



Good Shepherd Charger News

"Be Brave" Deuteronomy 31:6

All School Newsletter
November 21, 2025

Charger Headlines...

Calendar of Events

Fri, November 21-Sun. Nov. 23

- Boys Basketball A Team Good Shepherd Tournament Continues TBA

Sunday, November 23

- 1st & 2nd Gr. sing in 8:00 a.m. church
- 3rd and 4th Gr. Sing in 10:30 a.m. church service

Monday, November 24

- Papa John's

Wednesday, November 26-Friday, November 28

- NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Break

Monday, December 1

- Girls Basketball ACD Home vs Trinity Edwardsville 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 2

- Boys Basketball AC Home vs Trinity Edwardsville 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3

- Chapel Service Gr. 3-8, 8:25 a.m.
- Chapel Service PK-Gr 2 8:55 a.m.

Thursday, December 4

- Boys Basketball AD @ Staunton/Bethalto 6:00 p.m.
- Girls Basketball AD Home vs St Paul Hamel 6:00 p.m. (Band Plays)

For more information:

gslcs.org/calendars



Lost and Found

Final call for owners of lost items! All unclaimed items at the end of the day on **Tuesday** will be donated to charity or sold at our next Resale Shop.

Pie Sales

A big thank you to everyone who purchased pies and sincerest gratitude to the Kruta family and their staff for everything they did to make this happen for us! Please remember to pick your order up from school on **Tuesday, November 25th from 8:00-5:00 pm in the school lobby.**

Papa John's Pizza

Good Shepherd Day/Night at Papa John's on the Beltline in Collinsville is **Monday, November 24th**. All day you may order online, on the app, or by phone and Good Shepherd will receive 30% of your purchase price. **Must mention our code: SSG005 when ordering.**



Good Shepherd 37th Annual Basketball Tournament

The GSLS 37th Annual Boys Basketball Tournament began yesterday and runs through Sunday, November 23rd! If you would like to support the team by working the tournament, or any of the home contests for both girls and boys, please sign up on the GSLS website choosing the Extra Curricular Tab, Athletics, Athletics Volunteering or use this [link](#) Your help is appreciated!

Hat, Scarf, and Gloves Collection

Please consider sharing the warmth of Christ's love by donating new hats, mittens or gloves, and scarves for the homeless ministry headed by Mrs. Dee Ann Billings. Donations may be brought to school **NOW through Wednesday, December 17th**. Look for the Christmas trees both in the ECC and School Entrances to hang your donations or put them under the trees. Thank you!

Student Illnesses

Please continue to be vigilant about avoiding the spread of germs. As a reminder, your child **must stay home** if they have a fever of 100.0° F or higher. Wait at least 24 hours after the fever has come down **without medication** before sending your child back to school.

You will be asked 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. Questions are always welcomed!



Charger Headlines Continued...

Pastor's Corner

In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln set aside the last Thursday of November as a national day of thanksgiving and praise to God - a tradition we continue today. While we rightly thank God each day for our daily bread, it is good, right, and salutary to devote a specific day to thanksgiving.

Next week we observe that day. We do so not only with food and family, but also in the Divine Service, giving thanks to God for all His benefits to us. We would love to have you join us - Wednesday at 6:30 pm or Thursday at 9:00 am - as we give thanks to our good and gracious Lord.



Christmas Concerts and Upcoming Musicals and Programs

Please take note of our concert and musical dates and times for this year which involve ALL of Preschool-8th grade:

Sunday, December 7th, 2025 (note new times this year)

1:00 PM 3's (Hill, Junge, Klaas)
1:45 PM 4's (Nobbe, North)
2:30 PM Kindergarten (Krause, Sengele')
3:15 PM 1st-2nd (Cook, Nehrt, Cross, Strocher)
4:00 PM 3rd-4th (Clayton, Meador, Batty, Felten)
5:30 PM 5th-8th (Hamari, Rebbe, Lingel, Maske, Hasamear, Hulse, Krueger, Langendorf)

Thursday, March 12th, 2026

Grandparents and Special Friends Day
1:45 PM 3rd-4th Grade Spring Musical Dress Rehearsal
7:00 PM 3rd-4th Grade Spring Musical Public Performance

Tuesday, May 5th 2026

6:30 PM Spring Concert
5th-8th Grade Band, 5th-8th grade choirs, 4th grade band

Sunday, May 17th, 2026 Spring Programs

1:00 PM 3 year olds (Hill, Junge, Klaas)
1:45 PM 4 year olds (Nobbe, North)
2:30 PM 1st-2nd grade (Cook, Nehrt, Cross, Strocher)
3:30 PM Kindergarten (Krause, Sengele')



In Our Prayers This Week

When we return to school from Thanksgiving break, the faculty will be praying for the following students and their families: Lilliana A., Matthew B., Wyatt B., Jasper B., Opie B., Coco C., Aubin C., Adelyn C., Alison C., Jack F., Grady G., and Ira G.
Please join us in prayer.

Something to Consider...

**Growing in Faith —
Every Day, In Every Season**

Why does this matter for families?

Parents have a beautiful calling to nurture faith at home. Even simple habits—an evening devotion, talking about Jesus in the car, or praying before sports and meals—help children know God's love is for them in every part of life.

This week's Family Faith Challenge
Choose one small step this week:

- * Attend worship together
- * Read one Bible verse a day
- * Pray for someone who needs God's comfort
- * Share a promise of Jesus with a friend
- * Practice kindness in Jesus' name

Let's continue growing together as God's forgiven and beloved children. He is faithful and will strengthen us!

Scripture Focus

"So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."
— Romans 10:17
"We love because He first loved us."
— 1 John 4:19

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...

FRIENDZY

In December the students will be learning about the concept of RESILIENCE and to begin to develop skills that will help them “bounce back” from challenges. Every person in the world has hardships. When we place our hope in God, He renews our strength and gives us the ability to bounce back (Isaiah 40:30-31a). See the letter from Mr. Mayhew that follows this newsletter for more helpful ideas to use with your child at home to continue their learning of how to “bounce back”. Any questions, please contact Mr. Mayhew.

Gingerbread House

Traditionally, parents of Good Shepherd have organized a ‘holiday store’ with items from Tribout for students to shop for gifts for immediate family members. (Prices range from \$1-\$9.) This is not a requirement and is offered only for fun for out students. This year’s store will be open on **December 16th-17th**. This event requires a lot of helping hands and we look to our parents to provide this assistance. Please use this sign up link to volunteer. The link indicates the classes and their shopping time. <https://signup.com/go/hLWstMX>



If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Rachel Pennington in the church office 618-344-3153 or 573-275-0557. **Also, donations of tissue paper** for the gift bags would be greatly appreciated and can be dropped off at the school office.

Advent Lessons and Carols

Some of our Good Shepherd students will be singing with the Concordia Seminary Children’s Choir on **Tuesday, December 2nd** at the Advent Lessons and Carols service. This service will begin at 7:00 p.m. in the Seminary chapel. All are invited to attend and enjoy an uplifting evening.

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! RaiseRight’s Holiday Gift Guide will help you with your holiday shopping. See flyer following the newsletter for a QR code to get yours today.

Thanksgiving Wishes

The faculty and staff wish you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving! We are blessed by our school families and thank God for each of you. We pray your celebration will be a safe, happy one!





Good Shepherd Families!

We are so excited to learn and grow in truly understanding how to be good friends through developing new skills such as **self-awareness, self-management, responsible decision making, social awareness, and relationship skills**. Friendzy unit 4, **BOUNCE BACK**, teaches us to understand the important concept of **RESILIENCE** and to develop skills that will help us bounce back from the challenges we face.

Catchphrase (main point for students to catch on to):

“Bounce Back”

Key Verse (Biblical anchor points):

Philippians 1:6

“Being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.”

Isaiah 40:30-31a

“Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.”

What does it mean to be resilient? Resilience is a person’s ability to bounce back in response to hard or challenging times. It is working through things that are hard and not giving up. The dictionary defines resiliency as “the capacity to recover quickly from difficulties; toughness.”

This unit provides ample opportunity to talk through strategies that build resilience in our lives. **Continue the Conversation** at home with your student. Here are the main points of this unit:

1. **Take time to recognize hardships.** It’s important to say “This is hard!” Then we can begin to find ways to bounce back. When we bounce back after a challenge, we get stronger and are better prepared for the next challenge.

2. **Remain hopeful when facing challenges.** Every person in the world has hardships. When we place our hope in God, He renews our strength and gives us the ability to bounce back (Isaiah 40:30-31a).
3. **Reframe how you view hardships.** Choose to focus on what you have, rather than what you've lost. Look for opportunities in the midst of opposition. Tell your story from a lens of hope.
4. **Have supportive relationships.** Other people help us bounce back. Sometimes we don't notice the people in our lives who care for us and cheer us on. It's important to remember who these people are.

THE FOUR R'S OF RESILIENCE ///

The Four R's of Resilience is a strategy to use when we are faced with a challenge so that we can **BOUNCE BACK**.

- **RECOGNIZE HARDSHIPS**—It's important to say "This is hard!" Then we can begin to find ways to bounce back.
- **REMAIN HOPEFUL**—When we place our hope in God, He renews our strength. Our faith in God the Father gives us hope.
- **REFRAME VIEW**—Hope gives us the ability to reframe hardship and bounce back. We recognize the bad but focus on the good.
- **RELATIONSHIPS**—We all need to have supportive relationships in our lives.

RESILIENCE AFFECTS BEHAVIOR ///

Children will have different levels of resilience and different ways of responding to and recovering from stressful times. They will also have different ways of showing when the demands that are being put upon them outweigh their capacity to cope. They might become emotional, they might withdraw, or they might become defiant, angry, or resentful. Even the most resilient of people have days where it all gets too much, but low resilience will likely drive certain patterns of behavior more often.

THE IMPORTANCE OF BELONGING ///

A sense of belonging is one of the most powerful predictors researchers have discovered that determines how strong a person's resiliency is. The more parents, siblings, and families can help students feel like they truly "belong," the more likely they will be to **BOUNCE BACK** when faced with challenges or difficulties.

WE ARE IN THIS TOGETHER ///

We are so grateful for the opportunity to connect and learn with your children. In order to best serve their needs, we want to connect with you since you know your child best! Please share with us what they are enjoying and sections that have provided more of a challenge. Your feedback is welcome and needed.

Linking arms in partnership with you—we are in this together!

Blessings,
Mr. Mayhew

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Good Shepherd Lutheran School

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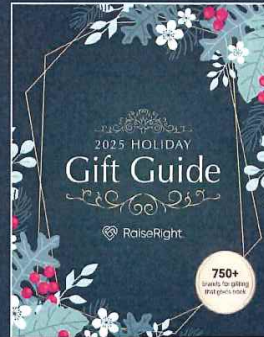
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