

# CROSS VIEW CLARION

November 2023



**"God has equipped and positioned our congregation to make a real difference in our community, nation, and world." – Steve Wheeler**



## Join the Journey: Living Generously

by Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor

Generosity...it's such a simple word and yet it brims with meaning for disciples of Jesus Christ. Generosity is a gift to us from the first and ultimate giver of all things, God! We see generosity in all its fullness in the person and work of Jesus. Jesus bids us to *Join the Journey, Living Generously* like Him. What does Christlike generosity look like? St. Paul unpacks the answer in 2 Corinthians 8 & 9.

- It is carried out with joy. (2 Cor. 8:2 & 9:7)
- It is sacrificial in nature. (2 Cor. 8:3-4)
- It is motivated by God's grace to us in Christ. (2 Cor. 8:9)
- It is proportionate according to what has been entrusted. (2 Cor. 8:12)

- It is often best accomplished in the context of community. (2 Cor. 8:16-17)
- It is resourced, blessed, and multiplied by God. (2 Cor. 9:8)

Why *Join the Journey: Living Generously* like Jesus? Consider a few things that we know... Our world is a mess! Everywhere we look we see people suffering and living without hope because of sin's impact. Families are broken. Churches are in decline. Conflict rages between people and nations. Simply stated, our world needs the Good News of Jesus Christ like never before! This is not the time for Cross View to step back, this is the time for Cross View to step up.

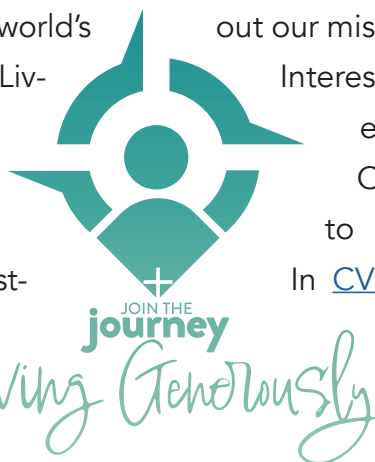


Why *Join the Journey: Living Generously* like Jesus? We have the answer to this world's mess. We know Christ, the Son of the Living God! We know the truth of His Word, the joy of His kingdom, the benefit of His gifts, and the hope of the world to come. As a congregation that is Christ-Centered, Discipleship Directed, Family Focused, and Mission Minded, we are equipped and poised to intersect a world that needs Jesus. I

invite you to *Join the Journey: Living Generously* as we partner together to empower mission and ministry in 2024.

Join the journey with children, youth, and adults as we receive God's Word and grow as Jesus' disciples through inspirational worship, Bible studies, small groups, and music. Join the journey locally as we share Jesus with our community through an early childhood center, a care portal, a vacation Bible school, outreach to immigrants, and service opportunities. Join the journey nationally as we offer a school of discipleship and engage in mission and service opportunities. Join the journey internationally as we feed hungry people, partner with 3rd world neighbors, support missionaries, and provide disaster relief when needed.

How can you *Join the Journey: Living Generously*? Cheerfully share a sacrificial and proportionate financial gift that empowers mission and ministry at Cross View. To ensure the continuation of existing ministries and to expand our future reach will require a strong general budget that exceeds the 2023 budget. This cannot be understated as 2024 marks the beginning of full mortgage payments and the due date for our bridge loan – RESTORED!



Equally important, we need people to carry out our mission and ministry. A new Skills and Interests survey (formerly time and talent) has been incorporated into CV Connect. It has significant potential to increase volunteer engagement. In [CV Connect](#), click on the "Serving" tab. Select "Skills and Interests" and complete the survey. Paper copies are available at the registration desk. Need help?

Training for CV Connect is available 9:30–10:30 AM in the chapel on Nov. 12.

In response to Jesus' gift to you and in love for the world around you, prayerfully complete your financial commitment card and your Skills and Interests survey. Detach your commitment card and **bring it with you to worship on November 22, Thanksgiving Eve, or on November 26, Commitment Sunday.** If you are unable to attend those dates, please mail your form to the church office.

**Enjoy multiple opportunities connected with *Join the Journey: Living Generously*.**

**Nov. 5-26:**

- Sunday sermon series in worship, 8:15 & 10:45 AM
- Sunday Bible study for adults, 9:30 AM

**Nov. 22:** Wednesday Thanksgiving Eve worship celebration with pie fellowship

**Nov. 26:** Commitment Sunday during worship

*Join the Journey: Living Generously* not because you have to, but because you want to. God has equipped and positioned our congregation to make a real difference in our community, nation, and world as, together, we share the love of Jesus and boldly proclaim the truth of the His Word.



# Financial Update

## Year-to-Date Results

- Year to Date Total Income is \$84,051 or 9.41% favorable to budget
- Year to Date Expenses are \$19,245 favorable to budget primarily due to open staff positions and reduced call committee expenses.
- ECC Income is \$13,495 favorable to budget. ECC expenses are \$19,245 unfavorable to budget.
- ECC Net Surplus of \$43,950 is \$5,750 unfavorable to budget.
- Additional pledges of \$23,763 were received in September, closing the gap for Restored! Thank You!
- The Restored! campaign is currently \$52,445 short in pledges to fully repay the loan by the May, 2024 maturity date.

**RESTORED!**  
Please prayerfully consider donating!



### Cross View Lutheran Church

9/30/23	2023 Actual Year to Date	2023 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
<b>Total Income</b>	\$977,302	\$893,251	\$84,051
<b>Total Expenses</b>	(\$901,936)	(\$1,009,537)	\$107,601
<b>General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>\$75,366</b>	<b>(\$116,286)</b>	<b>\$191,652</b>
<b>General Fund Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$244,083</b>	<b>\$52,431</b>	

### Cross View Restored! Building Campaign

<b>Contributions Received in September:</b>	<b>\$35,819</b>
<b>Total Pledges Made to Restored!</b>	<b>\$425,001</b>
<b>Total Contributions Collected:</b>	<b>\$379,751</b>
<b>Balance in Restored! Fund:</b>	<b>\$14,488</b>
<b>Loan Balance Outstanding:</b>	<b>\$186,000</b>
<b>Additional Gifts Needed to Repay Loan:</b>	<b>(\$52,445)</b>

## Early Childhood Center

### DEDICATED ECC STAFF

In October we recognized 3 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:

5 years: Rebekah – PE, Toddler, and SAC Teacher

15 years: Brie – Hopper and SAC Teacher

20 years: Libby – Duckling Teacher

Stacey LaMere celebrated 20 years serving in LCMS churches/schools.

- [Penguins](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VNI24J1TPX7I): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VNI24J1TPX7I
- [Hoppers](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/NIIA442UDQWM): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/NIIA442UDQWM
- [PE](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KYBVSJO9IEJK): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/1KYBVSJO9IEJK




### ECC CLASSROOM WISH LISTS

As a new school year begins, classrooms realize there are some items that would really help enhance learning, teaching, and play time. The ECC has created Amazon wish lists for each classroom. If you are shopping on Amazon and would like to add something from a classroom wish list, they would appreciate it. Below are the lists for each room. Also attached are some pictures of the children using some of the newly items purchased.

- [Bunnies](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/99TEUVWK8DL5): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/99TEUVWK8DL5
- [Cubs](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K4XY2O9IEF4F): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/K4XY2O9IEF4F
- [Teddies](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2Q2YIKCUULVXN): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2Q2YIKCUULVXN
- [Ducklings](https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2JFB7S1CWHX55): amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2JFB7S1CWHX55



## COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP



**Community Light**  
School of Discipleship

**Grow As Disciples To Make Disciples**

Community Light School of Discipleship is a Bible study designed to help each of us to grow as disciples to make disciples. This free series equips participants with the resources to go and make disciples wherever God has planted them.

Twin Cities churches can supplement their regular class offerings and attend these sessions onsite at Cross View in Edina or participate via online live streaming. Archived sessions are available on-demand.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- ✦ **Onsite** – Attend Community Light School of Discipleship at Cross View in a combination lecture assembly and small group breakout format.
- ✦ **Online** – Lectures and content are live-streamed.
- ✦ **On-Demand** – Sessions and resources are archived for ongoing availability.

## TIMING

- ✦ Two nine-week sessions start September 13, 2023 and run through February 7, 2024.
- ✦ Sessions will be held Wednesdays from 6:30 – 8:00 PM, both onsite at Cross View and via live streaming.
- ✦ Sessions are archived online for all participants.

## SESSION FORMAT

- 6:30 – 6:35** Opening  
**6:35 – 7:15** Presenter Lecture  
**7:15 – 7:25** Q & A with Presenter  
*Live streaming concludes following Q & A*  
**7:25 – 8:00** Small Group Discussion  
*Onsite Only*

## CLASS OVERVIEWS Two areas of focus each lasting nine weeks

### Hope Revealed – Revelation Part I (Chapters 1-10)

September 13 – November 15 (No class on October 18)



What a hope! And it's revealed in the book of Revelation! Pastor Reed will provide an overview, offer an in-depth study of the seven churches, then take us into the throne-room vision in chapters 4 and 5. Pastor Dean will continue the study starting in November, leading us into Revelation 6–22. **Presenter – Dr. Reed Lessing**, Professor of Theology and Ministry, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

### Hope Revealed – Revelation Part II (Chapters 11-22)

November 29 – February 7 (No classes on December 27 & January 3)



In chapters 11–22 of Revelation, John's visions prepare us for the culmination of history in the defeat of Satan, Armageddon, the last judgment, and the new heaven and new earth. It's one "Wow and Hallelujah!" after another! **Presenter – Dr. Dean Nadasdy**, President Emeritus, Minnesota South District, LCMS

Get more information and register for onsite sessions at [www.communitylight.net](http://www.communitylight.net), via email at [info@communitylight.net](mailto:info@communitylight.net), or by calling us at 952-941-1094.

Community Light School of Discipleship is a ministry of Cross View Lutheran Church in partnership with Concordia University, St. Paul & the Minnesota South District

## MONEY MATTERS

**Dates:** November 5–November 26, from 9:30–10:30 AM

**Location:** Fellowship Hall (Room 209–211)

**Teaching Leaders:** Pastor Steve Wheeler and Pastor Reed Lessing

After learning about Paul's offering for the poor Christians in Jerusalem — which undergirds the November Sunday morning sermon series on 2 Corinthians 8 and 9 — this study, led by Pastor Reed, will take a decidedly practical turn to look at what the Bible teaches about earning, saving, investing, and giving money.

## INTRO TO SMALL GROUPS

**Dates:** October 29–November 19, from 9:30–10:30 AM

**Location:** Fireside Room

**Teaching Leaders:** Small Groups MAT

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. Contact Amy Gundermann ([amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net)) for more information.

## PROMISED REST

### Women's Bible Study

**Dates:** Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM

**Location:** Room 119

If you're in need of rest for your soul from the anxieties and worries in the world, join your sisters in Christ for "Promised Rest: Finding Peace in God's Presence" by Michelle Diercks. This book study will focus on the different names and characteristics of God. We'll see how He keeps His promises to give us rest by offering us His name to cling to. Order your book from [www.CPH.org](http://www.CPH.org) or on Amazon. Call Vicki Weber at 952-838-5500 with questions.



## THE CHOSEN BIBLE STUDY (YOUTH & ADULTS)

**Dates:** Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM (thru Nov 18)

**Location:** Sr. High Youth Room

Using the video series *The Chosen*, we will explore what it



means to be chosen by God while revisiting the Biblical stories of Jesus' life on earth. Each week, we will watch an episode together and then discuss the themes. Amy Gundermann will lead this class for senior high youth and adults. Bring your Bible!

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY RECHARGE

**Dates:** Wednesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM

**Kidstitute Location:** (4 rooms) 216, 217, 218, & 223

The children will be learning about different attributes of God's character this year as the focus on the heart of God and how to reflect it in everyday life.

**Childcare:** Nursery Room (for 0–3-year-olds)

### RECHARGE ON WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

It's not too late to jump into the classes on Wednesday nights. Below is a list of all the classes for all ages and their locations on Wednesday nights.

- Childcare: 0–3-year-olds – Nursery
- Kidstitute: (4 rooms) 217, 216, 218, & 223. The children

will be learning about different attributes of God's character this year as the focus on the heart of God and how to reflect it in everyday life.

- Confirmation: Jr. High Room
- Choirs: Sanctuary
- Community Light School of Discipleship: (6 groups +) 209, 210, 211 (Fellowship Hall), 213 (Fireside), 224A & 225B (Great Commission Room), 118 A, and 118 B (Lower-Level Classroom)
- Monthly Mom's Group: 113
- Women's Bible Study: 119
- Chosen Bible Study for youth and adults in Sr. High Youth Room
- Wednesday Nights meal details: The meal will be catered by Chef Jeff and there will be a cost per individual of \$7 with a family max of \$25 per family. The menu will be announced weekly via email and the bulletin. Registration is required and is due by the Monday prior to noon.

## Children's Ministry

### STELLAR CHRISTMAS

Save the date for the Children's Christmas Celebration on Sunday, December 10th at 10:45 AM. It's going to be a *Stellar Christmas*. No. Really it is! The theme for the program this year is a follow-up to our VBS them from this past Summer. Our program *Stellar Christmas* will teach the children to Shine Jesus' Light.



### JOURNEY STEPPING STONE CELEBRATION

On Sunday, November 5th, Cross View will celebrate our 6th grade students with the faith Stepping Stone called Journey. In this series of classes with Cross View's families we try to help the older child begin to accept responsibility for faith development. At this stage children examine the scriptures and their identity in Christ as they approach the new experience of middle school. The student will be encouraged during these years to see discipleship as a commitment to gathering in unity with all the family of God, growing in grace by Word and sacrament, and going into the world to share the love of Christ. At the class for this Stepping Stone, the student and parent will discuss the student's identity in Christ, their confidence in Christ and how it can be acted out in their daily life. They will discuss the church's view of purity & abstinence.

### PARENT CORNER



**November is a great time to reflect on gratitude.**

1. [Model gratitude out loud](#) by being an example of it. Say "thank you" to others and even to your own kids. Call attention to it when someone around you does something beyond what's expected.
2. [Make a gratitude tree or](#) start a gratitude journal.

3. [Read books](#) about gratitude.

4. Find fun ways to express thanks and share love (even with the shyest of kids.) Your child can draw a picture, make cookies, write a note, smile, or give a thumbs up to express thanks to others.

5. [Donate or volunteer with your children](#) and help to put things in perspective for them. Talk to your kids about those who are less fortunate. Don't scare them, but don't keep them in the dark either. Understanding that not everyone has the same advantages will help them develop compassion for others and gratitude for their own privileges.

6. Let kids choose. Encourage kids to turn their interests into action. Whether it's a fundraising drive at school, a bake sale, or a run for charity, expressing their interests and using their skills for a good cause is a great way to boost their confidence and give them a chance to give back at the same time.

7. [Make gratitude part of your day, every day.](#) Create a pattern at bedtime or mealtime and ask your child to tell you three things they're grateful for. Even if they've had a bad day, it will help them and you end each day on a positive note.

8. Give kids credit. Be mindful of the fact that your child may have their own way of expressing gratitude, even if it doesn't fit your expression. Different kids communicate in different ways. For example, your child may be more comfortable giving a hug than a verbal thank-you or might show their appreciation by helping out around the house or drawing you a picture. Tuning in to your child's unique way of being thankful will let them know that even as they're learning new ways to give back, you see and appreciate the thoughtful person they already are.

# Youth Ministry

## REALITY CONFERENCE: "MAN OR MAKER: WHO SAYS WHO YOU ARE?"

November 10th and 11th, Cross View youth, along with leaders and chaperones, have an opportunity to attend a conference at Grace Church titled "Man or Maker: Who Says Who You Are?" This conference is put on by a company called Stand to Reason (STR) and discusses a lot of hot topics and Christian Apologetics such as defending the faith, identity, sexuality, social media, and many others.

### CONFERENCE DETAILS

- 4:30 PM November 10th through 8:00 PM November 11th
- Drop off and pick up at Cross View
- Cost: \$75 per person (Adults as well)
- Housing: We will be staying at Cross View overnight to eliminate drop-offs and pick-ups.
- Transportation: We are asking our chaperones to drive youth to and from the conference.



## CONFIRMATION RETREAT

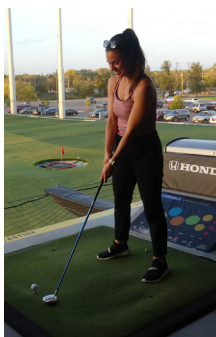
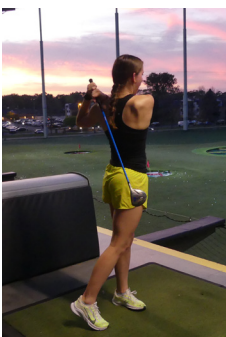
The 7th & 8th grade confirmands had a fun retreat down at Camp Omega from Friday, September 22, through Saturday night, September 23. They learned about The Law, Sin, and The Gospel, as well as having dedicated Bible devotion time. They played games that involved marshmallows, golf clubs, and making decisions on what they would rather do – for example, would you rather take vacation on a beach or in a cabin in the woods. God answered prayers for a break in the rain so that the confirmands were able to spend some time outside doing archery and cleaning up the trails and campfire pits as a service project for the camp. During free time, it started to drizzle but that didn't stop some of them from going on a nature hike, led by Brad Ost, which included pushing a tree over (to prevent it from falling on the trail) as well as learning things about the nature God created around them. Friday night everyone watched a movie called "God Is Not Dead II" and ate popcorn...lots of it ending up on the floor as seen when the light came back on. The food was good, and the boys' table was given everyone's extra cookies/desserts! It was a great weekend of creating and deepening bonds with each other, and more importantly, with the Lord.





## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH AT TOP GOLF

The Senior High youth enjoyed a beautiful evening at Top Golf at the beginning of October. It was the first off-site youth group activity planned for this school year. (Top Golf is a sports entertainment complex featuring a high-tech golf driving range game with electronically tracked golf balls and automatically scored drives.) A variety of different golf games were played, many points were scored, some swings were missed, piles of delicious food was devoured, and much fun was had by all.



## HANNAH WELCOME PARTY

On October 15th, the Junior and Senior High youth officially welcomed Hannah as their new youth director at a party complete with food, games, gifts, fellowship, laughter, and fun. It was a great opportunity for youth to get to know Hannah, particularly during the game that had them guessing facts about her. (Google proved to be an eerily accurate cheat sheet to a few resourceful youths.) The night culminated by introducing Hannah and the youngest youth to a lively, action-packed game of Pinhead, the relatively simple bowling pin game invented by Cross View youth several years ago, but still enjoyed as one of their favorites. It was a great evening full of fellowship and fun that set the stage for an exciting new chapter in Cross View's Youth Ministry with Hannah at the helm.



## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

**Nov 10-11:** Reality Apologetics Conference

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

**Nov 5:** Sr Youth at CV

**Nov 10-11:** Reality Apologetics Conference

**Nov 12:** Sr Youth at CV

**Nov 19:** Sr Youth at CV

**Nov 26:** No Sr Youth (Thanksgiving weekend)

## NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

Save the Date! The LCMS National Youth Gathering is scheduled for July 19–23, 2025, in New Orleans. Youth participants must be 14 years old or entering his or her ninth-grade year at the time of the Gathering.

The theme for 2025's Gathering was just released: Endure! The youth will be diving into Hebrews 12:1–3. For more information visit [lcmsgathering.com](http://lcmsgathering.com) or contact Hannah at [hannah@crossview.net](mailto:hannah@crossview.net). More details will come as the dates get closer.



### A Note from Hannah

*To the members at Cross View,*

*Thank you so much for your warm welcome and kind words during my installation. I'm looking forward to getting to know you all more, building relationships with the youth, and seeing what God has in store for my ministry here at Cross View!*

*Blessings,  
Hannah*

## YOUTH MINISTRY WISH LIST

As Junior and Senior High youth are settling into their new spaces downstairs, they have identified a few things that they would like to do to make the space more youth friendly. If you are able to help in one of the following ways, please contact Hannah Zahrt at [hannah@crossview.net](mailto:hannah@crossview.net). Thank you for your support of our youth!

- Pool table in good condition: If you have or know of a pool table either to donate or for low cost, we would love to see if it's a good fit for the Senior High Youth room.
- Do you have a knack for decorating? We have a few ideas for decorating the youth spaces but need people to help finalize and execute the plans.
- Current board or card games: If you have fun for youth board or card games that you don't play anymore, perhaps we can add them to our collection?



## 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



# Adult Ministry

## MEN'S MINISTRY LAUNCH EVENT

The Men's Breakfast in October marked the launch of a ministry that will encourage men in their faith walk to bring glory to the Lord in all things! Nearly 90 men of all ages attended our launch event for Men's Ministry with featured speaker Mike Max of WCCO. Thank you to everyone who made this day a success! Mark your calendar for a day to serve together at Feed My Starving Children on January 13th at 9:00 AM and watch for more events to come.



## 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. Several new groups are starting to form over the summer. 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](#).

## TNT EVENTS

Come and get to know others at TNT (Twenties & Thirties Young Adult Ministry) in the same life stage through Bible study and time to hang out together! Meeting locations vary, but events will be on Tuesdays from 6:30–8:00 PM. Contact Nicole ([nclvvo@gmail.com](mailto:nclvvo@gmail.com)) or Michael ([michaelmunl2018@gmail.com](mailto:michaelmunl2018@gmail.com)) with questions or to be added to the GroupMe for TNT.

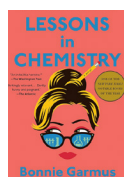
November 7: Sr. High Youth Room at Church

November 10: Friendsgiving Potluck



## WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, November 20 at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing the book *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus. Please feel free to join them as new members are always welcome.



## MEAL TRAIN MINISTRY

Do you know someone who could use help with a few extra meals...a new mom, someone recovering from surgery, a family dealing with the loss of a loved one? Meal Train is a wonderful way to make that happen. To learn more about Meal Train, check it out at [www.mealtrain.com](http://www.mealtrain.com). Cross View's Women's Ministry has designated two young Cross View members, Emma Julkowski and Megan Jarvis, to oversee this process. They'll set up the Meal Train and send out the notification to all who'd be willing to prepare a meal. If you know of a need, let the Cross View office know and they will set the wheels of love and service in motion.



## YOU'RE INVITED! Women's Ministry Fall Luncheon

Saturday, Nov. 4, 11:00 AM–1:00 PM



Speaker: Jane Horn

SPEAKING ON:  
"POSITIONAL GRATITUDE"

Caterer: Lunch Thyme

Cost: \$15.00 per person

### REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Sign up at any of the following locations:  
Event Registration Kiosk in CV's upper lobby  
[Crossview.net](http://Crossview.net)  
Cross View's Facebook page

Questions? Contact:  
Marcia Johnson @ 812-454-4129  
Vicki Weber @ 952-995-0774



The entire congregation is invited to contribute to the 2023 Women's Ministry Fall Luncheon Charitable Outreach.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Boys	Either	Girls
Yo-yo	Nail clipper, file	Yo-yo
Toy car	Fun adhesive bandages	Slinky
Ball	Reusable eating utensils	Etch A Sketch
Frisbee	Harmonica, kazoo, etc.	Stuffed animal
Puzzle	Jump rope	Drawing pad
Small Lego kit	Socks/undergarments	Jewelry kit
Sun glasses	Pencil case	Sewing kit
Flip flops (sz 5–9)	Notebook	Flip flops
Activity books	Flashlight	Hair accessories
	Index cards	Sunglasses
	Small adhesive tape	

The Women's Ministry will be collecting any of the above items for the annual **Operation Christmas Child** effort sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. Collection boxes will be placed in Cross View's upper lobby starting Sunday, October 22, and remain through Saturday, November 4, at the "Give Thanks With A Grateful Heart" Fall Luncheon. Gift items are targeted toward middle and high school-aged kids.

Questions? Contact:  
Glenda Kibat @ 612-418-2718  
Barb Schaus @ 320-260-0383



Cross View  
WOMEN'S MINISTRY

# Outreach and Missions

## FALL FOOD DRIVE

Thank you to everyone who donated food to our Fall Food Drive! With our collection through the congregation and ECC, we donated 472 pounds of food to VEAP's food shelf to help our neighbors in need!



## TRINITY FIRST — THANKSGIVING FAMILY NIGHT

Cross View is helping to provide a Thanksgiving Family Night at Trinity First Lutheran School on November 21st from 5:00-6:30 PM. Rather than the full-blown meal that we have done in the past, we will have desserts, games, and crafts for families to do together. If you would like to help with this event, please [sign up on CV Connect](#) to volunteer or donate desserts. Contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) or Tom Pahl at [tpahl@foleymansfield.com](mailto:tpahl@foleymansfield.com) with questions.

## NATIVITYFEST

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 2ND FROM 10:00 AM-NOON**

Our Christmas outreach event is a great way to kick off the Advent season! The activities will point to Jesus as the reason for the season with something for everyone to enjoy. We will have a live nativity, crafts, treats, story time, and more. We will need lots of helpers, so check out [CV Connect](#) for ways to volunteer! Also, consider donating a package of cookies to be served as treats during the event. Contact Amy Gundermann ([amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net)) or Barb Coffin ([barb@crossview.net](mailto:barb@crossview.net)) with questions.



## THE MIGHTY DESSERT DONATION DRIVE

We are looking for LOTS of dessert donations this month! Please consider adding a pie, a package of cookies, or another dessert to your shopping list to help out. We are collecting pies and holiday desserts for the Trinity First Thanksgiving Family Night on November 21st, pies for the Pie Fest after Thanksgiving Eve worship at Cross View on November 22nd, and cookies for the NativityFest outreach event on December 2nd.

Donations will be collected November 19-26 at church. Please do not bring frozen or uncooked pies. If you drop off during the week, visit the church office with your donation. Watch for a donation display in the narthex and grab a dessert tag to sign up and help make these events even more "sweet"!

## VOLUNTEER WITH POBLO

POBLO is in need of additional volunteers to help English language learners. Contact volunteer coordinator Shari Schulze at 612-552-3878 or [shari@poblo.org](mailto:shari@poblo.org).

## CAREPORTAL – RESPONSE TEAM UPDATE

Praise God for our newly trained CarePortal Response Team! In October, we trained 30 people to be ready to respond as needs arise through the CarePortal platform. We are one of four churches in Hennepin County that were ready to go when the program launched to meet the needs of children and families in crisis within our community. We have already begun to respond to need requests! If you are still interested in being involved, please contact Pam Olsen who is our team lead at Cross View at [careportal@crossview.net](mailto:careportal@crossview.net). In particular, we will need additional help with delivery of larger items so prayerfully consider joining us! Visit [www.careportal.org](http://www.careportal.org) to learn more.

## WORK ON THE LOS VÁSQUEZ GREENHOUSE HAS BEGUN

After a brief delay, work has begun on the greenhouse in Los Vásquez, Guatemala.

There are fourteen families that have volunteered to clear the dense vegetation, provide the labor to build the greenhouse, and then, to tend to the vegetable plants that will be grown for food. Cross View has donated the materials required to build the greenhouse.

The greenhouse will be 75 feet by 60 feet. A drip irrigation system will be used to water the vegetables. In the background of the first photograph, you can see the large, black, water holding tank. This is a new addition to the water system, devoted specifically to provide water for the greenhouse.

The vegetables will be shared by the people in Los Vásquez and some of the vegetables will be sold at the market in La Union. This project would not have been possible without the water project!

Thank you, Cross View, for generously supporting the Guatemala Mission Project. We look forward to our upcoming mission trip on April 11 to April 18, 2024, and partnering with our brothers and sisters in Christ, living in Los Vásquez.

We continue to make a tremendous difference for those people, living in Los Vásquez. Thank you, Cross View!





# Thanksgiving Eve Family-Friendly Service

November 22, 2023, 6:30–7:30 PM

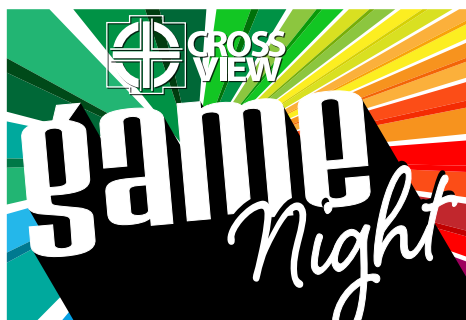
*No worship on Thanksgiving Day*

## Pie Fest Fellowship

Join us for pie and fellowship following the Thanksgiving Eve service. If you are willing to donate a baked store-bought pie, register on CV Connect or by contacting Renee Kirchner ([Renee@crossview.net](mailto:Renee@crossview.net)).

## 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? Questions? Contact John Daenzer ([johndaenzer@gmail.com](mailto:johndaenzer@gmail.com)) or Michael Kibat ([mgkibat@centurylink.net](mailto:mgkibat@centurylink.net)). Register for this event on [CV Connect](#) or Event Registration kiosks.



## Hannah Zahrte Installed

**Director of Christian Education – Youth & Young Adults**

Hannah Zahrte was installed as Cross View's Director of Christian Education – Youth & Young Adults on October 8th, 2023. After an exhaustive, year-long-search, Cross View's voters extended a Divine Call to Hannah Zahrte on August 20th. Hannah communicated her acceptance of that call on September 10, our fall kickoff. Her decision to serve among us was an answer to many sincere prayers. She officially began her service at Cross on

Monday, October 9th.

We are excited with Hannah as she begins her work among us. Keep her in your daily prayers as she builds relationships with Cross View's youth, young adults, parents, and the rest of the congregation. Together, let's make her transition to Cross View one that is filled with joy as we welcome, encourage, and support her ministry among us! Praise God from whom all blessings flow!



# Rev. Gerald Coleman Joined to the Church Triumphant

After a multi-year battle with COPD that had reached stage 4, the Rev. Gerald Coleman passed away on Monday, October 16, at 5:00 PM. Pastor Gerry was the sixth pastor called by Cross View. He was installed on May 31, 1998. He served Cross View until March 19, 2002, when he accepted a call to Concordia College in Bronxville, NY, to serve as Dean of Worship and Director of Choral music.

Pastor Gerry made a difference among us during his time at Cross View. He was a gifted preacher and a creative writer of various orders of



worship. It goes without saying that Pastor Gerry was an extremely talented musician and song writer. Many will remember him leading the congregation from the piano. On a personal level, Pastor Gerry took a special interest in each person, both young and old, as he shared the love of Christ.

Though our hearts are deeply saddened by his passing, we rejoice in his eternal victory through faith in Jesus. He is with the Lamb... "Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me his own! The Lamb is seated on his throne!"

## Digital Volunteers Needed to Spread the Word!

Cross View has been blessed with the capability to live stream to the community and to the entire world! We have also been blessed to have key support staff and volunteers to help make that possible. To continue to connect and grow by spreading the word of God digitally we need volunteers to assist with various support roles and services. We have been unable to stream Sunday Bible Studies and additional services due to our limited volunteers and have many inquiries to provide more live streams.

We are looking for 12 additional volunteers to help with the following:

- Streaming 8:15 AM service, 9:30 AM Bible study and 10:45 AM services.
- For each service we are asking for a commitment of only one time slot for any 1st through 5th week of the month service for a total of 12 hours of volunteering a year (hint: if you volunteer for the 5th Sunday that is only 6 times a year!)
- We have two 2-person teams staffed for each streaming service. One 2-person team in the Control Room to stream audio and video, and a second 2-person team in the rooms being streamed to manage audio/lights and video (i.e., Sanctuary, Great Commission Room, and rooms 209/210/211 for Bible Studies)

If you want to investigate what we use as core technology along with the high-level functions performed, feel free to Google each software system to learn more but be assured the Digital Team will fully train you to be an expert.

- ProPresenter – this person flips the slides and reads the minds of the Pastors during the services in the Sanctuary or GCR displaying lyrics, slides, and media to keep singing and sermons in synch and on time.
- Allen & Heath Sound Board – controls the microphones and sound in the room or on the stream. Do not be scared by the 100 buttons and switches, we only need to use a few!
- Wirecast – be the producer of the live stream by managing the professional broadcasts and video controls.

Hopefully you find yourself inspired to learn more as you would be:

- Helping Cross View spread the word of God to as many people as possible!
- Volunteering and providing a necessary service. If you are a student, volunteer hours are needed for many honor or service programs. Anyone is welcome to assist who can focus for a full hour.
- Reducing the time commitment needed as many hands make light work. Adding to the existing team creates opportunities to stream additional broadcasts with more volunteers and increased flexibility of staffing.

Do not be afraid! Please let us know if you are interested. Contact Mark Weber at [mweber1@yahoo.com](mailto:mweber1@yahoo.com), stop by and chat with any of us at the next service, or call the church office at 952-941-1094.

## Volunteer to Decorate Trees

Christmas trees will be put up and decorated on Friday, November 24th, from 9:00 AM to Noon. Can you help make our church beautiful for the Christmas season? The decorating team makes this fun day run smooth and easy — most trees will already be put together. Help is needed placing trees in their places and making them look beautiful. All ages are welcome to help. Treats and refreshments provided. Contact the church office to volunteer.

## Good rates on LCEF investments!

Cross View members, invest some funds in LCEF, Lutheran Church Extension Fund, and earn a good rate of return on your investment. Similar to a bank, LCEF takes invested funds and provides loans to congregations for new church buildings, additions, and remodeling projects. LCEF has \$2 billion in assets and is Cross View's mortgage lender.

Currently, for new investments, you can earn 5.00% on an 18-month term note, or 4.50% on a 6-month term note. To learn more, go to [lcef.org](http://lcef.org), or call 1-800-843-5233.







### THE INTERNATIONAL MINISTRY OF HARRY & CHLORIS WENDT *Part 1 of a 2-Part Series*

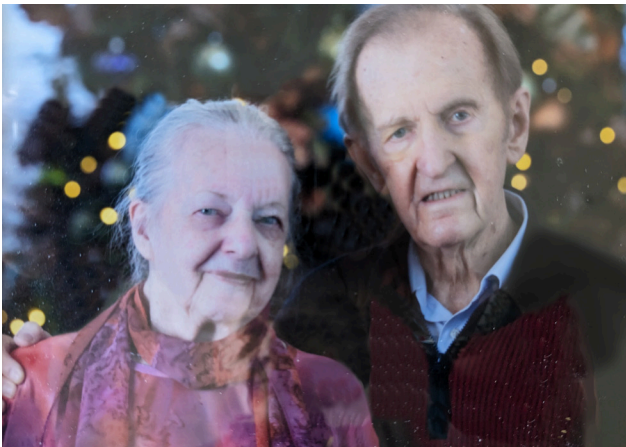
Cross View has been blessed for so many years through Pastor Harry and Chloris Wendt. Their primary mission was to teach the meaning of the overall story of Scriptures through Crossways International publications.

They traveled and taught around the globe in seminars including the Far East. Now in retirement at Heritage Village, I asked them to reflect on the amazing ministry they were called to.

*Q. Chloris, what circumstances in your lives prepared you for your remarkable ministry of Crossways?*

Glancing across the valley on a two mile walk home from her one-roomed school at the age of eight, normally very shy Chloris determined to advise God. "I never want to leave my Mommy and Daddy, or our farm (in Australia) — and I never want to marry a Pastor, because that would be boring!" She was the oldest (by six years) in the family so became her father's "son" as well as her mother's little helper. God had other ideas! Like her pastor-husband's family, her family members were committed Lutherans, practicing daily study of the Word and being a Christian presence in the community. Hospitality, music, and storytelling were favorite activities for Harry's and Chloris' relatives, when time allowed. Harry's Grandpa was a missionary from Germany. Three of his sons became pastors, another a church schoolteacher.

There is no doubt that the deep faith of the Wendt family was affected by Harry's mother's health (she developed Parkinson's Disease when Harry was 14 years of age) and his younger brother who was injured at birth. In his late teens, Harry studied graphic art. Thus, it became a powerful component of his teaching during more than 20 years of



parish ministry, especially as his first parish in New Zealand was 170 miles long. It consisted of 9 preaching places requiring a 4 days' journey once a month. Many locals thought we represented a sect. As Harry visited folk in our village, he often got this response, "Oh, you're the new minister. I don't believe in God." Harry responded, "Tell me about the god you do not believe in." The new friend obliged, whereupon Harry would announce, "I don't believe in that god, either. Would you like to learn about the God of the Bible? I am beginning a six-week course. No obligation. Just come." So, many of the local folk attended and either returned to their own church with determination to teach the course there or joined our congregation. Harry had continuous teaching of the biblical story throughout his parish ministry. We experienced many heartwarming conversions.

During Harry's parish ministry his teaching encompassed many opportunities. Because of his exposure to many types of ministry he wrote articles for the Australian Lutheran, curriculum for religious education in public schools, Lutheran youth, and women's ministry. He broadcast religious series on commercial and ABC (think BBC) radio and television stations. Since Crossways International (CI) was established, his curriculum has been used in prison, deaf, blind, and special education, along with homeless missions, and ghettos. Harry offered his presentation on an international site. That astonishingly expanded, resulting in his being invited to present his seminars in over 45 countries. Other missionaries, teachers, and pastors have brought the total to over 90 different cultures/countries, many of whom do not have a written language. These cultures were overjoyed to be able to immediately understand the Bible's story and relate it to another person or group. CI's mission has encompassed about 30 different denominations, indicating how many persons or leaders want to be able to join the dots of the Bible story.

*Q. Please share some examples of lives that were changed through Crossways International Ministries.*

A group of 80+ year old women who were studying the 2 year course, Crossways, were inspired to establish a ministry to school children who needed assistance with their language skills and general schoolwork. Their pastor conveyed these ladies interstate to attend Harry's five-day seminar. And a pastor dedicated himself to teaching Crossways to enthusiastic street people over a number of years.



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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Julie Marquardt, President

The *Clarion* is published monthly by Cross View Lutheran Church.  
Items for inclusion should be sent via email to [clarion@crossview.net](mailto:clarion@crossview.net).



## 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 is on 2nd & 4th Sundays.

## SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

## RECHARGE

Wednesdays, Sept. – May

5:15 PM Meal

6:30 PM Programming

[www.crossview.net/recharge](http://www.crossview.net/recharge)

## 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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