Christian Education Matters.... Tax Credits make it happen

March 20, 2018

Dear Christian Friends,

We have an exciting opportunity for all of us to support Christian education and create scholarships for students at Christ's Greenfield Lutheran School without spending a dime! The AZ Private School Tax Credit program allows AZ taxpayers to donate to organizations like the Arizona Christian School Tuition Organization (ACSTO.org) and receive a dollar-for-dollar tax credit against AZ State income tax plus a charitable donation on the federal return. Just remember to recommend "Christ's Greenfield Lutheran, Gilbert" on your donation so the funds will be used at our school. Since we're talking about school, let's do some math.

235 = the number of K-8th grade students God has blessed CGLS with in 2018. For most families finding the funds to attend private school can be daunting. ACSTO scholarships make attending CGLS possible for many children.



18 = the number of years ACSTO has been providing tax credit scholarships to CGLS students. This is a time-tested program that helps children develop spiritually and academically.

88% = the number of CGLS families who utilize ACSTO scholarships to help make tuition affordable. Without ACSTO scholarships, up to 40% of CGLS students would no longer be able to afford a Christian education. Children at CGLS experience God's Love through weekly chapel, daily Christian learning classes, devotions, prayer time and caring for one another. You can make an amazing difference in a child's life. It takes so little effort and costs you nothing to create a scholarship for a child.

8,000 = AZ taxpayers who have over \$8,000 in taxable income pay some AZ state income tax. Why not redirect those funds that you pay anyway to help provide a scholarship for a child? Some may think this program is too good to be true. But let me tell you it is GOOD and it is TRUE!

\$2,177 = the maximum amount a married couple can contribute to ACSTO in 2017. **\$1,089** = the maximum a single person can donate. But you don't want to donate more than your AZ income tax liability. You can donate on-line or by mail, in a lump sum, monthly or using any timeline that is best for you.

48 = is the line on Tax Form AZ 140 that shows your tax liability. If your expected AZ income tax liability is less than the maximum (above), then please only donate the amount shown on line 48. You can use your previous AZ 140 tax form as a guide. The tax credit can be used to reduce or eliminate AZ income tax for the year. However, if you donate more than is shown on line 48, the excess is carried forward for up to 5 years. We want to develop ACSTO donors who contribute year after year so it's best to limit contributions to the amount shown on line 48 of AZ 140.

\$936,798 = this is the amount of Tax Credit scholarships awarded to students between June 15, 2016 and April 2017. Isn't that amazing? This might sound like a lot but if we were successful in covering all tuition costs for students at CGLS, the number would be ... well let's see, the

calculation is \$1.5 million. I believe it's possible if we rise up together and use our tax dollars for this purpose. This would allow our doors to open up to more and more children.

22:6 = my FAVORITE number of all. Proverbs 22:6 "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." (NIV)

You might think if you don't participate it won't make a difference, but the reality is a single donation can often decide whether a child can enroll or not. Children who attend Christ's Greenfield Lutheran School EXPERIENCE the love of Jesus every day. Children enjoy sharing what they learn; this is especially evident when it comes to what they know about Jesus and His love. The Church has witnessed family members baptized and children sharing their love of God with family and friends. Your donation makes all of this possible. Please prayerfully consider becoming an ACSTO supporter of Christ's Greenfield Lutheran School students. Your support Changes Lives!

Thank you so much!
Mrs. Tanya Calendo
Principal, Christ's Greenfield Lutheran School