

CROSS VIEW CLARION

October 2024



"When we return to our heavenly home, we will be welcomed with open arms by the One who loves us most." –Hannah Zahrt



Coming Home

by Hannah Zahrt, Director of Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries

It's crazy to believe that it's been a year since I've started here at Cross View as your Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministries. Time truly does fly when you're having fun!

It has been a joy getting to form relationships with youth, young adults, and others within the congregation. It's been a time of learning and growth, and I know that will continue over the years.

God truly has His hand in all things. When I accepted the Call, I was excited for what God had in store for me here at Cross View, and I was excited to come home to Minnesota.

That feeling of coming home was one of elation for me. I was coming back to an area of familiarity. One of love and friendship. One of comfort and contentment.

Maybe you've felt this too. I think almost everyone has experienced being away for a time; maybe it was for summer camp, college, a business trip, or vacation. Whatever it may be, there is this special feeling of coming home. You're greeted by loved ones, you get to sleep in your own bed again, eat your favorite comfort foods, catch up with friends and family. It warms the heart. It's like

◀ a big sigh of relief; this feeling of being home.

If we can experience this now, here on earth, how much more will it feel when we reach our heavenly home? While our earthly homes are amazing and comforting, sin is still very present. Families fight, things break. Our homes, our world, isn't perfect.

But because of our loving God, who sent us His Son to die on a cross for us, we have the promise and hope of a perfect home. One where we get to be with God and see Him face to face. Revelation 21:3-4 tells us, "Now the dwelling of God is with men, and He will live with them. They

will be His people, and God Himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away."

When we return to our heavenly home, we will be welcomed with open arms by the One who loves us most.

Between now and then, spend every day loving one another. Soak in those heart-warming moments of being home and remember how that will feel when we are welcomed home by our loving, heavenly Father.

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			
8/31/24	2024 Actual Year to Date	2024 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$1,000,265	\$979,341	\$20,924
Total Expenses	(\$922,333)	(\$1,038,313)	\$115,980
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$77,932	(\$58,972)	\$136,904
General Fund Ending Balance	\$350,429	\$213,525	

Trunk or Treat!

Sunday, October 27, 3:00–5:00 PM

Cross View is hosting a Trunk-or-Treat on October 27th from 3-5 PM. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for a fall fellowship event for families! Sign up on CV Connect to volunteer to help during the event and contact Barb Coffin at barb@crossview.net with questions.



Thanksgiving Eve

Save The Date

Wednesday, Nov. 27

Thanksgiving Eve worship 6:30 PM, followed by PieFest. Look for sign-ups in the November *Clarion* to help with decorating and serving.

Christian Education

EMPOWERED: A BIBLE STUDY ON EPHESIANS

TEACHING LEADER: PASTOR REED LESSING

Dates: Sunday Mornings, Sept 15–Oct 20

Location: Fellowship Hall (Rooms 209-211)

If you have a letter from Mark Twain, it could be worth a lot of money. A personal, nine-page letter written to his daughter in 1875 recently sold for \$33,000! Ordinary correspondence from the author of Tom Sawyer usually brings \$1,200 to \$1,500 a page.

You probably don't have any correspondence from Mark Twain, but chances are you own a letter that is much more valuable. It is called Ephesians. John Mackay, the former president of Princeton Seminary, said that Ephesians is "theology set to music." Ephesians was John Calvin's favorite book of the Bible. Martin Luther held that, while Romans is the purest expression of the Gospel, Ephesians is the most sublime because it so eloquently reminds us of our new identity in Christ.

From September 15 through October 20, Pastor Reed will be teaching from this marvelous book. Come one, come all!

COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP (CLSD)

Keynote Speakers for CLSD 2024-2025 include Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing & Rev. Dr. Dean Nadasdy. Our topics for this year include Jonah: The Survivor Series and Threads: Celebrating the Biblical Tapestry.

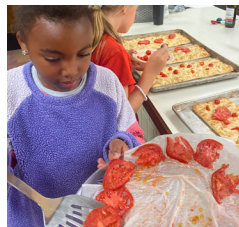
Programming began on September 11 from 6:30–8:00 PM but you can still join anytime! Sign up on CV Connect. The lecture will be followed by discussion in small groups. If you would like to serve as a Discussion Group Leader, please contact Amy Gundermann at amy@crossview.net.



Early Childhood Center

PIZZA GARDEN PIZZA AT EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

At the end of the summer, Marta Volbrecht came back to help make pizzas with the school age kids. Almost all the items that went on top of the pizza came from the garden that the kids planted with Marta in June. Some of the kids liked the pizza, some of the kids took one bite and not another, and the teachers loved it! We thank Marta for her time and teaching this summer with the School Age kids. Below you will see pictures from the cooking day.



ECC ANNUAL PIZZA PARTY

On September 20th the center had their annual Pizza Party. It is a fellowship time for our families to have a night

where they don't have to worry about cooking and enjoy time getting to know other parents in the center.

ECC DONATED CANNED FOOD ITEMS

The Early Childhood Center joined with the church to collect canned food items for VEAP. They brought the food cans up to chapel and blessed them. We hope that they make a difference in families' lives.



ECC PRAISES AND PRAYERS

Praises:

- Pizza Party — the excitement and laughter with kids and families
- Anniversary celebration of Dorene and Alissa for 10 years at Cross View
- Beautiful weather to enjoy all our outside activities

Prayer Requests:

- The Call process for a new Director and Assistant Director — that God knows what is best for the future of Cross View
- 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
- For our teachers who have had surgery and health issues that need time to recover
- To find a new teacher — and we wish Natalie Stroming the best as she starts a new job

Children's Ministry

A LETTER FROM CROSS VIEW'S DCE FIELD WORKER

Hello! My name is Grace Wiebe and I am from Lake Elmo, MN. I am a Director of Christian Ministry major on course with the Director of Christian Education (DCE) program at Concordia University St. Paul with a Lutheran Theology Minor. I am just beginning my journey toward a professional church career, but I am committed to sharing the love of Jesus with all ages through a church setting and guiding others to do the same.



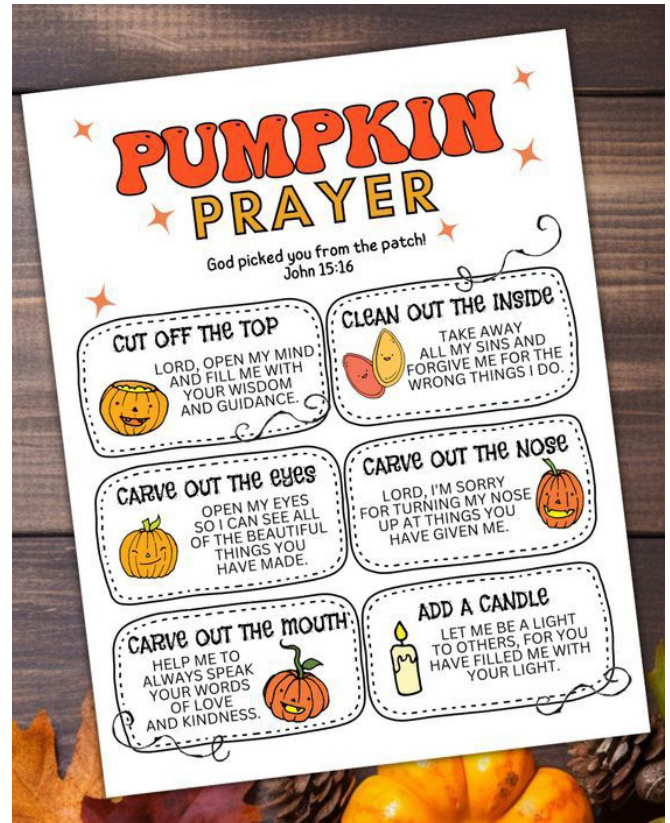
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY DATES TO HIGHLIGHT FOR OCTOBER

- Sunday, October 6: Celebration of First Bible Stepping Stone (Two year olds)
- Sunday, October 6–20: Adventure Bible Stepping Stone classes (Second grade)
- Wednesday, October 16: No Kidstute due to MEA weekend
- Sunday, October 20: Celebration of Adventure Bible Stepping Stone (Second grade)
- Sunday, October 27–November 3: Journey Stepping Stone classes (Sixth grade)
- Sunday, October 27: 3:00-5:00 PM Trunk or Treat

PARENT CORNER



A great opportunity to pray while carving a pumpkin.



Youth Ministry

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 12: Youth and Mentor Bowling at Bowlero (2:00–4:00 PM)
- October 26: Rake and Run Fundraiser
- October 27: Service Opportunity – Trunk or Treat (3:00–5:00 PM)

SENIOR HIGH YOUTH OCTOBER SCHEDULE

- October 6: Youth at CV
- October 13: Fall Fun at Sever's (4:00–7:00 PM)
- October 20: Youth at CV
- October 26: Rake and Run Fundraiser
- October 27: No Youth; Service Opportunity – Trunk or Treat (3:00–5:00 PM)

SENIOR HIGH FALL FUN EVENT

The Senior High will be heading to Sever's in Shakopee on Sunday, October 13, for an evening of fall fun! Youth and adult chaperones are asked to meet at Cross View at 4:00 PM. We'll be at Sever's then until it closes at 7:00 PM. Youth

are encouraged to eat beforehand or bring money to buy food while there. Please sign up [here on CV Connect](#) by Sunday, October 6.

SEVER'S

JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH AND MENTOR BOWLING

The Junior High youth group and their confirmation mentors are invited to an afternoon out at Bowlero in Eden Prairie on Saturday, October 12. This is a great way for youths and their mentors to bond and get to know each other more. Meet at Bowlero at 1:45 PM for bowling from 2:00–4:00 PM.

Please sign up via [CV Connect here](#). If a youth's mentor isn't able to join, they are still welcome to attend!



RAKE AND RUN

The Junior and Senior High youth will do their annual Rake and Run fundraiser on Saturday, October 26. As of now, there are no additional lawns needed. Keep an eye on any announcements if anything changes.

For those that are supplying lawns, Hannah will contact you the week of October 20 to give a rough estimate of what time the youth and adults will be at your house. The youth ask for a donation of \$7 per bag raked to help fund the upcoming National Youth Gathering as well as other youth activities. However, this donation is not mandatory. We are happy to rake your lawn regardless.

If any youth and adults are planning to help rake and drive, please sign up [via CV Connect](#).

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 sign up [here via CV Connect](#) by October 20.



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

2025 NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING

An informational meeting regarding the 2025 National Youth Gathering was held on Sunday, September 29. They discussed estimated costs, timelines, and all other necessary details. Any youth between 8th and 12th grade and are interested in participating, please contact Hannah for more information.



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

BREAKFAST WITH PAUL ALLEN: OCTOBER 12 FROM 8:00 AM – 10:00 AM

The Men's Ministry will be hosting a breakfast on October 12th at Cross View with guest speaker Paul Allen! It is open to all men, women, and youth. Paul Allen, a committed Christian and voice of the Minnesota Vikings on KFAN radio for over 20 years, will share his faith story along with inside stories regarding the Vikings. Please plan to arrive at 7:45 AM and the event will conclude at 10:00 AM. Cost: \$30/adult, \$15/student, or reserve a table for 6 for \$160.



Register on CV Connect by October 10th. Contact Dan Battcher at dtbattcher@gmail.com with questions.

OKTOBERFEST FOR SENIOR ADULTS OCTOBER 20TH FROM 4:00–6:00 PM

Join us for a German-style potluck and celebration! There will be a short program including some history about Germany and Martin Luther by David Buuck and a presentation by "Victor Borge" (our own Victoria Berge). There will be an opportunity to share personal memories and if you have a special Oktoberfest-themed artifact you'd like to display during the event, bring it along! Non-alcoholic beer and root beer will be available. Sign up on CV Connect or at the Registration Desk by October 17th. Contact Kathy Fulkerson at kkfulkerson@yahoo.com or Sue Harrison at kharrison1111@gmail.com with questions. This event is intended for adults who are 60+.



WOMEN'S MINISTRY FALL LUNCHEON NOVEMBER 2 FROM 11:00 AM–1:00 PM

Please make plans to attend the 2024 Women's Ministry Fall Luncheon! The theme this year is "Saved to Serve" and the 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. Our charitable outreach this year is collecting sewing supplies for our mission partners in Los Vasquez, Guatemala. A supply list is included



in this registration and a Giving Trees display for this ingathering will be available in Cross View's upper lobby starting Sunday October 13th. Register ASAP on CV Connect to help us with our planning. Questions? Contact Marcia Johnson at marcia.sarahandemilysmom@gmail.com or Vicki Weber at mwweber1@yahoo.com.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, October 21, at 1:00 PM. They will be discussing the book *Mrs. Kennedy and Me* by Clint Hill. Please feel free to join them 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.

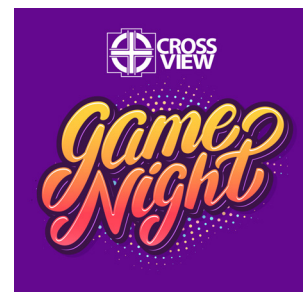
Fall Sessions:

- October 7: Bible study at Cross View
- October 24: Dinner and FMSC
- November 4: Bible study at Cross View
- November 15: Friendsgiving Potluck at Krueger's



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 at johndaenzer@gmail.com or Michael Kibat at mgkibat@centurylink.net.



Outreach & Missions

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!



BLESSING OUR FRIENDS AT POBLO

Pastor Issa Safadi of POBLO visited Cross View on August 25 and shared a brief update about the ministry. We collected a door offering in the amount of \$1,056.19 that will be used to purchase a guitar for Pastor Issa among other needed supplies for their growing programming among immigrants in Bloomington. Thank you, Cross View! If you'd like to get involved as a volunteer with POBLO, contact volunteer coordinator Shari Schulze at shari@poblo.org.

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 at amy@crossview.net or complete the [interest form on our website](#).

CELEBRATING ONE YEAR WITH CAREPORTAL

God is moving in our lives and the lives of the families served through the CarePortal ministry. The numbers in the tables below represent God's hand moving in Cross View

and in congregations throughout the country. Cross View responded to 95 requests which is almost half of the 207 total received by Hennepin County. That is impressive for one church! Praise God! THANK YOU to everyone who has supported this ministry during our first year. What a ride!

There will be two trainings offered via Zoom in October for those interested in becoming a member of our CarePortal Response Team.

- Friday, October 11: 9:00–10:30 AM
- Tuesday, October 15: 6:30–8:00 PM

If you'd like to get involved, please contact Pam Olsen at careportal@crossview.net.

	Cross View Church
Children Served	197
Economic Impact	\$171,461
Requests Received by Hennepin County	207
Requests Cross View Responded To	95
Deliveries Made to Families	51
Purchases through our CarePortal Fund	\$17,936
Response Teams	1
Active Responders	37

	Hennepin County	State of Minnesota	National
Children Served	462	2,132	299,334
Economic Impact	\$396,725	\$894,022	\$110,545,579
Response Teams	15	55	6,398

"I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me." (Matthew 25:40)

Christmas Tree Assemblers and Decorators Needed

Would you like to make our church beautiful for the Christmas season? We have the following opportunities for families and friends to share in the holiday planning.

- **Tree assemblers:** Work on your own or with a team to pre-assemble our forest of trees prior to November 30th.
- **Decorators:** Join us Saturday, November 30th from 9:00 AM–

1:00 PM for a fun jump-start to the holiday season. Place trees in their designated spots and decorate with ornaments. Place wreaths, swags, and other décor. All ages are welcome to help. Treats and refreshments provided. Contact the church office if you would like to volunteer.

- **Decorating Team Leader:** If you're interested in leading our

decorating team, please contact [Renee Kirchner](#).



Cross View Kick Off Sunday

The 2024-2025 year-in-ministry kicked off on Sunday, September 8. The theme for the year ahead is "Empowered" based on Acts 1:8a "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses." The morning began and ended with inspirational worship services. During the education

hour, people of all ages gathered to hear about the many opportunities to be "Empowered" as disciples in the year ahead, followed by a time of fellowship and food. Make sure to take advantage of the many opportunities in the year ahead to be "Empowered!"



Cross View Churchwide Picnic

Kick Off Sunday was a huge hit and over 100 adults and children came out to Lake Riley Park to join in a churchwide picnic. Congregation members engaged in all kinds of different yard games and great fellowship. Be sure to come next year!



Appreciation & Card Shower for Lowell Herzberg

Cross View is blessed with some pretty amazing technology that helps us to share the gospel message with each and with others worldwide through worship, Bible studies, special services, and more. That said, technology is powerless without people who know how to leverage it, maintain it, and run it. In Cross View's audio-visual and online history, Lowell Herzberg is our technological pioneer! His love for Jesus, his desire to engage upcoming generations, and his passion for the lost of our world drove him to give to our mission and ministry in ways that will impact countless souls for decades to come.

Lowell was a member of Cross View prior to 2017 but transferred for a time to St. Michaels in Bloomington to help with their audio-visual needs. In 2017, he transferred back to Cross View. From that time forward, he became an extremely active volunteer, visioning and developing our online, audio and visual ministries. He regularly worked 40 or more hours a week as a volunteer, training other volunteers, equipping staff, serving at various events and services, and maintaining and extending our in-house and online capabilities.

When Cross View began our 4.0 Building for Generations, Lowell not only used his tech skills to aid our temporary worship setting in the fellowship hall, but he also used his carpentry skills to build everything needed to facilitate ministry. Most notably throughout the build, Lowell worked with our building chair, pastor, and contractors to design and to vision a technological infrastructure that would serve us for years to come. Little did we know how quickly we would need those capabilities. In 2020,

when the worldwide pandemic struck, Lowell was invaluable as his talents, abilities, and huge donations of time made it possible for our congregation to continue to worship, to have Bible studies, and to offer other online options to keep our membership connected. Lowell tirelessly worked with our pastors and our staff to gather content. His post-productive work made that content shine.

Since 2017, Lowell has streamed many funerals, weddings, Christmas programs, ECC events, and more. He and his wife Maureen blessed us with First Light puppet shows for special events, worship, and even a music camp. Lowell was always available to lend a helping hand in any way that was needed by staff or members. Behind the scenes, Lowell trained many of our volunteers, launched Community Light School of Discipleship, began our online church platform, produced and sent digital Christmas and Easter greetings, and more.

When Lowell's wife, Maureen, was diagnosed with an illness that makes it very dangerous for her when she gets upper respiratory illnesses, Lowell had to step down. He needed to limit any exposure in large groups to protect the health of his beloved.

On October 13, we will have a card shower for Lowell to thank him for his incredible ministry among us. For the reasons mentioned above, he will not be with us that morning. In his absence, let's show Lowell our deep appreciation for all that he has done among us with a card and/or a gift (if you are so moved). Thank you, Lowell, for your loving service to our Lord and to the mission and ministry of Cross

View! We are so deeply thankful for you!





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

Rev. Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor
952-941-1094, steve@crossview.net

Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing, Associate Pastor
952-941-1094, reed@crossview.net

Stacey LaMere, Director of Early Childhood Center
952-941-5215, stacey@crossview.net

Barbara Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry
952-243-2062, barb@crossview.net

Renee Kirchner, Church Administration
952-243-2045, renee@crossview.net

Amy Gundermann, Director of Outreach and Adult Ministries
Contemporary Worship Team Leader
952-243-2053, amy@crossview.net

Hannah Zahrt, Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
952-243-2047, hannah@crossview.net

Dr. David Mennicke, Director of Music and Choir Ministries
952-243-2048, david@crossview.net

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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