



GREEN PARK LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Faithfully Equipping the Next Generation

December 2, 2011 ~ Volume 51 ~ Number 13

“Rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.” Colossians 2:7

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Still a time to be Thankful

Even though the actual day of Thanksgiving has come and gone, there is still a lot to be thankful about. Dominating the list of thanks is salvation through Jesus Christ, whose birth we celebrate on December 25. The following are some items that jump to the front of my mind as I reflect on this year.

- For a great positive attitude displayed by our parents, staff, church members, and supporters
- For a revived spirit of support and positive resolve
- Our dedicated, friendly, and caring office staff, Mrs. Pfund and Mrs. Anderson
- All of our teachers, who give the extras to our children, and emulate Christ
- Our support staff in the Kitchen, maintenance, after school care, and custodial services
- Our group of dedicated dads, Ken Anderson, Barry Hammon, and Dan Hummert, who helped us add 64 computer stations for this year at a very low cost
- Our admissions counselor, Katy Schmitt, who is encouraging and motivating our congregations and community to keep GPLS in mind as they consider schools for their children and grandchildren
- Our counselor, Mrs. Thompson
- Our Resource teacher, Mrs. Loduca
- Our nurse, Mrs. Vince
- For Ashlyn Cunningham as she helps develop the **GROW** program to enrich the academic and social growth of our students after normal school hours
- Supporting congregations and pastors
- Parents who are cooperative and want the best for their children
- Volunteers who fill in a lot of gaps in the classrooms, library, and other vital areas
- Board members who give their time and effort for the Lord and the good of GPLS
- Students who are growing in knowledge and learning how to use their faith in their daily life

During this Advent season, please take time to reflect on all the blessings and people God has given to you as you prepare your heart for the Coming Christ.

Rooted in Him,
Gary Spieler, Principal

SHARE A VIEWBOOK

Green Park's 2012 View Book is in! Come by the office (or request one to be sent home) and see what our latest brochure/View Book looks like. If you know of a friend/colleague/neighbor considering Christian education, please take one to share. We would love to share the great news of our ministry with

AND THE SURVEY SAYS...

Thank YOU to all who responded to our parent surveys. We had over 100 responses and feel we have a better idea of what's important to you as parents about your children's education. The faculty, staff and board are working with the results to improve your experience at Green Park. Follow-up surveys will be sent this month to better identify and focus our improvements. The good news? 95% of those who responded feel satisfied as a parent or guardian at Green Park Lutheran School. Even more of you felt this strongly about how your children feel. Thanks for your participation.

DID YOU KNOW?

Our students have been BUSY. Kindergartners packed care packages complete with hats, gloves, sandwiches and other goodies for local homeless. The packages were delivered before Thanksgiving.

Middle-school students raked leaves in the neighborhood behind our property the week before Thanksgiving. This was just another effort to show our faith in action and share Christ's love. Thought you might like to know.

HE IS COMING - CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Are you ready? Tucked beneath the bows and wrapping paper is a special Christmas gift... the gift of Jesus! This year our Christmas story is “rooted” in the words of Isaiah and Luke as they take us to the “root” of Christmas, God's Word. Our “getting ready” includes narratives, tableaux, violins and lots of singing by both choir AND guests! We invite you to wrap yourself in colorful Christmas apparel, and join us for carols and pageant as we welcome the Savior! **“HE IS COMING”** will be presented by grades 3-5 on Friday, December 9, at 1:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. Come, get ready for Christmas!

EARLY ENROLLMENT STARTS NOW

Thank you for choosing Green Park. We appreciate the trust you've put in us to guide and educate your children. Because of your choice in Christian education, you're in a special position few parents have the opportunity to do - FAITHFULLY equipping the next generation. Enrollment information was mailed this week. If you haven't received it, please notify the office and we will be sure you have the correct forms. Early enrollment allows us to better plan for next year with curriculum, staff and planning. Plus - it's just \$100 now till January 20. Applications postmarked on or after January 21 are \$200.

WHO WILL YOU INVITE?

Friday, January 6, 1:30-3:00 p.m., we will be hosting a prospective family meet & greet. We hope to have lots of families considering our school and enjoying parent-led tours, learn more about our curriculum and what makes our school so special. Please invite a friend! For more information, admissions packets, R.S.V.P. or to schedule private tours, contact Admissions Counselor, Katy Schmitt katy.schmitt@greenparklutheranschool.org.

WE'RE PUMPED. ARE YOU?

There's a buzz in the air here on campus...and it's not just the Christmas buzz...it's for our AUCTION! While it's scheduled for February 10, 2012, plans are in full swing. The more involved, the lighter the load - plus our children benefit! The more we raise, the better our improvements for curriculum and technology can be. Here are a few ways you can get involved...won't you consider?

- Bring in a decent bottle of wine - \$15 or better for our wine pull
- Visit an auction tree near the office or kindergarten room for suggested donation ideas
- Ask a local business for a gift certificate donation
- Offer up your condo for a fun weekend
- Attend the next auction meeting (with a bottle of wine)—**Monday, December 5, 7:00 pm**
- Simply sell your share of raffle tickets - \$20 worth
- Share your Cardinals tickets or big ticket items
- Plan to attend - put it on your calendar and invite your family & friends
- Share this message with a grandparent
- Get the kids involved! Pick up an auction item (valued at \$25 or more) by December 16—if we collect 100 items, the whole school will celebrate with a Ted Drewes ice cream party!

Thanks to all of you who have been participating in the efforts. We can't wait for the fun event and to better our ministry and help our school.

USED BOOK SALE SUCCESS

Thanks to all who donated and shopped at our 2nd annual Used Book Sale to benefit the Lutheran Community Center. We raised \$113.00 for the Center which will be used to support a Christmas party and gifts for 40 inner city children. Mrs. Loduca serves on the Board for the center and she thanks everyone for supporting this important ministry.

PTO "EAT AND EARN NIGHT"

Our next Eat & Earn Night is Wednesday, December 21, from 4:00 p.m. to close at T.G.I. Friday's in South County. T.G. I. Friday's will donate 10% of the total food sales generated by our supporters to Green Park! **Flyers will be sent home next week!** Don't forget to order your T.F.I. Friday's gift cards through Scrip, and earn money for your family and Green Park. Invite your family, friends and neighbors, and enjoy an evening without cooking!

MARKET DAY

January Market Day flyers came home last week. Place your *online order* at www.marketday.com using your charge card and be a step ahead!!! Enter the GPLS code **24637** when placing your order or you can complete the paper order form in the catalog. Order sheets are due to the office by Wednesday, December 21. Internet orders are due by 11:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 28. The pickup date on the flyer is incorrect, as we will not be back in school on January 3. We will confirm the correct pickup date in next week's Green Sheet. If you have any questions regarding our Market Day program, please contact Debbie Wolf at 772-1640 or Cynthia Truemper at 845-1888.

BOX TOP CONTEST UNDERWAY

Our Box Top Contest is underway and will run through Friday, December 16. Collection sheets are included with the Green Sheet this week. The class that collects the most Box Tops will receive a Pizza Party. The winning class will be announced when we return from Christmas Break! A few reminders when attaching your Box Tops; please glue or tape (no staples please.) If you have "Bonus Box Tops", please send those in a baggie marked with the student name. Good luck to everyone!

GREAT NEWS

The board has approved a brand new SMART table for the kindergarten classroom! It was ordered this week but may take WEEKS to receive. Created by the SMART company (maker of SMART Boards), the table is designed to be the best for early childhood learning.

SCRIP CORNER

Here are new Scrip bonuses and updates for this week.

Starbucks and iTunes are offering a 2% bonus until Dec. 16. You will receive 7% for iTunes and 9% for Starbucks on all Starbucks and iTunes products, including gift cards, reloads and [ScripNow!](#) Also, iTunes and Starbucks are giving away FREE shipping for a year to 21 lucky organizations! To be entered into the drawing, a family order must be placed on ShopWithScrip.com and the order must also include at least one Starbucks AND one iTunes product.

Staples - Purchase a card from Dec. 3 - Dec. 16 and your card will be loaded with a little extra money. When you purchase the \$25 gift card, the card will have a value of \$26.25, and when you purchase a \$100 gift card, that card will be worth \$105. The contribution remains at 5%. Lowe's is offering a 2% bonus from Dec. 3 - Dec. 16. You will receive 6%. Applebee's® is offering a 2% bonus from Dec. 3 - Dec. 16. You will receive 10%.

Cabela's and Bath & Body Works are the newest retailers to join [ScripNow!](#) Contributions are the same as the gift cards. Remember, there are many more retailers on shopwithscrip.com that are not included on our order form. Go check them out.

Also, please help us out by ordering online. This helps our Scrip Coordinator process your orders more quickly. The next Scrip order is due Friday, Dec. 9 with delivery scheduled for Dec. 16 (the last delivery before Christmas). You can download the [current order form](#) and the [Faculty/Staff Wish List](#) on the website (click on Working Together/Scrip). If you have any questions, please contact Beth Berner, Scrip Coordinator, at (314) 544-4248 or by email at scrip@greenparklutherschool.org.

SCHOOL CALENDAR

12/2	PTO Hosts Teacher Break Day
12/5	7:00 p.m. PTO Auction Meeting
12/7	Faith Families
12/9	1:30 & 7:00 p.m. Grades 3-5 Christmas Musical
12/13	8:30 a.m. Geography Bee - Grades 4-8 7:00 p.m. School Board Meeting
12/16	Green Park Spirit Day
12/21	9:00 a.m. Christmas Assembly 11:30 a.m. Early Dismissal - Christmas Break Begins 4:00 p.m. to Close - Eat & Earn - T.G.I. Friday's End of 2nd Quarter Logo Shirt Day
12/22-1/3	NO SCHOOL - Christmas Break
1/4	Classes Resume

ATHLETIC CALENDAR

Viking Boys (A1) Basketball 7-8th

12/1	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/2-3	Green Park Invitational		TBA
12/5	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/6	Game	@ IMSC	5:45
12/8	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/9	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/12	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/13	Game	vs. Messiah	4:30
12/15	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/16	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00
12/19	Practice	Green Park	3:30-5:00

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS

Join us on Saturday, December 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Resurrection for music, Christmas shopping, games, snacks and more! Drop off your children while you get some shopping done! For more information, go to lcrstl.org.

LUTHERAN SOUTH CRAFT FAIR

The Lutheran South Craft Fair will be held Saturday, December 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All proceeds benefit the Athletic Department. For more information call Marge at 918-7301 or Lynne at 638-9186.

LUTHERAN SOUTH MUSIC CONCERTS

The Music Department at Lutheran High School South announces two Christmas events: Advent Band Concert, Saturday, December 10, 7:00 p.m. at Concordia Lutheran Church in Kirkwood and Christmas Choir Concert, Sunday, December 18, 7:00 p.m. in the Kuhlmann Center at LHSS. The community is invited to both performances.

SPEECH & LANGUAGE

Lutheran Association for Special Education (LASE) will offer speech and language screenings at Green Park in January 2012. All children in Kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade, as well as students with concerns from other grades are encouraged to take advantage of this valuable service. The fee for the initial speech-language screening is \$15 per child. Students will be administered a speech and language screening by Mrs. Carol Lima, CCC-SLP, who has served the Green Park community for many years with Speech and Language Therapy. A summary report will be sent home for each student that receives a speech and language screening indicating whether the child would benefit from further assessment. Forms were emailed home earlier this week. If you would like your child to receive a speech and language screening, please complete the lower portion of the form and return to your child's teacher by Friday, December 16. Checks for screening may be made out to *Green Park*.