

INVESTING IN THE

INVEST

GENERATION OF DISCIPLES



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

STRAINING FORWARD TO WHAT LIES AHEAD

PHILIPPIANS 3:13



WELCOME

WE ARE THRILLED TO BE LAUNCHING THE NEXT CHAPTER OF MINISTRY AND IMPACT AT SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS

What happens on our campus connects people to Jesus and His life-transforming power. By improving our campus in ways that will reach more children and families, we can have a greater impact for the Gospel. More families come into our church through the school than from any other avenue. The future of our church and our school are intertwined. Therefore we want to continue investing in our church and school facilities.

Our prayerful hope is that **every** person at Shepherd of the Hills will participate in the *NEXT* campaign. As we give, our lives will be transformed as we experience the joy of connecting to God's greater purpose for us individually and as a church community.

We have a big vision and a big goal. Thankfully, we have an even bigger God. We need His blessing and help every step of the way.

Together, we are investing in the *NEXT* generation of disciples at Shepherd of the Hills!



Pastor Chris
Christopher Kennedy
Senior Pastor



Pastor Andy
Andy Johnson
Associate Pastor

OUR HISTORY

FOR MORE THAN 54 YEARS, SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS CHURCH HAS BEEN FAITHFULLY LEADING PEOPLE INTO A LIFE-CHANGING RELATIONSHIP WITH JESUS.

OUR SCHOOL AND CHILD CARE HAVE BEEN TRANSFORMING THE LIVES OF CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES FOR MORE THAN 44 YEARS. OUR PARENTS, STAFF, AND CHILDREN WORK TOGETHER TO FOSTER CHRIST-LIKE QUALITIES IN ALL WE PURSUE: SPIRITUAL GROWTH; ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE; AND PHYSICAL, EMOTIONAL, AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT.

1969



Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church founded

1978



Rev. Daniel Mueller called as second pastor

1997



Worship Center Grand Opening

2014



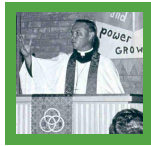
Pastor Dan retires; Pastor Chris is called as senior pastor

2021



Rev. Andy Johnson called as associate pastor

1969



Rev. Robert Kullman called as first pastor

1979



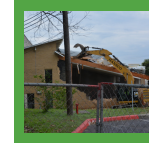
School founded

2008



Rev. Christopher Kennedy called as associate pastor

2019



Original church building is removed to make way for a new building

2023



Family Life Center opened



1,100 MEMBERS

450-500 WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

48 BAPTISMS IN 2022

40 TEENS IN CONFIRMATION CLASSES

OVER 350 SHEPHERD SCHOOL CHILDREN BAPTIZED

MANY MINISTRY PARTNERS

INCLUDING CHRISTIAN ASSISTANCE MINISTRY, VAULT,
WOODLAND RIDGE APARTMENTS, MEALS ON WHEELS,
AND THE PREGNANCY CARE CENTER OF SAN ANTONIO

THE CAMPAIGN

NEXT IS A THREE-YEAR CAMPAIGN TO RAISE \$2.5M TO INVEST IN CAMPUS ENHANCEMENTS AND EARLY MORTGAGE PAYDOWN TO ENSURE THE FUTURE FLOURISHING OF OUR CHURCH AND SCHOOL.

As our predecessors had a vision and sacrificed to build and expand the ministry we now have the opportunity to do the same.

Through God's gracious provision and the generosity of our community, we have made great strides toward accomplishing the campus master plan—a plan created with input from church members and school families.

PART ONE OF THAT PLAN IS COMPLETE! Our beautiful new Family Life Center includes a gym, school offices, meeting rooms, a fine arts hall, and gathering spaces for special events.

PART TWO IS IMMEDIATE IMPROVEMENTS TO OUR FACILITIES.

As our facilities age, we need to update and refresh them. 10 percent of funds raised in the *NEXT* campaign will go toward indoor and outdoor learning spaces across campus to benefit church and school families.

PART THREE IS STRUCTURAL RENOVATIONS TO THE SCHOOL BUILDING. As our enrollment continues to grow, we need more classroom space. For maximum effectiveness, many of our classrooms and common spaces need to be resized and reconfigured. Our goal is to be the premier Christian private school in the Medical Center area. We have the culture, the teachers, and a track record of academic excellence. Significant improvements in facilities takes us to the next level.



**WE WANT TO
INVEST IN THE
NEXT GENERATION,
EVERY CHILD
ON OUR CAMPUS.**

WITH GOD'S HELP, WE'RE ACTIVELY MOVING FORWARD IN THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN. To undertake structural renovations as soon as possible, we need to aggressively pay down our mortgage. As of 2023, our mortgage debt is about \$6 million; we owe about \$1.3 on the church building and about \$4.7 on the Family Life Center. 90 percent of funds raised in the *NEXT* campaign will go toward early mortgage pay down.

THE SCHOOL HAS BEEN THE NUMBER ONE MISSION OF OUR CHURCH, AND THAT HAS NEVER BEEN TRUER THAN IT IS TODAY. This campaign will be a true partnership between the church and the school. We want to invest in the *NEXT* generation by ensuring that our children and youth programs at Shepherd of the Hills will continue to grow in size and impact.

TOGETHER WE CAN ENSURE THE FUTURE FLOURISHING OF SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS CHURCH, SCHOOL, AND CHILD CARE. Consider how your family might step out in faith and join us. What would it look like for you to invest in God's Kingdom work here at Shepherd of the Hills, committing to give generously over the next three years?

*What kind of impact will you have on the *NEXT* generation by prayerfully committing to what the Lord is prompting you to do today?*



OUR VISION

**OUR VISION
IS BIGGER
THAN WHAT
WE SEE
RIGHT NOW.**

OUR VISION IS TO EXPAND OUR MINISTRY AND IMPACT IN THE MEDICAL CENTER REGION, IN SAN ANTONIO, AND BEYOND.

To achieve this important step in the story of Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, School, and Child Care, we are launching *NEXT*, a three-year giving initiative to raise \$2.5M toward early mortgage paydown for church and school so we can move forward in a plan to make crucial facility renovations.

We are asking everyone who loves Shepherd of the Hills to take steps forward in faith and giving to reach our goal.

A successful **\$2,500,000** campaign will accomplish the following critical objectives:

- **\$2,250,000** early mortgage paydown on current campus facilities
- **\$250,000** investment in immediate facility upgrades

We made many exciting improvements to common areas in summer 2023. 10 percent of campaign proceeds will continue to fund indoor and outdoor learning spaces across campus.

HOW WILL YOU RESPOND?

OUR PRIMARY GOAL THROUGH NEXT IS THAT 100 PERCENT OF PEOPLE AT SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS WILL ENGAGE IN THIS INITIATIVE—AT OUR CHURCH, SCHOOL, AND CHILD CARE.

START WITH PRAYER.

Pray that God will multiply our efforts to enhance our church and school ministries so we can lead more people to a life-changing relationship with Jesus. Pray that He will do abundantly more than we ask or imagine.

MY PRAYER FOR NEXT IS:



**WE ARE ASKING
ALL WHO LOVE
SHEPHERD OF
THE HILLS TO
TAKE A BIG STEP
FORWARD IN
FAITH AND
GENEROSITY.**

GROW INTENTIONALLY.

- Attend *NEXT* events.
- Join us for worship each weekend from September 23/24 – October 21/22 for the *NEXT* sermon series.
- Engage in *NEXT* discipleship content. Learn all you can about God's will for you and your resources.
- Discuss generosity with your children and make this a family learning experience.

A GROWTH AREA FOR ME THROUGH NEXT IS:

GIVE.

Ask God to show you what it looks like for you and your family to give to His Kingdom work in a way that changes you. Take whatever steps are required to see it through.

While we don't know exactly how God will provide the resources needed for the NEXT campaign, research and experience tell us that we will need gifts like these to be successful.

YOU MAY THINK YOUR GIFT DOESN'T MATTER WHEN COMPARED TO OUR TOTAL GOAL FOR NEXT. EVERY GIFT MAKES A DIFFERENCE! USE THIS TABLE TO SEE HOW YOUR MONTHLY GIFT ADDS UP OVER THREE YEARS.



**IT TAKES MANY
OF US COMING
TOGETHER TO
REACH THE GOAL.
EVERY GIFT
AND EVERY
GIVER MAKES
A DIFFERENCE!**

THREE-YEAR GOAL:
\$2.5 MILLION
36-month commitment

GIFTS NEEDED	3 YEAR GIFT	ANNUAL TOTAL	MONTHLY TOTAL	WEEKLY TOTAL	CUMULATIVE LEVEL
1	\$500,000	\$166,667	\$13,888	\$3,472	\$500,000
1	\$300,000	\$100,000	\$8,333	\$2,083	\$800,000
1	\$200,000	\$66,667	\$5,555	\$1,388	\$1,000,000
2	\$100,000	\$33,333	\$2,777	\$694	\$1,200,000
3	\$75,000	\$25,000	\$2,083	\$520	\$1,425,000
4	\$50,000	\$16,667	\$1,388	\$347	\$1,625,000
6	\$25,000	\$8,333	\$694	\$173	\$1,775,000
10	\$20,000	\$6,667	\$555	\$138	\$1,975,000
15	\$5,000	\$1,667	\$138	\$34	\$2,050,000
MANY	< \$5,000	< \$1,667	< \$138	< \$34	
TOTAL GIFT GOAL:					\$2,500,000

ARE YOU READY TO TAKE A STEP?

PRAY:

This is the first and most important step in preparing your heart to respond to God's call to action. Ask God how He would have you engage in this campaign.

PARTICIPATE:

Participate: Indicate your financial support for this project by submitting this card at Advance Commitment Night, October 10 or during Commitment Weekend October 21/22.

PRAISE:

Praise God for His faithfulness to Shepherd and for what He is going to do through the generosity of His people for His glory through this campaign.

WAYS TO ENGAGE:

- PRAY** This is the first and most important step in preparing your heart to respond to God's call to action. Ask God how He would have you engage in this campaign.
- PARTICIPATE** Indicate your financial support for this project by submitting this card at the October 10th Advance Commitment Night or bring it during Commitment Weekend October 21-22.
- PRAISE** Praise God for His faithfulness to Shepherd and for what He is going to do through the generosity of His people for His glory through this campaign.

Personal prayerfully consider how God is calling you to help us reach our vision. Our hope is to reach and share the Gospel and the message of our mission is based on the "NEXT" generation of disciples of Christ.

THREE WAYS TO GIVE

- Give over cash gift
- Give in-kind goods gift
- Shared the expertise, service, service, service, or service in-kind service gift

MY/OUR COMMITMENT

WE PLAN TO GIVE ACCORDINGLY

Monthly for the amount: \$100 \$200 \$300 \$400 \$500 \$600 \$700 \$800 \$900 \$1000

Annually for \$ amount: \$1000 \$2000 \$3000 \$4000 \$5000 \$6000 \$7000 \$8000 \$9000 \$10000

Cash over gift: In-kind gift: Service gift:

WILL WE REMAIN COMMITTED? Yes No

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

INVESTING IN THE NEXT GENERATION OF DISCIPLES

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS LUTHERAN CHURCH

10000 W. 100th St. | Overland Park, KS 66210 | 913.641.1234

CREATIVE WAYS TO BE GENEROUS



In 2 Corinthians 8:1–15, Paul exhorts believers to “see that you also excel in this grace of giving.”

The best path to increased giving is the spiritual path, where we set our minds on things above (Colossians 3:2 ESV). Financial priorities then take shape from spiritual priorities.

King David declared, “*I will not sacrifice to the Lord my God burnt offerings that cost me nothing.*” (2 Samuel 24:24 NIV)

Three keys to sacrificial giving:

- Reassess lifestyle
- Rearrange priorities
- Reallocate resources



Many believers have been amazed at their ability to give more generously to the Kingdom of God than they ever imagined.

LOOKING FOR IDEAS TO STRETCH AS A KINGDOM GIVER AND GROW AS A DISCIPLE? CONSIDER THESE IDEAS:

PRACTICE PRIORITY BUDGETING

Many people rearrange their priorities and give up something in their current budget to give more to a campaign. Priority budgeting may mean postponing a planned expenditure such as a new car, vacation, home remodel, or other major purchase.

REDIRECT PRESENT EXPENDITURES

Often, people have significant short-term expenditures for special needs. One example is college tuition. One family realized their daughter would be graduating from college during the first year of the campaign, and so they were able to increase their commitment to the second and third year of the campaign by thousands of dollars by giving what they had been spending on tuition. Another example would be the cash flow that is freed up when a car or home loan is paid off.

GIVE CREATIVELY FROM STORED RESOURCES

A young man decided that two collectors' baseball cards worth over \$20,000 would be the most appropriate means of sacrifice for his family. Some families save money over a period of years for a special project. A Head of School was getting ready to replace his aging car, but when his Christian school entered a capital campaign he determined to give that money instead to the school and live with his car for a bit longer. "It brought me much more joy than a new car," he said!

COMMIT UNEXPECTED CASH

Often, people pray for God to show them a way they can give beyond what they can presently see or afford. Sometimes the answers come unexpectedly. A couple had been praying for weeks about their commitment to their campaign and were surprised when they received an inheritance of several thousand dollars. They gave the entire amount to their organization as part of their multi-year commitment, in addition to a gift from their regular income.



INCREASED GIVING WITH INCREASED INCOME

Some people receive raises or bonuses. The temptation is to increase our lifestyle to fit the higher income. In many instances, people have decided to commit the full amount of salary increases to a giving initiative.

SACRIFICE EXTRA TIME

Some people have extra time to use in a part-time job so they can give more to an organization they love. This is often true for families whose children are grown or for semi-retired or retired couples. A man was in the process of retiring when his church entered a campaign. He and his wife secured new jobs and gave the first two years of their retirement income to the campaign.

DONATE APPRECIATED ASSETS

Appreciated assets (often investment securities or real estate) can benefit both the giver and the church and school. By transferring ownership to the church and school, the giver avoids capital gains taxes. In addition, the donor receives an income tax charitable deduction for the full market value. Before making a commitment of this type, please consult your CPA, tax attorney, or other financial advisor.

A FINAL WORD

When making a multi-year commitment, giving does not have to be in equal increments over the three-year period of the campaign. Many people are able to give more in the second or third year than in the first.

Finally, as you consider your financial commitment to the Lord's work, you may wish to consider estate planning. It might be as simple as including a provision in your will that a percent of the value of your estate will be donated to the church at the time of your passing. Or it could involve a planned gift such as a charitable remainder trust. While such gifts may not benefit this generosity initiative, they are marvelous ways to carry on the work of the church and school for future generations.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS NEXT?

NEXT is the name of our effort to reach the next generation of disciples for Jesus by raising funds to pay down our mortgage early, invest in immediate campus improvements, and lay the groundwork for future major renovations.

WHY ARE WE STARTING A NEW CAMPAIGN WHEN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER IS JUST NOW OPENING?

It has been six years since we launched our last campaign, and the time is right for us to move ahead into planning for the NEXT phases of our campus plan.

WHY IS 10 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL CAMPAIGN GOAL SET ASIDE TO FUND CURRENT PROJECTS?

The campaign helps fulfill long term vision for improving our campus. We feel it's also important to invest in facility upgrades that will benefit our Shepherd family right away—so we're strategically investing 10% of the campaign gifts to apply to current projects.

IS THIS FOR DEBT REDUCTION OR BEGINNING RENOVATIONS?

Debt reduction and future renovations go hand in hand. As we pay down our mortgage on the church and the Family Life Center, we position ourselves for future financing needed to accomplish structural renovations.

WHAT IS THE CAMPUS MASTER PLAN?

It's a plan developed for us by a design firm in 2016. The plan includes two major goals. The first was building the new Family Life Center. The second is significant renovations to the school building.

I DON'T HAVE A CHILD IN THE SCHOOL. WHY SHOULD I CONTRIBUTE?

The school is our number one mission. More families come into the church through the school than any other avenue. The future of the church and school are intertwined. As our membership ages, reaching out through the school brings in new, younger members. Most important, whether or not they become part of the church, students in our school hear about Jesus every day, and they take the Gospel message home to their families.

IS \$2.5 MILLION TOO LOW OF A GOAL?

We believe this is a reasonable goal. However, we would love to exceed this goal to allow us to expand our impact and improve our campus as quickly as possible. Our current mortgage debt for both the church and the school is over \$6M. We are aiming to raise at least \$2.5M to pay down a portion of that debt. We would love to exceed our goal and pay down as much of our debt as we can to ensure a flourishing future for Shepherd.

IS A \$2.5 MILLION GOAL TOO HIGH?

In our last campaign in 2017, we raised \$2 million. With inflation, and wisdom gained from last time, it's reasonable to increase the goal. By aggressively paying down our mortgage, we free up resources to advance our mission.

WHEN DO WE START GIVING TOWARD OUR COMMITMENTS?

The sooner the better, as we aim to pay off our debt as quickly as possible. We will officially begin giving together on November 5, which is First Fruits Sunday!

HOW LONG WILL I HAVE TO FULFILL MY COMMITMENT?

This is a three-year campaign. We hope to have all pledges fulfilled by 2026.

HOW CAN I GIVE TO NEXT?

You can give through all of our normal giving channels (in person, online, through bank transfer). If you have items you wish to donate, the church's financial staff is happy to talk with you about transferring property, stocks, etc.

YOU CAN LEARN MORE AT [SHEPHERDLUTHERAN.COM/NEXT](https://shepherdlutheran.com/next)



SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS | 6914 Wurzbach San Antonio, Texas 78240
shepherdlutheran.com | Tel: 210.614.3742



SHEPHERD
OF THE HILLS