



GOOD SHEPHERD EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND PRESCHOOL

Corner of Washington and Wheeler
907 Mattes Drive
Midland, MI 48642-3708
School and Preschool: 989-835-4181 / Fax: call first

March 16, 2009

Dear Parents,

There is a vital link between Christian homes and a Lutheran Elementary school. In his word, the Lord gives parents the primary responsibility for raising, training and educating their children. He speaks of this responsibility when he says:

These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. (Deuteronomy 6:6-7)
Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. (Ephesians 6:4)

All Christians have an interest in and a concern for Christian education. Speaking to all who are his people (parents and non-parents) the Lord Jesus spoke these words:

Go and make disciples of all nations...teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you." (Mt 28:19-20)

Whether the Lord has made us parents or teachers, we all have the privilege and responsibility of teaching his word. Our Lutheran Elementary school is one way that privilege and responsibility is carried out. This makes our school both an extension of our Christian homes and an arm of the church. Those who teach in our school are simply assisting parents and the congregation in giving children the training the Lord wants them to receive. This training will not only make our children wise unto salvation, but also equip them to live this life as faithful followers of our Lord.

Good Shepherd Lutheran School does not charge tuition. Instead, recognizing the privilege and responsibility of training the children of our congregation, Good Shepherd supports the Lutheran Elementary School through offerings made to the congregation's general fund. Based on the current budget and projected enrollment for the 2009-2010 school year, the cost of operation will be approximately \$4500.00 per student. Your regular Sunday offerings to the general fund will assist with these congregational expenses.

Proper planning for the next school year begins prior to the end of the current one. In these economically challenging times, families across the country are taking action to try and reduce their expenses. In light of the recent decision made by our voters to close our preschool at the end of the current school year, we too wish to practice good stewardship by reducing our expenses as well. Therefore, the Board of Education has implemented new registration procedures for the upcoming school year, which they feel will save our school staff and families a lot of work, and our school and congregation a significant amount of money.

On Monday, April 6, our parents and teachers will be meeting together for our third quarter parent/teacher consultations. Along with these consultations, members of Board of Education and our school secretary, will be here to assist parents with the registration of their child(ren) for the upcoming

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school year. Parents who wish to begin filling out the registration forms prior to the evening of April 6 may find these forms on our school website at www.goodshepherdmidland.org. Should you desire to wait and fill them out the night of April 6, please bring any necessary information (names, numbers, addresses, insurance, etc.) with you to consultations that evening.

The following information is provided for your planning purposes:

- **Annual Fee (K) : \$240.00**
- **Annual Fee (1-8) : \$260.00**
This fee is intended to assist with the cost of items such as a yearbook, workbooks, duplicating paper, art supplies, achievement tests, and other consumable items.
- **Physical Education Fee (1-8):**
Grades 1 – 2 \$70.00 – covers the cost of swimming at the Midland Community Center (MCC).
Grades 3 – 5 \$80.00 – covers the cost of swimming and gym rental at the MCC, and bowling.
Grades 6 – 8 \$90.00 – covers the cost of swimming and gym rental at the MCC.

Please Note:

- All children ages 4 through 18 who are entering school will need to have 3 doses of Hepatitis B Vaccine (HBV) after the year 2000.
- Please remember, no student will be denied an education because of financial difficulties. Should the finances be a problem for your family, please speak to Mr. Thies or one of the Pastors privately.

Here at Good Shepherd Lutheran School we prepare our children for life knowing that all the way through they will continually face temptations to turn away from the Lord. There is no better way to prepare them for such a struggle than by working diligently and cooperatively together, demonstrating our commitment to carrying out our God-given privilege and responsibility of teaching his word to the next generation. If you have any questions about our school, its facilities, or its curriculum, please don't hesitate to call Mr. Timothy Thies, Pastor Jonathan Quinn, Pastor Seifert, or any other member of the faculty or Board of Education.

In his service for you,



Timothy J. Thies
Principal - Good Shepherd Lutheran School

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