



# Good Shepherd Charger News

"Rooted in Christ" Colossians 2:6-7

All School Newsletter  
December 8, 2023

## Charger Headlines...

### Calendar of Events

#### Friday, December 8

-Boys Basketball AD Home vs. Zion Bethalto 6:00 p.m.

#### Sunday, December 10

- 3's Christmas Concert 1:00 p.m.
- 4's Christmas Concert 2:00 p.m.
- Kindergarten Christmas Concert 3:00 p.m.
- 1st & 2nd Gr. Christmas Concert, arrive by 3:45, concert 4:00 p.m.
- 3rd & 4th Gr. Christmas Concert, arrive by 4:45, concert 5:00 p.m.
- 5th-8th Gr. Christmas Concert, arrive by 5:40, concert 6:00 p.m.

#### Monday, December 11

- Girls Basketball AC @ Unity ESTL 6:00 p.m.

#### Tuesday, December 12

- Boys Basketball ACD @ Zion Belleville 5:00 p.m.

#### Thursday, December 14

- Chapel Service 8:25 a.m. (Gr 2-8)
- Chapel Service 9:00 a.m. (ECC-Gr1)
- Girls Basketball AC Home vs Bethalto 6:00 p.m. - Pep Band Plays

#### Friday & Saturday, December 15 & 16

- Boys Basketball A Team Green Park Tournament - TBA

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



### Where Do I Find?...Helpful School Links

[Health Forms](#)   [Athletics Volunteer Signup](#)   [Website](#)   [Charger Bucks-Scrip](#)

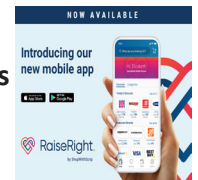
### Hat, Scarf, and Gloves



We need your help! Next Friday, December 15th is the LAST DAY to bring in hats, scarves and mittens or gloves for children in our area needing warm clothes. Please be generous in helping keep others warm this winter.

### 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 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 10th and 17th.



### 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. Watch for the sign-up link in the January school newsletter.

### Morning Drop Off Issues

Parents, we ask you to please be patient in the drop off carlines. We also ask you not to pass cars in line unless you are instructed to do so. Plan ahead to park in a parking spot if you don't have time to wait in line. Your students will walk in safely from there. Please share this information with the adults who may be bringing your children to school. Thank you.



### Pee-Wee Boys Basketball

Boys in grades 2-4 are eligible to participate in the Pee-Wee program. Information will be sent home with your student. 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. Rachel Cross to volunteer - [rcross@gslcs.org](mailto:rcross@gslcs.org). Practices begin Saturday, January 6th.



# Charger Headlines Continued...

## Pastor's Corner -

We welcome everyone to our next midweek Advent services Wednesday, December 13th, at 4:30 and 6:30 p.m. We have a freewill Advent Supper at 5:30 p.m.

## Other Special Services

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

Christmas Eve Morning 8 & 10:30 a.m. with Family Bible Study at 9:15 a.m.

Christmas Eve Evening at 4:00 p.m.

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

Christmas Eve Midnight Communion Service at 11:00 p.m.

Christmas Morning Service at 9:00 a.m.



## GSLs Chargerwear

Good Shepherd Charger Sweatshirts 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, t-shirts, and some fleecewear!



## Gingerbread House

A warm thank you to everyone who helped make the Gingerbread House very special for the students! An extra thank you to Nathan Spudich, Edward Jones, for providing cloth bags for our students to carry their purchases and to Rachel Pennington and Meagan Agne for their leadership and time. We also want to thank Karen and Steve Harris and Marie Ruth for their time and effort given to support the event.



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 bows would be appreciated. All may be brought to the school office. Thank you in advance!



## 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 Kate A., Benji A., Annabelle B., Colton B., Stella B., Cami C., Tauriel C., Emilee H., Maahi J., Elaina L., and Aria M. Please join us in prayer.

## Something to Consider...

**Can you depend on God?  
Promises about Who God is....  
God is Compassionate:**

**The Lord is gracious and  
compassionate, slow to anger  
and rich in love.  
Psalm 145:8**

**Be kind and compassionate  
to one another, forgiving each  
other, just as in Christ God  
forgave you.  
Ephesians 4:32**

**The Lord is full of compassion  
and mercy.  
James 5:11**

**God will show compassion, so  
great is his unfailing love.  
Lamentations 3:32**

**"With everlasting kindness I will  
have compassion on you," says  
the Lord your Redeemer.  
Isaiah 54:8**

**Take the opportunity to share  
God's promises from holy  
scripture and allow the holy  
spirit to work in them.  
Blessings on your journey!**

**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...

## Annual Benefit Auction

The 2024 Annual Benefit Auction for Good Shepherd Lutheran School is scheduled for Saturday, May 4th at the Firemen's Hall in Collinsville. We look forward to celebrating our 40th year! (The classroom lists follows the newsletter.)



## 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. Kindergarten through 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.)





# Earn More With Holiday 2023

Every gift card you buy gives back to the cause you care about most

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 buy gift cards for presents or use them to buy gifts, you immediately earn on every order.

## Find Giftspiration With the 2023 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

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

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

## 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.

## 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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LIST OF THEME BASKETS BY GRADE FOR THE  
40<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GSLS BENEFIT AUCTION – May 4, 2024  
Firemen’s Hall, Collinsville, IL

- PK3 – Baby Theme Basket
  - Ideas: Onsie, Bottles, Décor, Books, Stuffedies, Toys, Diapers, Monitor, Gift Cards
- PK4 – Family Fun Day Basket
  - Ideas: gift cards to local attractions: Edisons, Trampoline Park, Childrens Museums, Magic House, City Museum;
- K – Future Builders Basket
  - Ideas: Legos, Magnatiles, Building Blocks, Puzzles
- 1 – Camping and Smore’s Basket
  - Ideas: Sleeping Bag, Lawn Chairs, flashlight, camping accessories, smores kits, campfire kits
- 2 – Coffee & Hot Chocolate Basket
  - Ideas: Mugs, Coffee, Syrups, Local Coffee Gift Cards, Hot Chocolate, Marshmallows,
- 3 – Summer Theme Basket
  - Ideas: Beach towels, bubbles, Chalk, Water bottles, grilling accessories, tiki theme stuff,
  - summer décor
- 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
- 6 – Movie Night Basket
  - Ideas: Popcorn maker, Popcorn, bowls, snacks, cozy blanket, AMC gift card, Chef shoppe gift card
- 7 – Sunday Morning Brunch Basket
  - Ideas: waffle maker, pancake mixes, Breakfast restaurant gift cards, recipes, Coffee
- 8 – Baking Basket
  - Ideas: Baking utensils, dessert recipes, mixing bowls



# 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 (\$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](http://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](mailto:mgersman@lesastl.org)

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

