



Bethany Lutheran School  
Long Beach, CA

# BEAR FACTS

Issue 6: October 4, 2022

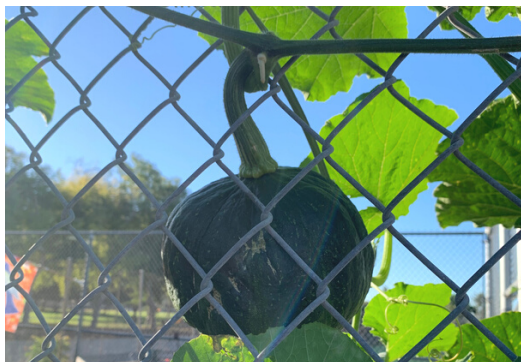
## FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Our student garden, the Garden of Eatin', is a never-ending source of wonder. Right now we have a pumpkin vine that has gone absolutely crazy, with pumpkins growing *up* the fence and *through* the fence!

Why a garden? Gardening makes learning accessible to all students, regardless of background or talents. When students plan, plant, care for and analyze their gardens, learning takes on new meaning. And, of course, there is the added benefit of eating what you've grown, making connections about where food comes from (not the grocery store!) and healthy eating habits.

Finally, gardens connect kids (and adults!) with the Creator and His creation, as the "Johnny Appleseed" song reminds us:

*Oh, the Lord is good to me,  
And so I thank the Lord,  
For giving me the things I need,  
The sun and the rain and the appleseed,  
The Lord is good to me!*



## COMING UP

- **Oct. 5**-CNO-Chick-Fil-A
- **Oct. 5-7**-5th Grade to Astrocamp
- **Oct. 9**-Day with Dad, 12-1:30
- **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
- **Nov. 6**-Daylight Savings Ends
- **Nov. 6**-Trinity sings 8:00  
Troubadour sings 9:30
- **Nov. 11**-Veteran's Day



For October, Student Council has chosen for our offerings to help people around the globe get bibles in their own native languages! We are partnering with an established program that World Vision has in doing this. Our hope, similar to Luther's during the Reformation, is for people to hear the truth of God's love and grace through His word for themselves. We also ask that throughout this month you pray for the people who are about to get to read the Bible for the very first time and that the Spirit is preparing their hearts.

## Cook's Night Out

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

- Oct. 5: Chick-Fil-A, Lakewood
- Oct. 12: Round Table Pizza, Lakewood
- Oct. 19: Super Mex, Lakewood
- Oct. 26: Wahoo's & Handel's Ice Cream, LBX (Dinner and Dessert, they are right next to each other.)
- Nov. 9: BJ's, Cerritos

Know of a restaurant that would like to host a Cook's Night Out?

Email Jennifer Newton,  
[ms.jennifer.newton@gmail.com](mailto:ms.jennifer.newton@gmail.com).

See you tomorrow at Chick-Fil-A! (Don't forget your flyer...you can print one from the newsletter or show it from your phone when you order!



## 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:

10/4: Home vs. St. Mark's Lutheran

10/6: Away vs. Emmaus Lutheran

10/11: Home vs. St. Mark's

10/13: Home vs. Loving Savior

Football:

10/12: Away vs. Christ Lutheran

10/19: Home vs. Shield of Faith

10/26: Away vs. St. Mark's

11/2: Home vs. Loving Savior

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





# RaiseRight™

Formerly ShopWithScrip

Bonus Fest is coming! Earn big with 4 weekends of 3-day bonuses up to 20%.

Bonuses start at 12am ET on Friday and end at 11:59pm ET on Sunday (that's 9pm for us West Coast folks!) All gift card types are included - eGift cards, physical cards, and money added to reloadable cards.

You will still need to shop online for the bonuses - the cards I have on hand will not have been purchased at the bonus rate. If you don't want to pay online, you can choose to pay coordinator when you check out.

Stock up on your regulars and get a head start on your Christmas shopping!

## Veteran's Day Project

Bethany Lutheran School looks forward to continuing the tradition of thanking veterans for their service this November and appreciates your help in advance! **We hope to thank as many veterans as possible** for their service by sending a package of student-created thank you cards to them by mail. The goal is for the package of thank you cards to arrive just before the Veterans Day holiday.

Please use this link to help us gather as many addresses as possible. Please submit a separate form for every veteran, and please feel free to share the link with anyone interested. Please complete the form(s) no later than Friday, October 28th, 2022. Thank you!

Please note that in order to keep the mailing list as accurate as possible, **we are collecting names annually**. Letters will only be mailed to those on the 2022 list. Thank you!

Submission link:

<https://forms.gle/aSjFFrgvYfg4xwtj9>



## FISH Hours

The Jog-a-thon is coming on October 14. We need VOLUNTEERS for the event. This is a great way to earn some FISH Hours! Sign up here:

<https://bit.ly/JOG2022>



## Middle School Corner

### It's time for the annual Middle School Costume Cornhole Tournament!

Who: Every team must include at least one middle school student or teacher

What: An elimination cornhole tournament

When: Sunday, October 30th, 4:30-5:30 pm

Where: Bethany's Parking Lot

Why: Because it's FUN!

Costumes strongly encouraged! Get creative! Prizes for the winning team and the best costumes!

Students and families are also encouraged to enjoy the Trunk-or-Treat event, also in the parking lot from 4:30-6:00 pm. Admission to the Trunk-or-Treat event is one bag of candy per family.

Teams! **Sign up [HERE!](#)**



## PTL

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 biggest fundraiser, the Jog-a-thon, is coming on October 14. Don't forget to set up your Pledgestar account and, if you're free, sign up to help with the event!



Edouard's shoebox story:

My parents worked hard to provide for our family in Senegal. We were a happy family without things. When I was 14, I received a shoebox gift and thought, "Who would care about a kid far away in a dusty country who didn't have food, who sleeps on the floor, who didn't go to school, who didn't have a toothbrush?" The person who packed my shoebox changed my life. God changed my life.

A few years later, I came to the U.S. to train as a track and field athlete. One evening, I was asked to come to a church to help move boxes. When I saw the red and green shoeboxes, I started to cry. "I received one of those!" I exclaimed. "I received a shoebox!"

Today, my life has come full circle. I now train athletes, speak to groups about packing shoebox gifts, and have become a pastor like my father, encouraging people to put God first and to share His love with others. "The most important thing to pack in your shoebox is your heart." There's a child waiting for you to pack a shoebox, to show God's love to them.

Read the full story: Edouard and a Green Yo-yo ([samaritanspurse.org](http://samaritanspurse.org))

October collection items for Bethany school's packing party: small toys such as yo-yos, fidget-toys, hot-wheels, action or animal figures, marbles, jacks....)

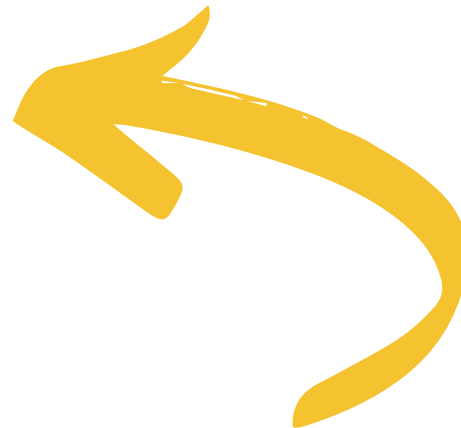


Children ages two (and who are potty-trained) through second grade are welcome to join in fun songs, crafts, stories that help them to better understand Jesus' abundant love for them and the grand adventures of the Bible! Beginning this Sunday, October 9th during the 9:30AM worship service, kids will be invited from the Children's Message to join in the fun and parents can pick up their kids just following the service at the Parish Lounge.

You can register here:

<https://bit.ly/undergraceunder8>

Questions? Contact Alissa Brege (abrege@bethanylutheran.org)







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

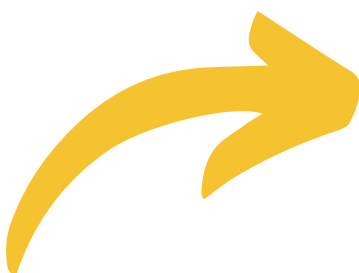
·4:30 - 6:30 PM.....Food is Served

·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!

**Date:**  
**Sunday,**  
**October 30**  
**4:30p-6:00p**



**Admission:**  
**One bag of**  
**candy per**  
**family**



**Bethany Families,**  
**come join our church, school & PTL for our**  
**2022 Trunk-or-Treat & Okto-BEAR-fest event!**

**Bethany Lutheran Schools & the PTL need your help to make**  
**this Trunk-or-Treat amazing!!**

**Here's how you can help:**

**Candy donations**

**Candy can be dropped off in the grade school office**

**OR with a preschool teacher at drop-off/pick-up**

**You can decorate your trunk & participate in the event fun**

**You can pick a theme and decorate your trunk with your family or friends**  
**& pass out candy!**

**OR**

**You can help after the event with clean up & tear down**

**Sign up here for Trunks &**  
**Clean-up spots.**



**There are 35 car spots available!**  
**Spots will be filled in a first come,**  
**first serve order!**

**Trunk guidelines:**

- **This is a young-child friendly event!**  
**Please avoid horror, gore, or disturbing**  
**themes, instead think "cute & cuddly"!**
- **Multiple families may decorate a car**  
**together.**
- **Cars must be parked by 4pm, late**  
**arrivals will not be let in.**

**Please direct any questions to**  
**Dr. Fink or Miss Tammy!**





# Family Matters

A CHRIST-CENTERED RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES AND TEACHERS



## MAKING DISCIPLES FOR LIFE

# “There’s No Place Like Home”

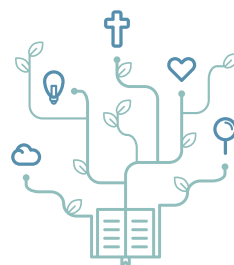
**M**ost of us recognize the title phrase from the ending of the movie classic, *The Wizard of Oz* (Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 1939). It resonates well with those of us who were raised in stable households, with committed family members who provided a loving environment, where we were nurtured toward responsible adulthood. While many of us believe “there’s no place like home” to be true — that’s not always the case. Some people don’t have warm and positive feelings about the home they grew up in. Not everyone grew up in a supportive atmosphere that fostered healthy values, which guided toward mature adult living.

Whether we grew up in a happy and loving home or not, it’s a safe bet that we want to create a stable and caring household for our children. As Christian parents, we want to share the love of Jesus every day in our home, so that our children will grow daily in the Christian faith. We want to nurture faith within our family setting so that our kids will remain lifelong disciples of Jesus.

The home can be a constant resource for encouraging growth in faith. It can be a discipleship center for all generations. We often think of the church as the place for faith growth — which it most certainly is, with the charge to preach the Word and administer the Sacraments. But, what happens the rest of the week? Home is where people spend the majority of their time. Home is the place not only where we hang our hats, but also where we hang our hearts. So, it seems appropriate to encourage parents and leaders in the home to become equippers of the faith, in addition to those who serve in church positions, be they paid or volunteer leaders.

So, how is this done? How, in today’s glitzy, fast-paced, values-confused world, do we nurture faith in our homes? Let’s look to God’s Word — back to the Old Testament, where God gives some practical ideas of how His commands can remain upon the hearts of His people. Deuteronomy Chapter 6 states,

*“And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates” (vv. 6–9).*



Wow! Some very down-to-earth ideas. Visual reminders and conversation starters! Suggestions for what time of day and where to speak about such things. Even ideas for physical attire that will serve as a reminder of God’s commands. The goal here is to connect God’s message with His people through very simple means. Times may have changed since these words were first spoken, but the need for faith talk and family discussions is still clear within the home setting.

When Christian families and their faith are aligned in healthy ways, there is indeed, “no place like home.” And when a home becomes a household of faith, nurturing and supporting family members as they grow as disciples, there is a shared pathway to heaven, where of we can all say those same words, “there’s no place like home.”



## FUN FAMILY ACTIVITY //

Gather the family together around a table or other hard surface, with no electronic distractions, to enjoy the family activity outlined below.

### FAMILY SYMBOLS PROJECT

**PURPOSE:** To engage family members in a fun activity that allows them to express their faith through symbols and words which can be displayed in the home.

**OPENER:** Ask the following questions in your family setting to get a discussion going.

- What's something you like about our family?
- What are some things our family likes to do?
- What are some new things you would like to see our family do in the coming school year?

**FUN FAMILY SYMBOLS:** In the place where the family is sitting, please provide the following supplies:

- A roll or two of adhesive shelf liner paper (the lightly sticky kind that is easy to remove) or several pieces of colored construction paper
- White glue or several glue sticks
- Scissors for family members who can use them safely
- Scotch tape
- Yarn or string



1. Ask your family, "What are some important things that we do together?" Answers could include going to church, camping, sports, playing games, reading and so on. Make a list of these items.
2. Next, ask your family what are some important beliefs they hold to be true and want to follow in practical ways. Make a list of these items (e.g., Jesus loves us, we should follow God's Word in the Bible, we should love our neighbor, we should be kind and helpful to others, we can be joyful in all situations, we have the gift of eternal life because Jesus rose from the dead).

3. Review the two lists you made in #2 and #3 above, and try to think of pictures, images or symbols that would illustrate these beliefs and activities that are important to your family. This could be a cross, the picture of an open tomb, the Christian fish symbol, a soccer ball or other sports equipment and so on. If it's hard to think of a symbol, it could also be an important words like joy, serve, peace, love, be kind and so on.
4. As a family select five to seven items from your list of symbols or words that you want to display in the entryway of your home.
5. Using the adhesive shelf liner paper or construction paper, cut out these symbols and words that illustrate your family's faith and values.
6. When you have five to seven of them completed, walk to the entryway/front door area of your home and place them where they can be seen by all who enter (on the doorframes, the handrails, the front door, etc.).
7. When the symbols and words are all in place, hold hands as a family and have someone in the family read the closing prayer printed below in echo fashion, speaking it phrase by phrase, with everyone repeating the words.



**CLOSING ECHO PRAYER:** Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for our home, and thank You for our family. Please bless all who enter our house. May our home be a place of joy, peace and love, centered around Jesus. Help us as a family to serve You and others, and to grow in our faith every day. In the name of Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.





Thank you for participating in our

## Bethany Lutheran School Spirit Day!

People like you make our community a great place to live...and to learn!

Please stop by Chick-fil-A in Lakewood and present this card when you purchase your meal to support our program and provide a better future for our Students!

Based on the Days sales from our families, Chick-fil-A will make a donation to our programs!!

Again, THANK YOU!

**\*VALID @ LAKEWOOD Chick-fil-A ONLY\***

Valid only, Wed. Oct. 5th, 2022  
6:30AM-9PM

Chick-fil-A is closed on Sundays



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