



Subject: Congregational Update and Upcoming Meeting on Church Restoration

Dear Cross & Crown Family,

As many of you know, our church suffered a fire on **August 15**, which caused damage throughout several areas of the building. Since then, our restoration journey has been both challenging and inspiring, but together we will see this through. Through the dedication of many within the congregation, contractors, and volunteers—and with God's grace—we are now nearing completion of **Phase I and Phase II** of our recovery efforts. These phases have included full remediation and repair of nearly all affected spaces, except for the fellowship hall and kitchen.

We are deeply grateful for your patience, prayers, and support throughout this process. The building is looking refreshed and renewed, and we are excited to soon turn our focus toward **enhancements that will further improve our church home**. These upgrades in Phase I include installing higher-grade carpet, new acoustic ceiling tiles in the offices, and all new **LED lighting in the classrooms and double the lumens in new LED cans in the hallways**. In the next phase, we also plan to enhance the **fellowship hall bathroom** to make it more accessible and user-friendly for **Peter Panda**, and to give the **kitchen** a fresh, modern, and functional look with **industrial stainless-steel finishes**. There is also discussion about the possibility of installing a partition between the fellowship hall and choir room for expanded space for large events (Chubby Sunday, Easter).

To move forward, the Church Council will bring a proposal to the congregation to **authorize up to \$30,000** to fund these upgrades during this stage of restoration. These funds will be used alongside some other very generous donations received to date.

We invite everyone to attend a **Question & Answer Session on Sunday, December 7 at 9:30 a.m.**, where we will provide details, a tour, and answer any questions you may have. The official **Congregational Meeting and vote** will take place on **Sunday, December 14**, immediately following worship.

Your input, prayer, and participation are vital as we continue restoring and improving our church facilities—not just to rebuild what was lost, but to make our shared spaces even more welcoming and functional for years to come.

With gratitude and faith,
Jim Ficorilli
On behalf of the Church Council

Cross & Crown Lutheran Church

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