



THE CRUSADER

AUGUST 25, 2026

Colossians 2:6-7 ESV - "6 So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, 7 rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness."

Calendar of Events

Sun. 8/30	8:00am Traditional Service 10:00am Contemporary Service
Mon. 8/31	K-8 Hot Lunch - Southern Belle's
Tues. 9/1	K-8 Hot Lunch - Subway
Wed. 9/2	K-8 Hot Lunch - Cocina Madre
Thurs. 9/3	K-8 Hot Lunch - Southern Belle's
Fri. 9/4	8 th Grade Pizza Fundraiser
Sun. 9/6	8:00am Traditional Service 10:00am Contemporary Service

WATCH FOR THE CRUSADER ON TUESDAY AFTERNOONS

The Crusader is a weekly newsletter designed to keep you informed of school events and information. You will receive the Crusader in two ways:

1. Through your email from FACTS Family Portal.
2. On the Cross website at www.hiscross.org. Go to the School tab, For Parents, Communications, and see the link.

Special items such as fundraisers, walk-a-thon info., etc. will be sent home with your child.

If you have information that needs to be included in the Crusader, please email it to Mrs. Groth at lgroth@hiscross.net. The deadline is Friday. No exceptions.

Looking Ahead

Monday, September 7th - No School

Greetings, Cross Families! Nearly a week ago we began our school year with a sanctuary packed full of students and families praising our Lord and Savior as we celebrated the start of a new school year. We welcome many new families to our Cross family for a total of 417 preschool through 8th grade students.

God continues to bless our school with a dedicated teaching staff. Our staff for the 2026-2027 school year is:

Teachers (New teachers in BOLD)

Mrs. Boughton - Preschool & Reading Specialist

Mrs. Gauss - Preschool

Mrs. Hill - Preschool

Mrs. Oliver - Preschool

Mrs. Schmeckpeper - Preschool

Mrs. Spicer - Preschool

Mrs. Weis - Preschool

Mrs. Miller - Kindergarten

Mrs. Totsky - Kindergarten

Mrs. Robbins - First Grade

Mrs. Branning - First Grade

Miss Hartley - Second Grade

Mrs. Hill - Second Grade

Mrs. Fischer - Third Grade

Miss Pinnow - Third Grade

Mrs. Steinway - Third Grade

Mrs. Jessi Fisher - Fourth Grade

Miss McGregory - Fourth Grade

Miss Westbrook - Fifth Grade

Mrs. Whitted - Fifth Grade

Mrs. Galloway - Sixth Grade HR/English

Mrs. Bocek - Seventh Grade HR/Reading

Mrs. Stone - Seventh Grade HR/Science

Mr. Hahn - Eighth Grade HR/Math

Mrs. Shaw - Eighth Grade HR/Social Studies

Mrs. Mouis - Special Education & Asst. Principal

Mrs. Divin - Physical Education

Preschool Teacher Aides

Jamie Houle

Andrea Niklos

Jenn Melick

Nicole Riemenschneider

Elizabeth Rivera

Katy Spicer

Rachel Weaver

K-8 Teacher Aides

Angie Andersen

Gina Clark

Kimberley Fischer

Emily Hazlett

Julie Meijer

Russ Pape

Julie Peterson

Marissa Wilger Mendez

PICTURE DAY

Tuesday, September 15th

We are working with Jostens again. You should be receiving emails from them soon.



**Bitty Soccer
Sign-Up**
PS4-4TH Grade

**DUE Friday, August 28th by
NOON**

<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/WW9AyxuC>

NO LATE SIGN-UPS ALLOWED.

School Absence Procedures

We would greatly appreciate your help in contacting the office when your child will be absent for illness, appointments, or vacations as soon as possible. Please either call the office at 630-553-7861 or email the office secretaries at

attendance@hiscross.net

This also helps us to be on the same page as a staff when finalizing our daily attendance.

CONTACT US

For all school matters, please call:
630-553-7861

or email: schoolinfo@hiscross.net

Mrs. Lisa Groth and Mrs. Candy Nolan return as our two part-time secretaries. Our part-time Educational Tech Support is provided by Mrs. Noel Glenn, as she also fills our role as Librarian as well. Mrs. Cathie Stowe continues to greet students and parents as our front desk receptionist. Our full-time church secretary, Miss Becca Pape, also provides support on busy days as well. We thank our front office team for their support of our teachers and aides and also for their terrific care for our students.

Mrs. Miriam Ulrich
Principal

Walk with God

Love our Neighbor

Grow in Faith Together



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SCHOOL NEWS - MRS. ULRICH

This is the beginning of the 146th ministry year for Cross Lutheran Church and School! We are so thankful for God's blessings upon our congregation and school and for a legacy of faith that continues to proclaim His sacrificial love and forgiveness and pass this most important message on from generation to generation.

The year is off to a great start! We begin with 417 students enrolled at Cross, including 291 students in K-8th grade and 127 little ones in our preschool program, with more to join us throughout the year as they turn two!

I invite you to join me in praying for God's blessings over all of our families, students, and staff. My heart is overflowing with thankfulness each morning as I drive and pray on my way to school. I give thanks for the amazing school and church staff who serve through our Cross ministries and for the many ways God uses each of them to be a blessing to you, our families, and to your children. We welcome many new families to Cross this year! Please welcome them warmly into our Cross family as we all seek to grow as disciples of Christ: Walking with God, Growing in Faith Together, and Loving our Neighbors!

2026-2027 School Calendar

In case you haven't seen our current school calendar, it is located on our website under *School, Calendars*.

Hot Lunch Volunteer/PTL Volunteer Opportunities

There are many lunch volunteer opportunities (drivers and servers) please consider signing up for a few. Use the link below to easily sign up.

HOT LUNCH VOLUNTEERS

If you want to volunteer in other ways, PTL has more opportunities. Please see the link below:

PTL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Thank you for your support and involvement!

Questions? Email crossptl@hiscross.net

WALK-A-THON Fundraiser

Friday, September 25th

Paperwork was to be picked up at orientation or sent home with your child. **It is due back on Friday, September 25th.**

If you didn't receive a packet, we have extras in the office.

- Sponsorships **Due Friday, September 4th** at 3PM:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1hjsr4cF4XqlcEhw-fcJCD_tPWC4yeH9dGNa7px7QCIE/edit

- Student Pledge:

<https://payit.nelnet.net/form/065hEwLO>

- Snack Donations:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1d7rPkI764J5KX5ijXLn7QvwU1x95BfDM2pxcNbVDZal/edit?usp=drivesdk>

Questions? Email walkathon@hiscross.net or schoolinfo@hiscross.net

SCHOOL CHAPEL OFFERINGS

We are excited to support Belize Mission Society through the LCMS Northern Illinois District. Various projects in Belize include: feeding programs, student scholarships, the Mercy House in Seine Bight, and a new playground for the children of the community where Jesus is the center.

STUDENT HANDBOOK SIGN OFF

If you have not yet reviewed and signed the Student Handbook, please make that a priority! Thank you for your help and cooperation. Here is the [link](#).

PRAYER CORNER

"Pray without ceasing," 1 Thessalonians 5:17

The following families were lifted up in prayer last week by the school faculty:

Borneman, Bowen, Bredemeyer, Brown, Brzoska, Castellanos, Fischer, Forbes/Castillo, Coleman, Collins, Donatucci, Langkan, Meijer, Milligan, O'Neil, Olen, Olin, Oliver, Portell, Reid, Valenti, Wade, Weibel, Williamson, Wilson, Wissmiller



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Cross Lutheran Church & School

MOMS OF MINIS

WHAT: BIBLE STUDY & BREAKFAST FOR MOMS OF 4TH GRADERS AND UNDER

WHERE: FELLOWSHIP HALL

WHEN: FRIDAYS 8:15-10:00

*NOT REQUIRED TO ATTEND EVERY FRIDAY DROP IN WHEN YOU CAN

FELLOWSHIP, FAITH DEVELOPMENT, FOOD, AND FRIENDSHIPS

QUESTIONS? CALEY
CTHANEPHORN@HISCROSS.ORG

Cross Children's Ministry 2026-2027

Sundays @ 9:30 service
Preschool-4th grade

Wednesdays @ 6:30-8:00*
Kindergarten- 4th grade
*Optional Family Dinner at 6:00pm

Fall Ministry Begins
Wednesday, September 9

Scan QR Code for more info and to Register!

Questions?
Caley Thanepohn
cthanepohn@hiscross.org

YOUTH

5th-12th grade
Ministry begins Wednesday Sept. 9th!

Sunday School 9:30
5th-8th Grade & High School

Wednesdays
6-6:30 FREE dinner for ALL
6:30-8pm 5th/6th and 7th/8th ministry
6:30-8:15 High School ministry

5-8th High School

E-mail Jessica for more information:
jdvorak@hiscross.org

Scan QR Code to register

FALL MINISTRY LAUNCH
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

6:00 PM FREE MEAL
6:30 PM MINISTRY TIME

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (K-4TH GRADE) LEGO NIGHT
ADULT MINISTRY COMMUNITY GROUPS
YOUTH MINISTRY (5-12TH GRADE) KICKBALL

7:30 PM DEVOTION

QUESTIONS FOR CHILDREN'S MINISTRY?
CALEY THANEPHORN AT CTHANEPHORN@HISCROSS.ORG

QUESTIONS FOR YOUTH'S MINISTRY?
JESSICA DVORAK AT JDVORAK@HISCROSS.ORG

HEALTH FORM REMINDERS

Physicals are required for students entering **kindergarten** and **6th** grade.

Dental exams are required for students entering **kindergarten**, **2nd** grade and **6th** grade.

Vision exams are required for children entering **kindergarten**.

Physical, dental and vision exams are due by October 15th.

If your insurance requires a date later than October 15th, please let the office know so we can check back with you at that time.

If your child is taking medication at school, we need to have a copy of the pharmacy label on file along with the medication permission form and any action plan documentation.

4th-8th Band Program

Ms. Abby Pintoy, from Music & Arts, is our band director for our 4th-8th grade students, who wish to participate in band. 4th & 5th Graders had the opportunity to listen to different instruments through a demonstration concert today, Tuesday, August 25th, and then will return for instrument fittings on Thursday, August 27th.

Walk with God

Love our Neighbor

Grow in Faith Together

Order now through September 16th to save \$10 on next year's yearbook! Yearbooks are \$20 until 9/16 and then the price goes up to \$30.

Click [here](#) to order your yearbook or scan the QR code!

ORDER
YOUR YEARBOOK
EARLY





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Fall Worship and Ministry Times

Starting September 13

Service Times

8AM Traditional
9:30AM* Contemporary
11AM Contemporary

*9:30AM Children, Youth, and Adult Discipleship

For more information, stop by the Kiosk OR reach out to the Church Office
(630) 553-7335 | churchinfo@hiscross.org

Get Connected this Fall Ministry Launch!

Interested in Community Groups
or Serving Opportunities here at Cross?



Scan the QR Code and fill out the form
to let us know!

If you have questions, please reach out to the Church Office
(630) 553-7335 | churchinfo@hiscross.org



"We need your help!"

Donations and Servers
for Wednesday Night Meals
Starting Sept. 9

- Serving
- Making desserts
- Donating items
(to help keep costs down)

Sign up at the Kiosk or Contact Beth Thanepohn
call (815) 693-7091 or email batenpin@gmail.com



Sermon Series

Starting September 6th

the Apostles' Creed
I BELIEVE

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT
THE CROSS FOUNDATION ?

CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE AT
WWW.CROSSLUTHERANFOUNDATION.ORG



OR, use the QR code to
access the new website!



You can also access the website through hiscross.org

Supporting Ministry - Yesterday... Today... and Tomorrow



"Grief is a journey that
shouldn't be traveled alone."

Every Thursday starting August 27 through November 19

6:30-8:00PM and Location is Disciple Room #50 in Old School Wing

For more information or to sign up:

Contact Jan Kinsel by email at jkinsel323@gmail.com
or by phone at 630.234.6190



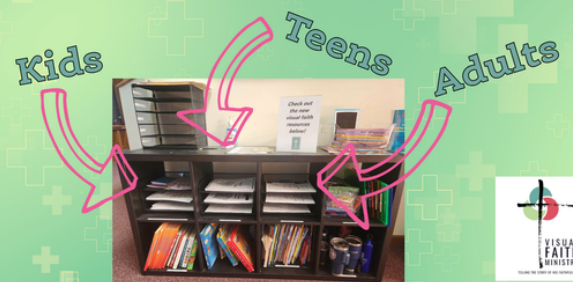
Need Prayers?



Scan the QR Code or email
prayers@hiscross.org
to let our Prayer Warriors know
how we can pray for you!

You can submit prayers anonymously,
and ask to be on the private prayer chain
or in the weekly prayer sheet

Check out creative ways to engage with your
faith. Resources changed regularly.



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