

Poster from October 1959



Groundbreaking Service June 1976

THE BRIDGE BUILDER

An old man traveling a lone highway
Came at the evening, cold and gray,
To a chasm vast and deep and wide
Through which was flowing a sullen tide.
The old man crossed in the twilight dim.
The sullen stream held no fears for him.
But he turned when safe on the other side,
And built a bridge to span the tide.

"Old man", cried a fellow pilgrim near.
"You're wasting your time in building here.
Your journey will end with the closing day.
You never again will pass this way.
You've crossed the chasm deep and wide.
Why build you this bridge at even-tide?"

The builder lifted his old gray head.
"Good friend, in the path I have come," he said
"There followeth after me today
A youth whose feet must pass this way.
This stream which has been naught to me,
To that fair-haired youth may pitfall be.
He, too, must cross in the twilight dim.
Good friend, I'm building this bridge for him.

Disciples



Artist Rendering campus

Building to Serve Christ

Mount Cross Lutheran Church 2011 Capital Fund Appeal

*I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you,
and that your joy may be complete.*

John 15:11

Mount Cross Lutheran Church 2011 Capital Fund Appeal

MOUNT CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH • 601 East Highway 260 • Payson, AZ 85541

Tel: 928-474-2552 • FAX: 928-474-6038 • www.mountcross.org



"Then you will win favor and a good name in the sight of God and people. Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him and he will direct your paths." *Proverbs 3:4-5*

Dear Mount Cross Disciples,

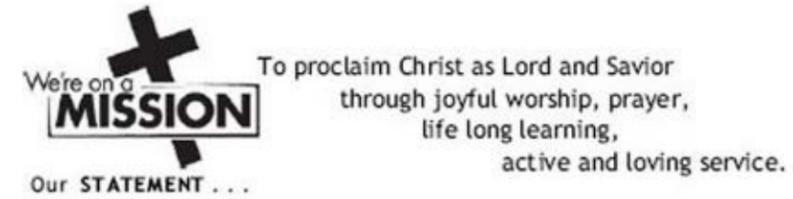
It is an awesome opportunity and a joy to win favor in the sight of God and people. We win favor by living our lives focused on our love for God and people. The foundation for that love is trust and faith! We trust that Jesus died and lives so that we have life forever. We trust that God will take care of us on this earth. We trust in forgiveness and that God will bless our mission and ministry at Mount Cross Lutheran Church.

Mount Cross is blessed with a wonderful congregation that cares for each other and has a deep desire to grow as Disciples. Mount Cross has current ministries such as Mount Cross Cares and a fantastic Music program. Yet as we celebrate our current mission, God desires us to do even more in His name! As a congregation we are called to "make disciples of all nations"; in order to fulfill that calling we have an opportunity to trust our God and leap forward with our second building appeal; Disciples - Building to Serve Christ! God has already blessed us with over \$550,000 and our trust is that God will provide all that we need to prepare our campus for a future of caring for people and growing in our faith.

God has promised to "direct our paths"; amazing things happen when we trust in that promise. Mount Cross disciples have an opportunity to be a part of a renewal path as we prepare God's church called Mount Cross Lutheran. In confidence, we hope that Mount Cross disciples will respond by trust and by faith in supporting this appeal. It is exciting and energizing to be part of a plan to make a difference in this world!

As we submit to our God with trust and faith we await with anticipation God's amazing grace and abundance as He guides us into the future!

Pastor Glenn Zimbelman



What does it mean to be a Disciple of Mount Cross Lutheran Church?

"But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ". Eph. 4:13

Our Vision, Mission and Purpose help to direct Mount Cross disciples as we live out God's mission.

Statement of Vision

A journey at the Cross with God, in Christ, through the Holy Spirit.

Statement of Mission

To proclaim Christ as Lord and Savior through joyful worship, prayer, life long learning, and active and loving service.

Statement of Purpose

Mount Cross Lutheran Church of Payson consists of the people of God united in Christ as one body, established by God through the Holy Spirit.

Mount Cross Lutheran Church exists to:

- Provide regular opportunities to worship, to participate in the sacraments, and to hear God's word.
- Witness to Christ and His Kingdom in our congregation, the extended community and the world.
- Serve God through serving the people of our extended community.
- Provide regular, theologically sound instruction to facilitate the individual's spiritual growth through their relationship to Jesus Christ, their Lord and Savior.
- Preserve the purity of the doctrine.
- Exercise Christian love and fellowship.
- Provide for Christian education.

Extend the Kingdom of God.

Our Building Journey

When God planted his vision in the Mount Cross disciples, it started as hopes and dreams to reach more people with the grace of Jesus Christ; and as those dreams grew so did the need for more space to be added to our campus.

Mount Cross started its planning for a new sanctuary back in 2004. A committee was formed for Long-Range Planning (LRPC) and the findings and recommendations of the large group's work (as reported by John Shoemaker) were: "It was strategic direction 5, 'plan and take the necessary action steps to modify, remodel, obtain or construct the facilities required to support and enhance the mission and ministry of the congregation'." The LRPC felt that it was an urgent issue and needed to be dealt with quickly; 'Our facilities are being taxed by our growing congregation and steps need to be taken immediately to provide for that growth.'

And then...the Facilities Planning and Development Committee (FPDC) was established by the Congregational Council to address the findings of the Long-Range Planning Committee. The FPDC immediately began its work in November 2005 with a timeline of two years as its completion date.

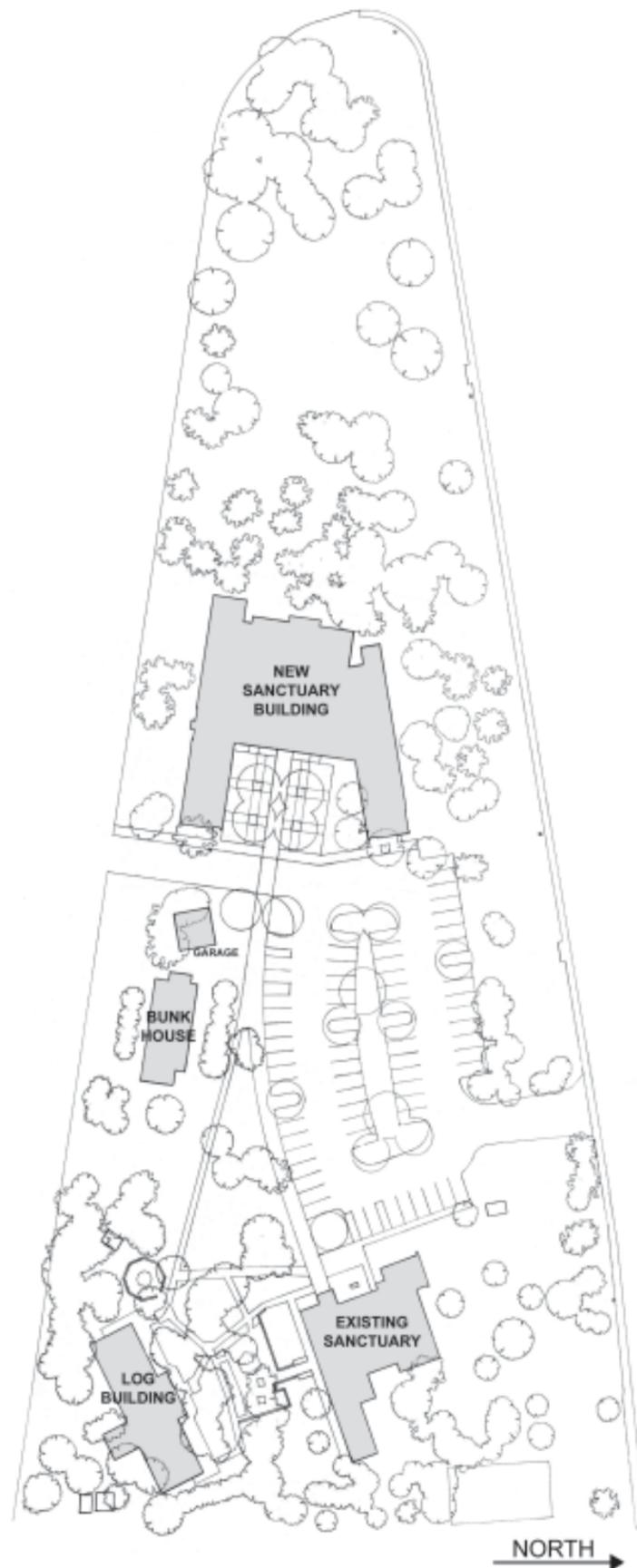
In March 2006, Mission Investment Fund of Evangelical Lutheran Church of America was brought on board as a consultant to look at our current sanctuary, make a recommendation regarding how a new facility could be funded and give a blue-print for the committee, which would guide the work needed to fulfill the direction given to the Facilities Planning and Development Committee for a new sanctuary.

In 2008 we launched our first three year capital appeal campaign to raise the necessary monies, thus moving us closer to the projected funding recommended by Mission Investment Funds. The goal of the first appeal was \$1,000,000.

In September 2008 we began our search for an architectural firm to assist us in master utilization planning for the entire campus and in the design/build planning for a new sanctuary. In January 2009, CCBG Architects was selected as the project architect.

In early 2009, the FDPC became the Building Committee and the Building Finance committee was created to handle the capital appeal and finances for a new facility. From January 2009 through January 2010, master planning, site and geotechnical surveys were completed, a new sanctuary design was created and preliminary building costs were obtained.

The first capital appeal officially ended in May 2011 with a successful total of over \$550,000 cash received. So that brings us to today...planning our next capital appeal to reach the "goal" of \$1,000,000 and continued planning of the facility as we get closer to our dream.



Reflections of 50 Years of Service

1959 - "A Church is born" when 5 residents of Payson meet with a Pastor in Mesa to plan a Lutheran Mission. In October 1959, 41 people attended the first service of Payson Lutheran Mission, held in the public school auditorium.

1961 - The Payson Mission is renamed **Mount Cross Lutheran Church**, and purchases a home on Phoenix Street. This is the church building for the next 15 years. Services are held in the basement or the front yard of the property.

MAR 1976 - Following a shortened service at the house on Phoenix Street, a motorcade was formed, and proceeded to the site of the new church. With an appropriate gold shovel, Pastor Schneider turned the first bit of ground in memory of all deceased parishioners.

JUNE 1976 - Cornerstone laying service for Mount Cross took place. Did you know a time capsule was placed behind the cornerstone in the ceiling, by the building committee?

OCT 1976 - Did you know that the solid brass bell is a sister to the Liberty Bell in Independence Hall? It's beautiful tone first summoned worshipers to service on October 17, 1976.

AUG 1982 - The log building is completed for use by Mount Cross and the community. Churches from all over used this building as a youth retreat. According to Pastor Purcell "*The building was a total congregation effort*".

DEC 1986 - Dedication of stained glass-windows, designed and hand crafted by Ernest and Denise Benton. A very special thanks to all who donated funds to have a window created in memory or honor of loved ones.

DEC 1992 - The Spina Bifida Assn. invites the clowns back to its annual Christmas party in Phoenix. Mount Cross clown ministry gave out close to 500 gifts to children at St. Joe's and Mesa Crisis Center, just to name a few of the places the clowns visited that year.

DEC 1996 - More than 400 cars drive through the grounds of Mount Cross during the 2nd annual living drive-through nativity. This annual Christmas event continued until 2000.

APR 2001 - The youth head to Navajo Lutheran Mission at Rock Point AZ. to deliver supplies collected from the community. They witness firsthand the desperate need of the children at the mission. What they bring back with them is a new found appreciation for the gifts that God has blessed them with. Our church continues to support the mission.

JUNE 2004 - *The Holy Strollers* become the top fundraising team for Relay For Life in the Rim Country.

NOV 2004 - Semi-truck swerved off the road and smashed into the side of the sanctuary. Services were held at Lomona Retreat Center while Mount Cross rebuilt.

JULY 2005 - Mount Cross began supporting seminarians and associates in ministry.

JUNE 2006 - A group from Mount Cross travels to Senegal, West Africa. Mount Cross supports Pastor Hanson and his family's missionary efforts in Senegal.

DEC 2006 - The Juniper Cross, crafted by a church member, is a symbol of love and gratitude which becomes part of Mount Cross Lenten/Easter tradition.

MAY 2008 - Mount Cross starts its first capital appeal campaign for new church sanctuary.

APR 2011 -On Friday evening, a standing-room only audience at Mount Cross witnessed a stirring performance of "**The Crucifixion**".

Creative Giving (continued)

Deferred Gifts:

There are a variety of ways to give through trust funds which have advantages for short and long term giving, as well as tax planning. A financial advisor can detail the plans available for giving to the church through a trust fund.

Insurance may also be used as a Deferred Gift. Paid up policies may be given, or the church may be named the beneficiary of either a new or existing policy.

Legacy Giving/Bequests:

Giving through a will as a revocable trust is another significant expression of stewardship. It becomes a way of leaving a percentage of your net worth in appreciation of the many gifts of God, bestowed on your family through the years as a lasting reminder of His love. This allows a person to make a significant contribution that may not have been possible during life.

Designating a tithe of 10% of your estate is a good base to consider. Such an estate gift will have a lasting impact on the congregation's life and ministry and becomes a lasting memory of your life within our church family.

This gift can be added to your will or stated to the executor of your trust account by including Mount Cross building fund in your final wishes.

Sanctuary



A Look at 50 Years into the Future

In March of 2012, Mount Cross will celebrate 50 years of mission and ministry here in Payson. As highlighted on the previous page, you can see it has had a great 50 years past. But what can Mount Cross look like 50 years into the future? God has that answer and he waits to share it with us. **Imagine** this...

...It is filled with people who have a passion to focus on the Great Commission and the Great Commandment resulting in a church with a deeper commitment to Christ.

Imagine God leads Mount Cross to create three exciting and vibrant worships. Expanded space means more room for more people at all worships.

Imagine Traditional worship expands its music opportunities because more space allows for larger choirs. People can enjoy seeing the hand bells play. Praise worship is greatly enhanced as media allows for hands free singing. A new Sunday night worship aimed at youth and family rocks with a loud and energizing rock band. Media allows all worships to be enhanced with video mission moments, sermon video clips, and photo and video announcements of Mount Cross Disciples doing ministry.

Imagine Mount Cross expanding its mission and ministry opportunities. An emphasis on the six marks of discipleship, Worship, Prayer, Bible Reading, Relationship, Serving and Tithing has resulted in a church that **explodes** with Holy Spirit Power.

Imagine an emphasis on prayer resulting in God surprising the congregation with numerous God moments. The Prayer emphasis has excited the church to have a prayer walk labyrinth and a prayer garden located out on the point.

Imagine Mount Cross has become known as a church that lives out Martin Luther's emphasis on God's Word. With its focus on the Bible, Mount Cross Disciples have grown in their love of God and their love of people.

Imagine it is a church that takes risks for the sake of the Gospel. Mount Cross has expanded its care for each other through creation of many Small Groups with deepened relationships within the church. It becomes a great way for disciples to invite new people.

Imagine Mount Cross ministries within the church and its mission to the world has greatly expanded as people live out their passions in serving Christ. As Discipleship practices deepened people's faith, this has led to a deeper trust in Christ and the church has been blessed with increased giving and is very financially sound.

Imagine Mount Cross Through the creation of Mount Cross' Arts Academy, a vehicle is created to reach artistic students of all ages connecting young and older adults with an interest in the Arts.

Imagine Mount Cross' attractive new campus has prepared the church for ministry to the many students and new families from the ASU campus. Mount Cross can offer college student ministries on campus plus an on-campus weekly meal and music ministry aimed at students.

Imagine Mount Cross Cares has expanded tremendously from its start and is now a model for reaching out to children in need.

Imagine Mount Cross becomes a place of mission that is very open to reaching Lutherans and pre-Christians in the Payson area. The church is known for "Servant Evangelism" which reaches out doing acts of kindness for anyone.

Imagine we can be a teaching church for the ELCA as other churches seek Mount Cross out as a place to learn how to do ministry and takes risks for God.

Just **imagine**, existing Mount Cross disciples and new disciples are so excited about doing ministry for Jesus they can't wait to see what the next 50 years will bring. Take God's hand and let him lead you on this journey into the future.

Creative Giving Giving from accumulated assets

Many people have assets that they may not have thought of using for the work and ministry of the church. Yet, because all that we are and have come finally from God, we ask you to consider how you can contribute to our congregation from accumulated assets. Here are some special ways to give:

Cash Reserves:

While most of us give a portion of our income for our regular offerings, even beyond the tithe in some cases, we should also give serious consideration to giving out of cash reserves or other savings.

People often give CDs, money market funds, or other "rainy day" savings. They sense that this is truly a special time, perhaps one of the few such special times in their lives, when they are spiritually ready and financially able to give a special gift from cash reserves.

Appreciated Assets:

Your congregation can accept gifts of land, or other real estate, stocks, securities, collections, works of art, or other types of personal property. For example:

- ◆ Stock that was purchased in 1990 for \$2,000 could have a present value of \$5,000. Rather than selling the stock and paying income tax on the \$3,000 capital gain, you could give the stock to the church and take a tax deduction based on the dollar amount of the sale of the stock. In this way, you would maximize your gift, maximize your tax deduction and at the same time minimize your taxable liability.
- ◆ Equity in a home. You could secure a home equity loan or second mortgage, give the gift to the church from what you borrow and receive income tax benefits while assisting your congregation.

Life Insurance:

There are special ways you can use life insurance as a gift giving device. Some examples include:

- ◆ Give a gift using the cash value accumulated in a policy.
- ◆ Give the annual dividends of a policy.
- ◆ Also see the Deferred Gifts section.

A Pattern of Responses Needed to Reach Our Goal of \$1,000,000

Victory Goal \$1,250,000

“Building to Serve Christ”
Mount Cross Lutheran Church
 ...a two year capital fund appeal

OUR VISION IS TO REACH A NEW LEVEL OF GIVING!

This will include contributions over and above what is currently being given in order to secure the finances required to fulfill our missions and ministries.

Over \$550,000 has been raised since May 2008. The new giving goal total is \$450,000 to meet our overall goal of \$1,000,000. Please study carefully this Pattern of Response and place yourself with the scale of gifts that fits you.

This pattern is designed to help meet or exceed our two year goal. We invite you to lift your sights and stretch your vision. Pray and reflect on how much you will grow and how much your growth will further the mission and ministries of Mount Cross’.

<u>Number of Gifts Needed</u>	<u>2 Yr. Pledge</u>	<u>Total</u>
1	\$100,000	\$100,000
1	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
1	\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000
3	\$ 20,000	\$ 60,000
3	\$ 15,000	\$ 45,000
5	\$ 10,000	\$ 50,000
8	\$ 5,000	\$ 40,000
25	\$ 1,000	\$ 25,000
30	\$ 500	\$ 15,000
		\$450,000

Let your giving be with JOY & CELEBTATION



Aerial View Campus

**Mount Cross Lutheran Church’s
 Total Building Project Goal:
 \$1 million
 Victory Goal \$1.25 million**

How much should I give?

Everyone has to decide that for themselves, but here are some guidelines for consideration:

- Reflect on your blessings from a generous God and give out of joy and gratitude.
- Ask God for direction. Pray and meditate over a period of time and be open to the Spirit.
- Be informed by reading all the literature sent or delivered to you during this appeal. Your Appeal Team is here to answer any questions you may have.
- Attend the Appeal Weekend and once again ask God for guidance and courage.

What if my financial situation changes or I move out of the area before the end of the two year giving period?

At anytime during the giving period, your commitment may be increased, decreased, extended or cancelled by notifying us in writing. No matter what your circumstances may be, we ask you to support us in your prayers and to remember that you are always welcomed and loved.

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Realizing that all we are and all we have is a gift from God's abundant love, I/We will support our "Building to Serve Christ!" appeal by pledging a total of \$_____ over a two year period to be given as follows:

Option 1 An initial amount of \$_____ will be given immediately. The remaining balance of \$_____ will be given on a (weekly/monthly) basis starting on December 4, 2011.

Option 2 I/We will give \$_____ per (week/month) over a two year period beginning on December 4, 2011.

Option 3 Other (please specify) _____

We would like more information on how to donate in the following way:

Stocks Appreciated Assets
 Insurance Bequest
 Deferred Giving

Name(s) _____
 Signatures _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____

This pledge may be increased, decreased, extended or cancelled by notifying the church office.

Your presence and prayers are requested on Appeal Sunday, November 20, 2011