



# Good Shepherd Charger News

“Here I Stand”

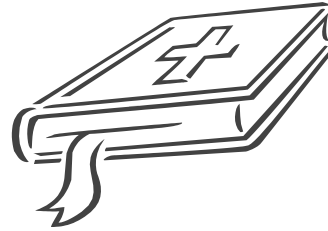
1 Corinthians 16:13

## Something to Consider:

Jesus said to them, “Take care!  
Be on your guard  
against all kinds of greed;  
for one’s life does not consist in  
the abundance of possessions.”  
Luke 12:5

Money is an important tool. It helps you feed and clothe your family, as well as afford a night out every now and then. But, it’s just a tool. Falling in love with it would be as foolish as becoming

infatuated with your lawn furniture. Keeping your spending under control is a sign that you and money have an appropriate relationship. Your budget shows where your true priorities lie. If a large portion of your monthly income is spent entertaining yourself or purchasing wants instead of needs, it’s time to ask God and perhaps a financial planner for help. Using your



finances wisely not only honors God, it also encourages you to keep your eyes on those things that really matter.

## Charger Headlines:

### National Lutheran School Week

Good Shepherd will join other Lutheran schools from across the nation and world in celebrating National Lutheran Schools Week, “Yesterday, Today, and Forever!” January 20th – 26th.

\*The GSLS faculty, choirs and instrumentalists will sing and play during the weekend church services on Jan. 20 & 21.

\*Daily Devotions—The entire school will have devotions Mon.-Wed. & Fri., in the gym 8:25-9:00am. Parents are welcome to join us for the devotions and also for Chapel on Thurs. at 8:25am.

\*On Dress Up Days please keep in mind that we will have a normal school day, so outfits must be play friendly for recess.

\*Milk & Munchies with Parent 7:45-8:00am in the cafeteria each day. See the schedule with the letter of your last name each day next week Monday—Thursday:

Letters A-D on Monday, Jan. 22.  
Letters E-K on Tuesday, Jan 23  
Letters L-R on Wed., Jan 24  
Letters S-Z on Thurs, Jan 25  
Students must be with a parent to attend.

Preschool parents may choose a day that your child attends  
**Monday, Jan. 22 “Match Your Hat Day”**...Students dress in a way that matches the hat they choose to wear that day ... ie. cowboy, baseball player, surgeon, farmer, etc.

\*GSLS Science Fair Night in the gym 6:30-8:00pm ... science exhibits from many grade levels along with the FLL and Jr. FLL  
**Tuesday, Jan. 23 “Comfy Cozy Day”**...Students dress in comfortable clothing, pj’s, sweats, etc.  
\*Esther the Comfort Dog mini-assembly in the gym following the opening devotions.

\*MAD SCIENCE assembly in the gym from 2:00 - 2:45pm. You are welcome to join us.

**Wednesday, Jan. 24 “Favorite COLOR Day”**...Students dress from HEAD to TOE in your favorite COLOR!

\*Classroom buddies will be painting faith rocks to be distributed in the neighborhood.

**Thursday, Jan. 25 “Dress Up Day”**...Students dress in their very BEST clothing today to honor God with our BEST!

\*SPELLING BEE in the church sanctuary: Grades 1-4 9:10am  
Grades 5-8 10:30am

**Friday, Jan. 26 “Lutheran School Spirit Day”**... dress in their G.S.L.S., M.E.L.H.S., or Concordia University attire.

\*Faculty vs. 8th grade volleyball game at 2:00pm in the gym.  
\*The GSLS Spelling Bee is Thursday, January 25th after Chapel. Gr. 1-4 9:10am  
Gr. 5-8 10:30am

It will be a busy week - but Lutheran Schools are worth celebrating!

Twenty-first Edition  
January 19, 2018

1300 Beltline  
Collinsville, IL 62234  
618-344-3153

### A Look Ahead

#### Saturday, January 20

-Boys Pee Wee Basketball 8:00am  
-GSLS Resale Shop 9:00am-Noon in the Cafeteria  
-NLSW, Faculty Sing for Worship at 5:30pm

#### Sunday, January 21

-7th and 8th Grade Choir 8:00am  
-Seraphim Choir 10:30am  
-NLSW, Faculty to Sing 8:00am & 10:30am Services  
-New Enrollment Open House 1:00-3:00pm

#### Monday, January 22

-Charger Bucks—Scrip Orders Due by 9:00am  
-National Lutheran Schools Week  
-“Match Your Hat Day”  
-A-D Milk & Munchies w Parents  
-Science Fair Night 6:30-8:00pm

#### Tuesday, Jan. 23

-“Comfy Cozy Day”.  
-E-K Milk & Munchies w Parents  
-Boys A Basketball SIJHSAA Regional at Aviston 6:30pm  
-Girls B Basketball at Bethalto 6:30pm

#### Wednesday, Jan. 24

-“Favorite Color Day”  
-L-R Milk & Munchies w Parents

#### Thursday January 25

-Chapel 8:25am  
-“Dress your BEST Day”  
-S-Z Milk & Munchies w Parents  
-GSLS Spelling Bee  
Gr. 1-4 9:10am; Gr. 5-8 10:30am  
-Boys C Basketball at Prairietown Tournament 6:30pm  
-Girls AC Basketball Home vs Edwardsville 6:30pm, Band

#### Friday, January 26

-“School Spirit Day”



# Charger Headlines Continues...

## Charger Bucks - Scrip

Weekly orders will be on January 22nd & 29th; February 5th, 12th, & 26th.

## Open House

Sunday, January 21st, we will be hosting an Open House for prospective new students from 1 - 3pm. Please invite your neighbors, family and friends who may be looking for a great Christian education for their child.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Lars G. and Megan H.! This Fall, these two eighth grade students had their essays submitted in the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest. This is a VFW-sponsored competition that gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. The 2017-2018 theme was "America's Gift to My Generation". Both Lars and Megan's essays were selected out of all the other local schools' submissions. Megan was awarded second place and Lars was awarded first place. Lars' essay went on to the next level of judging, where it was awarded third place out of all the other VFW post winners! Good Shepherd is proud of these students for using their God-giving talents!

## Winter Sports Pictures

Remember to wear your uniforms for the winter sports pictures which will be taken before school Friday, February 2nd.

## Spring Pictures

Spring Pictures are scheduled for Thursday,

February 1st for ECC and Friday, February 2nd for Kdg. - Grade 8. Picture selection forms were sent home. Choose from poses on the selection form and bring it to school on Picture Day. Students will have an option of dressing up nicer than our standardized dress policy this day. The expectation for dress for that day is our standardized dress or better.

T-shirts, jeans, jean shirts, cargo pants, etc. will not be allowed. All choices must still fit within our dress code guidelines (i.e., length, modesty, etc.).

Look before you buy. Send no money now! Your pictures will be sent home for your review. Any uncut portrait sheets should be returned with your payment.

## Open Enrollment 2018-2019 School Year

Registration is now open for new and returning families. We urge you to please register NOW! Early registration will assure your student's placement and is vital to our ability to plan staff and materials for the upcoming year. The registration fee for: Kdg.—8th grade is \$220 Pre-School is \$100.00. Please note that for returning families enrolling by February 10th ONLY, the pre-registration fees can be split into 1 to 4 monthly payments. It is important to note that enrollment must be complete, non-refundable registration fee paid in full and tuition agreement submitted to secure your student's priority status for classroom place-

ment.

## First Lego League Update

Our FIRST teams have enjoyed a short break after working hard on this year's challenge...Hydro Dynamics. On Dec 9th our 2 FLL teams, (The Flying Ducks and The LEGO Wyverns) competed in the area's FIRST LEGO League challenge in Troy. Both teams did a great job! We plan to spend the rest of the school year reviewing the feedback we received from the judges and preparing for next year's challenge. In the meantime, the teams will have their robots on display at the Science Fair. If you'd like to see what they've built, or if you want to talk to any of us about the program, be sure to stop by!

## Schnucks Bags 4 My Cause

Don't forget to visit the Schnucks store at the 501 Belt Line Rd., Collinsville before the end of the month and purchase the Giving Bag! Every bag purchase generates a \$1 donation to Good Shepherd Lutheran School.

From Jan. 1-15, 26 bags have been bought. The giving bag(s) sold equals to a \$26.00 donation to GSLS so far!

## Thank You

The Drive 4 UR School Program was very successful with a \$1,720.00 profit. Thank you to Natalie and Jacky Burton for setting up this Ford fundraiser to benefit Good Shepherd Lutheran School.

## In Our Prayers this Week:

Each week this school year, the faculty will be praying for the school families. Please

remember these and others in your prayers. The families of Mrs. Pritchard's homeroom:

Andrew L., Grace P., Aidan P., Kaitlyn P., Serena P.

## Auction Up-dates

### Shopping for Auctions Donations

When out shopping, please keep the Good Shepherd Lutheran School Benefit Auction in mind. Many of those deals would make great auction donations.

### Auction Volunteers Needed

GSLS Auction is scheduled on Saturday, March 17th to be held on campus. Volunteers are needed to help make this a great auction. Remember, if you can only do a small amount, that is valuable and

needed! Please contact the school office.

### Auction Donations

Yes! YOU can get involved by donating an item or service or attending the Good Shepherd Lutheran School Auction.

Everyone should be given the opportunity to contribute to this annual fundraiser. Your individual participation is needed for this event to succeed! Please participate for our students!

### Homeroom Basket Themes

3 Yr. Old PK Arts & Crafts for Kids

4 Yr. Old PK

Kindergarten

1st Grade

2nd Grade

3rd Grade

4th Grade

5th Grade

6th Grade

Mrs. Hasamear's Jr. H. Spa Day

Mr. Rinker's Jr. H. Restaurant Basket

We Love Our Pets

Lego Boys & Lego Girls

In the Garden

Summer Time Fun

Games & Puzzles

Let's Go Camping

Get Grilling

Family Movie Night

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.

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# Honor Roll

## High Honor Roll with Distinction

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Matthew H., Megan H., MaryAnn R., Anna R., Garrett S., Sydney S., Jenae W.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Elliot J., Elizabeth M., Jake W.

## High Honor Roll

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Lars G., Khushi J., Alice K., Claire L., Trevor P., Maggie S.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Lillie C., Eli G., Jordan G., Abigail G., Megan J., Kathleen M., Samuel S., Sophia T., Gavin T.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Katherine B., Adam B., Troy C., Grace C., Alex H., Emma H., Olivia J., Douglas K., Alexander L., Logan M., Harrison M., Morgan O., Clara R., Nyah R., Davin R., Meghan S., Nathan S.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Danielle C., Rebekah D., Joseph F., Carter H., Emma H., Thomas H., Kate J., Evan K., Jacob K., Savannah L., Addie L., Catrina L., Andrew M., Jack P., Drake P., Timothy R., Ryder R., Lucas R., Olivia S., Evan W., Chloe W., Madelyn Z.

## Honor Roll

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Emma B., Kyle C., Carson C., Autumn D., Madelyn G., Eli L., Beau S., Carmen S. Logan W.

**7<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Jakob F., Kasondra M., Jacob M., Elliott W.

**6<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Emily P.

**5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Augustus J., Tannan N., Connor P., Kade S., Ryan S.

# Retreads...

## Thank You for the Many Gifts

“Thank You” from the school office for the many gracious gifts, goodies, and cards that were received. Your thoughtfulness is truly appreciated!

## Prospective Student Open House

Good Shepherd Lutheran School announces that it will hold open houses on Sunday, January 21st, February 25th, and March 18th from 1-3 p.m. for Pre-Kindergarten—grade 8.

These events will focus on touring the facility and meeting with the teachers. This would be a great time for families to find out about a Christian education. Invite your friends/neighbors to attend this Open House to help promote the 2018-19 school year.

## Tax Credits For Non-public Schools

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

The State of Illinois passed a comprehensive education funding bill this past August 2017 that was signed into law. The law includes a provision for tax credit scholarships—a 75% income tax credit to individuals and businesses—supporting non-public school scholarships for low-income students in the state. Illinois students from low-income families may use these new scholarships to attend a non-public school of their choice.

\* Donors must apply for the credit via an application process that opens at midnight January 2, 2018; credits are issued on a first come, first served basis.

\* Individual donors can designate that their donation be used to support scholarships at

a specific school.

We encourage you to begin the process starting January 2, 2018. If you know of a corporation which may be interested, please notify your school.

See the attached flier for more information.

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScMmD4YPO-wghIgbNDF1C\\_dFk\\_MB0xGiZwKiFRFyE88X0jmQ/formResponse](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScMmD4YPO-wghIgbNDF1C_dFk_MB0xGiZwKiFRFyE88X0jmQ/formResponse)

## GSLs Resale Shop

Mark your calendar for the GSLs Uniform Resale Shop that will be held on Saturday, January 20th from 9:00am to noon at GSLs. We are looking for volunteers to help with the event, donate standardized dress-clothing, and of course shoppers! Please contact Mrs. Rayburn at 618-520-9948 with questions or if you can volunteer to help.

## Box Tops and Labels

Mrs. Krause's Kindergarten-1 class has won December's Box Tops and Labels Collection! The winning class for the Box Tops and Labels program contest for the month of December is Mrs. Krause's (K-1). Mrs. Krause's students collected 1,494 box tops and labels with an average of 83 per student. We ended November with a total of 8,078 box tops and labels and added 2,831 more in December, for a total of 10,909 box tops and labels collected for the 2017-2018 school year.

We no longer can accept any Campbell's Labels for Education. Unfortunately, the Campbell's program has been discontinued. The next collection date for the Box Tops

for Education will be Tuesday, January 30th. Please continue to collect as many Box Tops to help support our wonderful school!

## Team Up With Teachers

Partnership is essential in educating children. It's not easy to hear bad news from teachers, such as “Your child is misbehaving in class”. But, try to keep a positive attitude. Ask for specifics. The problem may not be too serious. With team work, your family and the teacher can probably solve it.

## GSLs Change Drive

The Good Shepherd Lutheran School Change Drive was held Monday, January 8th through Friday, January 19th. The money collected will benefit our school auction.

## Schnucks Bags 4 My Cause

We have some very exciting news! Good Shepherd has been chosen by Schnucks located on Belt Line Rd., Collinsville, as the latest beneficiary of the Schnucks – Bags 4 My Cause program! During the entire month of January 2018, every time the reusable Giving bag with the message “Giving is in the Bag” is purchased at the Schnucks on Belt Line Rd., GSLs will receive \$1!

This is truly a great opportunity for us to be chosen! Please go to the store, find the reusable bag rack and buy a few. Giving bags in support of Good Shepherd Lutheran School. And remember to spread the word – the more bags purchased, the bigger donation to GSLs. For more information about the Schnucks – Bags 4 My Cause program visit [schnucks.bags4mycause.com](http://schnucks.bags4mycause.com).

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### Mid-Month Sales Flash!

We are excited to announce the  
Schnucks - Bags 4 My Cause sales so far!

From 1/1/18 through 1/15/18,  
~ 26 bags have been bought~  
Giving bag(s) sold which equals a  
A \$26.00 donation to Good Shepherd Lutheran School so far!

Don't forget to visit the Schnucks store at the 501 Belt Line Rd., Collinsville  
location before the end of the month and purchase the Giving Bag!

Every bag purchase generates a \$1 donation to  
Good Shepherd Lutheran School



## Southern Illinois District—LCMS

2408 Lebanon Avenue, Belleville, Illinois 62221 (618-234-4767)

<http://sidlcms.org>

*Rev. Timothy J. Scharr, President*

*Rev. Dr. Alvin Kollmann, President Emeritus*

*Rev. Dr. Herbert C. Mueller, Jr., President Emeritus*

*Mr. Jeffrey Fick, Schools and General Executive*

LCMS Lutheran Schools in Illinois have the greatest opportunity in our time to plan and act in alignment with God's calling to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the children and families in our communities!

### **Tax Credits for Donations to Non-Public Schools**

The State of Illinois passed a comprehensive education funding bill this past August (2017) that was signed into law. The law includes a provision for tax credit scholarships – **a 75% income tax credit to individuals and businesses** – supporting non-public school scholarships for low-income students in the state. **Illinois students from low-income families may use these new scholarships to attend a non-public school of their choice.**

The basics of the program are as follows:

- Beginning in 2018, Illinois donor residents and corporations are eligible for a tax credit equal to 75% of donations made to a qualifying Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO), up to \$1 million.
- Donors must apply for the credit via an application process that opens at midnight on January 2, 2018; credits are issued on a first come, first served basis.
- Individual donors can designate that their donation be used to support scholarships at a specific school.
- Once approved for a tax credit, the donor must make their donation to the SGO within 60 days of their application date.

### **How Do I Make My Donation and Get My Credit?**

Empower Illinois, a statewide Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) was created in 2017 to serve Illinois children through the state's tax credit scholarship program. Empower Illinois connects Tax Credit Scholarship Donations to Illinois students whose education opportunities may be limited by household income.

1. Begin the process by registering/activating your account with [www.mytax.illinois.gov](http://www.mytax.illinois.gov).
2. An ID letter will arrive in the mail (can take up to 10 business days). Sign-up/activate your [www.mytax.illinois.gov](http://www.mytax.illinois.gov) account.
3. Reserve your tax credit beginning January 2, 2018. The opportunity will be on a first-come, first served basis. You are encouraged to reserve yours as soon as possible.
4. Once credit has been reserved, you have 60 days to make your donation Empower Illinois at [www.EmpowerIllinois.org](http://www.EmpowerIllinois.org). Do not send your donation directly to the school.
5. Claim your tax credit when you file your 2018 Illinois State Taxes.

We encourage you to begin the process as soon as possible as donations can first be made starting January 2, 2018. If you know of a corporation which may be interested in this program, please notify your school leader. To learn more about how the State Tax Credit program works, please talk with your school leader or speak with Mr. Jeffrey Fick at the Southern Illinois District Office - LCMS. 618-234-4767 or email: [sidlcmsmessage@gmail.org](mailto:sidlcmsmessage@gmail.org).

# STUDENTS: HOW TO APPLY FOR A TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP

FAMILIES OF K-12 STUDENTS CAN APPLY FOR SCHOLARSHIPS BEGINNING JANUARY 24, 2018.

The Tax Credit Scholarship will cover up to 100% of private school tuition up to a maximum of the average Illinois cost to educate, which is roughly \$13,000.

Students with unique learning needs, including those who are gifted, English language learners, or those with special education qualifications, will receive larger scholarships — up to double— roughly \$26,000.

Tax Credit Scholarships are need based and do not take academic performance into consideration.

## THE PROCESS

**01.** Families submit a complete application. See below for what an application requires.

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**02.** Families are notified of their application status.

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**03.** Students begin school admission and enrollment process.\*

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**04.** Scholarship award notifications are sent to families beginning in February and continue until available funds are used.

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**05.** Funds will be distributed to schools at the start of the 2018-2019 school year. Empower Illinois will work directly with schools and organizations to distribute funds.

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- The school admission process is separate from the scholarship process. A scholarship does not guarantee admittance.

## APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- A copy of your family's 2016 federal tax return. If the family did not file a 2016 tax return, please contact us at [info@empowerillinois.org](mailto:info@empowerillinois.org)
- Proof of Illinois residency, such as:
  - Current utility bill
  - Current driver license
- Documentation of the student's age, such as:
  - A copy of the student's birth certificate
  - Federal or State ID
  - A passport
- If available, a letter of acceptance or enrollment at an eligible, participating, non-public school.

[empowerillinois.org](http://empowerillinois.org)

A proud participant in the



Scholarship Granting Organization

# ABOUT THE TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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## INVEST IN KIDS ACT.

Illinois enacted the Invest In Kids Scholarship Tax Credit Program in 2017. This program offers a 75 percent income tax credit to individuals and businesses that contribute to qualified Scholarship Granting Organizations (SGOs). The SGOs then provide scholarships for students whose families meet the income requirements to attend qualified, non-public schools in Illinois.

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## TAX CREDIT SCHOLARSHIPS.

The Tax Credit Scholarship will cover up to 100% of private school tuition up to a maximum of the average Illinois cost to educate which is roughly \$13,000.

Students with unique learning needs, including those who are gifted, English language learners, or those with special education qualifications, will receive larger scholarships — up to double— roughly \$26,000. Key information about the program and donating to these scholarships can be found below.

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## EMPOWER ILLINOIS.

Empower Illinois is an independent 501(c)(3) non-profit SGO responsible for serving approximately 80% of participating private schools statewide; including all of Illinois' Catholic Dioceses, most area Jewish schools, Lutheran Schools, secular schools and many more. Empower Illinois is responsible for:

- Processing donations from individuals and corporations;
- Accepting scholarship applications from students/families; and
- Distributing scholarships to eligible students/families in accordance with the law.

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## TAX CREDITS.

Individual and corporate donors may receive a credit for their Illinois state taxes equal to 75 percent of donations to an SGO.

- A taxpayer donates \$10,000 to an SGO; they are eligible to claim a \$7,500 tax credit on their 2018 taxes.

Tax credits are capped at \$1 million per taxpayer per year; a donor can contribute about \$1.33 million to receive the maximum tax credit allowed. Donors cannot receive a federal deduction for gifts made through this program, but the net tax benefit to all donors is expected to be greater than ordinary charitable donations of an equal amount. Total tax credits are capped at \$75 million per year statewide, which equates to \$100 million in donations and scholarships. Please consult a tax professional to determine how such gifts will affect tax liability.

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## DESIGNATING DONATIONS.

Individuals may direct their donations to a particular school or subset of schools, but not to an individual student or group of students. Corporate donors cannot designate their donations to a particular school.

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## DONATION PROCESS.

Donors can begin the process by registering with [mytax.illinois.gov](http://mytax.illinois.gov). After the registration process, which can take up to 10 business days, donors will be ready to reserve their tax credit beginning January 2 on a first-come, first served basis. When reserving their tax credit, donors should select Empower Illinois as the Scholarship Granting Organization. Once their credit has been reserved, they have 60 days to make their donation to an SGO.

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## SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY.

To be considered for a 2018-2019 scholarship, K-12 students must come from a household with income below 300 percent of the federal poverty level (\$73,800 for family of four). Prior to April 1, priority will be given to:

- Students from households below 185 percent of the federal poverty level (\$45,510 for family of four)
- Students who reside in a "focus district" (low-performing public schools)



# SAVE THE DATE

34th Annual GSLS Benefit Auction

March 17, 2018

Doors open at 5:30pm

Silent Auction, Dinner, Live Auction

Come for food, fundraising, and fellowship!

\$30/person

