

TIDINGS Newsletter

October 2011

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
354 Carol Court
N. MANKATO, MN 56003
(507) 387-5606
www.crossviewcovenant.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

Carol Court
M-F: By Appointment

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

Contact us at:
church@crossviewcov.org

An Update on Our Strategic Initiatives by Pastor Kevin Melin

On January 30th, 2011 our church came together for Vision Sunday, where we presented our four new vision statements (Discover, Develop, Send, Serve) and our Strategic Ministry Plan (SMP) was unveiled. The SMP was broken down into 6 month, 1 year, 2 year and 3 year initiatives. August 2011 marks the end of the 6 month time frame for the first 28 initiatives to be completed. These have been pursued by staff, committees and ministry leaders. I want to thank the many individuals who are working hard, putting things in place so that we can serve more effectively and hopefully with greater results.

Without going into the specifics, I want to give you an update on how we are doing on the 28 initiatives. 16 were completed successfully and I celebrate these! To a passive observer it might seem like life remains the same within Crossview, but as you read through the completed initiatives, you begin to realize how much has already been accomplished. Three initiatives were dismissed by the Church Council for various reasons and not attempted. Of the nine remaining, four were attempted or are still in process, but we do not consider them complete. In some cases, what we attempted did not work, but since we still see them as worthy of pursuit, we are back to the drawing board. The other five are being rolled into our 1 year goals. They too are seen as worthy to pursue, but we have not yet had the leadership and/or volunteerism necessary to complete them in a timely fashion.



Many of the initiatives build on each other for greater goals as we move through the three years of our Strategic Ministry Plan. This means there will be a cumulative effect as we move along. I urge you to pick up a report on our initiatives at our Welcome desk, which give the status of each of the 6 month initiatives, as well as a look at the 1 year initiatives and who is working on them. Please consider where you might engage, given your passion and gift mix. In some cases, we are not able to accomplish our initiatives because we need more help. In other cases, we are not successful because although we are creating opportunities, it is only when the whole body engages in the opportunities is the real benefit felt and realized.

I am not satisfied with where we are, but must acknowledge good work is being done in our midst. We have made definite progress, which is to be celebrated and built upon. Continue to keep this matter on the front burner of your attention, hearts and prayers!

GENERAL FUND FINANCIAL REPORT (7/1/2010 - 8/31/2011)

Budgeted Income	\$218,757	
Actual Income		\$207,389
Budgeted Expenses	\$212,754	
Actual Expenses		\$207,500
Actual Shortage/Excess		-\$ 111

Account Balances	
as of 8/31/2011	
General Fund:	\$83,969
Designated Fund:	\$132,560

Amount needed weekly to meet the budget: \$24,551
Average giving per week through 8/31/2011: \$20,676

June 30th was the end of our 2010-11 fiscal year. Our 2011-12 fiscal year began July 1st.

MEN'S MINISTRY UPDATE

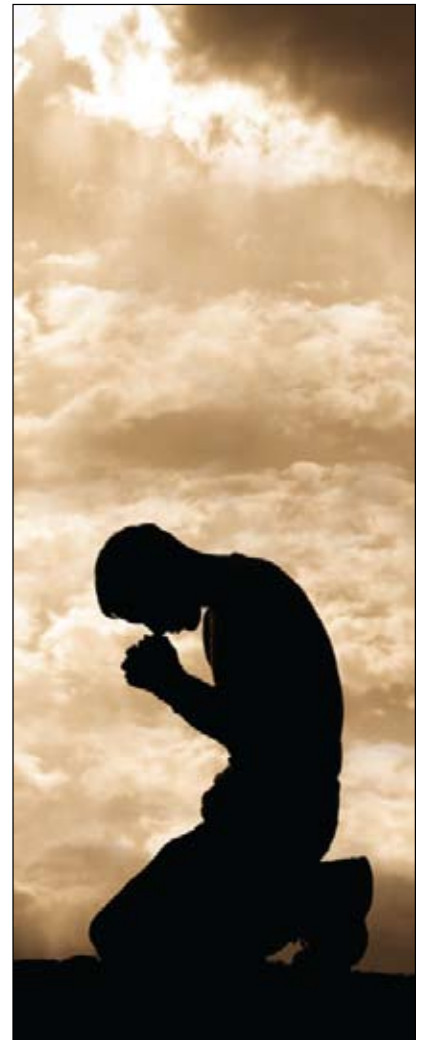
by Matt "Lou" Letourneau

Brothers and church family...Blessings! If you get a minute, check out the link to the Ox blog page. This page was developed to help centralize communications for the men's ministry. As we continue to develop this page, you will find information on upcoming events, activities, and opportunities for participating in the monthly large group and small group schedules. You can find the link under the adult ministries and then click on "The Ox", where you will find the link. Right now you will see information about our newest fellowship outing G3 – God, Guys, and Guns. That's right, men's fellowship as we learn from experts about tactical targeting and firing handguns (does it get much better than that?). Check out the link for details on this October 16th outing.

Excitedly we started planning for 2012 at our strategic planning meeting this last month. In and amongst our conversation, the Spirit began to work. The more we talked and prayed together, the more we were feeling prompted to pray. So, in response to this call to pray, The Ox has organized October as Men's Month of Prayer.

Starting Monday, October 3rd and going through Monday, October 31st, a 30 minute prayer time will be offered Monday through Friday each week in Crossview's Howard Drive worship center. Men of all ages are encouraged to come join other brothers in Christ for morning prayer that goes from 6:30am to 7:00am. The first 20 minutes of prayer will be open. Men are encouraged to enter into adoration and prayer; praying from the heart and however the Spirit leads. Prayer will not be just for men's ministry; the floor is open and we will also be praying for the church, the community, and for the body of believers. During the last 10 minutes of prayer, all the men present will come together to close in united, unified prayer.

We know that schedules are busy, but we are encouraging men to join in this prayer as much and as frequently as you can. Once or twice a week, or maybe just 15 minutes on the way to work, we are confident that the blessing for faithfulness will so much outweigh the sacrifice of time. Just imagine a worship center of servant-warriors, pacing, kneeling, and worshipping God together....if that doesn't rev your engine, we don't know what will. Brothers in the Good Yoke!



Sing with the Christmas Choir!

Calling all voices! We are gathering a Christmas choir and would love to have ANYONE who likes to sing in four-part harmony join in the worship experience. We're hoping for multi-generational (aged 16+) participation. We'd like to encourage high school or college-aged choir members to help us out, but school choir experience is NOT required. Tentatively, we'll sing two Sundays in December. **Practices will begin on Sunday, October 23rd at 4pm** and will continue weekly until we sing. Please contact Jim Smith, Dave Dierenfeld or Judy Anderson for details or to let us know you'll be joining us.



Children's Ministries at Crossview

Fall Into Fun's "Candy Land" - October 31, 2011

Families looking for a fun and safe alternative on October 31st will want to attend this year's Fall Into Fun! Come and tour Wonka's Chocolate Factory while learning where we can find our "GOLDEN TICKET."

Family friendly costumes are encouraged not only for the kids, but for mom and dad as well!

We will also be bringing back the ever popular "Trunk-n-Treat" - why travel all over the neighborhood when your kids can stay safely in the parking lot trick-or-treating from trunk to trunk?!

There are many ways you can support this event! We need candy donations, 200 small pumpkins and Trunk n' Treat vehicles to hand out candy. If you would like more information or to make a donation, contact DeAnna at 387-5606.

Fall Into Fun "Candy Land"
Monday, October 31st
6pm - 7:30pm



Keep Our Students in Your Prayers!

Last month we blessed our students and their backpacks as they headed off to a new year of school. Remember to pray for the children of our church, especially if you have a card with one of the student's name on it. Consider using the blessing that was given to each student:

Lord Jesus, As our children begin a new school year, bless them. Fill them with excitement as they think about all the adventures You have in store for them. Keep them safe. Guide their learning. Help them be examples of Your love for their teachers and classmates. Help them always remember they belong to You. Amen.

FANTASTIC FRIDAY

Friday, October 14th (6pm - 7:30pm)

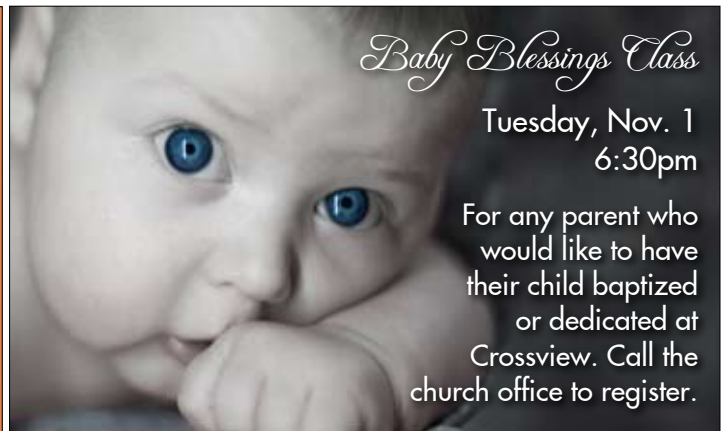
This is an open play night at church designed for children 0-6 years old, but all children are welcome.

Meet in the Great Room
@ Howard Drive.

Baby Blessings Class

Tuesday, Nov. 1
6:30pm

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



REMEMBER &
CELEBRATE!

Sunday, October 16th - 10:30am

Parents, grandparents, and friends are invited to join us in Flipside Sunday School as we break from our regular study to remember what we have learned over the previous 6 weeks and celebrate all that God has done!

UPCOMING EVENTS @ CROSSVIEW

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

OCTOBER

- 8 SEND C.L.A.S.S.
- 9 Called To Love Tour Concert
- 11 POP In Book Club
Meals for Moms
- 13 Project Days
- 14 Fantastic Fridays (pg 3)
- 15 Piecemaker Quilters
- 15 Cajun Cooking Class
- 18 Moms to Moms Creative Night
- 21 Friendship Builders New Ulm Tour
- 22 Develop C.L.A.S.S.
Resonate
- 25 Congregational Meeting
- 27 Men's Ministry "The Ox" (pg 2)
- 30 Discover C.L.A.S.S.
- 31 Fall into Fun "Candy Land" (pg 3)

Meals for Moms Freezer Meal Prep Night Tuesday, October 11th • 6:30pm -8:30pm

Meals for Moms needs hands to prepare freezable meals for moms with new babies. Join us in the Howard Drive kitchen with your favorite completed freezable meals or all necessary ingredients to prepare them. We'll also be preparing 2 meals in bulk as a group (donations for ingredients welcome). This is a great chance to serve Crossview families. RSVP to Courtney at 382-1982.



Visit the student ministries website for the more details: www.crossviewstudents.org



- Ignite – Every Wednesday (6:30 - 8pm at CC)
- Oct 14 – Junior High Nerf Wars (6 - 9pm at CC)
- Oct 29 – Rake the Town (begins at 9am)
- Nov 04 – Senior High Nerf Wars (6 - 9pm at CC)
- Nov 13 – North Park Pizza Lunch (12 - 1pm at HD)
- Nov 16 – Senior High Acquire the Fire Early Bird Reg. Due
- Nov 20 – Waffle Fundraiser (NOTE NEW DATE!!!)



POP (Pals of Print) In Book Club Tuesday, Oct. 11th - 7pm @ Crossview

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

Oct. Discussion Book:
"Predator" by Terri Blackstock

Cajun Cooking Class

Saturday, Oct. 15th (9:30am) - HD Kitchen

Lagniappe is a Cajun expression for "a little something extra." Let Barbara Langton share Lagniappe for your Soul and Body in a Cajun Cooking Class. Sponsored by the Woman to Woman Mentoring Ministry.

DOWNHERE | AARON SHUST | JASON GRAY

CALLED TO LOVE TOUR

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 9 | 7:00 PM
CALL 507.387.5606 FOR TICKET INFORMATION

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

Sunday, November 6th will be our 3rd annual Heart of Compassion Sunday for the Persecuted Church. This year we will focus on the Congo. Come hear a featured speaker and a first hand report from Pastor Chris Pappenfus on how we can partner with the churches struggling in this war-torn region.

