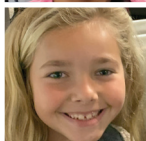


And I am praying that you will put **IN**to action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have **IN** Christ. Philemon 1:6



Cross
Evangelical Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

You're **IN**vited!



These words are typically associated with joy and celebration. You might receive an **IN**vitation to a birthday party, an anniversary or a graduation. Usually the **IN**vitation involves people you know and love, and oftentimes new people who have a similar love for the celebration at hand.

This booklet serves as a similar **IN**vitation for an exciting chapter in the life of Cross Lutheran Church and School. For the last several years we have been planning to convert the unfinished space at Cross into a ministry tool to share God's blessings at Cross with the community.

Through much prayer and refinement we have officially begun construction on new and expanded facilities for our school and children's ministry. As these

ministries move into the new location, the former space will open up for worship, youth ministry and areas that will be open to the public.

God is doing something amazing as we faithfully follow His leadership. We have an exciting future together as people who have a love for Jesus and the impact for His kingdom through the people and space at Cross.

Here is the kicker – the celebration is way more fun when everyone participates. Please read through this **IN**vitation to **IN**crease the kingdom impact through the ministries of Cross. Then prayerfully consider joining **IN** the celebration as we rejoice together! We believe every person of every age and status can be used by God to make this project one we will never forget.

Are you all **IN**?

IN Christ,
Rev. Erik A. Gauss





IN Community

The mission statement at Cross is to **Walk with God, Grow in Faith Together and Love Our Neighbors**. This mission is all about community. Our church and school is a community of believers who support and love one another. Hand in hand, we reach out to larger communities in our local area and the world. From worship to small groups, from school to youth activities, from Caring Hands Thrift Store to our missions overseas, we strive to encourage each other with hope for tomorrow.

In today's world, a Christian community is a beacon of light in a difficult time. We want to shine God's love through our many ministries within and outside our walls.



Top: Miss Pinnow and our 3rd graders honor veterans with a special patriot quilt.

Bottom: Our 7th graders enjoy playing Bunco with Cedarhurst residents.

Service Projects

Service projects are integral to putting our words into action. By loving our neighbors, we get to live out our faith in what we say and do. We believe in giving the children in our school and church exposure to serving others. Our students become active members of their community and grow in their faith.



Cross Lutheran School is a fully accredited school with 350+ students in preschool through eighth grade.

"Cross has always been a family to me — the teachers and staff, along with the other families. Growing up attending Cross School gave me such a great foundation in life. Now that my kids are 'Cross Kids,' I know they will have that too."

**LAURA MOREL,
CROSS PARENT**

It's **IN**valuable

Education at Cross focuses on teaching the love of Christ. Cross provides a Christian culture to help children reach their full potential academically, physically and spiritually.

Why is Christian education so important?

- Godly foundation —
Nurturing spirituality and Christian values
- Biblical worldview —
Teaching the TRUTH
- Academic excellence —
Students excel in future studies
- Emphasis on character development —
Integrity is key
- Exemplary role models —
Teachers, coaches and mentors
- Positive environment —
Academics and extra-curricular activities
- Community involvement and service —
Loving our neighbors
- Strong like-minded community —
Parents and students receive support and encouragement

Colossians 3:17 And whatever you do, **IN** word or deed, do everything **IN** the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

What's **IN**volved?



God has richly blessed our church and school! Current enrollment has exceeded the capacity of our current school space, and more families want to enroll in our school. It's time to expand! The majority of these campaign dollars will go toward **IN**creasing our classroom space so that more families will realize the benefits of education at Cross.

Construction includes:

- Expanded & updated school
- All classrooms located in one area of the building
- Comprehensive Early Learning Center with 6 preschool classrooms & 2 kindergarten classrooms
- 8 classrooms for grades 1 to 8
- Large common spaces for collaborative & innovative learning
- Dedicated children's ministry area
- Improved security
- Fully handicapped accessible



Thank you so much for your support as we walk alongside our families to bring up Christian leaders. Being a parent is difficult. Cross is here to support parents and students. It's such a privilege to be a part of a place that has been doing this for over 140 years.

People definitely reach out to us because they know we are a good school and we have excellent academics, but it is also because we are known in our community for teaching kids that they have a purpose. We teach them that God loves them and that Jesus is walking beside them every single day, which is such a need, not only in our community but in the world today. And now, frankly, we are out of space! It's a wonderful challenge that we have at Cross, and we would like to meet that challenge!

— **BRETT HARDECOPF, PRINCIPAL**



"We love Cross Lutheran! Not only have our girls been challenged academically, but they are nurtured emotionally and spiritually daily. We could not ask for a better environment for them to grow up in."

**JEN BROMELAND,
CROSS PARENT**

"Start them young... Our daughters have attended Cross since they were 2 years old. The staff is friendly, attentive, and overall amazing. They truly care about your children, their education, and teaching them how to live life through Jesus."

**TARA MESSERSMITH,
CROSS PARENT**

School Entrance / Welcome Lobby / Sending Spaces

All students will enter through current and new entrances to a safe and secure building. The completed plans create renovated space in our current west lobby for additional security, a parents' lounge, reception area, and sending spaces.

Early Learning Center

We will build eight classrooms and two large learning common areas on the first floor. The common areas will have a diversity of furniture and spaces to accommodate individual and group learning. Each classroom will have bathroom facilities and sinks. In addition, there will be a large-motor space/dining area.

Classroom and Learning Spaces

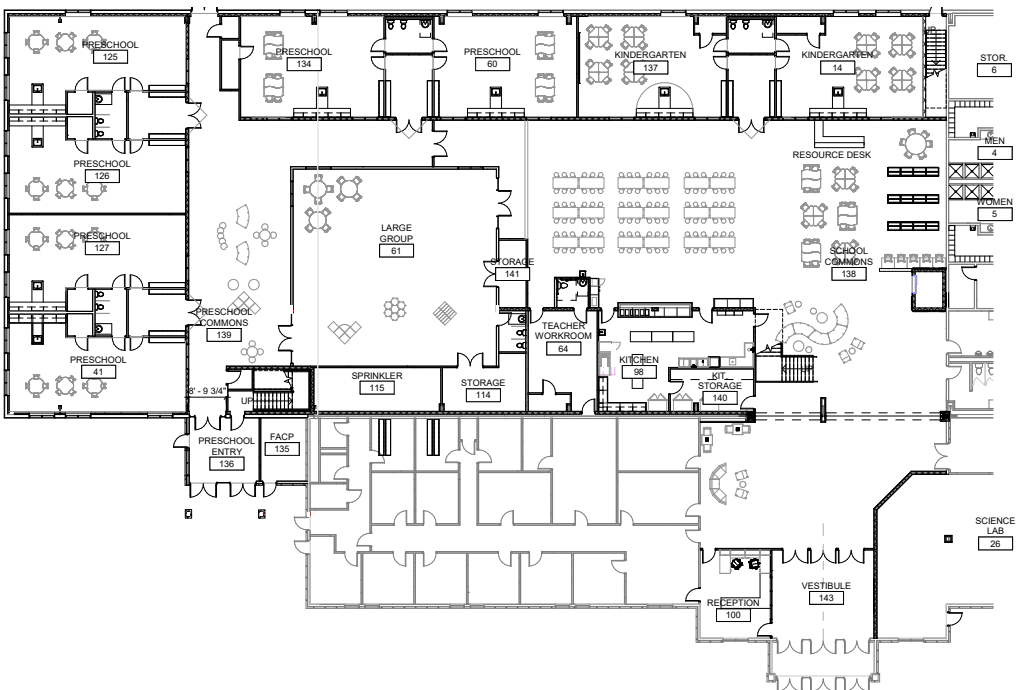
The second story will provide eight additional grade-school classrooms, restroom facilities, a fine arts room and teacher resource space. Current plans call for the expansion to include a larger science and technology lab.

Dedicated Children's Ministry Space

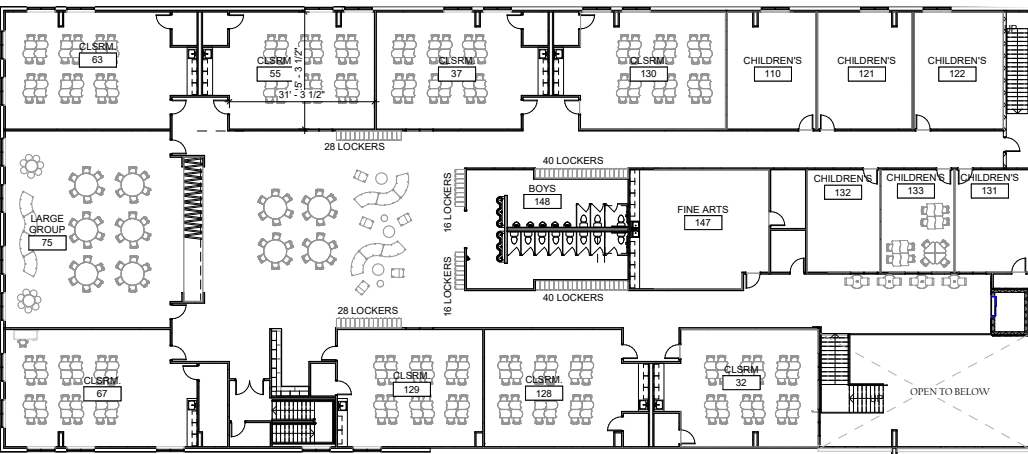
Children in our church ministry programs will now have a safe and secure place specifically for them. They will have dedicated classrooms for small group conversation and building relationships, as well as be able to enjoy music and worship in large group spaces.

Approved Conceptual Floor Plans

New School Construction: First Floor



New School Construction: Second Floor



Life **IN** Christ



American Individualism is a cultural characteristic that is often celebrated. We ignore the reality that Americans are more lonely and stressed than most other people groups.

The Bible is filled with ordinary individuals who joined with others to do God's work and accomplish extraordinary things. When we work together with God, we develop a greater sense of purpose and joy. We accomplish more together than we could ever accomplish alone. He calls individuals to unite our lives together **IN** Christ.

Study these Bible characters as families or individuals and reflect on how you can lean more fully on God in your circumstances.

Judges 6:12

When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."

GIDEON

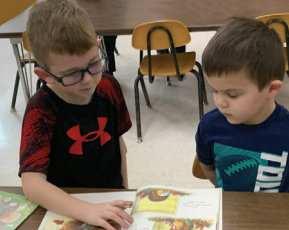
Judges 6:11-16 Gideon and his people were the least likely to accomplish anything great. God called him to be faithful and promised to do amazing things through him. We believe that when it comes to the kingdom of God, EVERY person has value and purpose.

Ruth 1:16

Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people will be my people, and your God will be my God.

RUTH

Ruth 1:15-18 Ruth was put in an impossible situation. Her response was a simple willingness to follow wherever God led her. In this case she followed her mother-in-law, Naomi. God used her simple act of faithfulness to bring healing and redemption to her family.



Exodus 4:12

The Lord said, "Now go! I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say."

MOSES

Exodus 4:10-17 Out of the blue God called Moses to something extraordinary. Moses insisted that he was not equipped or capable for the task at hand. God promised to provide even in the midst of what Moses considered his weakness. God began preparing Moses for this task when He rescued him at birth. God prepares us when He rescues us in our baptism.

John 1:41

Andrew went to find his brother, Simon, and told him, "We have found the Messiah."

ANDREW

John 1:35-42 Sometimes the most difficult people to be vulnerable around are the people that we are familiar with. Andrew invited his brother to follow Jesus. This was an incredibly risky move. What if his brother rejected him? How can we be courageous to live lives of faith with our closest relationships?

1 Timothy 6:17

Teach those who are rich in this world not to be proud and not to trust in their money, which is so unreliable. Their trust should be in God, who richly gives us all we need.

TIMOTHY

1 Timothy 6:11-19 Timothy was a son and grandson to women of deep faith. Timothy met up with Paul and continued the legacy of faith in his family as well as his community. Establishing a legacy will transform the culture for generations in ways that we may never fully know.



INspired by prayer

HOW DO I KNOW HOW MUCH TO GIVE?

Start with these six steps:

- 1 PRAY!**
- 2** Listen to God's leading.
- 3 PRAY SOME MORE!**
- 4** Ask God to lead your decision. God says to bring a full tithe. If you already give a full tithe, consider stretching even farther toward sacrificial giving.
- 5** Make the commitment God leads you to make.
- 6** Pray that the Lord will daily give you the grace to keep your commitment.



I'm IN!

It's **IN**spiring to be a part of something bigger than myself! As a member of the body of Christ, it's a joy to see how God works through the ministries of Cross to reach our neighbors. Cross has always shined the light of Christ **IN**to the community – we see that in this building project. But even more, this new project also **IN**spires the members of Cross to shine their light in their areas of **IN**fluence. God's kingdom work is contagious!

– PASTOR MATT CONRAD

PRAYER: HEAVENLY FATHER, THIS IS A BIG STEP FOR US. WE ARE ASKING YOU TO STRETCH, STRENGTHEN AND DEEPEN OUR FAITH IN YOU THROUGH THIS COMMITMENT TO BE GENEROUS. EVERYTHING WE HAVE COMES FROM YOU. THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GROW IN YOU.

– IN JESUS' NAME, AMEN.

Giving with **IN**tention



Every person or family can be a part of this important campaign. In some cases, it takes **IN**tentional effort to find funds to commit. God provides when we honor Him with our finances.

Here are some creative ways to increase your capacity for generosity:

- Gather your friends and neighbors to host a garage sale. Donate the proceeds to the campaign.
- Use your vehicle to make extra money by delivering pizza, food, or groceries. Or think about driving acquaintances to doctor appointments or the airport.
- Babysit or pet sit for family, friends, and neighbors.
- Do some extra cleaning for family or friends — car washing, window washing, garage clean-out, etc.
- Use your area of expertise and tutor local kids.
- Channel your inner creative side and put your skills to work. Photography and handmade items are always top sellers.
- Cut spending on food. Meal plan and shop once a week. Pack lunches for you and the kids.
- Brew your own coffee. You can save a ton of money by making coffee at home. Pause the daily coffee shop stop and put the extra cash to work for God's kingdom!
- Pause or cut entertainment subscriptions and memberships. Take some time to think about the stuff you don't even use, watch, or read.
- Plan creative dates that don't break the bank. You don't have to spend a lot of money to show a lot of love. Cut your date night spending by planning creative, budget-friendly dates like picnics, hikes, etc.
- If you're in the market for a car, tools, baby clothes, video games, or books, you'll cut your spending by purchasing gently used items instead of new ones. Check out Caring Hands Thrift Store!
- Wait before you buy. If you're looking at a big purchase, weigh the pros and cons, and think it over before you buy. Maybe you can delay the purchase and direct those funds to the campaign for a couple of years.

Talk to your sphere of influence about the building project.

Let them know what we are doing here at Cross and see if they might like to join us in the campaign.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created **IN** Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared **IN** advance for us to do.



INfinite impact

Consider these giving options:

GIVE A ONE-TIME CASH GIFT

Cash gifts include savings, tax refunds, stock dividends, or funds you might raise to support the campaign with a garage sale or special event.

MAKE A 24-MONTH GIVING COMMITMENT

Give more by giving consistently over time. The campaign will run from November 2023 to November 2025.

GIVE PROPERTY STOCK OR OTHER ITEMS OF VALUE

Give stock, real estate, bonds, gold, etc. For assistance, contact:
Pam Hahn phahn@hiscross.org or
Pastor Erik egauss egauss@hiscross.org or
call 630-553-7335.

GIVE A LEGACY GIFT

If someone has touched your life in a special way, give a gift in their honor. Any gift, large or small, can be given in the name of someone special to you. You can also work with your estate planner to determine ways to give a legacy gift to Cross Lutheran.

GIVE AN ALUMNI GIFT

Perhaps you were a student at Cross and know what a difference it made in your life. One sure way to pay it forward is to help other students experience the gift of a Christian education. Gifts of all sizes are meaningful and helpful.

GIVE A GRANDPARENT GIFT

If you have seen the impact of Cross on your child or grandchild, you can fully appreciate the benefits of Christian education. Give generously so that this impact can be far-reaching and benefit other children in today's challenging world.

69 YEARS AND OVER?

You could qualify for tax-free giving. Check with your financial advisor or the church office for more information.

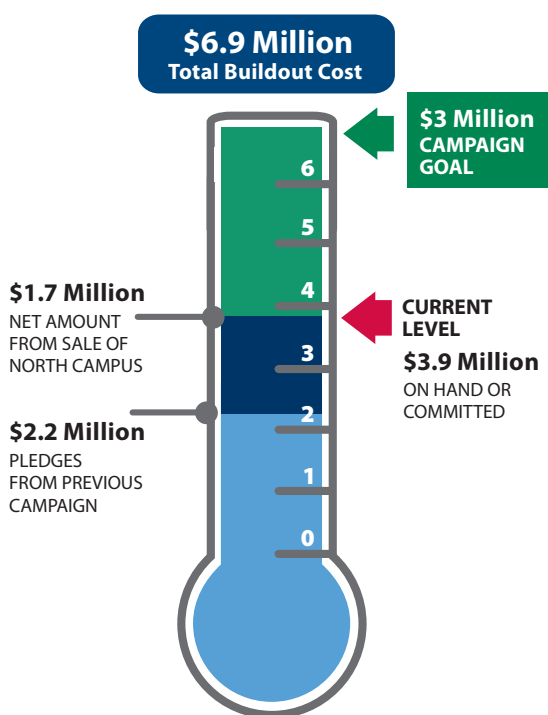
DOUBLE YOUR DONATION! **Make your gift go farther!**

Check with your employer to see if they provide matching gifts for charitable giving.

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

INcome for construction

Help us complete our goal!



Thank you! We are grateful for the community of people who faithfully started giving to the previous **Building on the Past, Faithful to the Future** campaign. Your leadership and gifts, given while the project was merely a vision, have allowed us to start construction. **We now have a goal to be ready for school in the fall of 2024.**

Now is the time for our whole community of believers to join together to complete the construction. We want everyone to be a part of this exciting time. The goal is attainable, and we are already more than halfway there! Are you **IN**?

You can start giving anytime!

Your gifts are welcome and appreciated. Don't delay. Our goal is to bridge construction cost with as little debt as possible.

Official Campaign Dates:
November 2023 – November 2025



Jump IN!

Gifts Needed to Raise \$3 Million

# Gifts Needed	Amount Pledged	Monthly Gift	Weekly Gift	Cumulative Amount	Total %
1	\$500,000	\$20,833	\$4,808	\$500,000	39%
2	\$250,000	\$10,417	\$2,404	\$1,000,000	
2	\$150,000	\$6,250	\$1,442	\$1,300,000	
4	\$100,000	\$4,167	\$962	\$1,700,000	40%
5	\$75,000	\$3,125	\$721	\$2,075,000	
6	\$50,000	\$2,083	\$481	\$2,375,000	
15	\$25,000	\$1,042	\$240	\$2,625,000	
15	\$10,400	\$433	\$100	\$2,781,000	20%
20	\$7,300	\$304	\$70	\$2,927,000	
20	\$5,200	\$217	\$50	\$3,031,000	
25	\$4,200	\$175	\$40	\$3,136,000	
35	\$3,100	\$129	\$30	\$3,244,500	
MANY	\$1,000	\$42	\$10	\$3,294,500	



I'm faithfully **IN**vested

The official campaign dates are

November 2023 – November 2025

GIVING CAN START ANYTIME

3 Ways to Make Your Commitment

- Bring your pledge form to church on Sunday, October 29 for Commitment Sunday
- Submit your pledge online at hiscross.org/give
- Mail to: Cross Lutheran Church & School, 8609 Route 47, Yorkville, IL 60560, Attn: Pam Hahn



Set Up Online Giving

It's easy.
It's safe and secure.
Give at hiscross.org/give.

Other Considerations

- Give a gift in honor or memory of a loved one.
- Include Cross in your will or estate planning.
- Contact your employer to see if they will match your gift.

For more information, contact: **www.hiscross.org**

Cross Lutheran Church/School office at 630-553-7335 or 630-553-7861

And I am praying that you will put **INto action the generosity that comes from your faith as you understand and experience all the good things we have **IN** Christ.**
Philemon 1:6

Clip this card and bring it to Commitment Sunday, October 29, 2023

Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____

____ **I'M IN** I/We would like to renew my/our gift and continue giving to the **Building on the Past, Faithful for the Future** campaign with an additional gift.
(specify amount below)

____ **I'M IN** I/We would like to start giving to this campaign. (specify amount below)

____ **I'M IN** I/We are not able to make a commitment at this time but will financially support the church as we are able and will cover the project in prayer.


Commitment amount over next two years: \$ _____

I/We Will Give: ☐ weekly ☐ monthly ☐ annually ☐ one-time gift (circle one)



8609 Route 47
Yorkville, IL 60560

Evangelical Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL

 **Evangelical Lutheran
CHURCH & SCHOOL**

CHURCH CHAPEL
FELLOWSHIP HALL



www.hiscross.org

www.hiscross.org/faithful/

