



Bear Facts

The Weekly Newsletter of
Bethany Lutheran School
Long Beach, CA
www.bethanylutheran.org

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



*"If nothing changed,
there'd be no butterflies."*

This sign was a gift from a dear friend years ago, and I've been glancing at it quite a bit these past weeks. We've had lots of change at Bethany this year with all of our Renaissance work and we're facing some additional changes in staffing for next year:

In addition to hiring a new Kindergarten teacher, we are also in the process of hiring a preschool director (as Mrs. Wolfbarger is headed to Abiding Savior, Lake Forest) and an art teacher (as Mrs. Sandlin is moving to Tennessee) and a school librarian (as Mrs. Price is also moving out of the area!)

Finally, we have a couple of teacher aide positions to fill as Mrs. Pettay is moving out of state (what's with all the moving??), Mrs. Alvarado is taking some time off for family and Miss Aguilar will be starting her student teaching. Our teacher aides are an important part of our staff, lending critical support to our teachers and students. We prefer to hire folks with teaching backgrounds for these part-time positions, if possible. If you are interested in a teacher aide position or know someone who is, please contact Dr. Fink.

Change is hard, but we know that God has a plan to continue to bless us here at Bethany!

*Blessings on your week,
Dr. Fink*



Our 3rd, 4th and 5th graders will present the delightful musical **'Go West'** for our students, families and friends this **Friday, May 31**. Performances will be at **1:30 PM and 7 PM in our gym**.

'Go West' is a musical celebration of America's westward expansion. You'll learn more about the development of our great nation, and that real gold is not always the kind we make into ingots and baubles! It's a story about ideas and inspiration, opportunity, fresh starts and attainable dreams!

We know you'll love seeing our talented students in this fun performance! Please join us!



Monthly Awards

This year we are honoring character traits often attributed to our nation's first president, George Washington. We know that our founding fathers were definitely NOT perfect, but we think these character traits are worth pursuing and also supported by Scripture. ☺ For the month of May, we are honoring students who exemplify **DEVOTION**:

- K- Jameson Steele
- 1st- Sarah Kibe
- 2nd-Daniella Martins
- 3rd-Jasmine Lim
- 4th-Norah Vu
- 5th-Miles Jump
- 6th- Taylor Alexander
- 7th-Jacob Clagett
- 8th- Miguel Valle

*"Be devoted to one another in love.
Honor one another above yourselves."
Romans 12:10*

School Bulletin #37

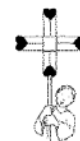
May 28, 2019

DON'T FORGET

- ☺May 28-Final PTL Meeting-6:30 PM-Library
- ☺May 31-School Musical-GO WEST!
- ☺June 3-Sports Recognition Event-6:30 PM
- ☺June 5-Primary Music Recital-6:30 PM
- ☺June 9-Retirement Celebration for Mrs. Dahlin and Miss Belinda-9:30 AM
- ☺June 9-Graduation 4:00 PM
- ☺June 11-Field Day
- ☺June 12-Park and Pool Day
- ☺June 13-Minimum Day, K Graduation 11:00
- ☺August 21 & 25-Family Classroom Visits

Chapel Schedule

- May 29-2nd Grade
 - June 5-Student Council
 - June 13-Pastor Seth
- Chapel is at 9:00
in the gym while we are
under construction. Parents
are always welcome!*



Got BoxTops? Turn them in before the school year ends so we can send them in for credit!





The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

Did you help at the County Fair Block Party? Be sure to turn in your FISH hours...you can do it from our app or the Bethany website!



CHAPEL OFFERING

Our chapel project for the month of May and June is to support Zach Barz, currently serving as a missionary in Costa Rica. You can learn more about his ministry here: <https://missionofchrist.org/zachbarz/>



Cook's Night Out
Come and support Bethany's youth group:
Panda Express
Tuesday, May 28
Don't forget your flyer!



Eat the Frog

One of the phrases we use on my team at work is "Eat the Frog". It's a jolting way to remind ourselves to get the difficult tasks done first so they're out the way. Here is the background on it:

Mark Twain once said that if the first thing you do each morning is to eat a live frog, you can go through the day with the satisfaction of knowing that that is probably the worst thing that is going to happen to you all day long. Your "frog" is your biggest, most important task, the one you are most likely to procrastinate on if you don't do something about it.

There are two rules of frog eating:

1. If you have to eat two frogs, eat the ugliest one first.
This is another way of saying if you have two important tasks in front of you, start with the biggest, hardest and most important first.
2. If you have to eat a live frog at all, it doesn't pay to sit and look at it for very long.
Reaching high levels of performance means a habit of tackling your major task first thing each morning. Don't take too much time to think about it.

We're in "frog eating" season right now with 2-1/2 weeks of school left. It's a "just get it done" mentality to make it through and finish the year strong, for both parents and students alike. A strong mindset from you and encouragement to eat the frog to get the last few important school tasks out of the way will make these weeks bearable, and dare I say it, fun! Hang in there, parents – we're almost there. Grab the fork and knife and go after that frog. I'll be there with you!

PTL board elections tonight at 6:30 p.m. Hope to see you there! *-Jen Carlson*



Shop with Scrip this Summer, increase your tuition rebate potential with **MyScripWallet.com.** Easily order and earn with the **ShopWithScrip** mobile website.

Benefits of using MyScripWallet.com:

Earn on-the-go, ordering Scrip fits into wherever your busy schedule take you.

Earn every day, easy access means you can order whenever it's most convenient for you.

Everything all in one place, with **My Wallet** you can manage your eGift cards, and reloads, for simple redemption online and in-stores.

Use ReloadNow, register a card you purchased from **ShopWithScrip** and add funds to it when the balance is running low.

If you don't have a **ShopWithScrip** account yet, you can enroll on **MyScripWallet.com** with our organization's enrollment code: **1BL8EE69719L.** Link your bank account to enroll in online payments, then, start placing orders and watch the earnings add up!

If you like to purchase traditional plastic gift cards, graduations, weddings and Father's Day are all good opportunities to purchase Scrip/gift cards and increase your rebate for next year.

BETHANY LUTHERAN MUSIC ACADEMY

The Music Academy was established in 1990 to provide extra-curricular music instruction to all children associated with Bethany Lutheran Church and School. This is an after school program with instruction taking place on the Bethany campus, Monday - Friday between 3:15 and 6:30 p.m. We have Christian instructors who are professionals in their field. There are twelve weekly lessons scheduled each semester; fall semester will begin Monday, September 9th. Tuition: \$275 plus \$25 annual registration fee. Students may select from the following instruments: piano (2nd grade and up), violin (2nd – 8th grades) and trumpet (4th and up). Brochures and enrollment forms may be picked up in the school or church offices; you may also go online to: www.bethanylutheran.org to download your enrollment form. **Enrollment is now open through Friday, August 30. Forms are due no later than Friday, August 30.** Questions? Contact Academy Administrator, Mara Widmann at mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org or 562-421-4711 ext. #55.

Character Chronicles

The Character Traits of George Washington

Vol. I

DEVOTED

No. IX

A Cause Without a Country

1760s

Shortly after the end of the French and Indian War, George Washington felt disgruntled with England. General Braddock had refused to listen to Washington's advice and use his knowledge of the western frontier. This cost the General his life in the end.

Wanting very much wanted to join the regular British ranks, but he was denied a commission for officer status in the British army.

Returning to life on the plantation, Washington soon learned that England continued to harass and control the colonists through unfair pricing and trading of the tobacco crop.

George Washington was frustrated, angry and ready to devote whatever it would take to separate himself and the thirteen colonies from the talons of England.

This loyalty would be put to the test in June of 1775 when Washington was asked to form and lead the Continental Army against the greatest opponent in the world – the British Army.



For Better or Worse

THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR

It was 1759 when the young and beautiful Martha Dandridge Custis became the wife of George Washington.



She had prepared herself to take on the duties of mistress of a large household, mother to her young children, and hostess. Life at Mount Vernon was a life that most could only dream of.

But then in June of 1775, Washington wrote a letter

telling Martha he had acceptance a job to lead the new army. His only concern was Martha: “My Dearest, I am now set down to write to you on a subject which fills me with inexpressible concern--and this concern is greatly aggravated and Increased when I reflect upon the uneasiness I know it will give you.”

As the war began, George Washington’s devotion to his wife became necessary to his very existence. Each year, Washington asked Martha to make the long and dangerous trip to his winter encampment. For Martha, this meant giving up the comforts of Mount Vernon and required that she be inoculated against the Small Pox virus to protect her from exposure in the camps.

Their devotion to each other is recorded in a journal entry by Army Surgeon Waldo, “For Martha Washington, the yearly trips to the army camps were a matter of duty, both to the husband she loved and to the cause he espoused.”

General and Mrs. Washington were devoted to each other and their new country The United States of America no matter the cost.

Oh, Grandpapa!

1783

Following the Battle of Yorktown, and the death of Washington’s step-son John (Jacky or Jack) Parke Custis, the Washingtons adopted two of their grandchildren, Eleanor (Nelly) and George Washington (Wash) Parke Custis.



In December 1783, Washington prepared to travel home to Mount Vernon following the end of the war. After bidding farewell to his officers at Fraunces Tavern in New York City, he traveled to where the Continental Congress was meeting in Annapolis, Maryland to resign his commission as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army. Now it was time to truly begin his journey back to Mount Vernon – but not without few gifts for his family.

His arrival at Mount Vernon on Christmas Eve was a surprise to Martha, as were the gifts he brought for his grandchildren. Hi focus on his family is just one more example of what loyalty meant to him.



devoted

\di-'vōt, dēd

Adjective

: having strong love or loyalty for something or someone



Family Matters

A CHRIST-CENTERED RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES AND TEACHERS



REAL. PRESENT. GOD.

Present in the Journey Ahead

“Where are you going?”

That question can be asked in many contexts. It could be posed to children as they head out the door on a summer afternoon. It could be asked of a teenager who wants the keys to the car. It could be asked of a person who is heading to graduate school. It could be asked of an individual who has recently made a poor life choice.

For centuries, the map was the definitive source of helping people find direction in their lives. These handy resources came in various versions — street maps, state maps, regional maps, the entire United States and various foreign countries, all published by travel companies and other map makers. They filled our glove boxes, took up space in our desks and were essential resources for local businesses as well as government agencies. Maps were sometimes published in book form, and older ones can even be considered works of art.

Gone are those days! We now have electronic guidance systems built into our cars and as basic apps for our phones. No longer are we required to ask for directions — we can find our way by entering an address, a business name or even a general location. Much of the time our GPS will help us find our destination in a timely manner; other times, however, it can get confusing, cause us delays and create frustration.

Most everyone wants to know where they are going in life. This certainly is true in terms of physical destinations, but even more, we are concerned about our future regarding items of value, life choices, relationships and spiritual matters.

When the children of Israel exited Egypt, God led them as a pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night. It was a journey that eventually took 40 years. During this time, the children of Israel were often uncertain about things in terms of their physical well-being. It was also a relational journey with each other and a spiritual journey with God. Many times along the way, they complained to Moses. They endured and were finally able to cross the Jordan River and enter the Promised Land. God was with them; He never left them, nor did He ever forsake them, nor did He ever stop loving them.

God promises to be with us in this journey of life. He is there when times are tough and we face enemies all around us. God is there when we are uncertain about our futures and when we lose sight of the goal set before us. When we think we cannot move forward — God is there with us. When there are times that we think that God is not present with us — be most assured that He is indeed with us! Still to this day, God promises to not leave us, nor forsake us, and He will continue to love us every day in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God be with you and your family in your summer activities ahead!



FAMILY LINKS // Activities for families to reinforce Bible truths in the home.

Gather the family together in a comfortable place for study and discussion using the outline below.

OPENING PRAYER

Given by a person who will have a birthday this summer.

OPENER

Ask the members of the family the following either/or questions about going on a journey. Have family members share the reasons for the choices they make.

Would you rather go on a ...

Hike of 20 miles or a run of 2 miles?

Flight to a foreign country or a trip on a ship to another country?

Walk on the beach or a hike in the mountains?

Drive in the desert or a drive in a forest?

Ride on a camel for 2 hours or a ride on a horse for 2 hours?



FAMILY STUDY TIME

Have someone in the family read Psalm 121 in the sections outlined below, allowing family members to have a discussion following each short reading.

Ps. 121:1–2 Where does our help in this life come from? Why is this our help?

Ps. 121:3–4 Who watches over us? How does this give us comfort?

Ps. 121:5–6 What do you think it means by “the LORD is your shade” (v. 5)?

Ps. 121:7–8 What does these verses promise us, especially as we think about the trips and travel that we may do this summer as a family?



FAMILY FUN PLANNING

Think about things that you might do this summer as a family in the following categories. Where might you go, what might you do ...

In your community? _____

In your county? _____

In your state? _____

Across your region of the country? _____

Somewhere else in the USA? _____

In another country? _____

CLOSING ECHO PRAYER

Have an older sibling or adult read the following prayer with other members of the family repeating the words, phrase by phrase.

Father in Heaven. Watch over us this summer. Keep us safe from harm and danger. Let us enjoy the fun things we do. Watch over our coming in, and our going out, from this time forward, and forevermore. In Jesus' Name. Amen.



FUNDRAISER EVENT

Raise Money For: Bethany Lutheran Church

When	Where	How
Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Panda Express at Spring & Woodruff - Vons 5945 E. Spring St. Long Beach, CA 90808	In-store: Show paper or digital version of this flyer Online: Enter 265199 in the promo code box during online checkout.

20% of event sales will be donated to: Bethany Lutheran Church

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid fundraiser flyer (hard copy or smart phone) with each order to receive credit for the fundraiser. Flyers may not be distributed inside or within vicinity of restaurant including, without limitation to, the restaurant parking lot before or during your fundraiser. Panda Restaurant Group reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events for any reason and/or withhold payment of associated donation funds if the Panda Restaurant Group Fundraiser Guidelines are not followed.

©2018 Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. All Rights Reserved. SKU # 0000



FUNDRAISER EVENT

Raise Money For: Bethany Lutheran Church

When	Where	How
Tuesday, May 28, 2019 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM	Panda Express at Spring & Woodruff - Vons 5945 E. Spring St. Long Beach, CA 90808	In-store: Show paper or digital version of this flyer Online: Enter 265199 in the promo code box during online checkout.

20% of event sales will be donated to: Bethany Lutheran Church

Participating fundraiser guests are required to present a valid fundraiser flyer (hard copy or smart phone) with each order to receive credit for the fundraiser. Flyers may not be distributed inside or within vicinity of restaurant including, without limitation to, the restaurant parking lot before or during your fundraiser. Panda Restaurant Group reserves the right to cancel any and all fundraiser events for any reason and/or withhold payment of associated donation funds if the Panda Restaurant Group Fundraiser Guidelines are not followed.

©2018 Panda Restaurant Group, Inc. All Rights Reserved. SKU # 0000