

# The Bear Cub Facts



INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING  
**THE SCHOOLS OF BETHANY LUTHERAN**  
CULTIVATING CHRISTIAN CHARACTER

## At Bethany He blessed them—Luke 24:50

Our school and church theme this year is “At Bethany He Blessed Them.” God has blessed us and we will be sharing the Bible stories of His blessings starting with the story of Creation and about all of the amazing things God created, we will learn about how God is loving and forgiving. We will move towards Christmas and hear how our Savior came to earth as a baby and then grew to a man to perform miracles only He can. We will continue to learn of His blessings with the Easter story and Jesus’ travel to Jerusalem where He died on the cross for our sins. We will discover that our journey doesn’t end in death, but eternal life through Christ who rose from the dead on Easter. This will be an exciting journey in Christ that will have everyone wanting more.



## Upcoming Events & Dates to remember

- ⇒ September 15 Park & Pool 6-8pm
- ⇒ September 29 Renaissance of the Heart kick-off and Community Open House
- ⇒ October 3rd PTL Jog-a-thon
- ⇒ October 22-23 Pre-school Picture Day
- ⇒ October 25 Harvest Hoedown

## Park & Pool

Save the date!

Our annual Family Park and Pool day will take place on Sunday, September 15th from 6:00-8:30PM at Mayfair Park. We will start with a picnic in the park and end the evening in the pool with fun and games. A \$5 donation per person (\$20 max per family). RSVP today with Kayleigh Lopez (klopez@bethanylutheran.org) or on the Bethany Lutheran Church Long Beach, CA Facebook page.

## Lost & Found

Reminder: Make sure all items that your child brings to school are labeled clearly with their first and last names. Please check with the teachers if anything is missing or the lost and found crate on the sign-in rolling cart.

## Jog-A-Thon

This is our largest fundraiser of the year. More info to be sent home with your child on how you and your family & friends can support Bethany through sponsorships. Come join us on Thursday, October 3rd, as we cheer our kids on as they have a good time jogging, dancing and laughing!



## Ministry Fair & Community Open House

We are all called to serve God's Kingdom—learn more about the ministries at Bethany and in our community, and discover where you can serve joyfully, at Bethany's Ministry Fair! The Ministry Fair will be held on Sunday, September 29, from 9:00am to 12:30pm, in the Gym. We hope you can attend!

**BUT WAIT... THERE'S MORE!** Following the Fair, Bethany is hosting its Community Open House to present the wonderful works of God made to the campus during the Renaissance Project. Lunch will be served for both events between 12:00pm and 1:30pm.

The Open House will end at 3:00pm. All in the community are welcome! If you have any questions about the Ministry Fair or Open House, please contact Angie Reilly at [angiereilly921@gmail.com](mailto:angiereilly921@gmail.com).



# Parent Academy



## Conscious Discipline<sup>®</sup>

Sometimes, it may seem like your preschooler has the innate ability to push you to the outer edge of your patience. And that's on a good day. Fear not, moms and dads. You're not alone. Each preschool newsletter will be featuring a question and answer from our Conscious Discipline curriculum that will provide encouragement, tips or tricks.

### Why does everything turn into a power struggle?

People create power struggles when they feel powerless. With young children, power struggles often occur after giving the child a command or when the child is tired, hungry or otherwise stressed.

**Child Development:** Before age six, children process information 12 times slower than adults. We must slow down our speech and give only one or two commands at a time. If we speak at a normal pace and say, "Finish your snack, get your crayons and go color in the TV room." The child may only process bits of information, hearing "crayons color the TV."

Young children cannot conjugate the word "don't." When we say, "Don't touch the lamp," they hear, "Touch the lamp!" They look at you with a smile and touch the lamp. We think, "You wicked child, you deliberately defied me," and enter power struggle territory. Instead of using "don't," pivot and tell the child what to do. "Don't touch the lamp," becomes, "Hold my hand (offer your hand) so you can learn how to touch delicate things softly." "Don't run," becomes, "Walk slowly like this."

Children under age seven also lack mature inner speech. Adults use inner speech to rehearse choices and outcomes before we act. Instead of inner speech, children encode information in pictures. So, we can use pictures to guide children's behavior and avoid power struggles. Use your body as a picture by modeling what you want, use your words to help paint pictures of what you want, and put up actual pictures that show what to do. Instead of, "Walk in the house," say, "Walk carefully with each foot going like this through the house." Not only do you get better compliance (fewer power struggles), you also build language and literacy.

Finally, the brain is a pattern-seeking device. The more consistent your routines, the easier it is for the brain to pick up the pattern. If there is a consistent routine, the brain picks up the pattern, the child feels safe, and his neurological resources can be used for learning and exploration rather than for protection, and power struggles lessen.

# Parent Academy



## Conscious Discipline®

**Connection:** Research indicates that the motivation to behave comes from being in relationship. Research also indicates that five minutes a day of focused play with children ages five and under reduces power struggles by 50%. Ten minutes of my [I Love You Rituals](#) per day will improve a child's motivation and willingness, and decrease power struggles. If you don't use [I Love You Rituals](#), be certain to make time daily for specific, focused bonding activity you can share.

**Active Calming:** Finally, the absolute key for staying in control of yourself and helping to avoid power struggles is active calming. In Conscious Discipline, I call it "being a S.T.A.R.," which stands for Smile, Take a deep breath, And Relax. Three deep breaths will turn the stress response off in the body. Once you are able to regulate your inner state through deep breathing, you obtain access to the highest centers of your brain. While you are taking these deep breaths, affirm to yourself, "I'm safe. I feel calm. I can handle this." These words are chosen based on research: They unhook you from the survival center of your brain and plug you into the rational part of your brain. Now you can



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Great Commission Congregation

Keep up to date with everything going on at Bethany Lutheran Church by looking at the Chimes Newsletter and Bethany Bullet.

<http://www.bethanylutheran.org/contact-us/chimes-newsletters/>