 19th Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55404 (612) 871-2353 - (612) 870-9487 trinityfirstschool.org / info@trinityfirst.org

August 25, 2022

Cross View Lutheran Church, Edina 6645 McCauley Trl W Edina, MN 55439-1076

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your incredible efforts to support our school as we open our 2022-2023 year! We have been blessed beyond measure with all the Amazon deliveries flooding in to our school! Our teachers are so thankful to be so blessed and cared for. We just opened our doors on Monday and these gifts are already being used!

We humbly thank our God for all of you and His provisions that allow us to open our doors to a brand new school year! We know your prayers are covering us as well and we are thankful to join together in front of our Father lifting up our precious students. Thank you.

We are blessed with many new families and with new staff as well. We are focused on our sole reason for existance - to bring the Good News of what God has done for us through Jesus Christ to all our students and their families! It is this purpose that guides us, fuels us and excites us for the school year ahead. Please continue to pray for Trinity First, that we are protected and that the Good News is spread wide and our service is fruitful. Thank for joining us on our new adventure! (Eukar Serving the Master Teacher, Sarah JS Wippich Principal Development Director Cell: 952-412-7007 WML har

Equipping Learners, Sharing Hope

#### **CHARITABLE DONATIONS**

The entire Cross View family is invited to help provide "comfort and iov" to those in need by participating in Charitable Donations for:

- Joseph's Coat: New or gently used winter coats for all ages
- Oasis for Youth: New or gently used hats, scarves, gloves, or warm socks for middle and high school aged youth.

Collection bins for each are placed in the upper lobby.



#### SILENT QUILT AUCTION

Women's The Ministry team at Cross View is hosting a silent auction to benefit Chen Mellema's charity Healing Flats. The auction item is a beautiful Christmas quilt called "Comfort and Joy." It was begun by Linda Baule before her





death and finished by Barb Schaus. The quilt is displayed in the upper lobby. Bidding will begin on Sunday, October 30, and continue until noon on Saturday, November 5, at the luncheon. Bids will be submitted online here and instructions will be provided.

#### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will be reading Lightening Strike by William Kent Krueger for our gathering in November. We will meet



for our discussion at RoseAnn Meier's home on Monday, November 21, at 1:00 PM. Her address is 8987 Garland Court, Eden Prairie. She is asking that you let her know by Sunday, November 20, whether or not you are coming. Her phone number is 952-435-2491. Please contact Marcy at mpnordhus@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to join.

# Born to Change the World

**BORN** 

CHANGE 불WORLD

AN ADVENT ICOVE GIFT

in partnership with

It's never too early to get excited about Advent or to buy Christmas gifts. An exciting Advent theme is coming: "Born to Change the World." The sermon series and its connected service opportunities provide a 3-way intersec-

tion between Jesus, who was Born to Change the World, people of the Bible, and people today. Our opportunity to put faith into action begins with serving starving children of God as our 2022 Love Gift.

Cross View is hosting a Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) MobilePack<sup>™</sup> event this December with the goal of packing 101,088 meals to feed 277 Children for one year. We need about 500 volunteers to meet our goal, so we are starting recruitment early. We are inviting Cross View members ages 5 and older, friends, family, neigh-

bors, classmates, coworkers, and members from six other churches in our circuit to join the event.

Everyone is encouraged to volunteer, to witness how God uses ordinary people to change the world, regardless of donation. However, to cover the cost of the ingredients for these meals, and as our 2022 Love Gift, a donation of \$50 per volunteer is suggested. If you are able to donate more than \$50, we would encourage you to do so to help cover the cost for those unable to make a donation at this amount. Donations in excess of the cost of the event will go to FMSC to help feed more children.

What: Born to Change the World MobilePack<sup>™</sup> Where: Cross View Lutheran Church When: December 2 and 3, 2022

Who: Cross View members over age 5 (childcare will be

provided at Cross View for children under 5), friends, family, neighbors, classmates, coworkers, and members from 6 other churches in our circuit

Sign-up and Donate: Sign-up online give.fmsc.org/crossview for one or more of the seven 2-hour shifts. Donations can also be made online using Cross View's specific MobilePack site <u>give.fmsc.org/</u> crossview or by writing a check to Cross View Lutheran Church with Feed My Starving Children or FMSC, in the memo line.

If you have any questions, feel free to connect with the event team.

#### **Event Hosts:**

Don Nelson, 952-826-9095, don9290@yahoo.com Pat Kullmann, 763-516-1029, pckullmann@gmail.com **Volunteer Coordinator:** 

Dan Battcher, 952-999-1676, dtbattcher@gmail.com **Fundraising Coordinator:** Lynn Pahl, 952-334-2930, lynnmpahl@gmail.com

Let's kick off Advent by being extensions of God's love

for the world with our time and a true gift of Love.





# Thanksgiving Eve Family-Friendly Service

November 23, 2022, 6:30–7:30 PM No worship on Thanksgiving Day

# **Pie Fest Fellowship**

Join us for pie and fellowship following the Thanksgiving Eve service. If you are willing to donate a pie, register on <u>CV Connect</u> or by contacting Sue Quist at <u>sue@crossview.net</u>.

### Trinity First Thanksgiving — Turkey-Takeout

Trinity First Thanksgiving in a basket! Despite COVID, we still want to encourage the staff and families of Trinity First Lutheran School by providing an opportunity to gather safely, eat a healthy meal, and just be together for Thanksgiving. Along with the Trinity First staff, we'll give each of the families a "Turkey-Takeout" basket. Each basket will con-



helping put together the Thanksgiving Baskets this year. To

finish these baskets, however, we still need help. Here's how: with the turkey and the pie. Would you consider donating \$20 so that we can give a gift card to each family? This gift card would be added to the Turkey-takeout basket and would enable each family to purchase about a 10 lb. turkey and a dessert of their choice at a local grocery store.

meal, mashed potatoes, corn, stuffing, etc. The Youth will be

### Early Childhood Center

tain all the dry and canned fixings for a traditional

#### ECC STAFF RECOGNIZED

In October the Early Childhood Center recognized 7 staff members for their years of service at the ECC. Their love and dedication to the Lord and the kids of the ECC is amazing. God has blessed the ECC with outstanding teachers. Those celebrating this year:

Stephanie Harris, Infant Room Teacher: 5 years Esther Kelzer, Float Teacher: 5 years Ann McCaughan, Penguins Teacher: 5 years Dawn Wheeler, Hopper Teacher: 5 years Julie Herman, Hopper Teacher: 10 years Natalie Stroming, Penguin Teacher: 10 years Stacey LaMere, Director: 15 years

#### FUNDRAISER AT DAVANNI'S

Please support the ECC this month by having dinner out. Monday, November 14th, we will be having a fundraiser at Davanni's in Edina. Any dine-in order or take out order qualifies and the ECC gets a percentage. Look for more details soon on how to participate in this fundraiser. There will be more restaurant fundraisers to come in the new year. <u>Click here</u> to donate.

### Youth Ministry

#### YOUTH GROUP

Youth group on Sunday nights starts at 6:30 PM unless otherwise noted!

- Nov 6: Youth at CV
- Nov 11/12: Apologetics Conference at Grace Church
- Nov 13: Youth at CV
- Nov 20: Youth at CV
- Nov 27: No youth group

#### YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL

- Nov 6: Consecrated Stewards 2
- Nov 13: Consecrated Stewards 3
- Nov 20: Consecrated Stewards 4
- Nov 27: Leadership Types 1



### Focus on the Family of Cross View by Paul Emmel

#### **KNIT TOGETHER IN LOVE**

I knew from the first time I saw them filling a long Cross View church pew — father, mother, and four teenage daughters — that this was indeed a special family. Corralling four teenagers to sit with their parents in church is a challenge for any generation. I did not know this was still possible!

What impressed me even more was their body language and the way they obviously enjoyed being with one another. No forced church attendance here. What I was observing was a genuine example of a family "knit together in love" (Col.2:2). As a family, they are both "Mary people and Martha people," learners and doers for the Lord.

The Kelzer family of Cross View Lutheran Church is the real thing.

Since joining Cross View in 2007, this amazing family has steadily and quietly worked behind the scenes using their considerable talents for the Lord and His people for 15 years and they don't seem to be slacking off.

As a family, they have been an integral part of almost every ministry that Cross View has offered. Collectively, they are a pastor's dream, the kind of family that causes congregations to thrive and radiate real Christian love.

Pastor Steve commented, "The Kelzers are a family that is literally and figuratively 'all in.' Every member is plugged into the mission and ministry of our congregation in meaningful and powerful ways." Even with the four sisters, Esther, Claire, Martha, and Rachel now attending college, the presence of this household is still felt throughout the congregation. A job needs to be done? Count on a Kelzer showing up to do it.

Being active at church has been demonstrated by their parents, Jim and Grace, who learned committed discipleship from their parents. Jim's mother taught Sunday school for forty years. Being active in church is simply part of Kelzer family life, a tradition as natural as breathing, eating, and having fun.

When both Grace and Jim lost their paying jobs at the same time, the Cross View congregation showed up for them, something they have not forgotten. "Cross View really stepped up for us!" Jim remarked. No wonder that love is returned to those who give it to others.

Barna Group Research reports that The Holy Spirit works not only through individuals, but also through complete households. Through "spiritually vibrant" households, Cross View is blessed beyond measure.

In the months ahead, I plan to feature stories of other households who work behind the scenes to demonstrate to the rest of us the meaning of true discipleship in this generation.



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



Seated: Simon, Brandolyn (daughter in law Karl's wife), Rachel, Roya and Ryker (the two children of Karl and Brandolyn), and Karl Standing: Grace, Esther, Jim, Martha, Claire





### Celebrating Jonathan & Kelsie Zellar's Ministry Among Us

L e n J C U E j



On October 21st, 2014, Cross View Lutheran Church unanimously voted to extend a call to Jonathan Zellar to be our next Director of Youth and Young Adults. Jonathan came to us out of school from Concordia University, Nebraska. He graduated in 2012 with his Director of Christian Education (DCE) Certification and a major in psychology. Jonathan was commissioned as a DCE of the LCMS and installed as Cross View's Director of Youth and Young Adults on November 23, 2014. In November of 2014, Kelsie Zellar also began working at Cross View's Early Childhood Center (ECC) in the infant room.

Together, Jonathan and Kelsie made a beautiful difference in God's kingdom during their eight years of ministry. They also grew a family, starting with Jordan, then with Carly, and departing with a baby on the way. Together, they formed lifelong relationships with children, youth, young adults, and families — Jon through youth ministry and Kelsie through Cross View's ECC.

As one reflects on Kelsie's ministry, she daily shared the love of Jesus with the littlest of His lambs. Not only did she love on these little ones, but she also shared God's love daily with parents and staff. In addition, she empowered her husband Jon to carry out his responsibilities at Cross View through her supporting role. Thank you, Kelsie, for making a difference in Cross View's ECC and church.

As one reflects on Jonathan's ministry, there are many memories to be sure. There were Sunday morning Bible classes, and Wednesday evening confirmation classes. Jonathan led multiple retreats with

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both junior and senior high youth. No one will forget the fun and abundant memories connected with Sunday night gatherings and activities...everything from organized games at Cross View to corn mazes and curling in the community! There were Rake and Run fundraisers, Easter breakfasts, and other events to empower ministry. Disciples were grown through apologetics conferences as well as many other events through the years. Jonathan connected our youth to the Rochester Servant Event. During the pandemic when that event was canceled, he began Cross View's version of it — Taking Care of the Twin Cities (TC<sup>2</sup>). Cross View's Youth enjoyed multiple National Youth Gatherings under Jonathan's leadership. They also traveled on multiple mission trips with him.

In addition to his responsibilities to youth and young adults, Jonathan made many other contributions to our ministries. He always had a way of presenting engaging and fun children's messages during worship as well as chapels for the children of our ECC. Jonathan worked with our Twelve 21 young adult group as well as serving as the staff liaison to our marketing team. During the pandemic, he not only started the podcast Cross View Voices, but also served as the resident-room-and-chair set up expert! He knew exactly how many chairs and the proper configuration needed to work with social distancing. He was that staff member who always seemed to fill-in where needed while letting the love of Jesus shine through him.

On September 11, 2022, Jonathan received a call to serve at Hosanna Lutheran in Mankato. He accepted that call on October 2. We celebrated Jon and Kelsie's ministry among us on October 23. Words cannot begin to express our thankfulness for their ministry among us. God truly made a difference through both. Jonathan, Kelsie, Jordan, Carly, and coming baby we love you, we thank God for your ministry among us, and we wish you God's richest blessings as you begin your new ministry in Mankato.



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

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Nader & Georgette Alaraj, POBLO

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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 <u>live streamed</u>.

Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays

SUNDAY EDUCATION 9:30 AM Onsite & Online

OFFICE HOURS Mon.-Fri., 9:00 ам - 4:30 рм

#### CALENDAR

Our most current calendar is always available at www.crossview.net/calendar

### CONNECT

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