

# CROSSVIEW CLARION

September 2020

## HOPE in the

# STORM

by Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor




**"We don't know what the year ahead holds, but we do know who holds it. Jesus will be with us in the boat as we ride it out." -Pastor Steve Wheeler**

Have you ever been out in the ocean during a really bad storm? If you have, you know how helpless and hopeless it can feel until you reach the land, or the storm subsides—whichever comes first. For a period of time, you are at the mercy of the wind and the waves. Some storms are very dangerous. They can swamp a boat and sink it without warning. They can take you off course and dump you in the rocks. It helps a bit to be on a bigger boat, but even the

bigger boats can get tossed around in high seas. They too, are vulnerable in serious storms.

I remember one time I was salmon fishing off the Oregon coast. A huge storm developed. The Coast Guard shut down the jetty for boats to enter port. We had to ride out the storm on the open ocean until it was safe to come in to port. Quite honestly, it was frightening. Thanks be to God, we made it back safely.





Storms...and especially extended storms... can wear a person down. They can rob a person of hope. Such was the case for Jesus' disciples in Mark 4:35-41. They were simply going to cross over the Sea of Galilee when a huge storm struck. Jesus was asleep in the back of the boat. Terrified, the disciples woke Him and asked, "Teacher, don't you care if we drown?" Jesus got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet, be still." Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. He said to his disciples, "Why are you so afraid, do you still have no faith?" Scripture tells us the disciples were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him."

Since the outbreak of COVID-19 in March, it has felt like we have been in a powerful and extended storm. Tossed by the winds and the waves of this virus, we have been left reeling, groping for some sort of relief. The civil unrest that began in Minneapolis and spread across our nation only seemed to intensify the storm even more. With no vaccine in the immediate future, it feels like we are adrift in open seas with no foreseeable end to the tempest. Extended storms like this one can wear a person down and rob them of hope.


Mark 4:35-41 reminds us of some powerful truths as we face the storms of life. First, like disciples, we are not alone in the storm. Jesus is in the boat with us at all times. His presence means everything! Second, with a word Jesus can bring calm and peace to any storm we are facing. Third, he bids us not to be afraid in the storm, but to trust in Him. Finally, we would do well to ask the same question those first disciples asked, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey Him."

Knowing the answer to this question...that Jesus, the Son of God, is with us in the storm fills us with hope. With this truth before us, our theme

for the 2020–2021 year of mission and ministry at Cross View is **"Hope in the Storm."** From what we can see at this point, it looks as though we may have some stormy seas ahead. We don't know what the year ahead holds, but we do know who holds it. Jesus will be with us in the boat as we ride it out. The uncertainties that we will face together in the year ahead will require us to remain nimble and flexible with our ministry programming and offerings. But in the midst of the storm we will have hope! In the midst of the storm we will share that hope with each other and with the world around us.

As we face the storm ahead with hope and faith in Jesus, we will need to be patient, nimble, and flexible. With that in mind, the 2020 schedule and major ministry programming that we will offer this fall is listed on the next page. Please keep in mind that we will continue to monitor developments related to the COVID-19 pandemic throughout the fall. We will re-assess the situation after Thanksgiving, giving attention to what is happening in neighboring school districts and the community at large. We will also gather information from our congregation to assess schedules and programming that will make sense after the first of the year.

Turn to the next page for the details of our fall schedule and ministry programming. And please be on the lookout for communications in future Clarion publications, CV Connect, Cross View's Website, Cross View's Weekly Connections, and Cross View's Facebook page. We will do our very best to keep you informed in the coming weeks and months, especially of any changes that might need to take place. With the stormy seas ahead this fall, we will need to be flexible. But we do not need to be afraid. We have a great year in mission and ministry ahead of us. Jesus is in the boat with us. We have hope in the storm!



# FALL SCHEDULE and MINISTRY PROGRAMMING

**Worship – We will offer two services and an adult education hour. Current social-distancing protocols will continue. Starting in September, temperatures will be taken as you enter the building.**

- 8:15 am: Traditional Worship – Sanctuary & live stream
- 9:30 am: Adult Bible Study – Onsite & online
- 10:45 am: Contemporary Worship – Great Commission Room & live stream
- 12:15–1:00 pm: Drive-Through Communion 2nd & 4th Sundays

**Children's Ministry – All programming & classes will be at home.**

- No Wednesday evening programming this fall
- Early Elementary (age 2–2nd grade): Resources at home on Sunday
- Upper Elementary (grades 3–6): Family online study on Sunday, based on C.S. Lewis' *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*

**Youth Ministry – Programming will be a hybrid of online and onsite offerings.**

- Sunday mornings: Online Bible study for Jr. & Sr. High Youth
- Sunday evenings: Hybrid of online and onsite gatherings of Jr. & Sr. High Youth
- Wednesday evenings: 7th & 8th grade confirmation online and onsite offerings each week.
- Events will be offered that are "social-distance" friendly

**Adult Ministry – Programming will be a hybrid of onsite & online offerings.**

- Sunday mornings: Onsite & online offerings
- Wednesday evenings: Onsite
- Thursday mornings: Online
- Small group options: Group determined

## Women's Ministries

### WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Next month the women's book club will be reading *Next Year in Havana* by Chanel Cleeton. As of now, participants will continue to meet via Zoom

and our next meeting will be Monday, September 21st at 1:00 PM. If you'd like to join this meeting, please contact Marcy at [mpnordhus@gmail.com](mailto:mpnordhus@gmail.com).





# Financial Update

## YEAR-TO-DATE RESULTS

- Expenses continue to be closely managed. Year-to-date expenses through July were \$89,574 below budget but are running \$36,406 higher than through July last year. The parking lot sealcoating and other needed maintenance and repairs account for the majority of this increase over last year.
- We have utilized all of the CARES Act Paycheck Protection Loan Program expenses in accordance with the program. The Small Business Administration will begin taking forgiveness applications in August. Cross View anticipates submitting our application and documentation in August. We anticipate full loan forgiveness of \$169,412 for the church and \$204,091 for the ECC.
- The ECC continues to operate with reduced students and tuition. Year-to-date tuition receipts of \$612,910 are 22%

below budget. Expenses are also being curtailed, being \$17,213 below budget resulting in a year-to-date deficit of \$83,444. School districts have begun to announce fall attendance plans and parents will be making ECC decisions to firm up fall enrollment plans.

Cross View			
July 31, 2020	2020 Actual YTD	2020 Budget YTD	Actual Better/(Worse) vs.Budget
<b>Total Income</b>	\$663,427	\$769,544	(\$106,117)
<b>Total Expense</b>	\$688,960	\$778,530	\$89,570
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	(\$25,533)	(\$8,986)	(\$16,547)
\$169K expected PPP forgiveness by 12/31/20			

## Christian Education

### SUCCESSFUL SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Over the summer, families participated in an at home Sunday School with their kids. Each week we looked at a different component of camping from putting up our tents, fishing, and even making s'mores and how each one reminded us of a teaching that God has given us. As a reminder, kids put together their own "campgrounds", adding a piece each week. Here's some pictures of some of our kids and their finished products. It was a fun summer!



### THIRD GRADE INTRODUCTION TO THE BIBLE

This fall, third grade students with an adult, will participate in an online ZOOM class that will introduce aspects of using their new Bibles. The class will look at where we got the Bible from, how to look up passages, and using the tools (concordance, maps, dictionary) to enhance study of God's Word. All 3rd grade students and parents are welcome! More information for this class will come in September, with the class taking place in October.

### WOMEN'S VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY

Women of Cross View and friends—ever want to be a part of a weekly Bible study, but work during the day, and to get somewhere after dinner and getting the kids to bed is really hard? Join a virtual women's Bible study at 7:30 PM on Tuesday evenings. A new study will begin this fall. Details coming soon—watch the weekly connections for more information or contact Christine Eid at [christine@crossview.net](mailto:christine@crossview.net). Hope you'll join us!



## ADULT BIBLE STUDIES THIS SEPTEMBER

### **The Truth Project: Wednesdays, September 16–December 16, 6:30–8:00 PM onsite**

You and I are engaged in a cosmic battle that is pitting the truth claims of God against the lies of the world, the flesh and the devil. Join us as we take an in-depth look at the Biblical foundations of our Christian Worldview with the "Truth Project." If you have questions or need information email Pastor Toby at [toby@crossview.net](mailto:toby@crossview.net).

### **Ecclesiastes: Thursdays, begins September 17, 9:30–11:00 AM online (with Chuck Daenzer)**

Every day bombards people with so many desires, and we wish we could pursue them all. Ecclesiastes recounts the story of one person who decided to try. He denied himself nothing that he wanted: Money. Sex. Power. Prestige. Knowledge. Experiences. He pursued them all. But what happens when we reach the end of those things? If you feel like you're racing the clock for all you desire, this strangely named book may feel surprisingly familiar. See where his desires led him and what he learned through it all. If you have questions or need information, email Chuck at [cdaenzer1@comcast.net](mailto:cdaenzer1@comcast.net).

### **Intersection Between Church and State: Sundays, September 20–October 25, 9:30 AM onsite and online**

This is season in politics. So, let's review In the relationship energetic between church and state in the U.S. Voices and viewpoints line up across the spectrum. Some would argue from history there should be a "wall of separation" between the two. Others maintain co-existence is not only necessary and inevitable but can lead to positive results. Join us as Rev. Gregory P. Seltz helps us understand the multi-layered discourse existing between church and state in the U.S. and how this relationship can be a fruitful force for good to those in need. If you have questions or need information, email Phil Johnson at [philj23@gmail.com](mailto:philj23@gmail.com).

### **B.A.S.I.C. Connections: Sundays, September 20–October 25, 9:30 AM onsite**

Brothers And Sisters In Christ Connecting to God, each other, and the community around us. Each Sunday we'll practice God's mission in community. We'll gather around God's Word and go through the 5 questions we've learned from *Joining Jesus on His Mission*. We'll learn more about the 5 practices Jesus teaches us in the gospels: 1) Seeking the Kingdom, 2) Hearing from Jesus, 3) Talking with People, 4) Doing Good, 5) Ministering through Prayer. If you have questions or need information, email Jan Schrader at [jschrader1010@gmail.com](mailto:jschrader1010@gmail.com).

### **Get to Know Cross View: Sunday, September 20, 1:00 PM online**

Welcome to Cross View! Are you interested in our Cross View (CV) family and what God is doing here? Take time to get to know us. Let us tell you a little more about ourselves (our history, our core beliefs, how we work together and in God's kingdom) and how you can become a member of the CV family. If you have questions or need information, email Ann Ryan at [annryan@hotmail.com](mailto:annryan@hotmail.com).

### **Joining the CV Family: Sundays, September 27–October 18, 1:00 PM online**

If you're interested in joining and being a part of our CV family sign up and attend this 4-week class. This class is for anyone who's new to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod or anyone who wants to learn about the core of Cross View's faith family. If you have questions or need information, email Ann Ryan at [annryan@hotmail.com](mailto:annryan@hotmail.com).

### **Going All In: Sundays, October 25–November 15, 1:00 PM online**

Are you ready to Go All In with the Cross View Family? Come to this 4-week class to get involved, get connected, grow, and serve with other Cross View members using your gifts and talents to serve Christ and His Kingdom. This is part 2 for anyone interested in becoming a part of our CV Family. If you have questions or need information, email Ann Ryan at [annryan@hotmail.com](mailto:annryan@hotmail.com).

## Early Childhood Center

### **ECC LOOKS FORWARD TO NEW SCHOOL YEAR**

The Early Childhood Staff has the opportunity to have an in-service day at the beginning of September. The staff will learn about risk assessment, curriculum, COVID protocol updates, behavior guidance to name a few of the topics, as well as have a chance to prepare the classroom for the new school year. The New School Year is here, and even though schools around the area and in the state of Minnesota look very different for everyone because of the current pandemic, the staff is trying to keep Cross View ECC as normal as possible for the children. They are excited for the fresh, new year and praying for normalcy to continue in our school/center setting.

### **FREE LITTLE LIBRARY**

The ECC would like to thank Danny Pahl for building us our Free Little Library, located outside the playground. This was part of an Eagle Scout Project. The hope is to fill it with lots of books that families can enjoy. This Free Little Library is for ECC families, but also for Church families. The next time you are at church check it out.



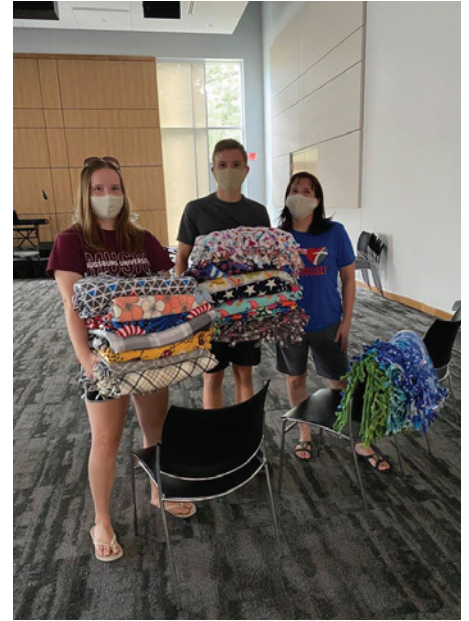


# Youth Ministries

## (TC)<sup>2</sup>: SUMMER SERVICE EVENT

A big thank you to all the Cross View families who served during the (TC)<sup>2</sup> event the week of July 27–30. Cross View's (TC)<sup>2</sup> crew spent time in parks, at homes, and in

other outdoor locales doing yard work, painting, cleaning, and having a great time serving the Lord by serving others! They truly were the hands and feet of Jesus!







## 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 one of the Pastors.

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

-Galatians 6:2



# Outreach & Missions



- Pray for their neighborhood—there has been an increase in crime since the riots, so pray for safety, unity, and peace
- Pray for good health for all!
- Pray for wisdom as they navigate the school year. The year will most likely not begin the way it will end, and they pray for wisdom as they navigate each change and figure out what is best for the school family!

More information about Trinity First and their approach to COVID can be found at [www.trinityfirstschool.org](http://www.trinityfirstschool.org). Thank you for your prayers and support!

## TRINITY FIRST UPDATE

Trinity First will be beginning the 2020-2021 school year using the hybrid model. They have split their families into two groups—the Blue group and Gold group. Each group will have two instructional days Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday with Fridays alternating. The classes are grouped together into cohorts (like one-room schoolhouses) to limit the spreading of germs, but to also provide backups if any teacher were to get sick. Trinity First is looking forward to working with students in smaller groups after not being with them in person for 6 months. They hope the model they are using in hybrid could also transfer to distance learning if they move to that at some point this school year.

Trinity First is limiting the building to only students and teachers (parents and volunteers will not be allowed in the building), so they are actively and creatively looking for ways to engage volunteers off-site. They depend each year on the ways that volunteers serve the teachers, students, and families!

Here are specific ways you can pray for Trinity First:

- Pray for the teachers—for good health, for strong relationships to be built with families and students despite more limited contact, for patience and extra measures of grace as we begin an unprecedented school year during a pandemic!
- Pray for the families—many are still making decisions about what school situation will be best for them this year, pray for openness and flexibility as they work together to ensure safety for all
- Pray for their students—this is also a school year they have never experienced before so pray for them as they adjust to the new changes at school and at home



## GREETINGS FROM POBLO INTERNATIONAL TWIN CITIES

The coronavirus pandemic has disrupted many of our activities from classes to direct contact with several families we used to meet with on weekly basis before March of this year. We fully trust the Lord's will, as we contemplate the cause and consequences of this global pestilence.

However, although we stopped meeting with students until July and August to just check on them, working with some of these families was ongoing and lengthy. Some of



the students who stopped coming called us to help with unemployment benefits, rehiring, food, and now in August trying to help out with back-to-school items.

Excitingly, the Lord has brought to our path a former Muslim who trusted Jesus. Her entire family are still nominal Muslims, but she brings along her adult daughter three times a week, for Bible study, discipleship follow up, and resolving personal problems. It is as if this pandemic was meant for us to just meet with this family who is being constantly attacked by the devil and in need of many vital resources, but particularly need to know how to trust Christ in the midst of worldly and local turmoil.

Please pray for us as we have already contracted COVID-19 and recovered well. Pray for wisdom and being creative in reaching out to many immigrant families too. We're thankful for being able to meet with some of our wonderful volunteers and continue to coordinate with them in the weeks ahead. Rebecca Waller, Susan Charles and Kris Scharping (Cross View) are among those we met with for the first time after the pandemic closures. We maintained social distance and encouraged one another in Mt. Hope's parking lot. Please be supportive of this ministry as you have been and as the Lord guides you. Many thanks & blessings!





# CROSS VIEW

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

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## GROW WITH CROSS VIEW

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional Worship  
in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary  
Worship in the Great  
Commission Room

**Both services are also  
available via live stream.**

### SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

### OFFICE HOURS

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

### CALENDAR

Cross View's most current  
calendar is always available  
on our website at  
[www.crossview.net/calendar](http://www.crossview.net/calendar)

## CONNECT WITH CROSS VIEW

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