

Campaign Messenger

Honoring Our Traditions-Building Our Future Campaign

Issue 1 Sunday, March 15, 2025

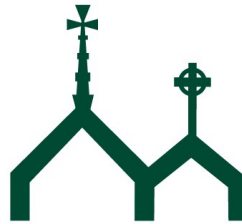
Campaign Announced

We are pleased to announce the launching of a very special campaign effort for the benefit of Good Shepherd Catholic Parish. The *Honoring Our Traditions-Building Our Future Campaign* aims to raise the funds required to move forward with Phases I and II (Church Renovation and Little Rams School Extension) of our parish facilities master plan.

Raising our \$4,000,000 **Minimum Goal** will enable us to complete Phase I of the church renovation, including eliminating the sloped floor, debt-free, and position us to move confidently into Phase II.

To successfully complete Phase II, we have set a **Challenge Goal** of \$7,000,000. Reaching this goal will enable us to complete this phase with little to no debt.

Further, achieving our **Miracle Goal** of \$10,000,000 will provide the seed funding needed to plan and initiate Phase III, ensuring continued momentum and long-term sustainability.



**Honoring Our Traditions
Building Our Future**

Finally, reaching our **Ultimate Goal** of \$20,000,000 will empower us to complete Master Plan's Phases III and IV, fully realizing our vision without financial strain.

The campaign will officially commence with a special *Kick-Off Celebration* scheduled for Saturday, April 5. It will culminate on Commitment Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, May 17-18, when members will be asked to make their campaign gift commitments. The following pages provide additional details about our needs, our plans, and our campaign. Through the support of many through prayer, volunteering, and financial giving, we will succeed in our task. In so doing, we will help to make Good Shepherd Catholic Parish an even more special and spectacular place to go and to grow in God's name.

Campaign Leadership Enlisted

Our *Campaign Cabinet*, the leadership group for our campaign, is now in place. This critical core group of leaders will give guidance and drive the overall campaign.



Serving as Campaign Co-Chairs of this special effort are **Ken & Beth Schenk** and **Anthony & Sarah Voelkel**, who will assume primary responsibility for and oversee the entire campaign effort and, in particular, the gift gathering

phases and team for the campaign.

In addition, we have been blessed with an excellent supporting cast who are tasked with leading our necessary campaign support teams.

They are **Bill & Dana Blanke**, who will lead our Prayer Team; **John & Mary Ann Smith**, who will lead our team for Hospitality; **Tori Pugh**, who will lead our team for Communications; and **Ron & Joanie Pohl**, who will lead our Creative Giving Team.

Finally, we are blessed to already have the following people step up and agree to serve on our Gift Gathering Team—the group of volunteers who will be visiting a select group of members in advance of Commitment Weekend and inviting them to consider their gifts.

Our Gift Gathering Team Captains:

David & Kasey Byrley
Larry & Joyce Durchholz
Kyle & Courtney Kraft
Tim & Lisa McGuire
Howard & Tina Rumjahn
Brandon & Ashley Schalasky
Bradley & Allison Scheu
Paul & Christine Shafer
David & Nicole Ubelhor
Steve & Terry Ubelhor
Chris & Allison Van Orsdoll
Bill & Peg Vogt
Ken & Cheryl Wathen

Many more volunteers are still needed. **So, please say 'yes' to volunteering if you're asked.** It will be a good time without taking a lot of time. Plus, it will make a big difference to the campaign's success!

Our Needs

Phase I Church Improvement

Good Shepherd Church has a striking exterior, but its plain interior lacks the warmth and elements that define a Catholic house of worship. The functional space fails to inspire reverence or elevate the spirit during Mass.

INTERIOR

Sanctuary Altar Area

The Mass centers on Jesus Christ, present in the Holy Eucharist. While celebrating, the community should focus on the altar and the Tabernacle behind it. Our bare sanctuary lacks traditional adornment. Its simplicity contrasts with the rich visual tradition of Catholic worship, which fosters comfort and encourages community participation in faith.

Nave Seating Area Layout

The nave of Good Shepherd feels unwelcoming. The pews, layout, and traffic flow are cramped and misaligned, making navigating difficult for everyone, particularly those with mobility challenges.

Seating

- The pews' awkward layout hinders visibility and engagement during Mass .
- Their tight spacing makes kneeling uncomfortable and they lack ADA seating.
- While comfortable for sitting, the padding is difficult to clean.

.Choir Area

- The side location makes it hard for choir members to see and engage in Mass.
- When leading singing or moving into ensembles, choir members must distractingly navigate obstacles, which takes everyone's focus away from the altar.

Baptistry Pool & Font

Our baptismal pool and font have beautifully welcomed many into the Catholic faith .

- Today, the pool's plumbing issues make it costly and inefficient to maintain. It also takes up significant room in the busy entrance area and limits seating space.
- As with many churches, having only the font for baptisms is preferred. When considering a new room layout, the font needs to be moved as appropriate.

Nave Improvements

Our aging worship space has served us well for years, but it requires updates.

Sloped Floor

- Though it helps present a dramatic, sweeping view towards the altar, the nave's sloped floor presents difficulties.
- It is challenging to navigate and increases the risk of slips and falls for the elderly, those who use mobility aids, and those with limited balance or strength.
- If we make layout changes, now is the time to consider improving the floor to make it easier and safer for everyone.

Carpeting & Lighting

The carpet, dating back to 1991, is worn and outdated, while the nave's lighting is equally dull and inefficient, creating an uninviting atmosphere.

Audio System

- Our old, outdated AV system's speakers, above the sanctuary, project very poor sound quality throughout the space.
- Some parishioners choose to stay home rather than joining us in church for Mass because they find it easier to hear online.
- Poor sound quality is not the welcome we want to extend to bring people together, in person, to celebrate Jesus Christ at Holy Communion.
- We need to make every effort to ensure that our service's readings, homilies, and music are clear, audible, and seamlessly integrated with any visuals projected to everyone in all areas of the Nave.

EXTERIOR

Good Shepherd Church's striking exterior is a landmark in Evansville. Its metal roof and stone facade symbolize our faith's solid foundation. With proper maintenance, these features require minimal upkeep, reflecting our responsibility as stewards of our blessings.

Roof Repairs

The church's metal roof has standing seams and copper-coated zinc flashing. It is in good repair, but improper drainage is causing a reaction in the flashing, resulting in unsightly stains on the building's side.

Stone Cleaning

Over time, roof stains and grime have marred the church's stone exterior, causing damage. Cleaning protects the stone and is crucial for aesthetics and structural integrity, ensuring safety, preserving historical significance, and enhancing property value.

Phase II School Improvement

Our school is thriving in but our classrooms, especially the two mobile classrooms, for Kindergarten & Pre-K are not adequate to provide these grades quality education.

KINDERGARTEN & PRE-K

Preschool Classrooms

The inadequate portable pods pose challenges for students and staff. Their separation from the main building makes access to key resources difficult.

Pre-K Classrooms

The Pre-K classrooms located inside the school are too close to older students' areas. This proximity distracts the young children and fails to provide them with the safe and supportive learning environment they need.

Restrooms

Our school restrooms are unsuitable for Pre-K students due to limited access, sharing with older grades, and minimal adult supervision.

Carpeting

The carpeting in the preschool and pre-K classrooms is not easy maintenance, and pose problems due to messy snacks and play.

Drop-off Area

A significant Preschool and Pre-K safety concern is the drop-off area. Parents must park and walk their children across a busy parking lot to the classrooms. This leads to many individuals entering and exiting the school, complicating supervision, especially as some parents remain in the building after start times.

Storage Solutions

Our youngest students need unique supplies and toys that require ample space. Due to limited classroom space, the Preschool and Pre-K share storage with maintenance. This requires teachers to transport essential materials from distant locations. This clutter often renders items inaccessible when needed

SCHOOL

Conference Room

Aside from Preschool and Pre-K, our staff finds meeting privately with parents and students challenging. They need a space for confidential discussions where everyone can have confidence in their privacy.

Our Plans

Phase I Church Improvement

The sanctuary will be made more beautiful, reverential, welcoming, and comfortable.

INTERIOR

Sanctuary Altar Area

The altar and tabernacle will be made the focal point of our worship space. We plan to elevate the atmosphere with traditional Catholic symbols, statues, and design.

Nave Redesign & Improvements

Seating, Choir, & Baptismal Font

- To direct everyone toward the altar and tabernacle – all the pews will be comfortably spaced, and installed in the round.

- New cushion-free pews will be easier to maintain, flexible seating will accommodate full Masses, and ADA seating added so those in wheelchairs or walkers can sit with their family members more easily.
- The new choir area will minimally impact seating, and improve the choir's sightlines to the altar during Mass and their ability to move around without distracting others.
- Total seating capacity will increase by adding pews in space created by removing the baptismal pool and repositioning the baptismal font to a better location.

Sloped Floor:

Ideally, we will level the nave's sloped floor to make it easier and safer for people of all abilities to navigate. Whether we can do that will depend upon the campaign support; therefore, we have two options:

- **Option A:** Remove the baptistry and infill the area with a new floor, allowing for more seating while preserving the existing sloped floor.
- **Option B:** Remove the baptistry and all pews, then level the entire sloping floor with a new concrete pour.

Carpeting, Lighting, & AV

- Updated flooring and new overhead lighting will be selected to make the space look warmer and more inviting.
- The new lighting system will also provide more flexible lighting controls and be more cost and energy-efficient.
- An up-to-date AV system will significantly improve the sight and sound of the readings, music, and video.
- All areas of the nave will have higher quality sound and visuals so everyone can see and hear to more fully engage in our services.

EXTERIOR

Stone & Roof Maintenance

To continue to be good stewards of our gift of Good Shepherd Church, we will address exterior maintenance.

- The roof is in good shape except for its copper-zinc flashing, which is the cause of the stains on the stonework. So, a J channel will be added to control how water flows off the roof.
- The stone will then be specially cleaned to remove the copper-zinc stains, dirt, and grime and then weather-sealed for future protection.

Phase II School Improvement

Our Phase II school plan is to build a Kindergarten and Pre-K addition. These will replace the mobile pod classrooms with rooms within the school building to foster the social and educational growth of our youngest students.

Preschool & Pre-K School Addition

Classrooms, Drop-Off, & Storage

Built adjacent to the Parish Hall, the new addition will feature two Preschool and two Pre-K classrooms within the school but separated from the older children's classes. Each room will be equipped with age-appropriate educational materials and toys and enough storage to keep them easily accessible. They will include in-room restrooms with child-sized facilities and hard-surface flooring as appropriate for easy maintenance and improved hygiene for small children's use.

Outside, a proper drop-off zone will streamline the school day morning routine for families and teachers. It will offer enhanced safety by eliminating the need for parents to park and escort children into the school building.

Additional Benefits

• Conference & Other Rooms

Building the addition will also offer the opportunity to add some much-needed spaces for all the teachers and administrators. There will be a new, small conference room for teachers and staff to hold private meetings with each other and parents, as well as a small resource room.



*“For I know
the plans
I have
for you,”
declares
the Lord,
“Plans to
prosper you
and not to
harm you.
Plans to
give you hope
and a future.”*

Jeremiah 29:11

How You Can Help

In preparation for this important event, we ask that you do three things:

1 Pray

Please **pray** for our volunteers, staff, and all members of our church community. Pray for God's guidance and our campaign's success. Our future depends on your prayers.



2 Volunteer

Please **volunteer** your time to our campaign effort. Over 70 volunteers are needed to assure that the campaign runs as efficiently and effectively as possible and so that volunteering is a relatively easy and enjoyable job for everyone.



3 Invest

Please **invest** and make the very best gift that you possibly can when you are asked to support our campaign. Long-term subscriptions, or pledges payable over three years, in addition to your annual stewardship offerings, are encouraged and essential to meeting our needs.

Your prayerful, volunteer, and financial support will ensure our campaign's and our church community's future success!



“Tell them to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous, ready to share, thus accumulating as treasure a good foundation for the future, so as to win the life that is true life.”

1 Timothy 6:18-19



**Come See
God's Work
at its Genesis**

Hear, Here Join Us for Our **Campaign Kick-Off Celebration**

Honoring Our Traditions-Building Our Future
Saturday, April 5
At 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Hall

Enjoy fine food and fellowship with other members. Listen to inspirational talks. View our newly produced campaign brochure and video, and learn first-hand of our needs, our hopes, and our dreams.

You'll hear it all here.

Please come see
God's Work at its Genesis.