

# TIDINGS Newsletter

February 2012

## CROSSVIEW COVENANT CHURCH

*Honoring God by reaching out and building a community of disciples for Jesus Christ.*

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**CROSSVIEW**  
COVENANT CHURCH

2000 Howard Drive  
N. MANKATO, MN 56003  
(507) 387-5606  
[www.crossviewcovenant.org](http://www.crossviewcovenant.org)

#### CHURCH

#### OFFICE HOURS:

M-Th: 8:30am - 4pm  
F: 8:30am - 3pm

Contact us at:  
[church@crossviewcov.org](mailto:church@crossviewcov.org)

## Remaining "In His Grip" by Pastor Chris Pappenfus

I was touched by Pastor Kevin's recent message entitled "In His Grip" which he preached as part of his last sermon series with us. The sermon was a gentle reminder to me as I was finding myself reeling from all of the changes that I am facing.

The first big change came with the decision to sell Carol Court, resulting in the daunting task of relocating our Student Ministries' Wednesday evening program, IGNITE. The Carol Court Campus had become an integral tool to our ministry and I wasn't sure what the ministry would look like moving forward.

The same Sunday that the congregation voted to sell Carol Court, Pastor Kevin pulled me aside after Shepherd's Sweets to let me know he was most likely going to be taking a position in New London as Interim Pastor. Two BIG changes for me in one day! This took the meaning of "double wammy" to a whole new level. I went home that night and began processing the day with my wife, Allison. As we talked, I could see and feel the movements of my unborn son stretching against Allison's pregnant belly and was reminded again that even MORE change is coming!

Some people seem to love the new challenges that change brings. Others, like myself, need time to process it and work it through. So, it was with all kinds of uncertainties and even some anxiety that I received Pastors Kevin's words reminding me that being held tightly in God's grip is truly the best place to be. In fact, for us as the Church, it is the only place we are to be. I have been encouraged by all those in the congregation who are looking ahead with optimism for the next chapter and thankfulness to God for the previous chapter.

Since that long Sunday in December, we have successfully transitioned student ministries over to Howard Drive with our official Kick-Off on February 1st. Pastor Kevin and I have spent many hours in prayer and conversation and I am excited for him and Mary as they return to a place very dear to their hearts.

As for my unborn son...The nursery is painted, the crib is assembled and the onsies are washed and waiting in his dresser drawers. I am anxious to welcome him into this world and introduce him to the God who holds me, our family and His Church firmly in His grip.

*(Miss a week? Audio of the sermons are available on our website:  
<http://www.crossviewcovenant.org/sermon-audio/>)*

### GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL REPORT (7/1/2011 - 12/31/2011)

Budgeted Income	\$656,269	Account Balances	
Actual Income	\$598,733	as of 12/31/2011	
Budgeted Expenses	\$638,330	General Fund:	\$92,880
Actual Expenses	\$585,265	Designated Fund:	\$133,086
Actual Shortage/Excess	\$ 13,467	-----	

Amount needed weekly to meet the budget: \$24,551  
Average giving per week through 12/31/2011: \$23,028

## Meet Our New Interim Pastor - Rich Theilen



The Church Council would like to announce the hiring of Rich Theilen as Crossview's Interim Pastor. Pastor Rich has served in both Senior and Interim Pastor roles for many years, most recently as the Interim Pastor at United Covenant Church in Clear Lake, Wisconsin. The Council was impressed with Pastor Rich's relational and leadership skills, and we look forward to working with him. Pastor Rich will begin his service at Crossview on Monday, February 13th and his first Sunday to preach will be February 26th.

**Tell us a little about your background:** I grew up in the Twin Cities and my family attended Diamond Lake Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. As a Junior High student at Minnehaha Academy I made a commitment to follow Christ. I graduated with a B.A. in Economics from St. Olaf College and then spent seven years in the Oil and Chemical packaging business—continuing a career path that had actually begun in high school. After college I became heavily involved at First Covenant in Minneapolis, taking on ever-increasing roles as a lay-leader—it was this involvement that eventually led me to quit my job and enroll at

Bethel Seminary. Over the years, I've served churches in Minnesota, South Dakota, Wisconsin, and the Vancouver area of British Columbia, Canada—including 2 separate stints at First Cov Minneapolis.

**Tell us about your family:** I have been married to my wife Cheryl for over 18 years. Cheryl grew up in Wooster Ohio, graduated from North Park College, and works for the Northwest Conference of the Covenant Church where she coordinates events (like the annual meeting that was at Crossview last year), manages conference finances, and works with pastors and staff who are seeking ministerial credentials (e.g. ordination or licensure) in the Covenant. We have one daughter, Kristin, who is a senior at Minnehaha Academy, loves to read, enjoys drama, and manages the girls' basketball team. She hopes to be a secondary school teacher (history or social studies) and is getting close to a college decision for next fall. She hopes to spend at least some time studying abroad as part of her college experience. We also have a 2-1/2 year old Westie (West Highland White Terrier) named Katie who fits the breed perfectly: she's smart, affectionate, energetic, stubborn, often mischievous—but always very, very cute.

**What is your favorite Bible verse?** I don't have a favorite per se. I've found different passages to be significant at different points in my life. There are two verses that in some ways tie the others together, though: Joshua 1:9b & Proverbs 19:21.

**What are your hobbies?** Our family has several farms in SW Minnesota, and we enjoy spending time there whenever possible. We also have been privileged to travel extensively in North America and Europe.

Our family enjoys watching movies and old "JAG" and "West Wing" episodes, and playing games. I personally enjoy WWII movies, historical documentaries, and episodes of Agatha Christie's Poirot with David Suchet.

**Any special message you'd like to pass on to the congregation?** I'm looking forward to spending the interim period with you and am excited to see what God will do through our time together.

DISCOVER

DEVELOP

SEND

SERVE

## Thanks from Congo for Heart of Compassion 2011 by Carolyn Schmidt

On Heart of Compassion Sunday (November 6th), as our congregation learned more about what is happening in Democratic Republic of Congo and the great needs of our brothers and sisters in Christ, we responded very generously! After expenses, we were able to send \$21,000, to be used by the Paul Carlson Partnership for their ministry. Also, \$500 was designated to help with Women Ministry expenses for shipping "rolled bandages" and layettes to Congo.

We received a card expressing gratitude from the Paul Carlson Partnership and the CEUM (Covenant Church in Congo). It stated, "Thank you for caring about the people of Congo. Your support and encouragement make a real difference. You are helping to create medical, economic and educational sustainability in their lives, one family at a time." You can view the actual card on the Missions bulletin board. You can also stay up to date online with the work that the Paul Carlson Partnership is doing in the Congo region: **Web:** [www.paulcarlson.org](http://www.paulcarlson.org)

**Facebook:** Paul Carlson Partnership

**Twitter:** @PaulCPartners

**E-mail:** [pcpinfo@paulcarlson.org](mailto:pcpinfo@paulcarlson.org)

# Children's Ministries at Crossview

## Lake Beauty Bible Camp Registration Now Open

Lake Beauty Bible Camp, located in Long Prairie, MN, is one of the Covenant Northwest Conference's five camping ministries, and our church's designated Bible Camp. Children are invited to come and experience a week of awesome chapel services, fun crafts, activities such as horse trail rides & mountain boarding, good food and lasting friendships. Early bird registration ends April 1st so register today! Brochures with more info are available at the Welcome Desk.

### **DATES (based on grade completed):**

**Frontier Kids** (1st or 2nd grades): July 12-14

**Trailblazers** (3rd - 5th grades): July 8-12


**Jr High** (6th - 8th grades): June 17-22

**Super High** (8th or 9th): June 10-15

**Senior High** (9th -11th grades): July 29-Aug. 3

**Family Camps** are offered Memorial Weekend, 4th of July weekend, and Labor Day weekend.

**Scholarships:** We hope someday every child at Crossview will attend camp at Lake Beauty, but realize the cost is not affordable for many families. However, we do have scholarships available to help with the registration expense. Contact the church office for more info on applying for a scholarship OR donating to the scholarship fund!



*Baby Blessings Class*

Tuesday, Feb. 27  
6:30pm

For any parent who would like to have their child baptized or dedicated at Crossview. Call the church to register.

**Register now for 5Cs Preschool!**

Crossview's 5Cs Preschool is accepting registrations for **Fall 2012 enrollment**. Information about the 5Cs program and forms are available on the church website ([www.crossviewcovenant.org](http://www.crossviewcovenant.org) - under the "Ministries" menu). Remember... Crossview members receive a 15% discount off tuition rates!



## Ministries for Women at Crossview

*To Be Known*  
KNOWING GOD • KNOWING OTHERS • KNOWING YOURSELF

**Friday, April 13th - Saturday, April 14th**  
at Camp Omega (Waterville, MN)

Cost is \$50 per person.  
Space is limited.

Mark your calendars and watch for more information coming soon.

*Sponsored by Moms to Moms and Women Ministries.*



*Creative Craft Night*  
Thursday, Feb. 16 - 7pm

Join us at Crossview and learn how to make clay word pendants (at least 3), ready to string on a necklace or hang on a keychain. Cost is \$5. Please sign up at the Welcome Desk (and check out the samples!) or contact Heidi Burns at 385-7812 (RSVP is required and class size is limited).

# UPCOMING EVENTS @ CROSSVIEW

For more details on these and other events, please visit <http://www.crossviewcovenant.org/calendar/>

## FEBRUARY

- 10 Fantastic Fridays
- 11 Piecemaker Quilters
- 11 Baby Shower (Naomi Ruyter)
- 12 Chili Cook-Off [pg. 5]
- 14 POP In Book Club
- 16 Creative Craft Night [pg. 3]
- 17 CHAOS
- 19 Sourdough Pancakes @ Sandell's (Friendship Builders)
- 25 Men's Ministry "The Ox"
- 27 Baby Blessings Class [pg. 3]



### POP (Pals of Print) In Book Club

Tuesday, Feb. 14 (7pm @ Crossview)

"POP" in & enjoy great fellowship and discussion! Open to all.

February Discussion Book:  
"Sacred Influence" by Gary Thomas.

### Friendship Builders Sourdough Pancakes

Sunday, Feb. 19, 2012 @ Denny & Beth Sandell's  
1020 Shady Oak Drive, North Mankato

Come after the 9:00 service - we'll eat at 11:00am.  
A donation basket will be provided to help with food costs.

Please. RSVP to Eleanor Kottke (388-5472)

## MEN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

### Enjoying the "Big Game" at Crossview Sunday, February 5, 2012

Photos courtesy of Grant Hanson



**MEN**  
IN THE CHURCH  
**THE OX**  
**SATURDAY**  
FEB. 25 // 8 AM

ROM. 15  
"WE WHO  
ARE STRONG..."

[OXKATO.BLOGSPOT.COM](http://OXKATO.BLOGSPOT.COM)



# Chili Cook-Off & Silent Auction

## Sunday, Feb. 12 - 4:30pm

Food and fun for the whole family! Come enjoy a delicious meal, see whose chili takes home the grand prize, and bid on some great silent auction items! The event is FREE (there will be a free-will offering collected at each table). All proceeds will go to support our 2012 summer trips.

**Partial List of Silent Auction Items:** *Rolling Carry-All Cooler*

- LED Handheld & Night Light • Angel Bracelet • Bike Tune Up • Bambi Collector Plate • Satin Hands Gift Basket • Movie Night for Four @ Movies 8 • 3 Hours of Professional Organizing • Champlin Carwash \$60 Swipe Card • Madam Alexander Collector Dolls • Pampered Chef Item • Full Service Oil Change @ Greg's Champion Auto • Various Photo Package Gift Certificates • \$20 Hilltop HyVee Gift Certificate • 12 Person WOW! Zone Bowling Party Package • \$75 Rooms & Rest Gift Certificate • Sports Clips Haircuts for a Year (12) • \$20 Harley Davidson Gift Certificate • \$15 Lids Gift Certificate • Hair Product Variety Pack @ Super Cuts • 2 Adult Buffets @ Pizza Ranch • Handheld Vacuum • Stained Glass Cross • Strand Honey • Decorative Wreath • College Bound Gift Basket • Candle Sticks • Angie's Kettle Corn Gift Basket • Creative Memories Scrapbook Package • Pandora Bracelet & Cross Charm • William's Diamond Center \$50 Gift Certificate • Mary Lou's Yarn & Ewe \$25 Gift Certificate • Neighbor's/Number4/etc. Gift Basket • Baby Boy Bath Towel/Wash Cloth • Lighthouse \$50 Gift Card • Chipotle Meal for 10 • Crystal Platters • Crossview Classic Dinnerware • and more!!



## Christian Community News & Events

**MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) is looking for energetic and caring people to help take care of children while their mothers are at MOPS.** MOPS meets from 9am-11am on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at Hosanna Lutheran Church. Workers are paid \$18 per session (\$12 if younger than 16 years old). If you are interested in helping out in this important ministry, please contact Starla Goblirsch at 278-3163

**Gentle Shepherd Ministries** is looking for volunteers in senior care facilities with the following opportunities: Bible Study leader, church service leader, musicians, and one-to-one visits. Call Jerry David at 327-1480 for more information.

**Father - Daughter Purity Ball**  
**Friday, Feb. 24 & Saturday, Feb. 25**  
**5pm - 10pm @ the Verizon Wireless Center**  
 Tickets (required) are \$50 per person  
 Please dress in formal/semi formal attire  
 The Father-Daughter Purity Ball is a Christ-centered evening that encourages biblical values and strengthens the bond between fathers and daughters (ages 12 and up). For more details, visit: [ephfamilyministries.com](http://ephfamilyministries.com)