

# CROSSVIEW CLARION

September 2023

**"Once you create your own family devotional style, you and your kids will...look forward to these special times." – Barb Coffin**



## Family Devotions, Anyone?

by Dcs. Barb Coffin, Director of Children's Ministry

Can you believe the start of school is just around the corner? As you are reading this, school has already started with some children. Wow time flies! It really makes me think about how to make the most of the time I have with my kids be valuable to them. What do I want to instill in them? How can my husband and I shape and influence our children to be more like Christ? One way to do this is to start the pattern of a family devotion. It is said, it takes at least two months for a behavior to become an actual habit. So don't give up too early with something new. There are so many ways a family can do a devotion. Most importantly don't over think or over complicate it.

Once you create your own family devotional style you and your kids will come to expect it and look forward to these special times.

I love talking about God Sightings with my kids. God Sightings are ways you see God working in your daily life. God Sightings are easy and natural ways to bring up the topic of God with your children. An example of a God Sighting would be seeing a small flower growing between a crack in the cement sidewalk. You could say, "See how beautiful God's creation is even where it isn't expected." Another example of a God Sighting would be praying in the car together after you see an ambulance or police car drive

by with their sirens on.

Another great way to have a family devotion is by simply reading the Bible together. You can use the acronym SOAP which stands for Scripture, Observe, Application, and Prayer. First, pick a Scripture to read together and then you can ask each other questions about it for the Observation time. What are some of your general impressions? What is being said? What is the Bible teaching? What is the theme? Ask some good Application questions. How does this passage affect my present concept of God or my relationship with Him and others? How does this passage relate to the Gospel message of the entire Bible? What are you going to do about what God is teaching you in His Word? Finally, end in a group Prayer. You can pray about your day, any particular requests, and offer praise.

Personally, I have really enjoyed some good family devotional books. The devotional book "The One Year Praying Through the Bible for Your

Kids" by Nancy Guthrie is great. It offers many ways to involve Scripture when praying for your kids on your own. Sarah Young has a series of books called "Jesus Calling" that are written from the perspective of Jesus talking directly to you. Besides her adult devotionals there are devotional books specifically for boys, girls, teens, and kids. "My First Hands-on Bible" by Group Publishing is written for children under age five and includes great discussion questions, activities, and always points the story back to Jesus. "Friends with God Devotions for Kids" by Mikal Keefer is written for children seven years of age and older. It has 54 of the main Bible stories and always ends with how the Word should relate to you and God and you and others. There are a lot of great resources out there. Be sure to check out the resource wall downstairs by the youth room or ask me for other suggestions anytime.

Have a great start to your fall!

## Financial Update

### Year-to-Date Results

- July Expenses exceeded Income by \$15,124.
- Year to Date, Total Income is \$36,503 or 4.9% favorable to Budget. YTD Expenses are \$69,866 favorable.
- ECC Income is \$34,863 below plan due to openings in some rooms and vacation credits.
- ECC Expenses are favorable to plan by \$16,644 resulting in Net Surplus \$41,818.
- The Restored! campaign is currently \$132,683 short in pledges to fully repay the loan by the May 2024 maturity date.

Cross View Lutheran Church			
7/31/23	2023 Actual Year to Date	2023 Budget Year to Date	Actual vs. Budget Favorable (Unfavorable)
Total Income	\$774,849	\$738,346	\$36,503
Total Expenses	(\$700,995)	(\$770,861)	\$69,866
General Fund Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$73,854	(\$32,515)	\$106,369
General Fund Ending Balance	\$242,571	\$136,202	

Cross View Restored! Building Campaign	
Contributions Received in June:	\$7,724
Total Pledges Made to Restored!	\$358,336
Total Contributions Collected:	\$326,115
Balance in Restored! Fund:	\$11,921
Loan Balance Outstanding:	\$236,000
Additional Gifts Needed to Repay Loan:	\$132,683

# Director of Youth and Young Adult Ministry Update

God's plan to fill Cross View's Director of Christian Education—Youth and Young Adult Ministry vacancy continues to evolve. After an exhaustive Call Committee search for LCMS trained candidates, the congregation, at an August 20th Voters' Assembly, approved extending Hannah Zahrt a Divine Call to Cross View Lutheran Church.

Hannah is a 2018 Concordia University—Mequon graduate and is serving God at Hope Lutheran Church in De Pere, WI. She is responsible for leading youth, Sunday School administrator, and director of Vacation Bible School. She has also taken youth groups to National Youth Gatherings

in 2019 and 2022.

Hannah is a native Minnesotan, growing up in the west metro where her father was Senior Pastor at Our Savior Lutheran Church in Excelsior. She attended grade school at Our Savior and graduated from Mayer Lutheran High School where she played soccer, ran track, participated in two musicals, and went on two foreign mission trips. She grew up going to Camp Omega and served as a Youth Servant Leader.

We are thankful for God's guidance during Cross View's Call process. We pray for God's continued guidance as we wait to see His plan for Hannah and Cross View.



## Christian Education

### **UNLOCKING PROPHECY: ARE WE LIVING IN THE LAST DAYS?**

**DATES: SEPTEMBER 17–OCTOBER 29, 9:30–10:30 AM**

**LOCATION: SANCTUARY**

**TEACHING LEADER: PASTOR REED LESSING**

Have you ever wondered about the rapture? The seven-year tribulation? The thousand-year reign of Christ? God's plan for Israel? This study looks at the book of Revelation from a different perspective — one called premillennial dispensationalism. All your questions will be answered! [Register on CV Connect.](#)

### **MARRIAGE ENRICHMENT**

**DATES: SEPTEMBER 17–OCTOBER 22, 9:30–10:30 AM**

**LOCATION: ROOMS 210–211**

**TEACHING LEADER: PASTOR STEVE WHEELER**

Come and learn more about God's design for Biblical marriage and how to honor Him through our relationships. [Register on CV Connect.](#)

### **PROMISED REST**

#### **WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

**BEGINS WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13, AT 6:30 PM**

If you're in need of rest for your soul from the anxieties and worries in the world, join your sisters in Christ for *Promised Rest: Finding Peace in God's Presence* by Michelle Diercks. This book study will focus on the different names and characteristics of



God. We'll see how He keeps His promises to give us rest by offering us His name to cling to. Order your book from [www.CPH.org](http://www.CPH.org) or on Amazon. Class begins on Wednesday, Sept 13 at 6:30 PM, meeting in Room 119. [Register online](#) or call Vicki Weber at 952-838-5500 with questions.

### **NEW MEMBER CLASS**

**STARTING SEPTEMBER 17 AT 9:30 AM**

Join us at 9:30–10:30 AM on Sundays this fall for our Welcome to Cross View series. This is a series of classes for anyone interested in becoming a member and 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 17–October 1: Joining the CV Family Go a little deeper and learn the heart of the Cross View family. In this class, you'll learn about our Lutheran faith and beliefs.
- October 8–October 22: 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 22: 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](mailto:annryan@hotmail.com)) or the church office at 952-941-1094.

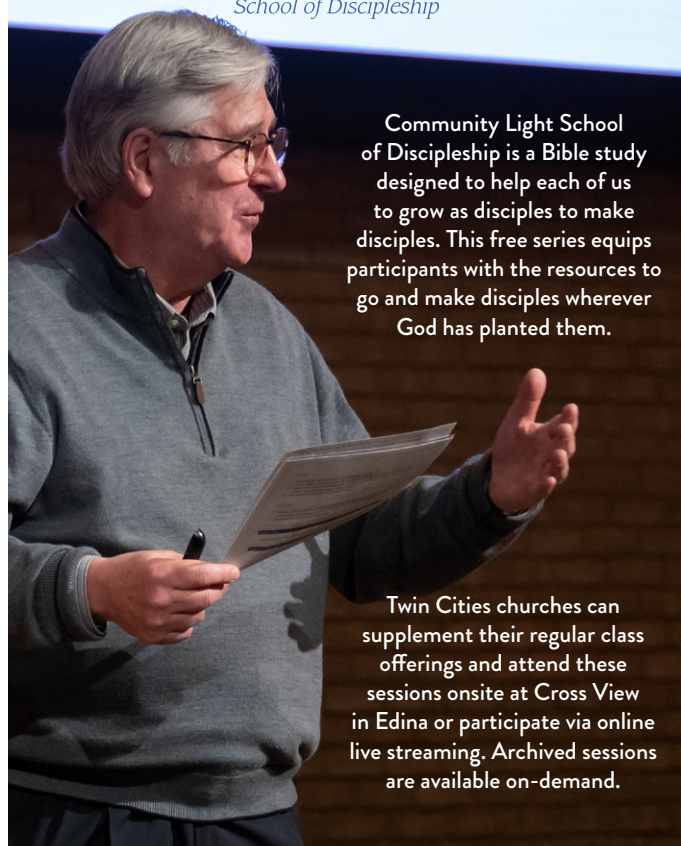


## COMMUNITY LIGHT SCHOOL OF DISCIPLESHIP

### Grow As Disciples To Make Disciples



Community Light  
School of Discipleship



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

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

### HOW TO PARTICIPATE

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

### TIMING

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

### SESSION FORMAT

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

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

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

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



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

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

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



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

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

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

## BIBLE STUDY FELLOWSHIP (BSF) FOR WOMEN & PRESCHOOL CHILDREN

Cross View women, please join us for Bible Study Fellowship's study of John on Tuesday's from 12:30–2:00 PM.

Women today face a multitude of challenges, like struggles with insecurity, broken relationships, guilt, overwork, or loneliness. Countless women have found peace, comfort, hope, security, and answers to life's big questions by exploring God's Word. As a group member, you will personally study Scripture and answer questions each day. Once a week, you will meet for a small-group discussion of the lesson, hear from a teaching leader how the truths of Scripture can be applied to daily life and receive comprehensive notes on the Scripture passages you studied.

BSF's Preschool Program gives children a biblical foundation upon which to build a love for God and spiritual matters. Loving, well-trained and committed leaders teach little ones about God and the Bible in age-appropriate ways. The leaders pray for the children and encourage them

to continue learning with their registered adult throughout the week. (The preschoolers' curriculum is based on the lessons the adults study to help foster spiritual conversations at home.) The children also learn other important life skills, such as how to obey instructions, cooperate, sit, and listen — all taught in an atmosphere of love.



## Kick Off Sunday: September 10

The entire congregation is invited for Kick Off Sunday, September 10th, during the Sunday school hour 9:30–10:30 AM in the sanctuary to learn about all the education opportunities for all ages at Cross View. We will spend the first few minutes focusing on children and youth, and then

families will be dismissed to meet their children's Sunday School teachers. Adults without children can stay in the sanctuary to learn about all the adult education classes this year. At 10:00 AM we will all gather back in the narthex area to have a time of fellowship with coffee and donuts.



## Churchwide Picnic on September 10

The entire church is invited to a family picnic on Sunday, September 10th, from 4:00–6:00 PM at Lake Riley Park Pavilion at [9180 Riley Lake Rd, Eden Prairie, MN 55347](https://www.google.com/maps/place/9180+Riley+Lake+Rd,+Eden+Prairie,+MN+55347). Bring your own picnic dinner, beverages, 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 want to play as well as your own chairs. Any questions please contact Barb Coffin at [Barb@crossview.net](mailto:Barb@crossview.net). The event is rain or shine.

## Cross View Game Night

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

## Recharge on Wednesday Nights

Make sure to reserve Wednesday evenings to “Recharge” for the 2023–2024 year in ministry! Below is a list of all the classes for all ages and locations.

- Childcare: 0–3-year-olds – Nursery
- Kidstutute: (4 rooms) 217, 216, 218, & 223. The children will be learning about different attributes of God's character this year as the focus on the heart of God and how to reflect it in everyday life.
- Confirmation: Jr. High Room
- Choirs: Sanctuary
- Community Light School of Discipleship: (6 groups +) 209, 210, 211 (Fellowship Hall), 213 (Fireside), 224A & 225B (Great Commission Room), 118 A, and 118 B (Lower Level Classroom)

- Monthly Mom's Group: 113
- Women's Bible Study: 119
- Chosen Bible Study for youth and adults in Sr. High Youth Room
- Wednesday Nights meal details: The meal will be catered by Chef Jeff and there will be a cost per individual of \$7 with a family max of \$25 per family. The menu will be announced weekly via email and the bulletin. Registration is required and is due by the Monday prior to noon.



## Do You Love to Quilt?

The Cross View Quilters meet at church in Room 218 on the first, third, and fifth Wednesday of each month from September through May. Each year, they make dozens of quilts which they give to a variety of charities. Our next meeting is September 6 at 9:30 AM. Questions? Contact Pat Rostal, 952-941-2425.

## Pastor Reed and Concordia Publishing House

Right in our midst at Cross View, we have a gifted author. Did you know Concordia Publishing House has published twenty-three books, sermon series, and Bible studies written by Pastor Reed Lessing? In the past five years he has published a commentary on Zechariah, as well as *Overcoming Life's Sorrows: Learning from Jeremiah*, and *Deliver Us: Insights from the book of Exodus*. Currently he is working on a commentary on Lamentations and a smaller book on Numbers.

Pastor Reed's most recent book published by Concordia

Publishing House is co-authored with Andrew E. Steinmann, Professor Emeritus of Old Testament at Concordia University, Chicago. The book is *The Messianic Message: Predictions, Patterns, and the Presence of Jesus in the Old Testament*. In *The Messianic Message* Lessing and Steinmann go through a number of books in the Old Testament and explain the predictions, patterns, and the presence of Jesus.

Cross View is blessed to have Pastor Reed leading and teaching us as we build our relationship with the Messiah.



# Early Childhood Center

## SUPPORT THE ECC

If you are wondering different ways you can support the Early Childhood Center, here are some options:

- Pray for families and staff
- Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars to the Early Childhood Center
- Dinner night out fundraisers
- Volunteer to work in rooms or help with projects
- They are collecting picture frames again — if you have any, please donate them

## ECC SUMMER FUN

This summer has been fun, and we ended it on a high note. We had our annual Family Fun Day August 10th. The weather was perfect, games were awesome, and the bubble party was a hit. See pictures below.



## 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

# Music Ministry

## TRADITIONAL MUSIC ENSEMBLES NEW SEASON BEGINS SEPTEMBER 13!

Come lift up your voice (or your bell) in worship! Join us in the Adult Choir, Women's Choir, or Handbell Choir as we lead traditional music at the 8:15 AM worship service.

Re-Charge Wednesday evenings will include these worship music rehearsals:

Women's Choir is directed by Rebecca Ghiselli ([Rebecca@crossview.net](mailto:Rebecca@crossview.net)). The women sing once a month (usually on the 1st Sunday) and rehearse in the Choir Room from 5:45–6:15 PM on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Wednesdays. Handbell Choir is directed by John Bentley ([John@crossview.net](mailto:John@crossview.net)). The Handbells play once a month (usually on the 3rd Sunday) and rehearse in the sanctuary each week from 6:15–7:15 PM.

Adult Choir is directed by Susan Charles ([Susan@crossview.net](mailto:Susan@crossview.net)). They sing two-three times a month (usually on the 2nd, 4th, and 5th Sunday) and rehearse each week in the sanctuary from 7:15–8:15 PM.

## MEET OUR MUSICIAN LEADERS

**Organist:** Judy Campen is blessed to be a part of Cross View's Music Ministry! Her passion is to make music and to enhance the worship experience by her sensitivity to each part of the service. She has been an organist (and pianist) for worship services since the age of 14 and has continued for several decades now. Her Bachelor of Music in Organ Performance and Graduate Certificate in Sacred Music is from The University of Iowa. Her music experiences are wide ranging and include being Minister of Music, directing all levels of choirs, accompanying choirs in church and outside church in the community, teaching piano and organ, and being past Dean of the Twin Cities American Guild of Organists. In fact, Judy was organist at Cross View from 1985–1989 when she and her spouse were transferred out of state. Other education includes becoming a Registered Nurse. Giving God all the glory is her priority!



**Hand Bell Choir Director:** John Bentley graciously stepped in to direct the hand bells on an interim basis last February. Previously a member of Normandale Lutheran Church, he had been attending Cross View for over three years with his late wife, Joanne, before becoming a member this past spring. At Normandale, John played



trumpet in the brass quintet and hand bells in the choir. During the twelve years prior to Normandale, he directed the hand bells and coordinated the brass ensemble at Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls. He is also a member of two community wind ensembles. John has three grown daughters and two grandchildren. He is finishing his career in the legal affairs department of Target Corporation and enjoys music and many sports such as pickleball, tennis, and softball. Fun fact: John will be marrying Susan Charles in September!

**Women's Choir Director:** Rebecca Ghiselli holds a bachelors in music degree from Western Illinois University and a Master's in education from Concordia. She has taught elementary music and yoga and served as a school administrator. Rebecca loves making music with her three small children and husband at home and with her piano students. Rebecca is looking forward to worshipping through music with the women's choir this fall.



**Soprano Section Leader:** Annie Deering's lifelong devotion to the arts serves as an enduring presence that enriches both her personal life and defines her professional path. Propelled by a Bachelor of Music degree from Saint Olaf College, her journey has not only nurtured her artistic excellence but also sparked a captivating interest in event planning. Currently, Annie holds the position of Events and Special Initiatives Manager at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts. Her impressive portfolio encompasses galas, fundraisers, award ceremonies, concerts, and community events, a testament to her steadfast dedication to creating unforgettable experiences. Beyond her role as an events maestro, Annie's melodious journey extends to Cross View, where she has dedicated a decade to harmonizing her love for music and community.



**Tenor Section Leader:** Larry Hill was invited by Rebecca Waller to join the choir at Cross View 30 years ago when Paul Emch was organist. He says he's been enriched by his association with Cross View and the wonderful people here, especially those folks in the choir. He looks forward to being back for more blessings now with Susan Charles at the helm.





# Outreach & Missions

## FALL FOOD DRIVE

During the month of September, we will be collecting non-perishable food donations for VEAP's Food Pantry. Over 100,000 people experiencing hunger or food insecurity are served each year through VEAP's food programs. Let's be generous as we show the love of Jesus to those in need! Contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) with questions.

## TRINITY FIRST MAT

Do you have a passion for ministry in the city? Our Trinity First MAT is looking for additional members to help our congregation engage in meaningful ways with the Trinity First

Lutheran School community to support their ministry. Contact Amy Gundermann at [amy@crossview.net](mailto:amy@crossview.net) if you are interested. We'd love to have your help!

## FMSC THANK YOU!

Over 120 volunteers from Cross View came together in July to help pack food at Feed My Starving Children to be sent to Afghanistan. Our people power put together 150 boxes, which includes 32,000 meals. This is enough to feed 88 children for a year! We pray that through local partners, this food arrives safely to those who need it most and that they would know Jesus, our true Provider.





## POBLO NEWS

POBLO is looking for additional volunteers as they expand their offerings to help English language learners. You are invited to come for training and to kick off the new season with new missionaries Issa and Dina on September 23rd from 10:30 – Noon at Mt. Hope Lutheran Church in Bloomington. No experience necessary! Contact volunteer coordinator Shari Schulze at 612-552-3878 or [shari@poblo.org](mailto:shari@poblo.org).

## CAREPORTAL – RESPONSE TEAM TRAINING

Cross View is launching a response team this fall with CarePortal, a network that helps to meet the needs of children and families in crisis within our community. If you are interested in joining Cross View's response team or just want to learn more, register on CV Connect for ONE of the training sessions coming up in October. There is no minimum requirement so volunteers can determine their own level of involvement. Pam Olsen has been trained as our team lead at Cross View and you can reach her at [careportal@crossview.net](mailto:careportal@crossview.net) with questions. Visit [www.careportal.org](http://www.careportal.org) to learn more.

[Sign up for training on October 1st from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.](#)

[Sign up for training on October 5th from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.](#)

## (TC)<sup>2</sup> – SHINE BRIGHT!

Taking Care of the Twin Cities, also known as (TC)<sup>2</sup>, was an incredible day for our congregation! For the fourth year in a row, we have offered a way for our church to serve our neighbors and shine bright with the love of Jesus. This year, our theme verse was from Isaiah 58:10, "Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon." We had over 80 volunteers of ALL ages help with a wide variety of tasks throughout the Twin Cities including park clean up, yard work for a family with a recent disability, painting and improvements at churches in need, moving furniture for Healing Flats, prepping and cleaning classrooms at Avail Academy, and sprucing up the grounds at Cross View. We also had a group of volunteers help with sit-down projects including wrapping bandages for Global Health, packing neck warmers and other goodies for people experiencing homelessness, creating cards for shut-ins, and stuffing surgery dolls for children facing a procedure through Hennepin Healthcare Foundation. Thank you to everyone who helped to make (TC)<sup>2</sup> 2023 a success!









# Children's Ministry

## PARENT CORNER



***A list of fun discussion questions to get your family talking at dinner or on those long car rides to school or practices.***

For parents to ask their kids:

- What is something I do that makes you feel loved?
- What is one of your favorite memories?
- What are some characteristics of a good friend?

- What is something you are really good at?
- What would you change about the world today if you could?
- What is something that cheers you up?
- If you could ask God one question, what would it be?
- If you had \$100 and couldn't spend it on yourself, what would you do with it?
- What is your favorite thing we do as a family?
- What is something you can't wait to do when you grow up?

# Adult Ministry

## JOIN A SMALL GROUP!

At Cross View, we know being a member of a small group can be transformational. Groups spend time together in God's Word, share life's joys and challenges, pray for one another, and serve others like Jesus did. Several new groups are starting to form over the summer. If you'd like to join a group or become a small group leader, please contact Amy Gundermann ([amy@cross-view.net](mailto:amy@cross-view.net)) or complete the [interest form on our website](#).



**TWENTIES & THIRTIES**

## TNT EVENTS

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

- September 12: Cross View's Senior High Room

- September 26: Good Day Café in Golden Valley
- October 10: Nicole and Maxwell's Home
- October 24: Dinner together and serve at FMSC

## MEN'S MINISTRY BREAKFAST

Save the date for a Men's Ministry Breakfast on Saturday, October 14, from 8:00–10:00 AM with guest speaker Mike Max! This will be a great opportunity for men to gather and be encouraged to live out their calling as Christians. Invite a friend or neighbor to come! Watch for more details about registration and contact Dave Wagner ([dave@ambrosiacoffeemn.com](mailto:dave@ambrosiacoffeemn.com)) or Dan Battcher ([dtbattcher@gmail.com](mailto:dtbattcher@gmail.com)) if you'd like to help out with the event.



♥ SAVE THE DATE ♥

**Women's Ministry  
Fall Luncheon**

Saturday, Nov. 4  
11:00 AM–1:00 PM

Speaker: Jane Horn  
Caterer: Lunch ThymeE  
Cost: \$15.00 per person

ASSOCIATED CHARITABLE  
OUTREACH:  
**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD  
COLLECTION**

## WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

Women's Book Club will meet at church in room 120 on Monday, September 18, at 1:00 PM. We will discuss the book *When We Had Wings* by Ariel Lawhon. Please feel free to join us as new members are always welcome.





### LIVING FAITHFULLY, JOYFULLY, AND GRATEFULLY EACH DAY

There is much more to life than we experience on Earth. Steve and Jan Schrader share their encouragement for finding God's purpose each day while looking forward to eternal life.

*Q. Steve and Jan, every time I see you, I am encouraged. What has our Lord been teaching you through all your health trauma in recent years?*

**Steve:** To borrow from a hymn title, "I'm But a Stranger Here;" heaven is my home. In my vigorous and active youth, the thought of death was almost beyond imagination. As I now have a closer view of the finish line and feel the effects of a very broken body, I have come to realize how fleeting these days are and how long eternity is. While I still want to be the best I can be for the Lord here on this earth, I have come to treasure the promises of Jesus for the end of this earthly life. Jan and I have truly come to embrace the blessing of the day, the hour, the moment. Rich treasures now, but better ones to come!

*Q. How are you both inspired not only to survive but even grow during this long season of suffering?*

**Steve:** This has been a tough one for me. I have learned that apathy and loss of motivation are characteristics of Parkinson's disease (from which I suffer). Previously, I had been so puzzled by how disinterested I had become in things I had so been looking forward to in retirement. I'm glad to have learned this because you can deal with "the enemy" much better when you know he's there. As long as God gives us breath, He has a useful purpose in mind for us to serve him, and I need to seek that purpose every day. I get so much inspiration from my dear wife, who has been such an example of perseverance in ministry, even while suffering through much greater health challenges than those with which I have had to deal!

*Q. Humanly speaking, who in particular has been your "light in the dark?"*

**Steve:** I have been richly blessed by the life of my dad, who served over 40 years as a Lutheran pastor. Although we had the "required" challenges of my high school years (my problem, NOT his!) we had a good relationship. When my mom died at the age of 53, my dad was an absolute rock in the darkness of my sorrow. We had been father/son to that point, but we became great friends after that. He was such a humble man and loved his "sheep" so tenderly. It's what he was in ministry to do! At his memorial service at the church he had started, my family felt the pastor chose the perfect title for his sermon: "Good Shepherding, Carl." I was so blessed to have special access to this shepherd, and his manner is the way I want to treat people.



*Q. After all these years, why are you still faithfully following Jesus?*

**Jan:** I think of Peter's words to Jesus, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life." Jesus is everything he claimed to be, true God and true man, Savior, King of kings and Lord of Lords. My resurrected Savior will keep his promise to prepare my place in his Father's house and come back for me when my earthly life ends so that I can be with him forever in the new heavens and earth.

*Q. Aging has its own lessons known only to elders. What are yours?*

**Jan:** I think a truth that we avoid most of our lives is that we are all aging, moving toward eternity, so I've tried to treat each day as a gift. When I was forty, I had my first of three bouts with cancer. In 2001 my sixty-nine-year-old mom was taken to heaven suddenly as a result of a car accident. My dad died at ninety-one in 2020 after a short battle with pneumonia. I don't know how many days the Lord has for me, but I want each day to be lived faithfully, joyfully, and gratefully with the Holy Spirit's help.

*Q. Would you give some examples of how the Holy Spirit is involved in the tiny details of your everyday lives?*

**Jan:** Recently we were feeling overwhelmed, and Steve prayed that the Lord would intervene. Within an hour of that prayer, the Holy Spirit was working through our Cross View family. We received a text asking how we were doing and offering to help. Soon after that, another loving text came from someone in my small group. Just hours later, another couple called and brought over a lasagna supper, chicken soup and groceries!

*Q. If you were given the microphone to speak to the entire Cross View Lutheran Church, what would you say?*

**Jan:** Thank you, dear brothers and sisters in Christ. You have been part of the great cloud of witnesses cheering us on in our journey of faith, keeping Jesus and the hope of heaven ever before us. We praise God for his faithful love shown through each and every one in the body of believers in this place, from youngest to oldest!



Paul Emmel is a retired pastor in the Lutheran Church — Missouri Synod and a member of Cross View Lutheran Church. Paul regularly shares his writings which reflect God's beauty and the world around us. If you would like to subscribe to these emailed messages, email him at [paulspatter@aol.com](mailto:paulspatter@aol.com).





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

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## SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:15 AM Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

10:45 AM Contemporary Worship in the Great Commission Room

Sunday services are also [live streamed](#).

Communion is on 2nd & 4th Sundays.

## SUNDAY EDUCATION

9:30 AM Onsite & Online

## RECHARGE

Wednesdays, Sept. – May

5:15 PM Meal

6:30 PM Programming

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

## OFFICE HOURS

Mon.-Fri., 9:00 AM – 4:30 PM

## CALENDAR

Our most current calendar is always available at [www.crossview.net/calendar](http://www.crossview.net/calendar)

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