



Good Shepherd Charger News

"In His Hands" Isaiah 49:16

All School Newsletter
December 6, 2024

Charger Headlines...

Calendar of Events

Friday, December 6-8

- Girls Basketball A Team @ MELHS auxiliary gym 7:45 pm vs. Trinity Edwardsville in Trinity Tourney

Saturday, December 7

- Band plays in Collinsville Light Up Parade 5:30 p.m., meet @ 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 8

- Volunteers needed to set up chairs for Christmas Concert 11:30 a.m. in church
- Girls Basketball A Team @ Trinity Tourney
- Preschool Concert: Mrs. Hill & Mrs. Klaas - 1:00 p.m. in church
- Preschool Concert: Mrs. Nobbe & Mrs. North 2:00 p.m. in church
- Kindergarten Christmas Concert 3:00 pm
- 1st & 2nd Gr. Christmas Concert, 4:00 pm
- 3rd & 4th Gr. Christmas Concert & 4th Gr Beginning Band 5:00 p.m.
- 5th-8th Gr. Choirs & Band 6:00 pm

Tuesday, December 10

- Girls Basketball AC @ Dupo 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 12

- Chapel Service 8:25 a.m. (Gr 2-8)
Chapel Service 8:55 a.m. (ECC-Gr1)
- Boys Basketball AC Home vs Staunton 6:00

Friday, December 13

- GSLS Theme T-shirt day
- Boys Basketball A Team Green Park Tournament - TBA
- Girls Basketball C @ Zion Litchfield 6:00 pm
- Boys Basketball C @ Zion Litchfield 7:00 pm

For more information:
gslcs.org/calendars



School Christmas Concerts

Every student will be participating in a Christmas Concert at Good Shepherd on **Sunday, December 8th, 2024**. Students may dress in nice dress clothes of any color, school clothes, or more formal attire of choice, no t-shirts or jeans. Doors open 30 minutes before each concert. Students should meet in the school cafeteria 15 min. prior to their concert time. All concerts are held in the church. Enter through the church doors. School doors will be locked.

1 PM 3's (Hill, Klaas)

2 PM 4's (Nobbe, North)

3 PM Kindergarten (Krause, Sengele')

4 PM 1st and 2nd Grade (Nehrt, Robinson, Cross, Strocher)

5 PM 3rd and 4th Grade includes 4th Grade Beginning Band (Clayton, Gruben, Batty, Tennyson)

6 PM 5th, 6th, 7th, 8th Grades including 5-8th Grade Band (Dhuse, Rebbe, Lingel, Maske, Hasamear, Hulse, Krueger)

Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Collection

Please consider sharing the warmth of Christ's love by donating new hats, scarves, mittens or gloves to the homeless in our area. **Donations may be brought to school NOW through Wednesday, December 18th.**

That's only 8 more school days left to add your gifts to the Christmas trees either in the ECC or School entrance! Thank you for your generosity!



Gingerbread House

December 17th and 18th students will get to shop at the Gingerbread House for the special people in their lives. The students get sooooo excited when they come back with their bag full of gifts. We need your help! Please plan to volunteer for an hour or two to help wrap and shop. The sign up link includes the classes and shopping times and can be found here: <https://signup.com/go/sWqrpMf>



Any questions, please reach out to Rachel Pennington in the church office at churchoffice@gslcs.org or call 618-344-3151. Thank you for helping us make this a special time for our students. **Also donations of tissue paper** for the gift bags and for wrapping larger gifts would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the school office. Lots of tissue paper is needed. Thank you!

Charger Headlines Continued...

Pastor's Corner

No one enjoys waiting. Very few of us are very good at having to wait for anything. Our lives though are full of waiting on various things. This Sunday we will hear about how Jesus wants us to wait for Him and His second coming. Join us as we learn what it means to "Stay awake!" And don't forget that we have our midweek Advent services (4:30pm and 6:30pm) and dinner (5:30pm) as well.



Alumni Night

Friday, December 20th 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! The band will play and will include any alum or family who wants to join them. All will be recognized during half time of the "A" Game. High school freshmen are encouraged to call the office 618-344-3153 or email ncluck@gslcs.org if you plan to attend.

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!

Collinsville Light Up Parade

Come support our **school band** who will be marching in the Collinsville Light Up Parade **tomorrow, Saturday December 10th**, beginning at 5:30 p.m. This year's theme is: Christmas Stories. For more info on all the activities, see the city's event page - <https://www.collinsvilleil.org/departments/parks-recreation/activities-events/christmas-at-collins-house-and-light-up-parade>



In Our Prayers This Week

Each week this school year, the faculty will be praying for the students and their families. Next week we will be praying for Reed A., Matthew B., Jasper B., Coco C., Adelyn C., Alison C., Ira G., Demi G., Cheryl H., Aubin H., Hudson H., and Maddie K. Please join us in prayer.

Something to Consider...

Advent season is a time to reflect on the coming Savior, Jesus Christ. Traditions such as an advent calendar and lighting the advent wreath candles are beautiful reminders of God's gift of salvation through the birth of Jesus Christ.

'Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him.' - Luke 3:4

"But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father." Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir." - Galatians 4:4-8

Blessings!

Robert Mayhew, Principal

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...

MELHS

Metro-East Lutheran High School is now accepting applications for new students for the 2025-2026 school year. Apply online by clicking on the "Admissions" tab on our website at melhs.org. For more information, email admissions@melhs.org. Apply today for your student to be a part of our growing school community!



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 following for all the details.)

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". This will prove extremely helpful if you have not applied in the past. You can sign up for a timeslot in January. Watch for the sign-up link in the January school newsletter.

Charger Bucks - Scrip Program

It's that time of year...gift giving to special people in your life: family, friends, coworkers, teachers, employees, and many others just to say thank you! Check out [RaiseRight.com](https://www.raise-right.com) and sign up to start purchasing gift cards and earn tuition credits for your family!

Gift cards will be available for purchase in the connector hallway before and after Sunday School on December 8th, 15th, 22nd.



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. Kindergarten through 8th grade students are invited to get creative and also write a book. Books are due by **Tuesday, January 21, 2025**, 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.)

GSLS Chargerwear

Good Shepherd Charger Sweatshirts are for sale in the school office! Get yours today in maroon or gray in youth and adult sizes, including XL, 2XL and 3XL. They make great Christmas gifts. (\$21.00) Also available are stocking caps, ball caps, drawstring bags, and some t-shirts and fleecewear!



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



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.

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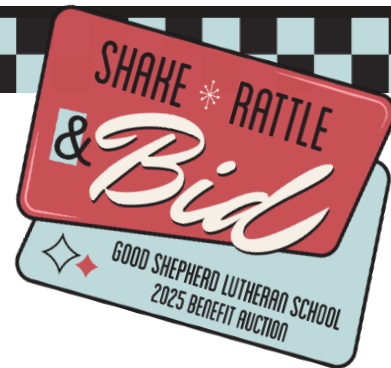
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Theme Class Baskets



✧ **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

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

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

Website: 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