



Bethany Lutheran School
Long Beach, CA

BEAR FACTS

Issue 5: September 27, 2022

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Have you ever wondered what the teachers do when we have a minimum day for teacher inservice?

Last Friday, we spent about an hour and half reviewing and deepening our understanding of thinking maps, a tool we use with all students, K-8. Thinking maps are an amazing way to help students organize their thoughts *and* to think deeper about and make connections between ideas.

We spent another hour of the afternoon becoming familiar with the digital citizenship lessons we will be teaching this year. These grade-appropriate lessons center around media balance and well-being, privacy and security, digital footprint and identity, relationships and communication, cyberbullying and digital drama, and finally media literacy. Watch for parent resources around these topics in the days ahead, as well.

Always learning,
Dr. Fink

COMING UP

- **Sept. 26-Oct. 7-** MAP Tests
- **Sept. 27-**PTL Meeting
- **Sept. 30-**Fall Fling Open House!
- **Oct. 2-**Trinity Choir sings 8:00
- **Oct. 2-**Troubadour Choir 9:30
- **Oct. 5-**CNO-Chick-Fil-A
- **Oct. 5-7-**5th Grade to Astrocamp
- **Oct. 13-**Makeup photos
- **Oct. 14-**Jog-a-thon
- **Oct. 14-**Minimum Day-Noon Dismissal
- **Oct. 19-21-**6th Grade Camp
- **Oct. 23-** K-2 sings 9:30
- **Oct. 25-**PTL Meeting
- **Oct. 28-**End Quarter 1
- **Oct. 30-**OktoBEARfest!
- **Nov. 3-4-**Minimum Days for Parent/Teacher Conferences

Open House!

Join us for our Fall Fling Open House **this Friday!** We're excited to share a little peek at what we've been up to these first weeks of school.

Need a dinner plan? Order a pizza dinner AND support our 8th Graders' trip to DC!
<https://tinyurl.com/FallFlingDinner>



For August/September we will be donating our chapel offerings to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service. Their "Neighbors in Need: Ukraine" program will help provide essential support for newly arrived families, including emergency medical care, temporary housing, financial support for basic necessities, and more.

Chapel offerings are entirely voluntary, but we encourage you to support this worthy aid organization!

Cook's Night Out

This year, there will be no home cooking on Wednesdays! Starting in October, join us every Wednesday for Cook's Night Out (CNO!)

Support the 8th Graders in raising money for their trip to Washington D.C. and NYC. Our goal is to raise \$2,550 (\$150 per student) with the Cook's Night Out fundraisers.

Keep an eye on the Bear Facts and Bethany's social media for the confirmed restaurant schedule. In the meantime, mark off Wednesday nights on your calendar.

Know of a restaurant that would like to host a Cook's Night Out?
Email Jennifer Newton,
ms.jennifer.newton@gmail.com.



Sports

It's girls' volleyball and boys' flag football season! We have two teams for each: JV (5th/6th grade) and Varsity (7th-8th grade.)

Here's the *game schedule for the next few weeks...come and cheer on the Bears!

Volleyball:

9/27: Home vs. Hope Lutheran
9/29: Away vs. Christ Lutheran
10/4: Home vs. St. Mark's Lutheran
10/6: Away vs. Emmaus Lutheran

Football:

9/28: Home vs. Emmaus Lutheran
10/12: Away vs. Christ Lutheran
10/19: Home vs. Shield of Faith

**Varsity at 3:30, JV at 4:30*





RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

The winners of our Back-to-School Giveaway were Kelly Wegman (\$50), Nikki Cunningham (\$25) and Kim Yoshiyama (\$25). Congratulations!

Are you a Ralph's (Kroger) shopper? If so, don't forget to sign up for their community rewards program and link your account to Bethany. (NPO number PM735) This is separate from Raise Right. (Ralphs does not participate in the Scrip program). I receive a check quarterly from Ralphs, but they don't send me a list of names and earnings. So, when you get a quarterly rewards notice, send me a copy and I will add your Ralph's earnings to your Scrip rebate.

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

Monthly Awards

Each month we recognize one student from each class for a character trait that leads to success! Sometimes it can be hard to choose just one student from each class, so if your child does not "win," it doesn't mean they don't have the trait. (And as an aside, we keep track of which students have won awards each year so we can attempt to recognize a variety of students.)

For September, we are recognizing students who display Kindness: "Whoever pursues righteousness and kindness will find life, righteousness and honor." Proverbs 21:21 We will hand out monthly award certificates after chapel tomorrow.

Congratulations to these kind students:

**Lexi Brege, Jaxson Gardner, Danny Rodrigues, Sienna Sheby, Eli Baldwin,
Mia Gorne, Nickolas Peralta, Jack Peck, Jasmine Lim, and Eli Anema.**

FISH Hours

The Jog-a-thon is coming on October 14. We sent packets home yesterday with all the info, but we will need VOLUNTEERS for the event. This is a great way to earn some FISH Hours!

You can sign up here:
<https://bit.ly/JOG2022>



Middle School Corner

A glimpse at the middle school curriculum...

8th Grade

History: American Independence
English: Research Writing and Time Capsule Letter
Math: Linear Equations and Real Numbers
Science: Chemistry: Motion: Speed, Velocity & Acceleration
Literature: The Hobbit by J.R.R. Tolkien
Spanish: Spanish-speaking countries
Spiritual Formation: The Book of Genesis

7th Grade

History: Medieval Europe
English: Catalina Reflection and Time Capsule Letter
Math: Ratios and Proportional Reasoning
Science: The Cell: Organelles, Macromolecules and Energy
Literature: The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton
Spanish: Spanish-speaking countries
Spiritual Formation: The Book of Luke

6th Grade

History: Ancient Mesopotamia
English: Research Writing and Time Capsule Letter
Math: Fractions, Decimals, and Percents
Science: Maps: Latitude & Longitude, Geologic and Topographic
Literature: Hatchet by Gary Paulsen
Spanish: Spanish-speaking countries
Spiritual Formation: Prayer and Books of the Bible



Girls and boys around the world have experienced the transforming power of the Gospel because a child, family, church, or group lovingly packed a shoebox gift. Bethany students will participate in a giant packing party on November 16, transforming empty shoeboxes into fun gifts. Last year, our students packed 220 boxes and each box bore the handprints of one of our preschoolers with the message - "Place your hand on our handprints and think about us. We prayed for you. Jesus loves you and so do we."

During September, you can help with donations of school supplies - pens, pencils, block erasers, sharpeners, notebooks, markers, colored pencils, or small calculators (dollar store calculators are fine). Kindly drop off items in the Operation Christmas Child container in the school office.



Parents, you are all members of the Parent Teacher League, our amazing group of parent leaders/volunteers and an important part of making Bethany such a special place.

Our first PTL meeting is TONIGHT! You can join us in the library at 6:30 PM OR on Zoom (watch your email for the link).



CALLING ALL DADS AND THEIR DUDES & DUETTES!

Sunday, October 9, 2022 from NOON to 1:30PM, is a Day with Dad...or Grandpa, Uncle, Godfather, any other special man in your child's life. ALL ages are welcome!

We will be meeting on the field, BBQ'ing, enjoying good food, digging into a devotion, games, and doing a fun DIY project that will go home as a keepsake.

Food Menu: Burgers, Hotdogs, Lemonade, Water, Chips and Fruit.

Register now, so we have a head count and have enough supplies and food on hand. Registration closes on Sunday, October 2nd.

<https://bit.ly/daywithdad2223> or use this QR Code:



Cost for this event is free, but we are accepting FREEWILL donations. All donations received will help offset costs AND any proceeds will go to support Bethany's High School Youth Group as they prepare to attend the LCMS Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Questions regarding this event? Please contact:
Alissa Brege at abrege@bethanylutheran.org or call (562) 421-4711, ext. 13.



Join us as at our **Okto-bear-fest** celebration on Sunday, October 30th!

Activities include our Trunk or Treat, a traditional German feast with all the trimmings, a day of live entertainment, good food, plenty of fun and fellowship with the entire Bethany family!

We will also be collecting canned food to support the hungry in our community.

·4:30 - 6:00 PM.....Bethany Lutheran Schools, "Trunk or Treat" in the Bethany Parking Lot
(Admission: *one can of food and one bag of candy per family*)

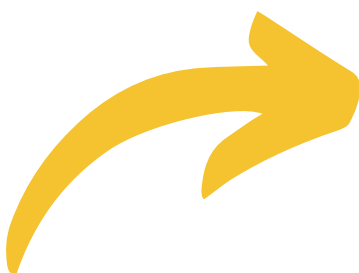
·5:30 PM.....Costume Parade

·4:30 - 6:30 PM.....Food is Served

·4:30 - 7:30 PM.....Oktoberfest (under the tent)
(*Order food/drink tickets below*)

This event is the one time the entire Bethany community gathers during the year. Families from the congregation and from the Schools of Bethany join together to connect with each other; enjoy one another's company and celebrate the One sent into the world for us, Jesus, who sends us out into the world for others.

To order food & beverage, an event T-shirt; (or if you wish to make a monetary donation to offset Okto-bear-fest expenses) visit
<https://bit.ly/Okto-bear-fest22> or use this QR code



Order by midnight, Oct. 23!



Parent Pages

RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY



God's Brain Design for Making Disciples for Life

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age”
(MATT. 28:19–20).

We know these verses as the Great Commission. They easily conjure up images of missionaries and Bible translators living in foreign lands. Yet, have you ever understood these verses as they relate to your parenting? When God blesses us with children, He also gives us the critical vocation to raise our children as His disciples.

As parents, our first step in discipleship is Baptism. In Baptism, the Holy Spirit brings your child into the faith and family of God. Being a part of the family of God presents you and your child with many blessings that help create a disciple for life. You are not left alone with the task of making disciples. If not for the redemptive work of Jesus, there would be no need for disciples. Furthermore, Jesus sends the Spirit to accomplish this task through us.

We want our children to experience growth in their faith, which the Spirit accomplishes through the Word and Sacraments. As we consider our participation in this task, we have the fundamental

tools of instruction and experience at our disposal. Instruction and experience are two different ways to teach and learn. Each has a part in our lives with our children.

Additionally, when we look at God's design for brains to learn, it is wise to consider three characteristics of brain development. First, your child's brain notes what he discovers within the *family*. Second, brains attend to information that is *repeated*. Third, brains take note of information learned in multiple *settings*. Family, repetition and multiple settings indicate to the brain that the activities are crucial for human survival. This indication encourages the brain to create and strengthen neural pathways. When we experience faith in these ways, God builds faith into our brains.

Instruction

Instruction is direct teaching. As parents, we are no strangers to instruction because in much of our time with our children, we teach them what they need to live happy, healthy lives. In discipleship, we realize that spiritual health is a crucial component of development and it requires instruction.

Family — Home devotions and prayer time are vital tools for making disciples of your children. These sessions do not need to be formal. Every time you pray with your child, you teach her about faith. Keep a



Bible on your dinner table and encourage your child to remind you to share. A devotion can come from a book or be as simple as a conversation about a favorite Scripture verse.

Repetition — One of the most significant benefits of family worship is the repetition of weekly worship attendance. The brain takes note of the things that families often do and uses those events to make connections for learning. Of course, it is wonderful to leave church with God's Word and peace filling your heart, but even when Sunday mornings feel hectic, God still uses the experience to make disciples.

Settings — Children learn when they hear God's Word at home, but their brains also notice when the same teaching found at home occurs in another location. So take advantage of the education opportunities you find at your church. School, childcare, Sunday School, vacation Bible school, family events and music groups all contribute to making disciples.

Experience

Experience is indirect teaching. This instruction is informal and happens all of the time. Our children watch us and learn every time we engage with them. Each interaction has the potential to point our children to Jesus.

Family — Remember to keep Law and Grace as a focus in your discipline practices. Children need rules and consequences. However, children will fail. So, children also need forgiveness. They need to be confident that while you will correct misbehaviors, their sins will not stop you from loving them.

Repetition — Modeling is an essential part of learning through experience. Two of the best things we can model are gratitude and prayer. By modeling prayer, you teach your child that we have an approachable God who cares about us. By modeling gratitude, you give your children the understanding that blessings are God's care for us.

Settings — Teaching your children to serve each other and working as a family to serve others is about putting discipleship into action. Teach your children that we serve because God loves us and Jesus saved us. Serving others is about the joy that faith brings.

The last part of the verse that begins this article is a treasured promise for parents. We will make mistakes as we work to make disciples, but Jesus is always with us. We do the earthly work, and God accomplishes the heavenly goal.





COME SUPPORT THE 8TH
GRADE CLASS

“FALL FLING”

PIZZA DINNER



SEPTEMBER 30TH @ 5:30PM

PRE-ORDER

“FAMILY OF 4” MEAL \$20

4 LG. SLICES, 4 SALADS & 4 DRINKS

OR

1 LG. SLICE, SALAD & DRINK \$8

1 LG. SLICE & DRINK \$6

**ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO
SUPPORT THE 8TH GRADE D.C. TRIP**



**SPONSORED BY: PIZZA HUT
THE ERDMAN'S**

