

## Bear Facts

The Weekly Newsletter of Bethany Lutheran School Long Beach, CA www.bethanylutheran.org Learn+Love+Lead+Serve



School Bulletin #15 December 14, 2021

## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Bethany Families,

If your family is like mine, Christmas is a time full of traditions. Have you thought about "tradition" lately? Here's a definition:

tra· di· tion 1. The passing down of elements of a culture from generation to generation, especially by oral communication. 2. A time-honored practice or set of such practices.

Traditions are so important to families, and especially children. There's a sense of security in knowing, "this is how we do things in our family." It's funny, too, how seemingly unimportant events become traditions. One Christmas morning, my dad woke us up by playing a Christmas carol LOUDLY on the stereo (who even uses that word anymore????) Every year after that, he did the same...it was our tradition!

Whatever your family traditions may be, I pray they will include time to worship the newborn King. If you do not have a church home, you are welcome to any of Bethany's Christmas services:
Christmas Eve: \*1, 3 and \*11 PM Christmas Morning: 9:30 AM

Have a safe and blessed
Christmas!

Dr. Fink

\*These services will be <u>livestreamed</u>.

# Merry Christmas



The In-N-Out Truck is coming to Bethany on Tuesday, January 18, 2022!

We need to sell <u>300 lunches</u>, so parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, siblings and students are welcome to order ahead of time and join us for lunch that day!

Each meal is \$5 and includes a burger, chips, and a drink. Don't miss out! Order your meal by Jan. 11 by using the QR code.



## JOON'T FORGET

©Dec. 15-16 Middle School Christmas Nativity

©Dec. 17-Minimum Day-

Noon dismissal

©Dec. 20-31 Christmas Break

©Jan. 3-School Resumes

©Jan. 17-Martin Luther King

Day-No School

◎Jan. 18-In-n-Out Truck is

here!

<sup>3</sup>Jan. 21-End Quarter 2

<sup>©</sup>Jan. 28-Report Cards go

home

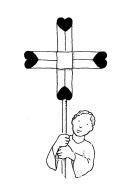
©Feb. 7-18 MAP Testing,

Grades 3-8

## Who's leading chapel this week?

12/15-Middle School 1/5-Miss Hinrichs 1/12-Kayleigh

Parents, you are always welcome to join us at 9:00 in the sanctuary!





The FISHin' Hole

Opportunities to Serve

Dr. Fink needs help with a tetherball project. ©

It's our tradition here at Bethany to make **Hygiene Kits** for the homeless instead of giving gifts to each other. (Hygiene kits are due by Dec. 17):

Each kit is a gallon zip lock bag containing:

- 1 bar of soap
- 1 washcloth
- 1 travel tube of toothpaste
- 1 toothbrush
- 1 travel shampoo
- 1 comb

#### Parents,

Are you shopping for a phone for your child for Christmas?

Giving your child their first phone is a BIG responsibility for both parent *and* child, and doing some homework ahead of time will save headaches later.

Two thoughts: does your child need a phone for emergencies only? Consider a "basic phone" as a start.

If not, consider a cell phone contract with your child (sample attached) and plan to take advantage of the parental controls available on both Apple and Android plans. Here are some links to help you!

- Apple Screen Time
- More on Apple
- Android devices



For the month of December, our offerings will go to <u>Lutheran Social Services</u> whose mission statement reads, "Ignited by faith, we live out God's love by embracing, equipping and empowering vulnerable people in Southern California." We also invite each student to make a hygiene kit (see info on page 1 of the newsletter.)

### Cook's Night Out

Our next event is PANDA EXPRESS Friday, December 17.

Tell your friends across the nation...the fundraising code we will provide will be good for ANY Panda Express ANYWHERE in the US!



#### **Christmas Break Office Hours**

The school office will be open from 9:00-1:00 Dec. 20-22 and 27-29. We will be closed Dec. 23-24 and 30-31.

Merry Christmas to our Bethany Families!



We are in the last weeks before Christmas and it is time to get those orders in for all of your gift card needs! Buying your gift cards here at Bethany's Scrip program has the added extra benefit of helping different ministries. Even if you choose not to earn a tuition rebate, you can help other ministries - something you can't do if you buy your gift cards elsewhere. Thanks for buying your gift cards here and supporting Bethany! Dazzle Days continue through December 10 - be sure to check the RaiseRight app for the daily bonus.

Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator rlopez@bethanylutheran.org 562-420-7783 ext. 58

#### Middle School Corner

"Let us walk in the light of the Lord." Isaiah 2:5

Please save the date for Thursday, December 16th, 2021 at 6:30, 7:00 or 7:30 pm.

The middle school students will be presenting a walk-through Christmas nativity experience on the school campus. Every middle school student will have a role in this wonderful event. All Bethany students and families are invited to attend the event that evening. Families can choose the start time that works best for them. \*Please note that some families hoping for 6:30 pm start time might be in a 6:45 or 7:00 pm groups if needed to accommodate the number of guests present.

The middle school students will also be presenting the program to preschool through fifth grade students on Wednesday, December 15th during the school day.