

CROSS VIEW CLARION

November 2024

"Empowered for generosity, our congregation can make a kingdom difference for people of all ages..." –Pastor Steve Wheeler



by Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor

Power...We are a people and a nation that depends on it. Think of all the things in our everyday lives that we take for granted that require power — our national security, communications, water systems, sewer systems, transportation, healthcare, heating, cooling, and the countless other luxuries. We need power to survive. Our safety, security, and very lives depend upon it.

In Acts 1:8a, we are told, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses..." As Christ-followers, we are plugged into a power like none other. Connection to this power-source is a matter of eternal life or death. This power is, of course, God's power that is ours through faith in Christ Jesus. "It (the gospel) is the power of God for the salvation of everyone who believes..." (Romans 1:16.) God's power at work in our lives gives us purpose, fills us with hope, makes us Jesus' witnesses, and empowers us for generosity.

It is with great joy that we set our eyes toward "gospel-powered" mission and ministry at Cross View in 2025. Knowing what God has done in the past, we can hardly wait to experience God's power at work in our lives and through our ministry in the future. Cross View is like a mighty charging station. Here, as we are plugged into God's Word and His gifts, the Holy Spirit generously empowers us to:

- Connect with God through our worship
- Grow in our faith and understanding of His Word





- Serve each other and the world with His love
- Care for people near and far with Jesus' compassion
- Proclaim the most powerful message on earth
- Live with confidence, hope, and purpose
- Impact future generations with the power of the gospel

Empowered for generosity, our congregation can make a kingdom difference for people of all ages as we support Bible-centered teaching in our worship services, in our educational ministries, and in our Early Childhood Center. Fed and filled, we are empowered to reach our local community through ministries like our Care Portal, TC2, and other service opportunities. Charged with gospel-power, we can make a difference nationally through LERT (Lutheran Early Response Teams) as we partner in disaster relief efforts and in other important missional opportunities. Fueled with the love of Christ, we can make a difference internationally through our partnership with the people of Los Vásquez, Guatemala, through Feed My Starving Children, and through our support of multiple missionaries. This is but a small taste of the kingdom difference that God's power can work through us in the year ahead.

A brief browse on the internet, a little listen on the radio, a short showing of the news quickly unveils a broken and hurting world that needs the power of the gospel more than ever. God has uniquely empowered and positioned our congregation to be His witnesses to that world in the year ahead.

Prayerfully consider how you can share a sacrificial and proportionate financial gift as well as a generous offering of time and talent to support the mission and ministry of Cross View. Working together, we can make a kingdom difference locally, national-

ly, and internationally. To meet our missional goals, Cross View will need to meet and exceed the 2024 budget to ensure the continuance of existing ministries and to continue to advance the gospel message forward in 2025. May our gifts of time, abilities, and financial resources be given with joy as first-fruits to the Lord with the confidence that He will multiply them to empower others to know the great joy of Christ that is already ours.

In response to Jesus' love for you and in love for the world around you, prayerfully complete your financial commitment card and complete/update your Skills and Interests survey. Detach your commitment card and bring it with you to worship on November 24, our Commitment Sunday. If you are unable to attend, please mail your form to the church office. To complete your Skills and Interests survey, log on to CV Connect, select the "Serving" tab on the menu, and edit your Skills and Interests checklists.

- Enjoy multiple opportunities connected to Empowered for Generosity Nov. 10–27.
- Sunday sermon series in worship, 8:15 & 10:45 AM
- Sunday Bible study for adults, 9:30 AM
- November 24 — Commitment Sunday during worship
- November 27 — Thanksgiving Eve worship celebration with pie fellowship

We are empowered for generosity. We are plugged into a power like none other. May God move each of our hearts to a joyful response in the year ahead trusting in Him "who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen!" (Ephesians 3:20-21).

Stewardship of Skills and Interests

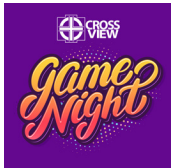
How is the Lord calling you to use your gifts at church? As we focus on stewardship this month, take the time to pray about this and update your Skills and Interests listed on your profile on [CV Connect](#) under "Serving". On a computer, click the three dots and select "edit." On mobile device, tap the forward arrow. Check all that apply.

If you would like help accessing your profile, contact our office. May Jesus be glorified in all that we do!

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.

Game Night on November 10th will be dedicated to playing the card game Euchre. Meet at 6 PM in the lobby to learn the game and compete in a tournament starting at 6:30 PM. Questions? Contact John Daenzer at johndaenzer@gmail.com or Michael Kibat at mgkibat@centurylink.net.



Thank You Note

Thank you for the kind words and gifts Maureen and I received from so many people at Cross View. We appreciate your thoughtfulness and encouragement.

*God's Peace,
Maureen and Lowell Herzberg*

Financial Update

Year-to-Date Results

- Year to date income is 2.14% favorable to budget.
- Year to date expenses are \$115,980 favorable to budget and higher than 2023.
- The primary expense variances were lower utility costs, lower wage expenses, and call committee expenses.
- ECC Income was unfavorable to budget primarily due to a lag in state of MN payments.
- ECC Expenses are on plan resulting in a Net Surplus of \$42,313.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
9/30/24	2024 Actual Year to Date	2024 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$1,115,501	\$1,110,025	\$5,476
Total Expenses	(\$1,047,245)	(\$1,183,988)	\$136,743
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$68,256	(\$73,963)	\$142,219
General Fund Ending Balance	\$340,753	\$198,534	

Christian Education

THE OLD TESTAMENT HALL OF FAME | HEBREWS 11

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed Lessing

Date: Sunday morning, Nov 3

Location: The sanctuary

On November 3rd, All Saints Sunday, it's fitting to look at a number of Old Testament saints like Abel, Abraham, Aaron—and many others. Hebrews 11 is one of the most inspiring chapters in the Bible. You're invited to come and see why!

PARABLES AND POSSESSIONS

Teaching Leader: Pastor Reed Lessing

Date: Sunday mornings, Nov 10, 17 & 24

Location: The sanctuary

Sermons during our fall stewardship emphasis will come from parables in the gospel of Matthew. Pastor Reed's Sunday Adult Bible Class, on the other hand, will take up parables in Luke: The Good Samaritan (Luke 10:25–37), the Unjust Steward (Luke 16:1–14), and the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke

16:19–31). Jesus has a lot to teach us about money; how we make it, spend it, give it, and invest it. Come and learn from the Master!

COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP (CLSD)

Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing will wrap up his lecture on Jonah: The Survivor Series on November 13. There is no class on November 20 or 27. Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy will begin Threads: Celebrating the Biblical Tapestry on December 4 from 6:30–8:00 PM and conclude on February 12.

You can still join anytime! [Sign up on CV Connect](#). The lecture will be followed by discussion in small groups. If you would like to serve as a Discussion Group Leader, please contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net.



Children's Ministry

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DATES: NOVEMBER

- Sunday, November 3: Celebration of Journey Stepping Stone (Sixth grade)
- Wednesday, November 27: Thanksgiving Eve — No Kidststitute

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DATES: DECEMBER

- Saturday, December 7: NativityFest
- Sunday, December 15: 10:45 AM Children's Christmas Celebration
- Sunday, December 22: No Sunday School due to Christmas break
- Wednesday, December 25: Christmas Break — No Kidststitute
- Sunday, December 29: No Sunday School due to Christmas break

PARENT CORNER



Start a new family ritual this holiday season.

Life is full of stressful times and transitions. Starting a new family ritual can help in offering comfort and stability

to a child going through times of unfamiliar circumstances, stress and changes. Family rituals are a great way to pass along family values, create shared memories, and build family relationships and bonds. Rituals can also create a sense of belonging, security and identity for a child. Below are some fun suggestions to get you thinking but take time as a family to talk about creating your own unique rituals.

1. Cook a meal together or a special dish. You could really appreciate the help from your kiddos come holiday meal making time.
2. Bake treats that you all like and then share some with neighbors.
3. Read the Bible together.
4. Volunteer at a local charity.
5. Have a long breakfast at home and read a fun holiday book afterwards at the table.
6. Pray together about what you are thankful for.
7. Wear matching pajamas.
8. Make a family ornament. Or go to the store and pick out a new one together.
9. Have a family game night.
10. Make holiday cards and mail them out to loved ones.

Early Childhood Center

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER STAFF RECOGNITION

In September the ECC recognized 2 staff members for their years of service at the Early Childhood Center. 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:

- 10 years: Alissa Brown who works in our Cub room and Duckling room
- 20 years: Dorene Oak who has been the Assistant Director for the last 10 years

ECC ANNUAL PIZZA PARTY

Enjoy these pictures from the ECC's annual Pizza Party we had in September.



EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER ACCREDITATION

The ECC have been working very hard on our Accreditation this month. This accreditation is what sets Cross View's Early Childhood Center apart from other centers. We brought teams together (20 parents and 17 staff members) to help answer and find evidence to questions that are asked in a Self-Study. We are looking forward to our visit in April 2025.

ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- Recovery and the return of our teachers who had surgeries
- All the hard work that is being done for NLSA
- Many of our staff who celebrated their one-year anniversary this year

Prayer Requests:

- For one of our kids who broke their leg — that it heals, and he can come back to school soon
- All our new mothers and babies born this fall. Be with the moms, babies, and doctors and bring them all to the waters of baptism
- To find a new teacher — and we wish Martha Kelzer the best as she starts a new job

ECC MISSION STATEMENT

Growing loving followers of Jesus Christ through early care and education.

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."***

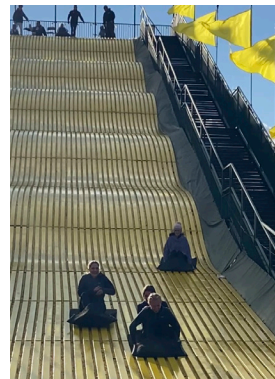
-Galatians 6:2



Youth Ministry

SENIOR HIGH FALL FUN EVENT

The Senior High went to Sever's in Shakopee on Sunday, October 13, for an evening of fall fun! The 8 youth and 2 adults had a blast going down the massive slide, playing in the corn pit, competed in the corn maze, and pet some animals. Afterwards, they took a pit stop to the largest candy store in Minnesota to finish off the night!



JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH AND MENTOR BOWLING

The Junior High youth group and their confirmation mentors went to Bowlero on Saturday, October 12, for an afternoon of bowling and bonding. Both youth and adults had fun bowling, eating tasty food, and playing arcade games.



CONFIRMATION

The 2024–2025 confirmation year has started! 17 seventh and eighth graders, and their parents, met for the first class on Wednesday, September 11. This year, students will be studying the Bible and diving more into God's Word. September 27–28 was the confirmation retreat at Camp Omega in Waterville. The confirmands and adult leaders spent time in God's Word through different lessons, a movie, and a solitude Bible study time. They also served the camp by cleaning out their fire boxes and pits, played games during their free time, and participated in archery.



REALITY CONFERENCE: IT IS WRITTEN

Junior and Senior High youth, along with leaders and chaperones, have the opportunity to attend a conference at Grace Church titled "It Is Written" on November 8–9. This conference is put on by the company Stand to Reason (STR) and discusses Christian Apologetics (defending the faith) and hot topics like creation, sexuality, social media, mental health, and many others.



Please contact Hannah to sign up.

Conference Details:

- When: 4:30 PM November 8 through 8:00 PM November 9 at Grace Church
- Drop off and pick up at Cross View
- Housing: We will be staying at Cross View overnight to eliminate drop-offs and pick-ups
- Cost: \$75 per person (adults as well)
- Transportation: We are asking our chaperones to drive youth to and from the conference

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH NOVEMBER SCHEDULE

- November 8–9: Reality Apologetics Conference

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH DECEMBER SCHEDULE

- November 3: Youth at CV
- November 8–9: Reality Apologetics Conference
- November 10: No Youth
- November 17: Youth at CV
- November 24: Youth at CV

Adult Ministry

BREAKFAST WITH PAUL ALLEN

On October 12th, Men's Ministry hosted a breakfast attended by approximately 130 Cross View members and guests. Following the breakfast we heard from Paul Allen, best known as the Voice of the MN Vikings on KFAN radio. Paul shared his faith story telling how he was baptized as an infant and always believed and prayed to God but did not come to know Jesus as Savior and Lord of his life until 5 and a half years ago. Since then, he has continued his professional life



calling Viking games and races at Canterbury Park. But he now knows God has called him to a higher calling to be a witness to God and the salvation available through Jesus and challenged all of us to share that life giving message.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY FALL LUNCHEON

November 2, 11:00 AM– 1:00 PM

It's not too late to register for the Women's Ministry Fall Luncheon on Saturday, November 2.

The theme this year is "Saved to Serve" and our guest speaker is missionally focused D.C.E. Traci Kohls of Trinity Lutheran Church in Waconia, MN. You'll be treated to a lovely catered lunch by Lunch Thyme and music by members of the Cross View Worship Band. You're welcome to bring a friend. Questions? Contact Marcia Johnson at marcia.sarahandemilysmom@gmail.com or Vicki Weber at mvweber1@yahoo.com.

[Register here!](#) Hope to see you there!



WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's book club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, November 18, at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing the book *The Masterpiece* by Fiona Davis. Please feel free to join us as new members are always welcome.



TNT – TWENTIES AND THIRTIES YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Come and get to know others in the same stage of life at TNT (Twenties & Thirties Young Adult Ministry) through Bible study and time hanging out together! Locations vary and there has been a change in time and days. Bible studies will be held on Mondays and outings on Thursdays; both running from 6:00–7:30 PM. Contact Nicole at nclvvo@gmail.com or Hannah at hannah@crossview.net with questions or to be added to the TNT GroupMe.

Fall Sessions:

- November 4: Bible study at Cross View
- November 15: Friendsgiving Potluck at Krueger's

CHRISTMAS CONCERT OUTING FOR SENIORS

Cross View Seniors! Come and enjoy an evening of nurturing fellowship and instrumental music on Friday, December 6, 7:30 PM. We will be attending the Lake Wobegon Brass Band concert at Meetinghouse Church (Colonial Church of Edina) located at 6200 Colonial Way, Edina. Prior to the concert we will gather at 5:00 PM at Cross View to share a potluck of appetizers and then carpool to the concert together. Beverages will be provided. The freewill offering for the concert will be taken to support a choral program for adults with memory issues. Please register by December 4, [online at CV Connect](#) or at the registration desk. Contact Kathy Fulkerson or Sue Harrison with questions.

Outreach & Missions

TRINITY FIRST — THANKSGIVING FAMILY NIGHT

Cross View will be hosting a Thanksgiving Family Night at Trinity First on November 26th from 5:00–6:30 PM. There will be food, games, and crafts for families to do together. If you would like to help with this event, [sign up on CV Connect](#). Check out the sign up in the lobby to donate pies for the event. Please contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net with any questions.



NATIVITYFEST — A FAMILY-FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

Saturday, December 7, from 10:00 AM–12:00 PM

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, visit the Giving Trees in the lobby to donate cookies to be served as treats during the event. Contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net or Barb Coffin at 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 or a package of cookies to your shopping list to help out. We are collecting pies for the Trinity First Thanksgiving Family Night on November 26th, pies for the Pie Fest after Thanksgiving Eve worship at Cross View on November 27th, and cookies for the NativityFest outreach event on December 7th.

Pie donations are due by November 26th at noon and cookies are due by December 5th at noon. 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 on the Giving Trees and grab a dessert tag to sign up and help make these events even more "sweet"!

SEWING SUPPLIES FOR GUATEMALA

The Women's Ministry is sponsoring a collection of sewing items to be donated to our mission partners in Los Vasquez, Guatemala. Please check The Giving Trees in the upper lobby for details. We will be collecting items through Saturday, November 2nd, at their Fall Luncheon. Questions? Ask Marcia Johnson at marcia.sarahandemilysmom@gmail.com or Vicki Weber at mvweber1@yahoo.com.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK IS BACK!

Save the date for Cross View's second FMSC MobilePack on January 24 and 25, 2025. We will have four time slots to choose from and 120 volunteer slots at each one with a goal of packing 101,088 meals! Plan to bring your family and friends to join us for a weekend of global impact. Watch for details to come!



CAREPORTAL TRAINING

There are trainings coming up on Friday, November 8th, from 9:00–10:30 AM and Thursday, November 14th, from 6:30–8:00 PM offered via Zoom for those interested in becoming a member of our CarePortal Response Team. If you'd like to get involved in helping families in crisis, please contact Pam Olsen at careportal@crossview.net.

LERT (LUTHERAN EARLY RESPONSE TEAM) TRAINING

Our LERT Team is exploring travel dates to help with

hurricane relief. If you are interested in helping communities impacted by disaster, you are welcome to join our LERT Team at Cross View. The next training offered in our district will be on November 23 from 9:00 AM–3:00 PM at St. John Lutheran Church, Luverne, MN. Ages 14 and up are eligible for the training. The cost is \$20, and you can sign up at www.lcms-lert.org under "trainings and deployments." Through LERT, we have a unique opportunity to share the love of Jesus. Contact Phil Johnson with questions at philj23@gmail.com.

JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

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

Thanksgiving Eve Service

November 27 at 6:30 PM

No worship on Thanksgiving Day

PieFest Fellowship

Join us for our annual Thanksgiving Eve worship service at 6:30 PM followed by PieFest Fellowship in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanksgiving Eve PieFest Volunteer Opportunities

- Donate a pie (see Mighty Dessert Drive article on page 7 for details)
- Servers needed to pre-slice the pies on Wednesday, Nov. 27 any time from noon to 3:00
- Decorate the Fellowship Hall for our event on Wednesday, Nov. 27
- Serve pie and coffee at the event
- Clean up after the event (clear and wipe down tables)
- Register on CV_Connect or by contacting Renee Kirchner (Renee@crossview.net)

Holiday Decorating Opportunities

There are many opportunities for all ages to make our building beautiful for the holiday season.

- **Order a Poinsettia:** The deadline for ordering Christmas poinsettias is Sunday, November 10. Order forms will be in the November 3 bulletin and on the registration table.
- **Tree Assembly:** Sunday, November 24, Noon–2:00 PM. Lunch provided. Join us after the second service and help set up the Christmas trees that enhance our worship spaces.
- **Thanksgiving Eve PieFest Decorating:** Wednesday, November 27, any time between 9:00 AM and 3:00 PM. Decorate the fellowship hall for our evening fellowship event.
- **Nativity Setup and Advent Decorating:** Saturday, November 30, 9:00 AM–Noon. Morning treats provided. Bring your muscles and help get the nativity set up in our courtyard or bring your family or small group and decorate a tree, set up wreaths, swags and planters.
- **Poinsettia Decorating:** Sunday, December 22, Noon–2:00 PM. Join us after the second service to decorate our worship spaces. Lunch provided.
- **What Goes Up Must Come Down:** The "Undecorating." Sunday, January 5, Noon– 2:00 PM, lunch provided. Help take down and put away the decorations throughout the church. Also on tap: taking down the nativity stable. Questions? Call the office at 952-941-1094 or email FrontDesk@crossview.net.



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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
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Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, Associate Pastor
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Stacey LaMere, Director of Early Childhood Center
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Barbara Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry
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Renee Kirchner, Church Administration
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Contemporary Worship Team Leader
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Dr. David Mennicke, Director of Music and Choir Ministries
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Brian De Young, Organist
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Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
952-243-2046, alyssa@crossview.net

José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Matthew Salzwedel, President

The *Clarion* is published monthly by Cross View Lutheran Church.
Items for inclusion should be sent via email to 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

5:00 PM Programming Begins

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

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