



# GSL eNews

Monday, August 14, 2023

## CALENDAR PREVIEW

*Next 4 Weeks*

### **August**

**14**

First Day of School - #lukersforlife!

**15**

Middle School Chapel Orientation, 8:05 a.m.

**16**

Lower School Chapel Orientation, 8:05 a.m.

**18**

Dress Uniform Day for Grades 1-8

All-School Convocation & Eucharist, 8:15 a.m.,  
GSL Church

Lead Donor Party, 6 p.m., Keough Residence  
(Invitations were emailed to all Lead Donors)

**20**

Episcopal School Sunday (includes  
Commissioning of Faculty/Staff)  
10:30 a.m., GSL Church

**21-22**

Middle School Fall Musical Auditions, 3-4:30 p.m.,  
Performing Arts Room

**22**

Middle School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

Fall Enrichment Classes Begin

Athletic Booster Club Kickoff Party, 6-7:30 p.m.,  
Anchor Center Library

**23**

Lower School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

**24**

All-School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

## WELCOME, SAINTS!

**FIRST DAY  
OF SCHOOL**  
MONDAY, AUGUST 14

*Reminder: Grades 1-8!*

# DRESS UNIFORM DAY

*Friday, August 18*

***First Dress Uniform Day***  
**Friday, August 18**

We will end this great first week with an All-School Convocation & Eucharist in Grace-St. Luke's Church at 8:15 a.m. this Friday. Please remember that this is a dress uniform day for Grades 1-8.

P.A. Spirit Wear Sale, 3-6 p.m., Anchor Cafeteria

P.A. Volunteer Fair, 5:30-6:30 p.m., Anchor Cafeteria

Back-to-School Night for Parents, 6:30-8 p.m.,  
Starting in GSL Church

**25**

Celebration Hosted by Dr. Surber  
8:05 a.m., GSL Church  
(Parents always welcome to attend)

**29-Sept. 1**

Middle School Student Council Campaign Week

**29**

Middle School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

**30**

Lower School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

**31**

All-School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

## ***September***

**1**

All-School 901 Dress-Down Day

Celebration: Student Council Campaign  
Speeches, 8:05 a.m., GSL Church

**4**

Labor Day Holiday, No School or ACE

**5-22**

P.A. Charleston Wrap Fundraiser

**5**

Middle School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

**6**

School Picture Day for Grades SK-8

Lower School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

**7**

School Picture Day for Preschool (LL, PK, JK)

All-School Red & White Dress-Down Day for GSL  
Fall Homecoming

Pep Rally & GSL Class of 2023 Yearbook Signing  
2:15 p.m., Anchor Gym

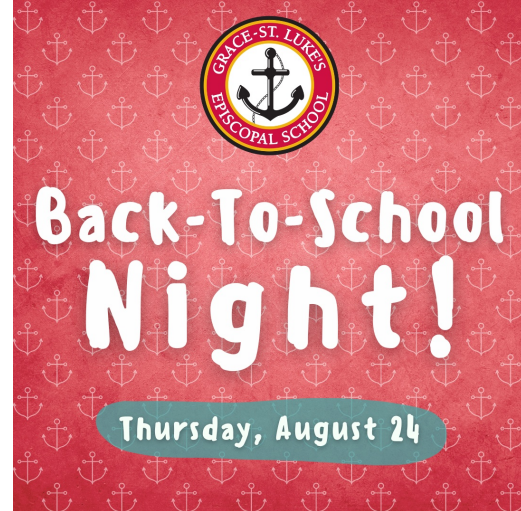
All-School Chapel, 8:05 a.m.

Preschool Chapel, 8:35 a.m.

**8**

Celebration Hosted by Allyson Campbell, 8:05  
a.m., GSL Church  
(Parents always welcome to attend)

Middle School Leadership Retreat



## ***Parents' Back-to-School Night*** **Thursday, August 24** **Anchor Center, Church, & Classrooms**

All parents/guardians are encouraged to attend  
our annual Back-to-School Night!

In addition to meeting your child's teacher, you will  
have an opportunity to hear from Dr. Andy Surber,  
Head of School, buy Spirit Wear items, and learn  
how to get involved with the many wonderful  
Parents' Association (P.A.) events this year.

Below is an outline of the evening's events:

### **3:00-6 p.m. | Spirit Wear Sale | Anchor Center Cafeteria**

Check out this year's awesome Spirit Wear items  
which include uniform-approved fleece outerwear  
and sweatshirts!

### **5:30-6:30 p.m. | P.A. Volunteer Fair | Anchor Center Cafeteria**

Visit the P.A. Welcome Table staffed by P.A.  
volunteers to help answer any questions.  
Stop by the event tables to learn about the  
different volunteer opportunities available!  
Learn more about P.A. events [HERE](#).

### **6:30-7:00 p.m. | Welcome from Head of School Dr. Andy Surber | GSL Church**

Head of School Dr. Andy Surber will officially  
welcome families to the 2023-24 school year.

### **7:00-8:00 p.m. | Classroom Visits**

Meet your child's teacher!

*Back-to-School Night is an ADULTS ONLY event.  
If you have a conflict that evening, or if you have  
multiple children at GSL, not to worry. All teachers  
will share a summary of their presentations with  
families after Back-to-School Night!*

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### ***Middle School Athletic Booster Club Kickoff Party***

**WHO:** 4th-8th Grade Parents

(adults only; no students, please!)

**WHEN:** Tuesday, Aug. 22 from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Anchor Center Library

**WHY:** Come meet our Middle School coaches, learn what Middle School sports are all about, and hear some great reasons to join the Athletic Booster Club - it's lots of fun and there are benefits to membership! We look forward to seeing you!

#### **QUICK LINKS**

- [New! Blackbaud Parent Portal](#)
- [ACE: After School & Enrichment](#)
- [Lunch Service](#)
- [2023-24 Important Dates Calendar](#)
- [Preschool Handbook](#)
- [Lower & Middle School Handbook](#)
- [Uniform & Dress Code Policy](#)
- [Create a Family Library Account](#)
- [Refer a Friend to GSL](#)

#### ***Weekly eNews Distribution***

To add an email address to the eNews distribution list, please email [Director of Communications Marci Woodmansee](#).

#### ***Contacting ACE After School Hours***

To connect with ACE after school hours, **call the Auxiliary Programs line at 901.677.2245.**



### ***Sign Up Now for ACE: After School Care & Fall Enrichment Classes***

#### **After School Care**

We are ready for another super school year! Fees for After School Care are \$975/semester for full-time care (available in five monthly installments of \$195) or \$20/day for drop-in care. [Click here to register today.](#)

#### **Enrichment**

We have an incredible lineup of enrichment offerings for students this fall, and our first classes begin August 22. [Click here to view the new Fall 2023 brochure and access the registration link!](#)

### ***Visit Parent Resources Page for Handbooks & More***

GSL's website has a helpful Parent Resources page with links to information you may need throughout the school year, including the Preschool Handbook, the Lower School/Middle School Handbook, ACE: After Care & Enrichment, Piccadilly lunch information, and more! [Click here](#) to visit the Parent Resources page today.



# 2023-24

PARENT/STUDENT HANDBOOKS



## Arrival, Dismissal, & Carpool Info

### **PRESCHOOL**

Students should be walked in by parents and may arrive as early as 7 a.m. for early care (there is no charge) in the Preschool Tinker Lab. At 7:30 a.m., students should be walked to their classrooms. School begins at 8 a.m. Dismissal times vary depending on whether your child is registered for half days or full days; [click here for more details](#) on arrival, parking, and afternoon carpool guidelines.

### **LOWER & MIDDLE SCHOOL**

[Click here for Lower School Carpool Procedures.](#)

[Click here for Middle School Carpool Procedures.](#)

Students may arrive as early as 7 a.m. for early care (there is no charge) in the Anchor Center Cafeteria. At 7:45 a.m., Lower School students will be dismissed to their classrooms and Middle School students to their advisories. School begins at 8 a.m. Dismissal: 3 p.m. on M/T/Th/F; 2:15 p.m. on Wed.

## News from Fine Arts:

### **Once Upon a Mattress on Stage at GSL**

#### **Middle School Auditions**

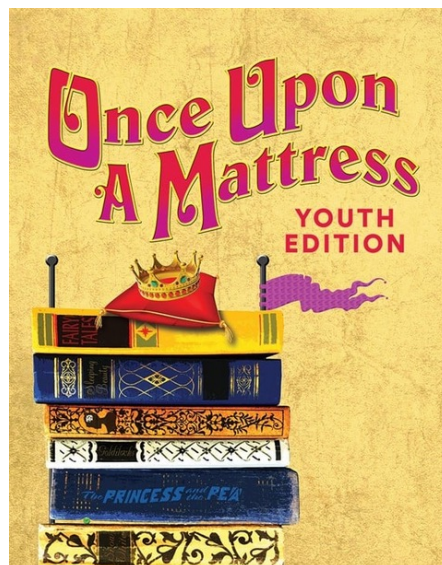
**Aug 21-22, 3:00-4:30 p.m., Performing Arts Room**

This fall our Middle School Fine Arts Department will stage *Once Upon A Mattress*, a comical retelling of Hans Christian Andersen's *The Princess and the Pea*.

Middle School students are invited to audition next week. Fourth graders are also invited to participate but will not need to audition. Parents may contact Middle School Performing Arts Teacher [Leslie Reddick](#) if their children want to participate.

Please click here to review the [Tentative Rehearsal Schedule](#) for this production.

**Performance Dates:** October 19-21



## MEDICATION AUTHORIZATION & OTHER REQUIRED HEALTH FORMS

Please [click here to access GSL's Authorization to Administer Medication Form](#). This form must be filled out annually for any child who will be taking medication while at school. This includes any scheduled medications as well as any medication such as Advil or Tylenol that you may want the nurse to administer as needed during school hours. Please fill out, sign, and return the completed form to [Nurse Janelle Calzia](#) as soon as possible.

If your child has any of the following chronic health conditions or any food allergies, these health forms are also required to be kept on file at the school. Click below

to download anything applicable to your child, have your doctor complete, and please return to Nurse Calzia by Friday, Sept. 1 at the latest.

- **Asthma**
- **Diabetes**
- **Seizures**
- **Food Allergies**

Finally, a big thanks to all who updated their medical information in our **Blackbaud** Parent Portal over the summer, and to all the SK and 7th grade families who submitted their required immunization forms to Angela Merideth. If you have not yet filled in your child's medical information on Blackbaud, please do so. Thank you for helping us keep your children safe and healthy at school!

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## ***New Faculty/Staff @ GSL***

We are delighted to announce a final new hire for the 2023-24 school year: **Gina Beagle**, new Preschool Administrative Assistant. She replaces **Kay Carver**, who retired this summer to spend more time with her family. Gina attended the University of Memphis and most recently worked as an administrator for Edimis, Inc. She also happens to be the mom of **Kelsey Beagle**, a longtime Saint returning to the team this year as a Pre-Kindergarten teacher.

In case you missed the news in our emails last week and earlier this summer, Gina joins the following additional new faculty at GSL:

**Reece Chadwick**, Little Lukers Assistant Teacher  
**Chunda Summerall**, Little Lukers Assistant Teacher  
Alumna **Suzanne McGehee '11**, Little Lukers Assistant Teacher  
**Jamesha Horton**, Pre-Kindergarten Assistant Teacher  
**Reem Rassoul**, SK Teacher  
**Jenna Bencini**, SK Assistant Teacher  
**Jennifer Futrell**, Learning Specialist



## ***Lacrosse Clinics at GSL***

In response to interest expressed by parents, we are offering two free lacrosse clinics on campus this fall. They will be run by MUS Head Lacrosse Coach Joe Cummings. Attendees should bring a lacrosse stick if possible. Please **click here to register** so that we know how many to expect.

WHO: 4th-8th Grade Girls and Boys

WHEN: Friday, Aug. 25 and Friday, Sept. 8 from 3:15-4:30 p.m.

WHERE: Lemaster Turf Playground

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## ***News from Grace-St. Luke's Church***



## ***Memphis Boy & Girl Choir***

Established in 1988 and based at Grace-St. Luke's Church since 2021, the Memphis Boy & Girl Choir (MBGC) offers a unique opportunity for children to experience benefits that only music can provide. Choristers (training: 1st-2nd grade boys and girls; advanced: boys 3rd grade until voice change and girls 3rd-12th grade) will participate in weekly rehearsals and learn performance skills, music theory, history, and more for singing at seasonal concerts and occasional worship services.

Interested boys and girls are invited to sign up for 5-minute auditions on August 14, 16, 21, or 23. The training choir for 1st & 2nd graders begins this year on Mondays from 3:30-4 p.m., no audition required. For information about auditions, rehearsals, semester tuition including scholarships, and more, **click here** or contact Dr. Patrick Scott, Artistic Director, **via email** or at 901-252-6323.

## ***Seeking U10 Flag Football Coaches!***

Church sports in Lower School serve as a funnel into the school's Middle School sports program, and the church's Flag Football Program has grown tremendously in the past 3 years. The most recent U10 (3rd & 4th grades) flag football group grew from 6 players to now almost 20 players. If we continue to build this program, we can help build a solid, sustainable GSL Middle School

Football Program. If you are interested or know someone who is, please contact Christi Authement [via email](#) or at 901-825-7353 for more information. A stipend is offered!



WHEN: September 9–November 11

PRACTICES: Twice-weekly pre-season practices. One practice drops when games begin. Practices are one hour each.

GAMES: 6 games total; Saturday mornings/afternoons

WHERE: GSL School's Snowden Field or Tobey Fields



## ***Return Church Sports Uniforms This Week*** **Drop-off Box in Circle Drive, August 14-20**

To keep costs to a minimum, GSL Church requests that you recycle your church sports uniforms. A drop-off box will be in front of the GSL School Circle Drive August 14- 20.

Wondering what to recycle? Please return the following:

Soccer - jerseys & shorts

Baseball, Softball, & T-Ball - jerseys, pants, shorts & belts (hats and socks optional)

Basketball - jerseys & shorts

Flag Football- jerseys & shorts

**CLICK HERE TO GIVE TO GSL!**

