

# CRUSADER CONNECTION

■ SPRING 2022 ■









#### **GREETINGS!**

During the holy season of Lent, we are reminded that God created man from the dust of the earth, and one day we will return to dust. The ash cross placed on our foreheads represents the repentance of sin, as well as a remembrance of being marked with the cross of Christ, having our sins washed away by His blood in the waters of holy baptism.

The renewal found at this time of year involves dust, ashes, and now dirt. I am proud to report that Racine Lutheran High School officially broke ground on its \$8.2 million building and expansion project on March 7. To God be the glory!

Don Riegelman '57 joined the festivities. He put his shovel in the ground, just as his father, Bill, did when the school began building at this site in 1947. The long-standing commitment of their family – and so many of our supporters – is the foundation of Lutheran education here in Racine.

Today, I invite each of you to build with us to benefit our current and future students. Build faith; build dreams; build this incredible academic and athletic facility. God has given each of us a shovel. Prayerfully consider how you will use yours to glorify Him and help our school.

Keep reading this issue of the Crusader Connection for exciting details and take a moment to visit our website for more information. My door is open if you would like to meet – but don't forget to wear your hard hat!

Wonderful things are happening at Racine Lutheran High School! Thank you for being part of our school.

David S Buyn

**David S. Burgess**Executive Director-Principal





#### SPEAKERS AND PARTNERS

Our students' learning opportunities are often enhanced by the knowledge guest speakers share with them. Recent presenters include Cori Beaudet from Abbott Talent Deployment, Dan and Sarah Farrey from Custom Crete Werks, Dr. William Perrine from Concordia University Ann Arbor, and Kari Deberg from Racine Heritage Museum.



The blessing of attending a Lutheran school was celebrated through competitions, treats, and dress-up days.



#### IT WENT RIGHT

RLHS theatre fans recently visited The Broadway Playhouse in Chicago to see "The Play that Goes Wrong." The group of students and faculty members enjoyed dinner and a show in the Windy City.



#### STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Each week, our teachers nominate students who were seen displaying the love they have been shown by our Savior to the community around them. The Student of the Week is recognized during Chapel. Several of this year's recipients are pictured here.





#### **VISION SCREENING**

Members of the National Honor Society partnered with Prevent Blindness Wisconsin to help conduct vision screenings for young children. NHS members are pictured while serving students at Concordia Lutheran School.



#### JANSEN SIGNS WITH CMU

Senior Camdin Jansen signed his National Letter of Intent to play for the Central Michigan University baseball team. The Division 1 Chippewas are part of the Mid-American Conference. In addition to being an accomplished athlete, Jansen is a strong student, with a cumulative GPA of 3.473. Other student-athletes' college signings will take place in May.

#### **SPRING TOUR**

RLHS musicians experienced a whirlwind Spring Tour. They performed at two Lutheran churches and Concordia University Chicago. Add in the downtown sightseeing and dinner at Lou Malnati's Pizzeria, and you have lifelong memories.





#### NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP FINALIST

Senior John Hansen advanced to the finalist round of the National Merit Scholarship competition. He was recognized by Mr. Burgess at an all-school Chapel.



#### **CAD CREATIONS**

Students in the Computer Aided Drafting II class showed off some of the items they created on the school's 3D printers.



#### **GRAND GALA GREETERS**

RLHS students dressed in their best attire and helped make the 2022 Grand Gala on Feb.12 an enjoyable and successful event for all who attended.



#### SECTIONAL RUNNER-UP

The Lady Crusaders basketball team made it to the sectional finals after winning the regional championship. To date, this is the program's best finish while part of WIAA. Congratulations!





#### **RECORD SETTERS**

Congratulations to our highachieving athletes! Junior Ellie Jaramillo broke the single-season 3-point record, and freshman Julia Kellner broke the single-season rebound record from 1991.



#### **OBITUARIES**

We pay tribute to the following alumni who have recently passed away.

Class of:

1948 – Robert Shebeneck

1948 – Eileen Krueger Shebeneck

1950 – Marcella Tuinstra Kuiper

1953 – Vernon Frank

1958 – Dorothea Spurgat Heffel

1961 - Craig Albright

1965 – Donald Weidner

1968 – Patrick French

1973 – Guy Woodward

1980 – Michael Pfingsten

1980 – Paula Sandbach Ellis

1983 – Dawn Lueckfeld

1990 – Chad Bonfiovanni

2004 – Donovan Sanders



#### WALK OF FAITH

Etch your name into RLHS history! The RLHS Walk of Faith is a special way to leave an enduring memento on a personalized brick. It is a forever tribute to honor or remember a loved one (family member, graduate, veteran, teacher, class gift, etc.) and a way to show your RLHS support and pride. The bricks are beautifully displayed around the flagpole and front entrance to the school. To create a lifetime legacy and contribute to the future of RLHS, visit **RacineLutheran.org** and click on Ways to Give under the Support Us tab. Orders received by Sept. 1 will be installed in the fall.



#### NUPTIAL NEWS

Steven Riegelman '08 married Kaiti Anderson on Dec. 4 at St. John's Lutheran Church.



#### BIRTHS: CRUSADER CREATIONS

Left: Rachel Moriarity Opgenorth '10 and husband, Jared, welcomed a daughter, Brynley Kay, on Dec. 19.

Below: Olivia Ordiway Fleming '08, husband, Ryan, and big sisters, Caroline and Poppy, welcomed son, Knox, on May 1, 2021.





#### SHARE YOUR LIFE'S MILESTONES

As alumni, you are still part of our large, extended family. Please share your latest news, engagements, marriages, births, and other updates with us at klong@RacineLutheran.org. We will happily include it on our social media pages and/or in the next edition of the *Crusader Connection*.

#### STAY CONNECTED

We want to be sure our alumni contact information and communication preferences are correct, so you receive the latest school news, invitations to events and more. To notify us of any changes, please go to our website and click on the ALUMNI tab. Select UPDATE CONTACT INFO on the drop-down menu. We take precautions to protect your identity and do not share private information with any outside parties.



#### HALL OF FAME 2022

RLHS 2022 Hall of Fame inductees were honored in January. Pictured from L-R: David Krause '62, Jeff Christensen '72 and Kevin Christensen '01. Complete induction biographies are posted in the About Us section of RacineLutheran.org. A photo album of the event and videos of the acceptance speeches are posted on the Racine Lutheran Alumni Facebook page.

#### HALL OF FAME 2023 NOMINATIONS

RLHS is currently seeking nominations for the 2023 Hall of Fame. Criteria for selection include displaying fine character and a commitment to the mission of RLHS. All nominated alumni must have graduated at least 10 years prior to selection and had noteworthy achievement during their high school careers and/or contributions in their chosen field. All nominated teachers, coaches or staff members must have an elapsed time of five years after active tenure at RLHS prior to selection. Nominees may be inducted in the areas of athletics, academics, humanitarianism, the arts, or service to the church. If you know of an individual who should be considered for induction, please visit the About Us section at **RacineLutheran.org** and use the nomination form provided. Any questions may be directed to Jason Block at jblock@RacineLutheran.org.



#### **GRAND GALA GRATITUDE**

It was inspiring to see community members, families, and friends of RLHS come together on Feb. 12 to celebrate our students and our bold vision for a strong future. Funds from the event will directly benefit the RLHS students by assisting with the school's enrollment-driven expansion plans. Thank you to all who attended, donated, and helped make this a fun and successful event! Save the date for the 2023 Grand Gala on Sat., Feb. 11.



SEPTEMBER 10

13

### REUNIONS

If you graduated in a year that ends in a 2 or 7, then 2022 is your reunion year! Whether you are planning a simple family picnic or a formal event, your best chance for success is early planning. Please visit our website and click on REUNIONS, under the ALUMNI tab, for suggestions and things to consider. Contact klong@RacineLutheran.org for your graduating class list, and for help getting started with planning your special celebration.

#### **Upcoming Reunions**

- Class of 1962 Sat., Sept. 10
- Class of 1959 Annual gathering on Thurs., Oct. 13, at noon for lunch at Thunder Bay & Grille in Pewaukee.



## RACINE LUTHERAN HIGHSCHOOL

#### CELEBRATING OUR PAST, SECURING OUR FUTURE

Racine Lutheran High School's \$8.2 million comprehensive building expansion project will make a significant difference for the school and the community. More families from Racine and the surrounding area will be able to secure enrollment in the school that offers excellence in academics, athletics, and the arts.

The increased demand for private school education, coupled with the needs of the current facility, resulted in the pending renovation and expansion of the building.

New instruction spaces, including added classrooms and an academic resource center, will provide more flexible instruction capabilities and options for students and staff. A new gymnasium addition replaces the existing 1950 vintage gym space. It will include additional accessible seating with up-to-date court sizes and interior volume for competition requirements. A larger weight room and fitness facility will better accommodate modern training equipment needs and provide more user space options.

The finished product will accommodate enrollment growth and enhance RLHS's ability to provide a quality education in this competitive, demanding environment.

"We are providing some of the best educational opportunities available, and we are preparing for future students to benefit from the Christ-centered education offered at Racine Lutheran High School," stated Dave Burgess, executive director-principal. "We will soon be able to accommodate the demand for growth in enrollment, and we look forward to serving the next generation of students."









legacies, honor a loved one, or show their commitment to excellence in Christian education. At the same time, naming opportunities enable RLHS to recognize those donors who have made impactful gifts to the campaign. Choose your preferred area.

Opportunity	Donation
Gymnasium	\$2,000,000
Lobby	\$1,000,000
Locker Rooms	\$500,000 each
Academic Support Center	\$500,000
General Classrooms	\$250,000 each
Fitness/Weight Center	\$250,000

#### **ASSET-BASED GIVING**

Asset-based giving is a generous way to support the school without using cash. In most cases, it's as simple as assigning ownership to the school, and the monetary value of the gift typically exceeds what you might give as cash outright. Examples of asset-based giving include donating through life insurance, appreciated assets, deferred gifts, IRA charitable rollover, and bequests or planned giving. You – and the school – can benefit from your gift. Contact us to learn more.





#### **GROUNDBREAKING**

After months of arduous work and planning, RLHS ceremoniously broke ground on the expansion and renovation project on March 7.

The ceremony came with a good dose of fanfare. Members of the board of directors, association churches, Ladies Guild, and foundation grantors celebrated the momentous event.

Don Riegelman, a graduate from the class of 1957 and an honorary chairperson of the campaign, broke ground close to the spot his father, Bill Riegelman, put his shovel in the ground when the school was erected at the same site in 1947.

Following the ceremony, guests gathered for a reception, viewed the renderings, and enjoyed pre-renovation tours of the facility.







#### **TOP-TIER FACILITIES**

Zimmerman Architectural Studios developed a floor plan for additions and renovations. The design features more than 37,000 square feet of added space, plus more than 11,000 square feet of renovated, energy-efficient, and ADA-compliant space. Highlights include:

- New classrooms with updated technology
- Dedicated Resource and STEM classrooms
- Expanded cafeteria space
- New gymnasium regulation-size courts and seating for 1,000
- New locker rooms
- New fitness center
- New athletic training room
- New offices for athletic director and PE teachers
- New accessible restrooms
- · New concessions stand
- Stage improvements lighting, sound, technology, lift
- Updated mechanical and safety systems
- Existing gymnasium repurposed for Chapel services, music and performing arts programs.

To learn more about the renovation and expansion project, please visit **RacineLutheran.org** or contact the Development Office at klong@RacineLutheran.org.

Give easily and securely online or by using the enclosed remittance envelope.

VISIT **RACINELUTHERAN.ORG** AND CLICK ON THE BUILDING EXPANSION CAMPAIGN FOR MORE INFORMATION.



#### 5-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE RLHS VETERANS PROJECT

Please join us at 1:30 p.m. on Fri., Nov. 11, for a special Veterans Day Event as we celebrate the 5-year anniversary of our RLHS Veterans Project Dedication. Stay tuned for more details coming to our website and social media soon!

This project continues to honor our alumni who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces. To date, more than 200 RLHS veterans' names have been added to the plaque that is beautifully displayed in the Commons.

To add a name to our RLHS Veterans Project plaque, send the following information to the school or email klong@RacineLutheran.org: name of veteran and RLHS graduation year, branch of service, and the years served. New names are added to the plaque annually on Veterans Day.



#### **GOLF OUTING**

Please join us on Mon., Aug. 1, at Meadowbrook Country Club, for our 34th annual golf outing to benefit the RLHS athletic program. Last year, more than 130 friends and businesses participated by playing, donating prizes, sponsoring a hole, or joining us for dinner. For more information or to register online, visit RacineLutheran.org and click on Golf Outing under the Support Us tab.



#### **ALUMNI SOCCER GAME**

RLHS will hold its annual alumni soccer game on Fri., Aug. 19, at Franksville Park. All former Crusader players are invited to participate! For more information or to sign up, contact Sam Theuer '16 at stheuer@wisc.edu.



#### ALUMNI BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT

After a two-year hiatus due to Covid-19, we are excited to bring back our annual Alumni Basketball Tournament. This year's event will be held on Sat., Nov. 26. To register or for more information, visit RacineLutheran.org and click on the Alumni tab. All players (men and women) and fans are welcome!



Mon., Aug. 1 – Golf Outing

Fri., Aug. 19 – Alumni Soccer Game

Fri., Sept. 23 – Homecoming Game and Alumni Event

Fri., Nov. 11 – Veterans Day Event

Sat., Nov. 26 – Alumni Basketball Tournament

Fri., Jan. 20 - Hall of Fame

Sat., Feb. 11 - Grand Gala



#### HARVEST FAIR

As we consider the future of the Harvest Fair for this fall, a deciding factor is that new help with organizing and leading is needed. New co-chairmen and booth chairmen are needed. If you are interested, please contact klong@RacineLutheran.org.

#### CONTRIBUTE AND CONNECT

- Give a gift today! Give easily and securely online or by using the enclosed remittance envelope.
- Donate monthly
- Sponsor a student or event
- Honor someone special through our brick program
- Make a memorial donation
- Utilize corporate matching gifts or payroll deduction
- Include us in your planned giving
- Direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to RLHS
- Volunteer at school events and our Thrift Shops



VISIT **RACINELUTHERAN.ORG** AND CLICK ON THE SUPPORT US TAB FOR MORE INFORMATION.

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#### **MISSION**

Racine Lutheran High School's mission is to guide our youth in faith, learning, character, and leadership by nurturing their relationship with Jesus Christ and educating them for a life of service to God and man.

#### **VALUES**

Faith, Learning, Character, Leadership.

#### **SCHOOL YEAR THEME**

Encourage one another and build each other up. - 1 Thessalonians 5:11

#### **PARENTS**

If your son or daughter is no longer living at this address, please email his or her current address to klong@RacineLutheran.org.



Connecting Past and Present Crusaders Who Value Faith, Learning, Character, and Leadership

#### CALLING ALL ALUMNI

RLHS is blessed to have the critical need for expanded and updated facilities that will allow for the growth of our dynamic school community. By participating in our ambitious vision for the future, you will help empower RLHS to serve a new generation of students, providing a rigorous academic experience and a well-rounded Christian education. This is truly a remarkable

> moment for our school and the Racine community. We invite you to call or visit the school to learn more about how you can help sustain our mission and make an impact in the lives of our future generations of RLHS students.

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Director of Development and Alumni Relations

#### **SOCIAL SADERS**

links can be found on our website at RacineLutheran.org.







