



Good Shepherd Charger News

"Rooted in Christ" Colossians 2:6-7

All School Newsletter
December 15, 2023

Charger Headlines...

Calendar of Events

Friday, December 15

- Boys Basketball A Team Green
Park Tourney 7:45 pm vs. St. Paul,
Farmington

Saturday, December 16

- Boys Basketball A Team Green Park
Tournament - TBA

Monday, December 18

- Girls Basketball ACD Home vs Zion
Belleville 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 19

- Boys Basketball AC Home vs. Zion
Staunton 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 20-Tuesday, January 2

- NO SCHOOL, Christmas Break

Wednesday, January 3-Sunday, January 7

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

Tuesday, January 3

- All classes resume
- Registration and Reenrollment for
2024-25 School Year Begins

For more information:
gslcs.org/calendars



Where Do I Find?...Helpful School Links

[Health Forms](#) [Athletics Volunteer Signup](#)

[Website](#)

[Charger Bucks-Scrip](#)

Hat, Scarf, and Mitten Trees

Thank you for the generous donations of hats, scarves, mittens and gloves for those who need them in our community! Your gifts are sure to warm the bodies of God's people and help give them a nicer Christmas and New Year.



Our Thanks and Prayers for You

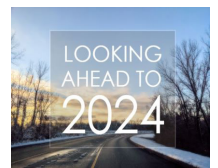
The faculty and staff wish you and your family a healthy and safe Christmas and New Year! We are thankful you have chosen to be a part of our school family and thank God for each of you. May your celebration of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, be blessed with joy, peace, and good health. We also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



2024-25 GSLS Reenrollment Begins January 1st

On January 1, 2024 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.

Also, beginning January 1st, we ask **all parents** to sign into your FACTS Family Portal, click on Web Forms, click Family Demographic Forms, and check and change, if needed, addresses, phone numbers, emergency contacts, and financial information. Please also select or confirm at least (2) volunteer opportunities.



Parents please note, should you choose not to re-enroll your student(s), you must notify the school as soon as possible to avoid the Non-Refundable fee being withdrawn from your account on January 20th.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Osborn in the office, 618-344-3153 or josborn@gslcs.org

Maternity Leave

We are looking for a maternity leave substitute teacher for Mrs. Davis. This teaching position is for 6th grade with departmentalization of subjects in grades 5-6. Mrs. Davis is due in February. Please contact Mr. Mayhew at 618-344-3153 or gsls1@hotmail.com for more information regarding the position.

Charger Headlines Continued...

Midweek Advent Service at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. December 20th

Advent Supper at 5:30 p.m.

Christmas Eve Morning Services

(Saturday service at 5:30 p.m.)

Sunday at 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Christmas Eve Family Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

Christmas Eve Evening Services

4:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service

5:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Children's Service

11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

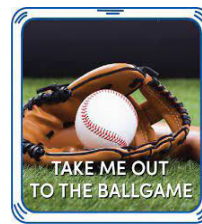
Christmas Morning

Christmas Holy Communion Service at 9:00 a.m.



Cardinals Save the Date

GSLs students K-8th will sing *Take Me Out to the Ballgame* at Busch Stadium Sunday, June 9th, 2024 at the 1:15 PM game against the Rockies. Tickets will go on sale soon for \$20 each and again include a FREE HOT DOG AND SODA. Approximately \$3 from each ticket sold comes back to support music at Good Shepherd. If students want to sing, they must buy a ticket from GS (cannot use season tickets etc. if singing). Please invite any friends and neighbors to purchase tickets from GS, the more tickets we sell, the more funds we will have for music supplies! Tickets will go on sale a few weeks after Christmas!



Alumni Night

Tuesday, January 23rd is Alumni Night. The Chargers Boys Basketball "A" team will take the court against the Holy Cross Lutheran Braves that evening about 7:00 p.m. The Boys "C" team is scheduled to play at 6:00 p.m. The Girls "C" team will also play at 5:00 p.m. We welcome all alumni and look forward to their return to GSLs! The band will play and will include any alum who wants to join in. All will be recognized during half time of the "A" Game. Pass the word!



In Our Prayers This Week

Each week this school year, the faculty will be praying for the students and their families. In the new year we will be praying for Dylan L., Olivia L., Joshua M., Ally P., Ryan P., Brady R., and Calista S.

Something to Consider...

Ten Commandments for Christmas

1. Thou shalt remember that Christmas belongs to Christ, and there shall be no other Gods before Him.
2. Thou shalt prepare for Christmas by attending church regularly each Sunday during Advent
3. Thou shalt place Christ at the top of thy Christmas list.
4. Thou shalt give thyself always with thy gifts.
5. Thou shalt remember the Christmas season to keep it holy.
6. Thou shalt be as a little child – humble, believing, wondering.
7. Thou shalt not allow the ringing of cash registers to crowd out the angel's message.
8. Thou shalt not steal from the true meaning of Christmas by any act of thine own selfishness.
9. Thou shalt not burden any member of thy family during the Christmas rush – neither the postman, the clerk, nor any merchant within thy gates.
10. Thou shalt not covet anything more than that the Babe of Bethlehem be born anew this Christmas in the hearts of people everywhere.

The Reverend
John Madison Younginer, Sr.
Christmas, 1959

May your holidays be blessed knowing the true meaning of Christmas. Also may the New Year bring happiness and good health to you and your family!

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...

Tuition Scholarships

Scholarship applications for LESA's Building Blocks Assistance and Good Shepherd Church and School will be available January 1st through FACTS. (See LESA flyer following for all the details.) LESA is sponsoring a virtual event on Tuesday, February 27th 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.



Pee-Wee Boys Basketball

Boys in grades 2-4 are eligible to participate in the Pee-Wee program. Information and form was sent home with your student. Please complete and return the form to Mrs. Cross before Christmas Break begins. Additional forms are available in the school office. The goals of the program are to teach introductory skills, the importance of being a team player and sharing. Help is needed. Please contact Mrs. Cross to volunteer - rcross@gslcs.org. Practices begin Saturday, January 6th.



Early Childhood Center Loan Update

We are asking for assistance from our Good Shepherd family to help pay off this loan in the next several months! With your contribution, Good Shepherd could finally be debt free on all school and church properties! Please prayerfully consider how you can help us meet this goal.

Donations are tax deductible and can be made via check to GSLC or through any of our [Online Giving](#) platforms by designating the gift for our Building Loan Fund. Please contact the Church Office at 618-344-3151 for more information or any questions. Thank you for your support of Good Shepherd and our mission, "To Feed the Sheep Who Have Been Found & To Find the Sheep That Are Still Lost."



Teacher Openings

Good Shepherd Lutheran School is accepting applications for Christian teacher positions in grades K-8. We are planning for the 2024-25 school year and are looking for qualified teachers. Good Shepherd is a unique Christian school having strong commitment to the quality education and Christian training of the lambs of our Good Shepherd. Teachers shall have, at minimum, a bachelor's degree in education. Applicants should have good communication and organizational skills, leadership qualities, and a love for children. A more complete job description is available in the school office. Please contact Mr. Mayhew at 618-344-3153 or gsls1@hotmail.com, if you are interested, or know of anyone who may be an excellent candidate.

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.)

K-8 Tuition Assistance

Step 1: Complete application online through FACTS

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

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

Step 3: Submit **ALL 2023** tax documents

- Applicant & co-applicant must submit tax docs
- Taxes do not have to be filed, but must be prepared and uploaded to application
- Call LESA office with any questions

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

- 2023—1040 Tax Form (page 1 & 2)
- 2023 W2(s)
- 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 **2023** 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, 2024

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.

Young Authors

Good Shepherd students will have the opportunity to participate in the district and state Young Authors Conference this spring. The purpose of these conferences is to support the classroom teachers in their efforts to improve students' writing and reading abilities. The conferences are different from the science and history fairs because the manuscripts are not judged at either level. The children get to enjoy the writings of others and get to meet "real" authors. The number of students allowed to attend the conferences is limited. A committee will select five representatives to attend the district conference and up to two students to attend the state conference. We would like to involve as many students as possible with the writing of their own creative stories. All submitted manuscripts will be displayed and student recognition will be given during chapel.

In order for the children to have successful experiences, it is important to have parent cooperation. As parents, you can encourage your children to write. How do you do that? You help them brainstorm ideas from their experiential background. You can help them (especially the younger children) to express their ideas in writing. Helping them think of ideas for illustrations, story content, and book jackets is another way for you to be involved. You can especially help them by being enthusiastic!

What can be written by children? They can write creative short stories or a collection of original poetry. They can rewrite stories or "polish" stories they've written earlier in school, either as assignments or for their journals.

Some teachers will use a period of in-class time to introduce the students to this idea and get them started. Some grades may be required to do more independent work than others.

The manuscript is due February 9, 2024, to your child's teacher unless otherwise stated by the teacher.

In order to maintain some uniformity, books should have the following:

- 1. A jacket of substantial quality with the pages securely attached. The jacket should have an illustration, a title, and the author's name.*
- 2. A title page including the title of the book, the author, a fictitious publishing company, and a copyright date.*
- 3. A dedication page, dedicating the book to someone special.*
- 4. Three or more illustrations done by the child. Students cannot use clip art or copyrighted characters. (optional for grades 5-8)*
- 5. Dictated books may be typed or hand written by an adult, but must be in the student's own language*
- 6. OPTIONAL—the child can write an author's page, telling about him/herself.*

