



Bethany Lutheran School
Long Beach, CA

BEAR FACTS

Issue 8: October 18, 2022

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Times change, and school policies need adjusting every once in awhile in response to the times, so the Board of Schools is making an adjustment to our policy for electronic devices:

During school hours, cellular-functioning devices, including phones *and smart watches with communication capability* will be turned off, collected by classroom teachers and stored in a locked location for the school day. Students may collect their devices at the end of the school day. It is the student's responsibility to retrieve his/her device from the classroom teacher before leaving for the day. *Devices with the sole purpose of GPS and lacking communication capability are permitted but will be the sole responsibility of the student and must not present a distraction.*

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Blessings on your week!
Dr. Fink

P.S. We had over 30 kids out sick yesterday...not with COVID, but with colds/flu-like symptoms The middle school was hit particularly hard! Keep washing those hands, coughing/sneezing in your elbow, getting plenty of rest and taking your Vitaman C!

COMING UP

- **Oct. 18**-PTL Meeting
- **Oct. 19-21**-6th Grade Camp
- **Oct. 23**- K-2 sings 9:30
- **Oct. 27**-Makeup photos
- **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
- **Nov. 18**-Grandparents and Special Friends Day! Late start (8:30) and Minimum Day with noon dismissal



CHAPEL OFFERING

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! Join us every week for Cook's Night Out (CNO!)

- Oct. 19: SuperMex, 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.

See you tomorrow at SuperMex! (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:

10/25: Away vs. Mt. Calvary

Football:

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*



Now available for a limited time: \$5 and \$10 cards for some popular brands like Starbucks, Taco Bell, Amazon, Walmart and more. These make great "little gifts" or cards to keep on hand when you meet someone in need!

Shop smart...shop with Scrip!

Grandparents' and Special Friends Day

We are excited to return to this very special event!! Please use the blank invite(s) we sent home to invite your grandparent(s) or a special friend to join us. We want to have room for everyone, so please try to limit the number of guests you invite. God-willing, we will do this again next year! Thank you!

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

THANK you to all our fabulous helpers at the Jog-a-thon! Wow! We saw many of you filling out FISH slips at the event, but in case you forgot to log your hours, you can do it right in Gradelink by clicking on the Service Hours tab!

Need hours? Sign up to help with clean-up at Trunk-or-Treat!



Middle School Corner



This week, the 6th grade class will enjoy a three-day outdoor educational experience at Thousand Pines Christian Camp in Crestline, CA. The Genesis Account, a Christian program, will provide a counselor who will lead the group in team building, ecology, botany, survival training, astronomy, exploring God's creation and more!

Bethany's educational overnight trips provide opportunities for students to learn outside of the classroom setting. They are able to gain confidence through new experiences and build life-long memories. We thank the Lord for these opportunities and pray His blessings and protection over this week's trip.

"For we have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure." Hebrews 6:19a



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 next meeting is TONIGHT at 6:30 PM in the library or by Zoom. Come and help us plan for Trunk-or-Treat, K-8 Grandparents' Day, the Christmas Store, and so much more!

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)

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....)



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!

·4:30 - 6:00 PM.....Bethany Lutheran Schools, "Trunk or Treat" in the Bethany Parking Lot
(Admission: 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

Last chance to order tickets!



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

Lifelong Disciples ... Grow

The school year is now well underway, and perhaps students and parents are looking forward to the completion of an educational milestone this next spring. It could be a graduation from high school, middle school or elementary school. Perhaps it's a preschool or kindergarten graduation. For some of the parents reading this, maybe you are nearing the finish of a college degree, certification or graduate school program. It's great to celebrate these types of accomplishments—no matter the age of the student.

While many receive formal religious instruction and even graduate from a Christian education institution, one never really “graduates” from growing in the faith. We don't ever arrive at a certain level of understanding where we don't need to continue to grow spiritually. While faith is not earned, but given as a gift in Baptism, it can still be nurtured through the power of the Holy Spirit. Active participation in our local congregation in worship and study can help us grow in our faith, as does personal study and family devotions. While our efforts alone do not cause growth, it's important to place ourselves and our child in settings where the Spirit of God can give new insight and understanding to our Christian walk.

Parents and other leaders in the home can be proactive in nurturing opportunities for children to grow in their faith. Some of us will plant seeds (as Paul) and others



“Lifelong disciples never graduate from the school of faith.”



will water (as Apollos), but it will be God who will bring forth the growth. What kinds of things might we do to help facilitate growth in faith? Here are three broad areas for consideration:

HEARING - Provide opportunities for children and God's people of all ages to hear the Word of God read aloud. Children love to be read to, and it is enriching for youth and adults to continue to hear God's Word. The stark reminder, "We need to hear the Gospel every day, because we forget the Gospel every day," has been attributed to Martin Luther, and causes us to pause and reconsider our day-to-day dependence on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It might be a reading straight from the Bible following a planned Bible reading schedule for your family, or it could be a portion of God's Word written in story form for children and families. It could also be hearing the lessons read at a worship service and then rereading them at home the following week.

DISCUSSION - For some of us, growth and understanding can occur when we can talk about the ideas we hear in Scripture. We love to interact with others,

listen to their perspectives about a verse, then add and share some of our personal insights. Discussions can be furthered through the guidance of a qualified instructor on the subject matter. This can happen in regular classes held at our church, specially designed growth events sponsored by our church or studies held in the homes of fellow believers.

REFLECTING - For others of us, growth and understanding can be enhanced when we are alone. We can ponder what we read in God's Word, pray over the ideas we read and consider the next steps we will take as a result of hearing these truths in Scripture. This third area of consideration may be better suited for individuals in their teen years and older.

Lifelong disciples never graduate from the school of faith. We press forward with "continuing education" until that day arrives when we matriculate from this earth into the presence of Jesus.

FUN FAMILY ACTIVITY //

Gather the family together around a table or other hard surface, with no electronic distractions, to talk and participate in the family planning activity outlined below.

FAMILY GROWTH PLAN

PURPOSE: To engage family members in a fun activity that allows them to create a family action plan for growing in the faith, which can take place for their household over the coming months.

CREATING A FAMILY FAITH GROWTH PLAN:

In the place where the family is gathered, please share the chart below, which will guide the family in creating a Family Faith Growth Plan. Take a look at each of the items, talk about them as a family and then invite each family member to vote whether they want to do this activity on a daily, weekly or monthly basis; or as a special event. Keep track of the votes in each of the boxes of the grid. Post the chart in your home where family members can see it often. Then, as a family, plan to do these faith growth events as so indicated.

As a family, close this time together by having an older child or adult read the prayer below, phrase by phrase, with family members repeating each phrase in “echo” fashion.

CLOSING ECHO PRAYER:

O Holy Spirit, guide and direct our family every day.

Help us to follow Jesus faithfully.

Help us to find ways to grow stronger in our faith.

Help us to not be too busy

to take time to hear your Word

and take it to heart.

In the Name of the Living Word,

Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.

Amen.



ITEM	DAILY	WEEKLY	MONTHLY	AS SCHEDULED
Pray before Meals				
Watch Bible Story Videos				
Attend Christian Holiday Activities				
Memorize Bible Verses				
Pray at Bedtime				
Read from a Bible Story Book				
Have Family Devotions				
Go on a Faith Growth Field Trip				
Attend a Christian Concert or Show				
Other: _____				



Super Mex

Proudly Supports:



Bethany Lutheran School

When: Wednesday, October 19th, 2022

Where: 5254 Faculty Avenue
Lakewood, CA 90712

Super Mex is teaming up to support

Bethany Lutheran School

"Dining For Dollars" event to fund the 8th Grade Students trip to Washington DC this year!

Together, with your support, Super Mex will donate 20% of sales.

1. All you have to do is dine-in or take-out on the date listed on this flyer.
2. **A physical or digital copy of this Flyer must be presented to the server/cashier in order for funds to be allocated to the above organization.**

No other discounts will apply.

Invite your friends, family, and neighbors to participate in this event. The more dining, the bigger the donation!

Note: Please do not distribute flyers inside or in front of the restaurant.

5254 Faculty Ave. Lakewood, CA 90712 (562) 408-1048