



# Good Shepherd Charger News

"In His Hands" Isaiah 49:16

All School Newsletter  
December 20, 2024

## Charger Headlines...

### Calendar of Events

#### Friday, December 20

- End of 2nd Quarter
- Boys Basketball AC Home vs. Unity 6:00 p.m. ALUMNI NIGHT
- Pep band and alumni play @ game

#### Monday, Dec. 23-Friday, January 3

- NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break

#### Wednesday, January 1

- Continuous Enrollment begins for all students

#### Monday, January 6-Monday, January 20

- Domino's Pizza Fundraiser

#### Monday, January 6

- Classes resume for all students
- Boys Basketball CD @ Zion Bethalto 6:00

#### Tuesday, January 7

- Girls Basketball AD vs. Zion Staunton 6:00

#### Wednesday, January 8

- Boys Basketball B Team Holy Cross Collinsville Tourney vs Red Bud 7:45 pm
- Girls Basketball B Team Holy Cross Collinsville Tourney vs Holy Cross 4:00 pm

#### Thursday, January 9

- Chapel Service 8:25 a.m. (Gr 2-8)
- Chapel Service 8:55 a.m. (ECC-Gr1)

#### Friday, January 10-Sunday, January 12

- Boys and Girls Basketball B Team Holy Cross Collinsville Tournament TBA

For more information:  
[gslcs.org/calendars](https://gslcs.org/calendars)



### Alumni Night

TONIGHT is our school's annual Alumni Night. The Charger Boys Basketball "A" team will take the court against Unity Lutheran about 7:00 p.m. The Boys "C" team is scheduled to play at 6:00 p.m. We welcome all alumni and look forward to your return to GSLS! High school freshmen are encouraged to call the office 618-344-3153 or email [ncluck@gslcs.org](mailto:ncluck@gslcs.org) if you plan to attend.

### Our Thanks and Prayers for You

The faculty and staff wish you and your family a healthy and safe Christmas and New Year! May your celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, be blessed with joy, peace, and good health. We also want to sincerely thank you for your amazing generosity of delicious food, cards, gifts, party supplies, and volunteer time given throughout the year. Your support is a gift to us!

### Tuition Scholarships

Scholarship applications for LESA's Building Blocks Assistance and Good Shepherd Church and School will be available **January 1st** through FACTS. (See flyer.)

LESA is sponsoring a virtual application event on Tuesday, February 25th 12 noon - 7:00 p.m. titled, "How to do a Financial Scholarship in FACTS". You can sign up for a timeslot in January. Watch for the sign-up link in the January school newsletter.



### 2025-26 GSLS Reenrollment Begins January 1st

On January 1, 2025 continuous enrollment begins for all students in Preschool-Grade 7. Your family and student information from this school year will be rolled over into the upcoming school year. Please DO NOT create a new application. You will receive an email from Mr. Mayhew today stating the ReEnrollment Timeline, fees and tuition for the 2025-26 school year.

### ATTENTION PARENTS

**Important directions for you - sign into your FACTS Family Portal**, on the lefthand side click "Family", then click "Family Home". Under your photo at the bottom of the page you will see a box titled, "Online Filing Cabinet". Click "Family Demographic Form" to update addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, financial information and to choose the required (2) volunteer options.

**Also note, should you choose not to re-enroll your student(s), you must notify the school no later than January 17th to avoid the Non-Refundable fee being withdrawn from your account on January 20th.**

If you have any trouble logging in to your FACTS account/portal, please contact Mrs. Osborn in the office, 618-344-3153 or [josborn@gslcs.org](mailto:josborn@gslcs.org).

# Charger Headlines Continued...

## Pastor's Corner -

Advent is quickly coming to a close and Christmas is just around the corner. It is our prayer that this Christmas would be a joyous and festive occasion for you and your families. We hope that you are able to delight in the glorious truth that Jesus is God in the flesh for you and your salvation. If you do not have a church home to celebrate Christmas, you are always welcome to join us at any of our services. The Lord be with you over this Christmas break.



## End of 2nd Quarter

Today is the last day of the 2nd Quarter! Half way through the school year! Reports cards will be emailed to parents on Friday, January 10th.

## New Opportunity - Domino's Pizza

Beginning **Monday, January 6th**, every student will be given the opportunity to sell Domino's "Slice the Price" cards. The cards sell for \$20 each and allows you to buy a large pizza at menu price and get a large pizza FREE. Buy any amount of large pizzas, get the same amount FREE, mix and match, any type and flavors! Order in-app or online for carryout or delivery!



The card is good for one full year, and can be used as often as you like. Good Shepherd will receive \$10 for every \$20 card sold! Our goal is to raise \$7,000 which will be used to replace the school's ancient laminator! Sales incentives, order form and link to register online will all be spelled out for you to begin selling on our first day back to school - January 6, 2025.

## Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Collection

Thank you for generously filling the trees with warmth and love! Your donations will help many families feel they are



## Something to Consider...

The fourth candle (purple or blue) "CANDLE OF LOVE" signifies God and Christ's love. God demonstrated His love for mankind by sending His only Son to earth for our salvation.

Bible Verse: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him." (John 3:16-17)

The fifth candle (white) "CHRIST CANDLE" signifies the embodiment, the heart, and meaning of the season, God providing light to the world. Its position is in the center as Christ's light is center and luminous. This tells us that Jesus is the immaculate Lamb of God, sent to wash away our sins! (Wreaths with only 4 candles, have the Christ Candle among the ring of other candles)

Bible Verse: "But the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary; you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you are to call him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over Jacob's descendants forever; his kingdom will never end." (John 1:30-32)

**Blessings!**

**Robert Mayhew, Principal**



## In Our Prayers This Week

Each week the faculty prays for the students and their families. When we return in January we will be praying for Liam D., Kaleb G., Zoe G., Cooper I., Elle J., Prabhgun K., Meghan M., Caleb M., and Reeve M.

Please join us in prayer.

**The purpose of Good Shepherd Lutheran School is to provide each student with a quality Christian Education. We recognize that this begins with the premise that Jesus Christ is our Lord and Savior and in Him we have eternal life. The curriculum and all activities are developed around this premise.**

# Charger Headlines Continued...

## Young Authors

Students in 2nd, 4th, and 6th grade are required to participate in writing and illustrating a book as part of the Young Authors program. Kdg - 8th grade students are invited to get creative and also write a book. Books are due by February 9, 2024, unless otherwise stated by your child's teacher. Any questions may be directed to your student's teacher. Happy writing! (See flyer that follows for more details.)

## Annual Benefit Auction

The 2025 Annual Benefit Auction for Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be on **Saturday, March 29th**. While you are doing your Christmas shopping, you might want to consider a donation to the Auction. Keep reading to find a list of themes for each of the classrooms. A sponsorship/donation form is also attached. We appreciate your generosity and involvement!

## Gingerbread House

A warm thank you to everyone who helped make the Gingerbread House very special for the students! An extra special thank you to Rachel Pennington and Meagan Agne for their leadership and time.

If by chance you have received a damaged gift or are missing a piece to your gift, please contact the school office.

We would appreciate it if you will return any cloth bag your child brought home so we can reuse next year. Also, while doing your post-holiday shopping, donations of tissue paper and tape would be appreciated. Both may be brought to the school office. Thank you in advance!



## Scrip/Charger Bucks

**Now is the time** to purchase gift cards through the Scrip/Charger Bucks program! It's an **easy way to get last minute gifts or stocking stuffers and** earn tuition credits for your family. Whether you buy gift cards as presents or stocking stuffers or use them to buy gifts, you immediately earn on every order! The [RaiseRight app](#) makes it easy. Over 700 stores and restaurants to choose from. Gift cards will also be available for purchase in the connector hallway before and after Sunday School on Sunday, December 22nd.

## FRIENDZY

January's unit is titled, "I Am Brave". During this unit we will be discussing what it looks like to be brave when facing challenging circumstances in life. We also will be teaching the students what it means to have courage. "Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong."-1 Corinthians 16:13 Look for more information when we return from break.

# K-8 Tuition Assistance

**Step 1:** Complete application online through FACTS

- <https://online.factsmgt.com/grant-aid/inst/4FG82/landing-page>

**Step 2:** Submit payment for application (\$40)

**Step 3:** Submit **ALL 2024** tax documents by April 10

- Applicant & co-applicant must submit tax docs
- Taxes do not have to be filed, but must be prepared and uploaded to application

**Step 4: CHECK EMAIL**

- FACTS representatives will email if documentation is missing. Please respond as soon as possible and **check your junk folder** for FACTS emails.
- Tips on uploading a document can be found at [www.lesastl.org](http://www.lesastl.org)

## Required Documentation

- 2024—1040 Tax Form (page 1 & 2)
- 2024 W2
- Business Income docs
  - ⇒ Schedule 1—5, C, E, K, etc.
- Non-taxable docs
  - ⇒ Child support, SNAP, TANF, Social Security

## Do You Qualify?

1. If **at least 10% of income from 2024** is used to cover the cost of a child/children's Lutheran K-8 **net tuition**
2. Child/children must be enrolled at the school by April 30 to be eligible for a scholarship during the May awards

## Questions???

FACTS Parent Line: 1.866.315.9262

LESA Office: 314.200.0790

Email: [mgersman@lesastl.org](mailto:mgersman@lesastl.org)

Website: [lesastl.org](http://lesastl.org)

# Deadline: April 10, 2025

Lutheran Elementary School Association (LESA)

LESA equips Lutheran schools, families, and communities with resources to expand God's Kingdom.



**Good Shepherd students are invited to showcase their literary talents at the 34th Annual Young Authors' Conference, hosted by the Regional Office of Education of Madison County. This prestigious event celebrates our young writers while supporting educators in enhancing students' reading and writing skills. Students won't want to miss this chance to join fellow authors, share their creativity, and be recognized for their literary achievements!**

### **About the Conferences**

- Manuscripts are not judged at the conferences
- Children enjoy the writings of others
- Students meet "real" authors
- Limited number of attendees: 5 for the district conference, up to 2 for the state conference
- All submitted manuscripts will be displayed at Good Shepherd
- Student recognition given during chapel for all participants

### **Parent Involvement**

Parents can encourage their children by:

- Helping brainstorm ideas from experiential background
- Assisting in expressing ideas in writing (especially younger children)
- Suggesting ideas for illustrations, story content, and book jackets
- Being enthusiastic!

### **What Can Children Write?**

- Creative short stories
- Collection of original poetry
- Rewritten stories
- "Polished" stories from school assignments or journals

### **Manuscript Requirements**

- Jacket of substantial quality with secure pages
- Jacket illustration, title, and author's name
- Title page with book title, author, fictitious publishing company, and copyright date
- Dedication page
- Three or more illustrations by the child (optional for grades 5-8)
- Dictated books may be typed or handwritten by an adult but in the student's language
- Optional author's page about the student

**Manuscript Due Date: January 21, 2025**

# Theme Class Baskets



## ✧ PK3 – Family Game Night

- Ideas: Board games, Puzzles, Snacks, Scoreboard

## ✧ PK4 – Family Fun Day Basket

- Ideas: gift cards to local attractions: Edisons, Trampoline Park, Childrens Museums, Magic House, City Museum, Top Golf,
- Parents can chip in together for larger quantity gift cards.

## ✧ K – Outdoor Yard Games

- Ideas: Ladder Toss, Bocce Ball, Washers, Croquet, Giant Jenga, and many more
- Parents can chip in together for corn hole set or a basketball hoop.

## ✧ 1 – Sourdough Starter Kit Basket

- Ideas: Food scale, mixing bowls, special whisking tool, proofing bowls, warmer pad, aprons, mason jars, oils, jams, recipe,
- Parents can chip in together to buy a proofing box.

## ✧ 2 – Coffee Basket

- Ideas: Mugs, Coffee, Syrups, Local Coffee Gift Cards, Coffee scented candles, graphic coffee T-shirt (example: but first coffee...), etc.

## ✧ 3 – Summer/Grill Theme Basket

- Ideas: Beach towels, bubbles, Chalk, Water bottles, grilling accessories, tiki theme stuff, summer décor
- Parents can chip in together for a Yeti Cooler or Grill.

## ✧ 4 – Dinner Date Night Basket

- Ideas: Restaurant Gift Cards; Weekly Menu Board

## ✧ 5 – Spa / Wellness Basket

- Ideas: Bath salts/bombs, yoga mat, candles, journal, water bottle, small weights
- Parents can chip in together for a massage gift card.

## ✧ 6 – Book Lover's Basket

- Ideas: subscription, gift cards, book light, books, gift cards
- Parents can chip in together for Kindle.

## ✧ 7 – Local Sports Basket

- Ideas: Cardinals, Blues, City, Mizzou, Illini: apparel, gadgets, tumblers, etc.
- Parents can chip in together for box tickets to a sporting event.

## ✧ 8 – Outdoor Oasis Basket

- Ideas: outdoor rugs or pillows, string outdoor lights, potted plants,
- Parents can chip in together for a hammock or water fountain display.

# GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL ANNUAL AUCTION



March 29, 2025

**WE INVITE YOU TO HELP SUPPORT OUR CAUSE AND CHILDREN WE SERVE BY CONTRIBUTING TOWARD THE GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL(GSLs) AUCTION.**

The purpose of GSLs is to provide each student with a quality Christian education, to see that each child develops to the fullest of his/her capabilities.

Proceeds from this year's auction will go towards updating the school's security camera system. Currently, the school has analog cameras, but would like to upgrade those to new IP cameras that will offer higher resolution and advanced features. The school would also like to add additional cameras to the school campus.

**COMPLETE FORM AND RETURN TO THE SCHOOL BEFORE MARCH 1, 2025**

NAME / BUSINESS NAME:
DONATION DESCRIPTION OR SPONSORSHIP LEVEL:
VALUE OF DONATION:

## How Can You Help?

### Donating Items

Item Ideas Include:

- Basket of Goods
- Gift Cards
- Services: Tastings, Sports or Entertainment Tickets, Trips

### Cash Sponsorships

#### \$300 Gold Level:

- **2 Admission tickets to the auction in March**
- Full page ad in event program\*
- 1 month of your business logo in the weekly school newsletter
- 1 yard sign placed on the school lawn for 1 month.

#### \$150 Silver Level:

- Half page ad in event program\*
- Social media shoutout on both school Facebook pages
- Name on table at the event

#### \$75 Bronze Level:

- Business card or business logo in event program
- Social media shoutout on both school Facebook pages

\*Additional \$50 if you would like for us to create an ad for you.

TAX ID: #37-0841452

Donated Items/Checks can be mailed to: Good Shepherd Lutheran School, 1300 Beltline Rd, Collinsville, IL 62234  
Email business ad/logo to: Michelle at [Matuszewski.michelle@gmail.com](mailto:Matuszewski.michelle@gmail.com)

# Earn More With Holiday 2024

Shop holiday gifts for everyone on your list while earning for your cause at the same time—fundraising doesn't get easier than that! Whether you give gift cards as presents or use them for your holiday shopping, each card you buy gives back to the cause you care about.

## Find Giftspiration With the 2024 Holiday Gift Guide

Find great gifting brands, use the holiday shopping list, and much more.

Get the guide at  
[RaiseRight.com/Resources/HolidayGuide](https://RaiseRight.com/Resources/HolidayGuide)



OR SCAN THE CODE

## eGift Cards Make Great Gifts Too

Running out of time or no physical gift card option available? Print an eGift card or send via email with a personalized message for convenient delivery.

## Shop Limited-Time \$5 & \$10 Cards

The perfect small gift or stocking stuffer for that special someone. Shop the \$10 & Under Gift Cards category.

## Get started with a RaiseRight account

Follow the easy steps to get started at [RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning](https://RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning). Check with your program coordinator to get your organization's unique enrollment code.

Shop 750+ brands on the RaiseRight mobile app or at [RaiseRight.com](https://RaiseRight.com).



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