



Good Shepherd Charger News

"Be Brave" Deuteronomy 31:6

All School Newsletter
February 6, 2026

Charger Headlines...

Calendar of Events

Saturday, February 7

- ReSale Shop Open 9-12 in Cafeteria
- Girls Basketball D Team @ Zion Belleville vs. Holy Cross Collinsville 8:00 a.m.
- Girls Basketball D Team @ Zion Belleville Tournament vs. St. Paul, Hamel 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 8

- Boys & Girls Basketball D Team @ Zion Belleville Tournament TBA

Wednesday, February 11

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

Thursday, February 12

- Boys Basketball AC Team Home vs. Trinity Edwardsville 7:00 p.m. (8th Grade Night)
- Girls Basketball AC Team Home vs Trinity Edwardsville 5:00 p.m. (8th Grade Night)

Friday, February 13-Saturday, February 14

- Boys & Girls Basketball C Team Staunton Tournament TBA
- Girls Basketball A Team St. Charles Tournament TBA

Monday, February 16

- NO SCHOOL - Presidents' Day

Wednesday, February 18

- Ash Wednesday, Worship Services @ 4:30 and 6:30 p.m.

For more information:
gslcs.org/calendars



Spring Resale Shop Open Tomorrow - February 7

Mark your calendar to stop by our **Resale Shop TOMORROW, Saturday, February 7th** from 9:00 a.m. to noon in the school cafeteria. This is a great opportunity to purchase gently used standardized dress clothes and Good Shepherd Chargerwear at bargain prices. Polos, shorts, pants, skirts, and more will be available in lots of sizes for both boys and girls. (4T-18+).

National Lutheran Schools Week (NLSW) Thank You

Thank you to all the people who helped to make NLSW so special. To all the families who donated items for the Seminary Food Bank (we collected over 400 items), Bruce and Ramona Cross for your financial help for the Jennie Williamson Concert, all people who worked on the committee or behind the scenes and all families who donated to the NLSW offering. Through the NLSW offerings we were able to donate a pig, sheep, goat, flock of chicks and a share of a heifer to Heifer International. Thank you all for your generosity and continued support of Good Shepherd.

Annual Benefit Auction - Red, White & Bid

The 2026 Annual Benefit Auction for Good Shepherd Lutheran School will be on **Saturday, March 21st**. A list of themes for each of the classrooms follows this newsletter.

Ready to buy tickets? Use this link to get yours today: <https://events.handbid.com/auctions/good-shepherd-lutheran-school-auction-2026> A sponsorship/donation form also follows the newsletter. We appreciate your generosity and involvement! Any questions, email the committee for a quick response: gs.auctioncommittee@gmail.com

Tuition Scholarships

Scholarship applications for LESA's Building Blocks Assistance **and** Good Shepherd Church and School are now available through FACTS. (See flyer following for all the details.) Call the school office with any questions.

GSLS Open House for Prospective Students

Good Shepherd will host an open house on **Sunday, February 22nd**, from **1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.** All are invited to visit our dynamic school, tour our campus, meet our faculty, and get answers to questions about everything from academics and extracurriculars to tuition and financial aid. For more information, call the school office at 618-344-3153.

Charger Headlines Continued...

Pastor's Corner

This week we hear Christ's parable of The Sower. He tells us clearly that this parable is a picture of how we are to listen to God's Word. This Sunday we will consider how God wants us to hear His Word with attentiveness, temperance/moderation, fortitude/courage, and perseverance. And that it's the Word that gives us these very things so that we might hear it, receive it in faith, and cling to it. - Pastor Packer



Tax Forms

Families needing to print statements for tax purposes, please follow the steps below. If you need assistance, please contact Mrs. Osborn in the school office.

Log into your FACTS account > Payment Plan & Billing > View Details > Select Correct Term > View Payment Summary > Print

Lunch Balances

Parents, please log into your FACTS account and check your child(ren)'s lunch balances. All balances need to be brought current. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Osborn in the school office.

Chapel Service

On **February 18**, we will observe **Ash Wednesday** with a special chapel service, which will include the imposition of ashes. During this service, students in grades 3-8 will have the opportunity to receive a cross made of ashes on their forehead or the back of their hand. This sign symbolizes both our sin and mortality, as well as the hope we have through Jesus' death on the cross and His resurrection.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child's teacher for more information. You are invited to join us for chapel that morning. Additionally, we will have **Ash Wednesday services at 4:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m.** for families who would like to attend together.

We look forward to sharing this meaningful occasion with you and your family!

Something to Consider...

Love from God

Love does not begin with us—it begins with God. Scripture reminds us, "We love because He first loved us" (1 John 4:19). God's love is not based on our goodness, effort, or faithfulness. It is rooted in His grace and made visible in Jesus Christ.

In Christ, we see love in its purest form: love that serves, forgives, and sacrifices. Jesus willingly went to the cross to take our sin upon Himself, proving that God's love is steadfast and unconditional. Through His death and resurrection, we are restored to God and given the promise of eternal life.

As Lutherans, we confess that this love is a gift—freely given, not earned. God's love comes to us through His Word and Sacraments, strengthening our faith and assuring us that we belong to Him.

Living in God's love, we are then called to reflect that love to others. In our homes, schools, churches, and communities, we show Christ's love through kindness, patience, forgiveness, and service. Though we fall short, God's love never fails.

May we rest daily in the comfort of God's love and joyfully share that love with the world, always pointing others to Christ, our Savior.

Blessings!

Robert Mayhew, Principal



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 Francesca H., Isla J., Ella R., Frison R., Jed S., Wyatt S., and Ceana S.

Please join us in prayer.

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...

Middle School Events

Saturday, February 28th:

Transformed - "Do not be conformed to this world but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:2
LCMS Southern Illinois District Conference - Metro-East Lutheran H.S.

February 28, 2026 9am-3:30pm

What does it mean to live as a redeemed child of God? Our keynote speaker is Jeff Hemmer. The break-out sessions include real life topics such as relationships, technology, and life-issues from a Christian viewpoint. Our ending worship service will be led by Pastor Josef Muench. There will also be time for fun and fellowship too! Door Prizes and take-aways. Lunch will be provided. \$25 per person. Register here:

- Southern Illinois District - LCMS or go to www.sidlcms.org

Middle School Dance

It's time to start planning for the Second Annual Middle School Dance, which will be held on **April 18, 2026**, at MELHS. We are excited to bring our middle school communities together again for a fun and memorable evening for the kids.

To make this event a success, we are looking for support in several areas:

Volunteers Needed:

- Chaperones
- Set-up and clean-up crews
- Front door support
- Snack and game stations

Donations Appreciated:

- Monetary contributions to help cover decorations, supplies, DJ services, snacks, drinks, and prize gift cards
- Gift cards for prizes
- Individually packaged snacks and beverages

A SignUpGenius with full event details will be shared soon. - Dana McQuade

No School - Presidents' Day - February 16

There will be no school on Monday, February 16, in honor of Presidents Lincoln and Washington.

Domino's Fundraiser Results

Thank you for partnering with us as we exceeded our fundraising goal of \$7,000. The five free dress days for all students will be next week - Feb. 9 - Feb 13. Prize incentives and cards will be delivered to the school in the next couple of weeks.

Save the Date

Mark your calendars! The 23rd Annual GSLS Golf Classic is set for July 11th at Arlington Greens. More information coming soon.

Celebrating **42** *Years of Christian Education*



K-8TH GRADE TUITION ASSISTANCE

ABOUT LESA

Through generous donors and fundraising events, we provide tuition assistance to qualifying K-8th grade Lutheran elementary students.

DO YOU QUALIFY?

Yes, if your student is enrolled and at least 10% of income is used to cover the cost of a family's K-8 net tuition (including other financial aid, such as MO Scholars).

Late applications are reviewed on a rolling basis throughout the summer.

LESA's website: www.lesastl.org

QUESTIONS?



MAUREEN GERSMAN
314-200-0790
MGERSMAN@LESASTL.ORG



FACTS PARENT HELP LINE
1-866-412-4367

REQUIREMENTS

1. Complete application in FACTS
 - o **Deadline: April 10**
 - o <https://tinyurl.com/LESA-App>
2. Submit required documents
 - o 2025 - 1040 tax return (entire packet)
 - o 2025 - W2
 - o nontaxable income (SNAP, etc)
3. Application is complete by **April 30**

AWARD NOTIFICATION

Families will be emailed of award or denial once their application has been reviewed.
1st round of review - Emailed by May 22

APPLY BY: APRIL 10, 2026

LESA'S MISSION
EQUIPPING FAMILIES, LUTHERAN SCHOOLS,
AND FAITH COMMUNITIES FOR DYNAMIC,
CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION

Good Shepherd Lutheran School
2026 Benefit Auction ★★★

RED, WHITE & BID

March 21, 2026
Collinsville American Legion
★★★

BE A HERO FOR OUR STUDENTS

Become a Sponsor – Stand with Us for Lutheran Education
& Celebrating America's 250th Birthday

Your partnership helps fund critical programs for Good Shepherd Lutheran School students while proudly displaying your commitment to community, education, and country. All proceeds directly benefit necessary improvements to our school security and facility - helping create an enriching & safe learning environment.

WILLING TO DONATE AN
AUCTION ITEM?
ITEM IDEAS INCLUDE:
• BASKET OF GOODS
• GIFT CARDS OR CERTIFICATE
• SPORTING EVENT TICKETS
• ENTERTAINMENT TICKETS
• TRIPS OR EXCURSIONS

MOUNT RUSHMORE \$1,500

Official Event Koozie Sponsor (Only 2 Available)

- ✓ Your logo ON SIDE of every koozie sold (other side has school logo)
- ✓ First to Claim chooses Koozie Size (Slim/Reg.)
- ✓ Guests take your brand home in their hands
- ✓ (2) Admission Tickets with Prominent Table placement
- ✓ Verbal recognition
- ✓ Signage at event & yard sign outside event

LIBERTY BELL \$750

Official Game Prize Sponsor

- ✓ Sponsor Our Prizes for Fundraising Efforts
- ✓ Prominent Signage at Multiple Stations
- ✓ (2) Admission Tickets
- ✓ One Month of Business Logo in Weekly School Newsletter
- ✓ Verbal recognition & yard sign outside event

4-STAR GENERAL \$500

✓ (2) Admission Tickets

- ✓ Full Page Ad in Event Program
- ✓ One Month of Business Logo in Weekly School Newsletter
- ✓ Verbal recognition & Social Media Shoutout
- ✓ Yard sign outside event

COLONEL \$300

- ✓ Half Page Ad in Event Program
- ✓ Social Media Shoutout
- ✓ Yard sign outside event

MINUTEMAN \$100

- ✓ Business Card or Business Logo in Event Program
- ✓ Social Media Shoutout

YES! WE PROUDLY SUPPORT GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL STUDENTS! (SELECT DONATION LEVEL)

FOUNDING FATHER SPONSOR – \$3,000 (ONLY 1 AVAILABLE – FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED)

MOUNT RUSHMORE KOOZIE SPONSOR – \$1,500 (ONLY 2 AVAILABLE – FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED)

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS SPONSOR – \$750

FOUR-STAR GENERAL SPONSOR – \$500 COLONEL SPONSOR – \$300 MINUTEMAN SPONSOR – \$100

[OPTIONAL: PLEASE DESIGN MY AD FOR ME – ADD \$50 TO YOUR DONATION LEVEL]

DONATE PHYSICAL ITEM(S): _____ VALUE OF DONATION: _____

BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____ TITLE: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____ WEBSITE: _____

PAYMENT METHOD: CHECK ENCLOSED (PAYABLE TO GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN SCHOOL BEFORE MARCH 1, 2026)

PLEASE EMAIL HIGH-RESOLUTION LOGO (VECTOR .EPS OR .AI PREFERRED) TO: [GS.AUCTIONCOMMITTEE@GMAIL.COM]

BY MARCH 1, 2026 TO GUARANTEE INCLUSION.

SPONSOR SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

QUESTIONS? CONTACT: GS.AUCTIONCOMMITTEE@GMAIL.COM

Classroom Baskets for School Benefit Auction

PK3 – American Girl / Lego Basket

- o Ideas: American Girl Doll, Doll accessories (furniture, clothes, styling kit), American Doll books, Lego sets, Lego table, Lego organizer
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for a larger/more unique Lego set or go in together for a larger dollar amount for American Girl Store Gift Card.

PK4 – Local Staycation Basket

- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for gift cards to experiences in Grafton, IL

K – Family Fun Basket

- o Ideas: gift cards to local attractions: Edisons, Trampoline Park, Children's Museums, Magic House, City Museum, Top Golf,
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for larger quantity gift cards.

1 –Disney Themed Basket

- o Ideas: All things you need for a day at a Disney Park. Disney theme: bag, backpack, water bottles, lanyards, Mickey Ears, autograph book
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for a Disney Store Gift Card.

2 – Postcard Cabin Getaway

- o Ideas: Items needed for a quiet cozy getaway: snacks, books, games.
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for a gift card for a 3-night stay

3 – 4th of July/Patriotic Basket

- o Ideas: Red, White, and Blue Items, Grill accessories, Butcher Gift Card,
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for a color themed Yeti Cooler

4 – Tech Bundle Basket

- o Ideas: headphones, Bluetooth speaker, Fortnite/Roblox Gift card
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for Beats products

5 – Water Fun Basket

- o Ideas: Water park passes; Beach Bag, Cooler

6 – Wine & Dine Basket

- o Ideas: Red and White wine, gourmet snacks, charcuterie board, gift card to local restaurants

7 – Golf Basket

- o Ideas: Top Golf gift card, Park North gift card, X- Golf, Dicks/Golf Galaxy gift card

8 – Good Shepherd Fan Basket

- o Chairs, Wagon, Cooler, Tumblers, Blanket
- o Larger Item Idea: Parents can chip in together for a Bogg Bag