

GSSP FAQs

(Good Shepherd Scrip Program)
(Frequently Asksed Questions)

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Responses:

1. What do the Acronyms mean?

- GSSP - Good Shepherd Scrip Program
- FAQs - Frequently Asksed Questions
- GLSC - (Great Lakes Scrip Center)

2. How do I obtain Scrip?

You must first order the Scrip. Generally one week later, it will be your responsibility to pick up the Scrip during normal Scrip ordering times.

3. When can I order or pick up Scrip?

GSSP will offer Scrip for sale and pick up in the church office after the three main church services each week. Additional times will likely be added as the program develops.

4. What is the start date for expiration terms if they exist?

A retailer considers the Scrip start date to be the date that GLSC activates the Scrip and sends it to us. We will be watching our inventory to keep it moving so as to minimize time elapsed prior to your getting the Scrip.

5. Who is leading the GSSP effort?

Karen Hanson is the GSSP coordinator. Her husband Darwin, is helping her. Initially, volunteers will assist them with Scrip sales and distribution. Once the program is better understood, volunteers will be recruited for sales and distribution of Scrip.

6. Can I only order Scrip listed on the order form?

You are not limited to the Scrip on the order form. You can order anything that GLSC has to offer. List the item clearly (so we can identify it) on your order blank and it will be ordered in that weekly cycle. We can also get other dollar amounts for local Scrip. Because of minimum requirements, these could take longer than normal to get.

7. What is the GSSP Scrip ordering process?

GSSP will generally place an order sometime between Sunday noon and Monday noon. GLSC will make every attempt to ship on Tuesday. Normally we should receive the Scrip by Wednesday; Thursday at the latest. Monday holidays as well as heavy times of the year (like December) could cause that to slip a day or two. We can purchase next day delivery. That decision will be a cost/value judgment by the GSSP coordinator. Local Scrip schedules are dependent on each retailer (some have only one day of the week pickup) and collecting sufficient volume of orders to meet their minimum purchases. We do try to work with other churches to minimize the impact of minimum orders.

8. Does Scrip have a Policies and Procedures Manual?

A rough draft was written to help in the initial setup of the program. A formal document is expected in the first half of next year as the program is developed and appropriate knowledge is gained to write meaningful policies and procedures. The GSSP will provide monthly (or more frequently if asked) reports to the Treasurer of Good Shepherd Lutheran Church for oversight.

9. From whom does GSSP purchase Scrip?

We obtain most of the Scrip from GLSC (Great Lakes Scrip Center). GLSC is located in Kentwood, MI. GLSC has an easy to use program with a lot of features and it is well respected by other congregations in this area that have Scrip programs. Their limitation is larger or national store chains. GSSP tries to fill in the gaps by purchasing locally for locations like Fleet Farm, Woodman's, etc. However, these retailers sometimes have minimum purchase requirements and shipping fees which

can consume most of our rebate making them financially unattractive for our Scrip program.

10. How can I see the very latest in Scrip offerings?

Great Lakes Scrip Center has a web site at <http://www.glscrip.com/>. Click on the "Order Scrip" icon. You can then browse all categories or browse by retailer classification. This will only show GLSC Scrip and not Scrip which will be purchased locally.

11. Can I pay for Scrip with my debit card, charge card, or electronic funds transfer?

Not at this time. Debit card and charge card are likely never to be available we must forfeit at a minimum 2½ % of the total purchase price – basically forfeiting a lot of the gain in using GSSP. We do not have the capability to accept electronic transfers at this time. (For additional information on electronic funds transfer, please see the answer to “Can I “recharge” my Scrip cards?” below)

12. Can I purchase Scrip on-line?

Not at this time. GLSC has a program that will allow participants to request Scrip on line. Your request would be placed in a queue awaiting approval by the GSSP coordinator. GSSP must receive payment for the Scrip prior to the order being placed.

13. Can I “recharge” my Scrip cards?

Not at this time. As GSSP is getting started, we elected to learn the process a bit at a time. As we get the program going, we will take time to learn more about this option and the implications for our program. Payment can be made by (only?) an electronic funds transfer. We see it as an easier way for you to participate yet want to fully understand it before implementation.

14. What are the tax implications?

We are not tax consultants and officially will give you only our perspective – not a legal or binding opinion. Currently, it is GSSP’s understanding that since participants get full value for the Scrip they purchase, there is no direct contribution and as such there is no tax deduction available. As time allows, we will continue to try to determine if there might be a tax benefit for you. Please remember that tax advice is beyond our expertise so we officially give you no tax advice. We recommend that you consult a tax professional to pursue further if you so desire.

15. How will the funds gained through Scrip be used?

The funds raised by Scrip will be put into the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church general fund to be used like regular offerings.

16. Will some rebate portion go towards reducing preschool tuition, National Youth Gathering costs, or similar programs for Scrip participants?

Not at this time. The GSSP development team would like the opportunity to learn the Scrip process without the additional bookkeeping. Additionally, there may be some tax or legal implications which must be better understood prior to starting down that path. The council has control of the funds available from this program and will make the determination to share funding with specific programs at the appropriate time.