



# Good Shepherd Charger News

"CHOSEN" 1 Peter 12:9-10

All School Newsletter  
December 9, 2022

## Charger Headlines...

### Calendar of Events

#### Friday, December 9

- Girls Basketball AC @ Trinity  
Edwardsville 6:00 p.m.

#### Monday, December 12

- Girls Basketball AC @ Unity ESTL,  
Jackie Joyner Kersey Gym 6:00 p.m.

#### Tuesday, December 13

- Boys Basketball AD @ Unity, Jackie  
Joyner Kersee Center 6:00 p.m.

#### Thursday, December 15

- Chapel Service 8:25 a.m. (Gr 2-8)  
- Chapel Service 8:50 a.m. (ECC-Gr. 1)  
- Girls Basketball AC @ Zion Belleville  
6:00 p.m.

#### Friday, December 16

- End of 2nd Quarter

#### Friday & Saturday, December 16-17

- Boys Basketball A Team Green Park,  
St. Louis, MO Tournament 5:15 p.m.

#### Monday, December 19-Monday, January 2

- No School, Christmas Break

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



### HAT, SCARF, AND MITTEN TREES

Friday, December 16th is the LAST DAY to bring in hats, scarves and mittens/gloves for those children in our area needing warm clothes. Please be generous in helping keep others warm this winter.



### ABSENCES

When a child misses in-class instruction and then does the make-up work, he is not getting the same level of learning. Research shows that missing school impacts a student's ability to reach essential learning milestones. Please review the Parent Pages article following the newsletter to learn more on how to help your child.

### FLU SEASON

Please continue to be vigilant with your efforts to avoid the spread of germs. Your child must stay home if they have a fever of 100.0° F (38° C) or higher. Wait at least 24 hours after the fever breaks and stabilizes without medication before sending your child back to school. We will call you to come pick up your child if their temperature is above 100°F or if vomiting has occurred while at school. You may want to have your child wear a mask if they have a cough. Below is a chart from BJC to help you know where to go should the flu hit your household.



stlchildrens

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### Know Where to Go: Flu (Influenza)



#### Mild symptoms

Cough, sore throat,  
runny nose, body aches,  
headaches, no-or-low fever



Stay home from work  
or school, hydrate, rest,  
and use over the  
counter medication

#### Mild to moderate symptoms

Coughing fits, sore  
throat, body aches,  
headaches, fever  
of 101° degrees  
or higher



Primary Care Physician  
or Pediatrician



Convenient Care



After Hours (Pediatric)



Virtual Care (ages 12+)

#### Severe symptoms

Difficulty breathing,  
sudden dizziness, severe vomiting or dehydration, high fever  
or fever higher than 100.4° for infants younger than 8 weeks



Emergency Room

# Charger Headlines Continued...

## PASTOR'S CORNER

Christmas Eve Service 4:00 p.m.  
Children's Christmas Service 5:30 p.m.  
Candlelight Communion Service 11:00 p.m.  
Christmas Communion Day Service 9:00 a.m.  
Midweek Service December 28th at 6:15 p.m.



## GIRLS BASKETBALL GAME RESCHEDULED

Girls AC Basketball @ Trinity Edwardsville scheduled for TONIGHT has been rescheduled to January 24th at 6:00 p.m.

## 2023-2024 SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Registration begins January 2, 2023! Scholarship applications for LESA's Building Blocks Assistance, Good Shepherd, and Empower Illinois will also be available January 2nd through FACTS. (See LESA's Scholarship Flyer following this newsletter.)

## #RTS CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Thank you to all of the school leaders, families, and supporters who called, wrote letters and visited Springfield to tell lawmakers about the importance of the Tax Credit Scholarship Program.



Hearing from their constituents has made all the difference in our continued efforts to #RemovetheSunset, and we look forward to continuing the fight during the Lame Duck session in January.

If you have not already done so, you can write to or call your legislator by clicking [here](#) and choosing either the letter or phone icon at the top of the page. Pre-written messages and scripts are provided. Thank you for your support!

## MELHS CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Metro-East Lutheran High School's music department will also present its annual Christmas concert at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 11th. All are invited to join us to enjoy festive and worshipful selections from our band, choir, strings ensemble, and choirchimes ensemble.



## In Our Prayers This Week

Each week the faculty will be praying for the students and their families. Next week we will be praying for Conner L., Dylan L., Olivia L., Joshua M., Ryan P., Brady R., and Calista S.

Please join us in prayer and thanksgiving.

## Something to Consider...

### The Greatest Encouragement

### How does God encourage me?

As soon as I pray, you answer me; you encourage me by giving me strength. Psalm 138:3

Joshua's strength and resolve might have weakened over the daunting task of leading all those people into a land of giants. So God prepared him, and the rest of the people, with specific words of encouragement. At times, we long for someone to come beside us, lift us up, and encourage us. How much better if that someone is God! Like Joshua, we don't find courage by looking within or by looking around at the circumstances, but by looking to our sovereign Lord. God encourages us by promising to fight our battles for us.

Blessings as you seek his encouragement!

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...

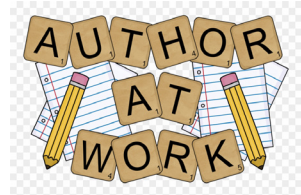
## GIFT CARDS

**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 rewards for your family and for GSLS.

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 150 stores and restaurants to choose from including McDonald's! **Gift cards will also be available for purchase in the connector hallway before and after Sunday School on Sunday, December 11th and 18th.**



## YOUNG AUTHORS BOOKS

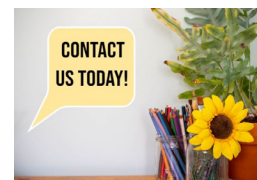


Students in 2nd, 4th, and 6th grade are required to participate in writing and illustrating a book as part of the Young Authors program. Kindergarten through 8th grade students are invited to get creative and also write a book. Books are due by January 31, 2023, unless otherwise stated by your child's teacher. Any questions may be directed to your student's teacher. Happy writing!

## SCHOOL STAFF OPENINGS

We are growing and are searching for great people to join our staff!

The **Preschool and TRACKS** programs, are looking for individuals who enjoy children, have a positive attitude, and effective communication skills. This is part-time employment during the school day and/or after school.



We are also accepting applications for a **Christian Counselor** who will serve 7 to 8 hours, one day per week. This individual will serve as a resource person for students, faculty, staff and parents, giving healthy and effective alternatives to problems in these areas: Leadership, Citizenship, Crisis Management, Understanding of Others, Coping Skills, Self-image, Emotional Development, Loss, Conflict Resolution, Healthy Family Relationships, and Decision Making.

And...we are accepting applications for a part-time, 16 hours per week, **Development Coordinator**. Primary responsibilities are threefold: this position is responsible for 1) developing and implementing strategies, in collaboration with the Principal, the Fund Development and Marketing Committee of the Board of Day School, and staff, to achieve revenue goals established in the Day School strategic plan, 2) raising awareness of Good Shepherd Lutheran School as an educational option for families in the metro east and Southern Illinois areas, and 3) working with GSLS staff to build and maintain relationships with school families to sustain and advance Good Shepherd's mission.

More complete job descriptions are available in the school office. Please contact Mr. Mayhew at 344-3153 or [gsls1@hotmail.com](mailto:gsls1@hotmail.com), if you are interested or know of anyone who may be an excellent candidate for any of these positions.

*Celebrating* **39** *Years of Christian Education*



# Parent Pages

RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY



## The Trouble with Absences

**C**OVID has changed the way we understand school. Gone are the days when we felt education happened only in a particular building. While it is an improvement to realize the blessing of education in the home, there is a downside to developing a casual attitude regarding school attendance. A child does not need to miss weeks of school to experience detrimental effects. Consider that missing only two days a month adds up to the loss of almost an entire month of education over the year.

Research shows that missing school impacts a student's ability to reach essential learning milestones. For instance, absences in early elementary school can prevent a child from being a proficient reader by third grade. Children who haven't reached this milestone in a timely manner are much more likely to struggle in high school.

Teachers had to make significant changes during the pandemic to continue education under challenging circumstances. For parents, it can be easy to assume the worksheets the child completes are the sum total of learning. However, when a child misses in-class instruction and then does the make-up work, he is not getting the same level of learning. Here are some of the missing pieces:

› **Layered curriculum:** Students do not generally learn a skill in one sitting. They need to be exposed to the skill multiple times and use it in various ways. When teachers instruct a skill, they introduce, teach and review the skill. If the child misses the introduction of a skill and then experiences the teaching or review of that skill, learning will not be as smooth. The

child who missed a previous lesson will start behind classmates who have a familiarity with the skill.

› **Interaction:** Listening to a well-crafted lesson and participation in skill practice are only two aspects of school learning. We should realize that children learn much from interacting with each other. School helps children enhance self-regulation, practice social skills and develop language skills as they communicate and negotiate ideas. These are all skills that grow through experience in community, not in isolation. Each time a child misses a day of school, he misses out on several hours of practicing and developing skills learned through interaction with peers and adults.

› **Social capital:** Social capital is how we create networks of friends within a community. Research shows that students who are good at developing relationships with peers and adults develop assets for future





When children pray with parents at home, hear Bible stories at church and are encouraged to live out their faith at school, they have multiple ways to grow in their understanding of the saving work of Jesus Christ.

learning. Having good relationships at school will improve a student's school success significantly. Part of it is knowing whom to go to for help, and part of social capital is knowing you have a place in a community. Students learn social capital through the experience of interacting, especially when they participate in group activities

› **Conscientiousness:** Conscientiousness is a personality characteristic that supports good learning, health, general happiness and success in life. Because it is a personality trait, we can promote it with good parenting. When we teach our children that school attendance is essential unless there is a significant reason, such as illness, we are teaching them to pay attention to life details and make carefully calculated decisions. It is easy to see how taking care with learning and decision-making gives a child excellent practice for future life decisions. Children do not need to have perfect attendance to learn this skill. They need to be able to carefully consider the reasons for missing school. This is a skill we can model for them that will pay off big for their future.

Many life events can interfere with school attendance. COVID is an example, but so is chronic illness or family situations. If you can predict future problems with attendance, it is best to meet with school personnel to create a contingency plan that allows your child to

get the most out of a school year. For example, some children miss school due to social anxiety. Because the struggle to get such a child to attend is real and challenging, it can be easier to allow absences to stack up. Unfortunately, social anxiety does not typically go away on its own. Working with a therapist and your child's primary health care provider will provide you with a plan for dealing with the anxiety and making school attendance a desired thing for your child once again.

One of the most important reasons for strong school attendance has to do with faith development. The responsibility to teach the faith rests with both parents and the church. When children pray with parents at home, hear Bible stories at church and are encouraged to live out their faith at school, they have multiple ways to grow in their understanding of the saving work of Jesus Christ. Each time your child misses school, she also misses out on the opportunity to hear and study God's word. Martin Luther promoted good school attendance because, in his day, so many parents pulled their children out of school to work in the family business. Luther knew the value of a good education and the benefits of a society full of educated people who were also well taught in the catechism. We are blessed to have good Lutheran schools and teachers who help us to raise our children in the knowledge of the Lord.

## Parent Pages VOL. 21, NO. 6 // FEBRUARY 2022

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## K-8 Tuition Assistance

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

- <https://online.factsmgt.com/ga/inst-application/inst/4FG82>

**Step 2:** Submit payment for application (\$35)

**Step 3:** Submit **ALL 2022** tax documents

- 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

- 2022—1040 Tax Form (page 1 & 2)
- 2022 W2
- Business Income docs
  - ⇒ Schedule 1—5, C, E, K, etc.
- Non-taxable docs
  - ⇒ Child support, SNAP, TANF, Social Security

### Do You Qualify?

Families will qualify for some level of assistance from LESA if **at least 10% of income from 2022** is used to cover the cost of their child/children's Lutheran K-8 net tuition.

### 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, 2023

Lutheran Elementary School Association (LESA)

LESA provides financial resources for children in need to obtain Lutheran Christian education in the St. Louis area. We promote and advocate for efforts to improve the sustainability and quality of Lutheran Christian schools.