



Good Shepherd Charger News

"Forgiven" 1 John 1:9

All School Newsletter
October 23, 2026

Charger Headlines...

Calendar of Events

Saturday, October 24

- Pee Wee Basketball @ 9am
- A Team Girl's VB Tourney at MELHS @ 10:00 and 1:00 or 2:00

Sunday, October 25

- Student Choirs Sing at Sunday Church Services

Monday, October 26

- Papa Johns Night
- Boys Basketball A - D Teams Practices begin

Tuesday, October 27

- Game Night for Pee Wee Basketball in the Gym at 6:30pm

Wednesday, October 28

- Chapel Service Gr 3-8 @ 8:25am
- Chapel Service PK-Gr 2 @ 8:55am

Thursday, October 29

- No School for Parent Teacher Conferences

Friday, October 30

- No School for Parent Teacher Conferences

For more information:
gslcs.org/calendars



Opt in For Illinois Kids - Federal Education Tax Credit

The Illinois Coalition for Nonpublic Schools (www.icns.net) has asked us to share the following resource with parents to ask Governor Pritzker to opt in for federal education tax credits for Illinois students. Please look into and prayerfully consider contacting the Governor [here](#).

Parent Teacher Conferences

Parent Teacher Conferences are **next week** on Thursday and Friday. Have you signed up for your time slot? If not, check in with your child's teacher for your appointment. Ask your teacher where to enter the school for the conferences. This is an important time to discuss your child's academic progress with his/her teacher. Don't miss it!

Variety Show Tonight

Good Shepherd's variety show will be TONIGHT--Friday, October 23rd at 6:30pm in the gymnasium. Attend and be entertained by talented GSLS students tonight.

Online Store for GS Spirit Wear is Open Again

Good news! If you need more spirit wear or theme shirts, check this [link](#). These items are available only through this link and the **sale ends at midnight on November 4**. Many of you have asked for this store to be re-opened so you can order items for cooler weather and for more youth sizes. Your opportunity is now.

Girls Pee Wee Basketball Game Night

Our GSLS girls in grades 2-4 have been learning basketball skills and will be playing in the Annual Girls' Pee-Wee game on **Tuesday, October 27th** at 6:30 p.m. Come cheer our future Chargers!

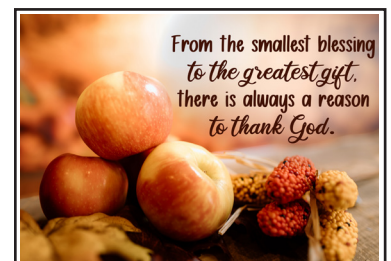


Honoring Our Veterans

Good Shepherd Lutheran School would like to invite all veterans to a special thank you tribute to our men and women who have served our country or are currently serving. Please join us on **Wednesday, November 11th at 2pm** in the school gymnasium for the students to show you their thanks for your service. Please RSVP to the school office (618) 344-3153 or email lgindler@gslcs.org so that we will have enough seating. The students always look forward to this special opportunity, so please come be part of it!

FRIENDZY

The Friendly catch phrase for November is "**Grow Gratitude**." Did you know that gratitude is a superpower? You can actually improve your overall health and well-being with the positive effects of gratitude. What a powerful tool for you--and others! Learn more from the flyers following the newsletter.



Charger Headlines Continued...

Pastor's Corner - Pastor Gray

This weekend, we will observe Reformation Sunday. While October 31 marks the anniversary of Martin Luther's posting of the 95 Theses in Wittenberg, our congregation will celebrate the festival this weekend.

Yet the focus of Reformation Sunday is not simply the history of the Lutheran Church or even the life of Martin Luther. Rather, we celebrate the saving truth proclaimed in our churches: that we are saved by grace through faith in Christ alone. This salvation is not our work, but God's gracious gift to us.

Jesus is at the center of all that we believe, teach, and confess, and He was at the center of the Reformation as well. Our hope rests in Him alone. We rejoice that this same Gospel continues to be proclaimed today, assuring us that through Christ, our sins are forgiven and we have the gift of eternal life!



Papa John's Night for Good Shepherd

Our first pizza night of the school year with Papa John's is **Monday, October 26th**. You have pizza for dinner and Papa John's donates some of the proceeds back to Good Shepherd. It's a Win-Win situation! Order online or over the telephone. Remember to give the GS code: SSG005.

School Auction - Save the Date

Have you noted March 20, 2027 on your calendar yet? Run for the Roses and Raise for the Chargers by attending the school auction at the American Legion. Watch for ways to support the auction--for example, you can donate items for class baskets. The benefit auction is one of the biggest fundraisers of the year.



Fall Back - November 1st

Remember to change your clocks soon. We will "fall back" during the night of October 31st and get an extra hour of sleep. Cheers for an extra hour!

Volunteer for Athletics

If your student is participating in athletics, please remember to sign up for at least 7 volunteer work times at our sporting events. It is only with the help of our parent volunteers that we can provide athletic opportunities. Sign up here: [GS Athletics Page](#). Also remember to turn in your student(s)' sports physical and concussion awareness form. We need your help!



Something to Consider...

Ending Strong: Reflect, Celebrate, and Look Ahead

Now that the first quarter has come to an end, October 23 is a great time to pause and reflect on all that our students have accomplished. Completing a quarter is a milestone, and we want to recognize the hard work, growth, and perseverance that brought our students to this point.

As we begin the next quarter, encourage your student to think about three things: What went well? What was challenging? What can I do differently moving forward? Reflection helps students take ownership of their learning and set meaningful goals for the future.

We are also looking ahead to Parent-Teacher Conferences on October 29-30. These conferences provide a wonderful opportunity for families and teachers to connect, celebrate student accomplishments, discuss areas for growth, and work together to support each student's success.

Thank you to our families for your continued encouragement and partnership. As we begin a new quarter, let's carry the lessons from the first quarter forward and continue working together to help every student learn, grow, and finish strong!

Blessings Robert Mayhew, Principal

In Our Prayers This Week

Each week the faculty prays for students and their families. This coming week we will be praying for our graduates and alumni. 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.

FRIENDZY®

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UNIT THREE >>> GROW GRATITUDE

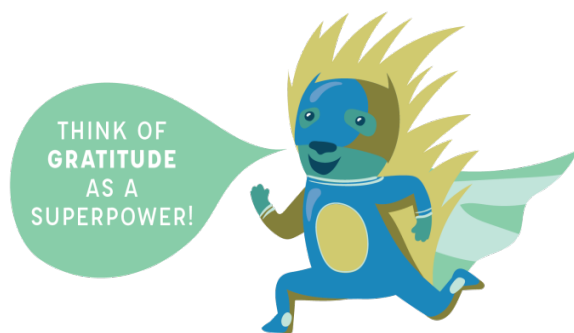
Dear Good Shepherd Families,

LET'S GROW TOGETHER ///

As a teacher, I am grateful for your student and for your family! This month our Friendzy catchphrase is **GROW GRATITUDE**. Gratitude is defined as focusing on the good things in our lives and being appreciative of them. Even on the hardest days there is so much to be thankful for!

GRATITUDE IS A SUPERPOWER ///

As we unpack lessons focused on our catchphrase, **GROW GRATITUDE**, students will learn to think about gratitude as a superpower. Gratitude is a powerful tool, and there are many benefits to giving thanks in all circumstances (1 Thess. 5:18). It is more than just saying, "thank you." That's a great start, but practicing gratitude can actually improve our overall health and wellbeing. It positively impacts how we feel in our bodies. When we teach children to be thankful for the things in their lives, they feel better. This month's Catchphrase and Key Ideas are listed below.



CATCHPHRASE: Grow Gratitude

Key Verses (Biblical anchor points):

1 Thessalonians 5:18

"Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus."

Psalms 118:1

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever."

GOAL: To implement the power of gratitude in my life and the lives of others.

PRACTICE GRATITUDE TOGETHER ///

By intentionally practicing the act of gratitude, students will gain experiential knowledge of its power. Blessings flow from a grateful heart; students will learn when we practice gratitude by being thankful and grateful, God blesses us and we are a blessing to others. Consider talking about how to GROW GRATITUDE with your student; here's a few thoughts to get you started:

- Gratitude or being thankful is defined as focusing on the good things in our lives and being thankful for them. **What are some things you are thankful for?**
- Gratitude grows friends. Holding the door for someone or saying “thank you” can lead to new friendships. **What are some other ways you can grow gratitude?**
- Gratitude is God’s will for us. We show gratitude to God through praise, prayer and service to others. **Which one would you choose? Why?**
- Take the attached gratitude journey together with your student

FRIENDZY IN ACTION ///

Here are some tools to help lead your family in showing gratitude to God.

- **Show Gratitude to God through Praise** - We can praise God by using our words. We can speak to Him or sing to Him, expressing gratitude by using our voices. You can do this anywhere and anytime of day.
- **Show Gratitude to God through Prayer** - We show God our gratitude when we pray. Remember, prayer is simply having a conversation with God. When we show gratitude to God when we pray, we are showing that we value our relationship with Him.
- **Show Gratitude to God through Service** -We show gratitude to God when we serve Him and when we serve others. Some ideas of how to show gratitude to God by serving others is by volunteer at a local food pantry, making a meal as a family for someone who is needing extra help (a family with a new baby, someone who just moved to the neighborhood, or someone facing a difficult time in their life) or offering to walk the pet of an elderly neighbor.

SHARE YOUR SUCCESS ///

Thank you for joining us in the Friendzy! I would love to hear about your family and how you have been able to weave this catchphrase **Grow Gratitude** into your life. Please email us to share your success with this information—I would love to celebrate with you!

When kids learn friendship, they learn it for life!

Blessings,

Mr. Mayhew - Principal

LET'S TAKE A GRATITUDE JOURNEY



HERE
WE
GROW!

How does it feel to be
around grateful people?

Take 10 seconds
to think about it.

4

How can you
show gratitude?

Let them know you are
grateful for them!

3

What are
they like?

How have they
influenced you?

2

Who has
helped you?

Take 10 seconds
to think about it.

Who has expressed
gratitude to you?

How did it make
you feel?

5

Have a
Gratitude Party!

Celebrate gratitude. A
picnic? A festive event?

6



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Better Ingredients. Better Pizza.

SUPPORT
Good Shepherd
Lutheran School

YOUR SCHOOL'S PROMO CODE:

SSG005

MUST USE SCHOOL PROMO CODE WHEN ORDERING
ON THE APP, BY PHONE, OR ONLINE FOR SCHOOL TO
RECEIVE CREDIT

ORDER FROM PAPA JOHNS ON:

Monday, October 26th

**20% OF SALES PRICE WILL BE DONATED TO YOUR SCHOOL
FOR SALES UNDER \$1000 AND 25% FOR SALES \$1000 AND UP.**

FUNDRAISER VALID AT THE BELOW PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS:

Valid online or over the phone
at any Corporate St Louis
surrounding community
locations

ORDER ON THE APP OR ONLINE AT: WWW.PAPAJOHNS.COM

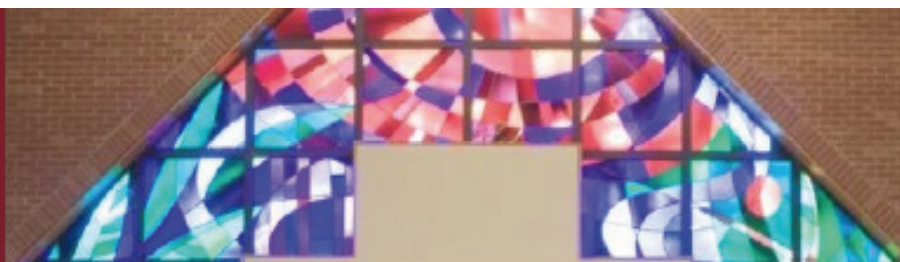
GREAT SPECIALS AND NEW ITEMS AVAILABLE ONLINE AND THE MOBILE APP

October is designated as
**Church Worker
Appreciation Month.**
Thank you to our church
leaders, staff, and
volunteers!

Your selfless love and
commitment blesses our
church and school
every day!



Celebrating **43** *Years of Christian Education*
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GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH

Investing in Our Campus Needs & Future

Three Projects - \$170,000 Total Campaign Goal

YEAR-END GIVING PROGRESS



As the year ends, we want to share three important facility needs that will support the long-term health, safety, and ministry of our campus. We want to make our congregation aware of the high-dollar capital expenditures the church is facing in the near term, and we ask for your prayerful consideration in supporting them. Your support of our facilities helps ensure that more of our dollars can go toward ministry rather than building costs. ***Gifts of any size make a difference.***

\$40,000

Sanctuary Skylight Replacement

Our skylight has reached the end of its useful life. Replacing it will prevent water intrusion, protect the sanctuary interior, and preserve the beauty of our worship space.

\$50,000

Gym Roof Replacement

The gym roof is aging and showing signs of failure. A new roof ensures safety for our school, youth ministries, athletics, and community events.

\$80,000

Sidewalk Lighting

New campus lighting will improve visibility and safety along the front sidewalk, church entrance, and parking areas. Updated lighting will enhance the welcoming appearance of our campus while providing a safer environment for worship, school, and community activities.

WAYS TO GIVE

- Designated offering (mark "Building Fund")
- Online giving
- Stock or appreciated asset gifts
- Qualified charitable distributions (QCDs) from IRAs
- Memorial or honor gifts

Before December 31

Many members give before year end to take advantage of potential tax benefits. Please consult your tax advisor about how a year-end gift may fit your personal financial planning.

GIVE ONLINE

goodshepherdcollinsville.org/giving

QUESTIONS? CONTACT

Marty Hoffman

618-344-3151 • mhoffman@gslcs.org

Thank You for Your Faithful Support