

CROSS VIEW CLARION

September 2022



"Let's make a strong beginning as we gather for worship on September 11, kicking off an amazing year of mission and ministry." - Steve Wheeler



Ready

by Steve Wheeler, Senior Pastor

Are you ready? Are you ready to return to school? Are you ready for the summer to end? Are you ready for the year ahead? Are you ready? This is a question that applies to so many endeavors, beginnings, and challenges in life... Are you ready?

In St. Peter's day, Christians were living like pilgrims and exiles in a foreign land. Living out their faith was far from easy. In fact, in many cases, living out their faith involved suffering and persecution. Peter wrote his first letter, among many rea-

sons, to encourage Christians. He wanted them to know, as they suffered, that they were "Ready." They were ready for heaven because Christ had already suffered for them. But there was more! He wanted them to be "Ready" to give witness to others who weren't yet ready for heaven.

In 1 Peter 3:15, he wrote: **"But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have."**

This timeless and divinely inspired exhortation

will serve as our theme-verse for the year ahead in ministry. From this verse comes our theme for the 2022–2023 year in ministry: **“Ready.”**

The theme **“Ready”** will overshadow the year ahead, reflecting the goals, direction, and programming of our ministry. It will carry forward the paradigm shift of “Equip & Go” that we began last year. The theme “Ready” from 1 Peter 3:15 is meant to communicate that Christ-followers are “Ready” to give witness to the hope within them. This readiness flows from Christ’s gifts given in Word and sacrament. Having received these gifts, Christ-followers are then equipped to share their faith and their God-given gifts in the context into which God places them. This readiness-equipping will happen through worship and through the various Biblically based and family-focused ministries and programming that will be offered to the congregation in the year ahead. Think of Cross View as an equipping station.

In the year ahead, I pray that the worship opportunities, educational offerings, and ministry programming will encourage you to know that you are “Ready” for Christ’s return because of what He has already done for you. In addition, it is also my prayer that you will be personally impacted through our mission and ministries as you are equipped and made “Ready” to live out your Christian faith, giving witness to others as you await Christ’s return.

Here’s how you can be encouraged and reminded that you are “Ready” for heaven as well as to be equipped and “Ready” to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. First, receive from our Lord and be encouraged by the fellowship

of believers each Sunday as you gather for worship. Make use of the many opportunities to be in God’s Word throughout the year ahead. Get involved in Bible studies, classes, and ministries for children, youth, and adults. Engage in small groups and other Bible study offerings. Participate in music and fine arts offerings that enrich your and other’s worship.

Second, unite with others in our outreach to our community and to our world. Start at home by modeling and teaching the faith through daily devotions and prayer. Look for opportunities to share the hope that you have with neighbors, classmates, co-workers, and friends. Get involved in Community Light School of Discipleship as well as inviting friends and other churches to participate in this equipping ministry. Consider teaching English to immigrants through POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach). Participate in our partnership with Trinity First in the inner city. Join us during advent to pack meals through our upcoming Mobile Pack through Feed My Starving Children. Refer a neighbor or friend to enroll their child in Cross View’s Early Childhood Center. Join our quilters in a ministry of love. Consider joining our mission team to serve the people of Los Vasquez Guatemala. There are so many opportunities. Choose the ones that are the best fit for you.

Are you “Ready”? By the grace of God, the answer is YES! Let’s make a strong beginning as we gather for worship on September 11, kicking off an amazing year of mission and ministry. Let’s make use of the many opportunities to grow in our walk of faith and to be equipped and “Ready” to share the hope that we have with others.

Financial Update

Year-to-Date Results

- July 2022 member contributions were 109% of budget or \$7,390 more than budgeted.
 - Year to Date income is 3.24% below budget or \$24,608 less than budgeted.
 - Year to Date expenditures are \$16,561 less than budgeted primarily in lower wage expense with open positions.
 - Year-to-date general fund deficit of \$59,398 is \$8,119 unfavorable to budget.
 - ECC income and expense are favorable to budget,
- resulting in a net surplus better than budgeted by \$17,460
- \$1,500 in additional pledges were made to Restored!
 - \$153,284 additionally is needed to fully repay the Restored! loan.
 - Thank You to those who have pledged to Restored! and those who have already fulfilled their pledge. Each contribution reduces principal and Cross View's interest cost.

7/31/22	2022 Actual Year to Date	2022 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$736,684	\$761,364	(\$24,680)
Total Expenses	(\$796,082)	(\$812,643)	\$16,561
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	(\$59,398)	(\$51,279)	(\$8,119)

Cross View 4.0 Building Campaign	
Contributions Received in July:	\$33,734
Total Pledges Made to Restored!	\$342,296
Total Contributions Collected:	\$144,508
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$25,157
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$431,000
Additional Pledges Needed to Repay Loan:	\$153,284

Early Childhood Center

SUMMER FUN

This summer has been fun, and we ended it on a high note. We had our annual Family Fun Day August 11th, and the weather was perfect, games were awesome, and the ice cream truck treats were the best.

We also had a balloon toss station that Pastor Steve and Jonathan participated in. Below are some pictures. The balloon did not pop on either one of them. It was fun to watch them play.





Community Light *School of Discipleship*

Would you love to share the hope and assurance of faith in Jesus with a friend? Do you want to see how God's story of redemption intersects with and changes your life story? Join us in our Community Light School of Discipleship this year!

You'll hear God's story, and you'll sing His song as we study His Word. You'll be in a small group with fellow believers who also want to share Jesus with their friends as we make disciples. AND you'll see how the gospel and discipleship are woven throughout His story and song.

It's time to register today! [Click here](#) to register yourself and a friend!

[Click here](#) to go to the Community Light website, and share this free online resource with family, friends, and others. It's as easy as giving them the Community Light website address (link below). We have been entrusted with the greatest message on earth. Let's get ready for the year ahead by making use of this incredible opportunity.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

- ✦ **Onsite** – at Cross View in a combination lecture assembly and small group breakout format.
- ✦ **Online** – lectures and content live-streamed via a hosted, online platform so questions can be submitted to presenters.
- ✦ **On-Demand** – sessions and resources archived for ongoing availability.

TIMING

- ✦ Three nine-week sessions start September 15 and run until the end of April.
- ✦ Sessions will be held Thursdays from 6:30 – 8:30 PM, both onsite at Cross View and via live streaming.
- ✦ All sessions will be archived for all participants.

SESSION FORMAT

- 6:30 – 6:40** Opening
- 6:40 – 7:25** Presenter Lecture
- 7:30 – 8:10** Small Group Discussion
- 8:15 – 8:30** Q&A with Presenter and Closing

CLASS OVERVIEWS 3 classes each lasting 9 weeks

This is My Story, This is My Song: Insights From Exodus

September 15– November 10



What a story! Shiphrah and Puah, Moses and Miriam, Aaron and Jethro—and don't forget the Red Sea and a mountain called Sinai! This story, fulfilled and completed in Jesus Christ, is your story as well. In nine sessions, participants will review it and learn again how to sing it.

Presenter — **Dr. Reed Lessing**, Professor of Theology and Ministry, Concordia University, St. Paul, MN

Stories for Witness

December 1 – February 9

(No classes on December 22 & 29)



Participants will discover the witness value of stories. They will review the great sacred story arcing over every disciple's life and find themselves in the stories Jesus tells in the gospels. They will also consider their own stories for witness. The point of witness is just where the Christ story, the story of another, and my own story intersect. To emphasize the visual nature of Jesus' stories, art will be used extensively.

Presenter — **Dr. Dean Nadasdy**, President Emeritus, MN South District, LCMS

The Story in Our Communities

February 23 – April 27 (No class on April 6)



Jeremiah 29:7 says, "Seek the peace and prosperity of the city to which I have carried you into exile. Pray to the Lord for it, because if it prospers, you too will prosper." Throughout God's Word, churches and communities are linked. One important key to connecting with your community is growing partnerships. This course will expose participants to Biblical insights and ministry leaders using best practices to inspire God's people to be in, and for, the community where they are located.

Presenters — **Presenters – Dr. William Utech**, Mission Developer, and **Dr. Philip Johnson**, Assistant to the President, Mission Formation – MN South District, LCMS

CLSD is an incredible offering for our congregation to grow as disciples who make disciples. Let's all take advantage of it! In addition, let's be a light to our community near and far as each of us pass on the details of this opportunity to our networks of friends and churches.

Get more information and register for Community Light at www.crossview.net/communitylight (onsite space is limited) or via email at CLSD@crossview.net.

FALL KICKOFF SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

Kick Off Sunday is September 11! Come and learn all the new programs and classes that are happening this year for all ages.

- 9:30–9:50 AM: Everyone together in the sanctuary
Children's ministry presentation
Youth ministry presentation
Adult education presentation
- 9:50–10:10 AM: Children's and Youth ministry families meet their teachers in the various classrooms
- 10:00–10:30 AM: Congregational fellowship at Café Cross View

Be sure to register for fall programming if you haven't yet at [CV Connect](#).

CHURCHWIDE PICNIC SEPTEMBER 18

The entire church is invited to a picnic on Sunday, September 18th, at 4:00–6:00 PM at Lake Riley Park Pavilion at [9180 Riley Lake Rd, Eden Prairie](#). Bring your own picnic dinner and drinks and come ready to play outdoor games. The park is beautiful with a large playground nearby and a lake. Please bring any outdoor games you wish to play as well as your own chairs. If you have questions, contact Barb Coffin at barb@crossview.net.

GOD CONNECTS

**SUNDAY MORNINGS, 9:30–10:30 AM
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 18**

As we seek to be equipped to go into the world as disciples of Jesus, a solid refresher on the basics of Christian faith is in order for two reasons. First, knowing the faith strengthens us personally in our walk with God and in our understanding of his love for us and for the world. Second, growing in our understanding of the faith equips us to have meaningful conversations and dialogues with others as we seek to share Christ. Join us on Sunday mornings for part one of "God Connects." In this six-week series, we will tackle questions like: "Why Jesus?" "Why the Bible?" and "Who is the Holy Spirit?" The course will equip you to share your learnings as well as access and share free user-friendly resources with others. Classes begin September 18 at 9:30 AM. Sign up [here on Cross View Connect](#).



NEW WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY TAKE COURAGE: A STUDY OF HAGGAI TUESDAY NIGHTS, 6:30–8:00 PM BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 13

Do you ever feel like the ending of your story is a million miles away? Then you know how the Jewish people felt when they returned to their wrecked land after exile and began rebuilding the temple. They were distracted, discouraged and ready to throw in the towel. But the prophet Haggai reminded them they could take courage and work because God was with them. When the landscapes of our own lives feel wrecked and our hopes and purpose is in shambles, We, too, get distracted and discouraged. Yet, God's presence and His promises give us courage to press on and trust Him!

"Take Courage: A Study of Haggai" is a video-based, 7-session Bible study taught by Bible teacher Jennifer Rothschild. This study will meet on Tuesdays, beginning Sept. 13, 6:30–8:00 PM at Cross View. All Cross View women are encouraged to join. Purchase your study book from [Amazon](#) or [Lifeway.com](#) and join us as we find courage in the God who declares, "I am with you!" [Register for this class](#) on CV Connect. Questions? Call Vicki Weber at 952-838-5500.



BUILDING YOUR STRENGTHS: WHO AM I IN GOD'S EYES? RESUMES MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 9:30 AM MONTHLY ON THE FIRST MONDAY (ROOM 218)

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



NEW MEMBERSHIP CLASSES SUNDAY MORNINGS

STARTING SEPTEMBER 18 AT 9:30 AM

Join us onsite at 9:30–10:30 AM on Sundays for our Welcome to Cross View series. These classes are for anyone interested in becoming a member or for those who have been members and want a refresher. You'll get an overview of the Cross View family, learn the heart of the Cross View family, and learn how our heart works itself out in our Cross View Family.

- **September 18–October 2: Joining the CV Family**
Go a little deeper and learn the heart of the Cross View family. You'll learn about our Lutheran faith and beliefs.
- **October 9–October 23: Going All In With the CV Family**
Go all in and learn how to get involved with your gifts, talents, and how God created us to Connect, Grow, and Serve.
- **October 30: New Member Sunday**
Formally become a member of the CV faith family during the 10:45 am worship service.

[To register, click here.](#) Questions or need info, contact Ann Ryan (annryan@hotmail.com) or the church office at 952-941-1094.

Women's Ministry

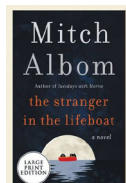
SAVE THE DATE!

WOMEN'S FALL LUNCHEON

Mark your calendars for the second annual Cross View Women's Fall Luncheon on Saturday, November 5, from 11:00 AM–1:00 PM in our beautiful Great Commission Room. The theme will be "Comfort & Joy." More details will follow in the coming months. Plan to attend this wonderful event.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club has selected "The Stranger in the Lifeboat" by Mitch Albom to read and discuss in September. We will be meeting on Monday, September 19, at 1:00 PM in room 120 at church. Contact Marcy at mpnordhus@gmail.com if you have any questions or wish to join.



THANK YOU FOR ORDERING SCHOOL SUPPLIES FOR TRINITY FIRST

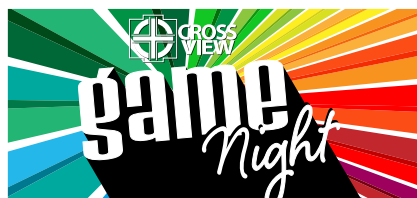
A big THANK YOU to all who may have contributed to the "Back to School Supply Drive" for Trinity First sponsored by Cross View's Women's Ministry. And it's not too late to donate. View and purchase items on Trinity First Lutheran School's Amazon Wish List <https://a.co/bVCzIwe> and ship the items directly to the school.



TRINITY FIRST
LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Cross View Game Night

Do you love games? Join us for fun and fellowship every second Sunday of the month starting tonight from 6:30–8:30 PM in Rooms 209/210. Cross View Game Night is open to all teens and adults, including church members and their guests. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her own board or card games. If you bring a game, be prepared to show others how to play. Questions? Contact John Daenzer (johndaenzer@gmail.com) or Michael Kibat (mgkibat@centurylink.net). Register for this event on [CV Connect](#) or the Event Registration kiosks.



Welcome MAT Volunteers Needed!

As Cross View begin an active fall season, the Welcome MAT could use some additional volunteers for Hosts and Welcome Center Attendants. They have lost a few volunteers for multiple reasons, so they are sometimes having to double up on their schedules. The goal is to have enough volunteers so that any person or persons would only serve once every other month. The roles are quite simple and require 15 minutes for Hosts and 25 minutes (15 minutes prior to service and 10 minutes after service) for Welcome Center Attendants.

If these easy ways to serve would be something you might be able to do, or if you have any questions regarding the Welcome MAT, please contact Sue Harrison at kharrison1111@gmail.com or 713-269-9657. She would be happy to answer any questions you may have about helping to grow God's Kingdom in the vital ministry of welcoming visitors to Cross View!

Children's Ministry

FALL PROGRAMING FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Please join our children's and youth ministries this program year 2022-2023 where we will creatively engage them in learning God's amazing Word and build lasting relationships. [Register at CV Connect](#) for fall programing that starts the week of September 11. Register by August 21 to allow us time to prepare our classrooms. Thanks!

Music Ministry

HAND BELL CHOIR

Hand bell choir rehearsals will resume on Wednesday, Sept 14, 6:30–7:15 PM. Do you play hand bells – and are interested in being a substitute ringer during the year? Contact Sue Quist sue@crossview.net.

WOMEN'S CHORUS

Women's chorus resumes on Wednesday, Sept 14, 7:15–8:00 PM rehearsal. Interested in singing with this group of women? Contact Sue Quist for more information sue@crossview.net.

CHOIR

The choir will also resume this fall and sing once per month. Oct 16th is the first date we will sing in 8:15 AM worship. Contact Sue Quist for more information sue@crossview.net.

MEN'S CHORUS

Cross View would like to form a men's chorus to sing throughout this upcoming year. Contact Sue Quist for more information sue@crossview.net.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Do you play an instrument? We welcome all ages to share their musical gifts in worship. Contact Sue Quist for more information sue@crossview.net.

Love to Garden?

Cross View is putting together a "gardening" MAT team to keep our landscape looking beautiful. If you would be interested and willing to help, please contact Sue Hanson at 952-826-9401.

Cross View Quilting Resumes in Sept.

The Cross View Quilters meet in room 218 at church on the first, third, and fifth Wednesday of the month from September through May. The first meeting this year is September

7 at 9:30 AM. Each year the group makes dozens of quilts that they give to a variety of charities. Call Patricia Rostal (952-941-2425) if you have any questions.



Outreach & Missions

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CENTER (POBLO) EVENTS

Looking to CONNECT, GROW, and SERVE outside of your usual social circles? Our International Friendship Centers (IFC) at Mt. Hope Lutheran in Bloomington and Ascension Lutheran in Burnsville are filled with delightful people looking for a friend to help them practice their English skills, cook with them, and maybe even take care of their kids as they study God's Word!

Right now, we're looking for a few Cross View members who are willing to spend time getting to know new English speakers on Monday or Wednesday evenings at 6 pm at Mt. Hope.

Check out the SOCIAL calendar of events below for ways to connect with new friends! Questions? Contact Susan Charles at 952-567-1232.

IFC Social Calendar of Events

Fri. 8/26: Prior Lake IFC Outdoor Movie Night, 8:00 PM

Wed. 8/31: Ice Cream Social, Burnsville IFC Ascension, 6:30 PM

Sat. 9/17: IFC Breakfast Potluck, Bloomington Mt Hope, 10:00 AM

Fri. 9/30: International Cooking & Conversation, Bloomington Mt Hope, 6:00 PM

Sat. 10/1: IFC Breakfast Potluck, Bloomington Mt Hope, 10:00 AM

Wed. 10/26: Celebration, Burnsville IFC Ascension, 6:30 PM

Fri. 10/28: International Cooking & Conversation, Bloomington Mt Hope, 6:00 PM

Fri. 11/18: IFC International Thanksgiving Potluck, Bloomington Mt Hope, 6:00 PM

Sat. 12/3: IFC Tea & Christmas Cookie Social, Bloomington Mt Hope, 10:00 AM

Wed. 12/21: IFC Potluck, Burnsville Ascension, 6:00 PM

12/22-1/4: Christmas Break: No classes



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 Cross View's pastors.

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

-Galatians 6:2

Taking Care of the Twin Cities — Love in Action

Thank you to everyone involved in making this year's (TC)² event a huge success! It was exciting to expand (TC)² beyond a youth service event to include all Cross View members this year — young families, school-aged families, empty nesters, grandparents...

Our theme for this third year of (TC)² was from Romans 12:4-8 — Love in Action. God provided us with a picture-perfect day to put the love of Christ into action through service projects around the Twin Cities.

We began the day with a single worship service in the morning, followed by a delicious lunch, and then we dispersed to our five work sites — churches, schools, homes — in Minneapolis, Edina, and Shakopee. Our physical labor is evidenced by the many weeds pulled, bushes

trimmed, volunteer trees removed, sticks and garbage picked up, mulch spread, floors and rooms cleaned, etc. More importantly, as we worked and did devotions at our work sites, we were blessed with new connections and deeper relationships with those we were serving and each other. After we were done at the work sites, we returned to church for supper, outdoor worship led by the youth and a fun devotion. God concluded our evening by painting an amazingly beautiful sunset for everyone to enjoy.

We are so thankful for God's provision of weather, safety, opportunities to serve, build relationships, and more. Thanks again to everyone who participated! What a joy it was to serve together in love!





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

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

Jonathan Zellar, Youth Ministry
952-243-2047, jonathan@crossview.net

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

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

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

Sue Quist, Music & Fine Arts Ministries
952-243-2048, sue@crossview.net

Alyssa Meger, Finance Specialist
952-243-2046, alyssa@crossview.net

Julia Montgomery, Administrative Assistant
952-941-1094, julia@crossview.net

Amy Gundermann, Contemporary Worship Team Leader
amy@crossview.net

José Portillo, Minister of Facility & Maintenance

Harrison Lawrence, Organist
harrison@crossview.net

Julie Marquardt, President

Nader & Georgette Alaraj, POBLO

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



GROW

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional Worship
in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary
Worship in the Great
Commission Room

*Sunday services are also
live streamed.*

*Communion 2nd & 4th
Sundays*

SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

OFFICE HOURS

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

CALENDAR

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

CONNECT

6645 McCauley Trail West
Edina, MN, 55439-1076

952-941-1094 (Office)
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