



# Bear Facts

The Weekly Newsletter of  
Bethany Lutheran School  
Long Beach, CA  
[www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



## FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Last week in chapel we talked about “identities.” We all have them: parent, friend, co-worker, sister/brother, grandchild, niece/nephew. All of them are important, but one of them is the MOST important: child of God. Our identities change over time, but because of Jesus and His sacrifice of love, our identities as children of God do not change because He does not change!

We also talked about how our identities as children of God do not go away when we walk out of the church building or away from Bethany’s campus. We carry them with us to our place of business, the parking lot, the grocery store and our homes. And our identities are not meant to be kept a secret. We share them in our words and actions.

I hope that knowing you are a child of God, a child of the King, brings you comfort and strength as you meet the joys and challenges of your week.

*Dr. Fink*

*Hello,  
My name is  
child  
of the one true  
King.*

## New Parent Prayer Group!

Would you like to help lift our students, families and staff in prayer with other praying parents? We will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month in the EDC room at 8:35 AM. Our first meeting will be Sept. 24. Join us!



## Box Tops for Education is going digital!

Although the Box Tops clips are still in use, the program has begun a transition (See the attached flyer for details.) There are still Boxtops to clip for a bit, though, so we'll be having a Box Top collection drive in October. Continue saving the Box Tops and please get familiar with the new digital submission process as well.

## 3:10 Pickup

Parents, we will open the rolling gate at 2:45ish each day. For the safety of our students, though, we won't move the yellow barriers until PE class is over.

We're noticing that traffic is stacking up on Clark Ave., causing a potential hazard for you, our dear parents!

May we suggest that you wait about 5-10 more minutes to arrive on campus? The parking lot is typically cleared out by 3:15. We promise to take care of your kids until then! ☺

**Reminder:** Parent Support Group for students with dyslexia and other language-based learning differences meets Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6-8 PM

## School Bulletin #4

Sept. 17, 2019

## DON'T FORGET

- ☺Sept. 16-20 7<sup>th</sup> Graders at Catalina Marine Camp
- ☺Sept. 18-6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp meeting-6:30
- ☺Sept. 23 MAP Testing begins, Grades 2-8
- ☺Sept. 24-Prayer group 8:30 AM
- ☺Sept. 24-Parent Support Group...Students with Dyslexia
- ☺Sept. 29-Open House
- ☺Oct. 3-Jog-a-thon
- ☺Oct. 4-Fall Holiday-No School
- ☺Oct. 7-SafeKids Parent Info Night
- ☺Oct. 8-Author Day with our very own Miss Arzaga!
- ☺Oct. 9-11 5<sup>th</sup> Grade to Astrocamp

## Chapel Leaders

- Sept. 18-Ms. Imes and Mrs. Tucker
- Sept. 25-Mrs. Moorman
- Oct. 2-Pastor Blake
- Chapel is at 9:00 on Wednesdays in the church.*
- Parents, you are always welcome to join us!*

## Bethany Bears Sports

Tuesday: Volleyball home vs. Hope, Glendora  
Varsity 3:30/JV 4:30

Wednesday: Football away vs. Christ, Covina  
Varsity 3:30/JV 4:30

**Go, Bears!**



The FISHin' Hole  
Opportunities to Serve

### HELP! HELP!

We could use some help washing out the rain barrel by EDC, repairing the screen and relocating it to the garden. Contact Dr. Fink if you can help!

*"And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Col 3:17*

Parents, if your child forgets his/her lunch, we will NOT let them go hungry. ☺

We will call you to see if it's ok to give them an emergency lunch from ChoiceLunch. We would prefer that you avoid using lunch delivery services like UberEats, DoorDash, etc. Thank you!



## CHAPEL OFFERING

For August and September we will be donating our chapel offerings to Garuna Lutheran Schools in Cambodia where Ms. Imes and Mrs. Tucker served this past summer!

"Garuna" means grace, mercy and compassion in the Thai and Khmer language. The Garuna Christian Schools are 'tutorial' schools. The children in Cambodia attend government schools for half days. When they are finished with their required school session they are then welcomed to come to the Garuna Christian Schools for extra help in the core subjects including Bible stories, music, and lessons.

You can learn more about the Garuna Foundation here:

<https://www.garuna.org/garuna-schools.html>



Using Scrip/gift cards for large and small purchases will earn you a Scrip Rebate that you can use next May to lower your May tuition payment. In addition, when your child is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade you can start banking your Scrip rebates to pay for their 8<sup>th</sup> grade Washington DC trip. Last year a Bethany family had \$1,375 banked to use for DC trip payment! If you haven't started purchasing Scrip it is never too late to buy Scrip to save money on the DC trip or tuition payments.

Every time you purchase Scrip/gift cards 60% of the profit we receive is credited to your rebate account. The other 40% is used to enhance the education of our students.

We have Scrip/gift cards On Hand, or by Special Order, for many of the stores and restaurants you go to frequently. Visa/gift cards can be used for many expenses that we don't have retailer specific Scrip for. Some of our families are using Visa gift cards to pay their cell phone bill, pay for Choice lunch, or shop at Ikea!

*RALPHS* shoppers if you didn't register, or renew, your *RALPHS* Rewards Card please sign up this week. Sign up instructions were attached to last week's Bear Facts. If you need another copy we have them in the school office.

Scrip Order Forms can be printed from our website ([www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org)), click on "Forms". Scrip orders sent to school with your child will be filled and sent home the same day.

### Club 35 (Grades 3-5)

**All 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade youth** are invited to the next Club 35 meeting on...

**Wednesday, September 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-7:00PM**

Join us for a time of fellowship as we get to know each other some more and hop right into some fun activities. Club 35 will continue to meet on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month from 6-7pm in the Multipurpose Room #215.

**Our Upcoming 2019 Dates:** September 25, October 9 & 23, November 13. Our December 11 date we will meet a little bit earlier (5:45-6:45PM) because of our Advent service that evening.

**\*2020 Dates are posted on the Club 35 page Bethany's Website. –**

Katelyn True, [ktrue@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:ktrue@bethanylutheran.org)

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Bethany Lutheran Church and Schools  
Community Open House

*(takes the place of our annual Fall Fling Open House)*

**Sunday, September 29**

Come at 12:00 for lunch, tours of the church/offices/Youth Room!  
Classrooms open 1:00-3:00



## ***Interested in joining Bethany Lutheran Church? Bethany 101 & 201 "New Member Courses"***

Bethany 101 and Bethany 201 are courses that explore the key truths of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective and the process and purpose of membership at Bethany.

Attendance at 101 is required for those joining Bethany Lutheran Church, even those who are transferring membership from another Lutheran church. Bethany 201 is for folks who are not coming from another Lutheran church.

Bethany 101 is a one-session face-to-face experience where we talk about the history of Bethany, our vision, structure, the Bethany Blueprint and what membership at Bethany entails.

Bethany 201 is a three session online course that covers the core basics of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Participants will meet individually (or as a family) with either of our Pastors after each session to discuss the material.

The next Bethany 101 sessions will be held on BOTH October 6<sup>th</sup> and October 13<sup>th</sup> in the Music Room and begin at 11 am. Child Care will be available right next door in the preschool. Class will run approximately an hour. You need attend ONLY ONE of the two opportunities.

Bethany 201 begins after attendance at a 101. Our hope is that all those going through the 201 process will be finished by the end of November so that we can receive new members in early December.

Please RSVP your attendance for Bethany 101 with Pastor Kevin or Pastor Seth [kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:kkritzer@bethanylutheran.org) or [smoorman@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:smoorman@bethanylutheran.org)

## **Operation Christmas Child**

After sharing the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus said "Go and do likewise." That is the mission of Samaritan's Purse - to follow the example of Christ by helping those in need and proclaiming the hope of the gospel. Each year, we participate in Operation Christmas Child, packing shoeboxes to send across the world to children in need.

This year, we'll participate in one GIGANTIC packing party in November, but we're starting to collect items NOW. In September, we're collecting hygiene products and accessories including bar soap (no liquids), wash cloths, toothbrushes (no toothpaste), combs, hair brushes, bandages, nail clippers/files, compact mirrors, sunglasses, hats, socks, bandanas, beanies and hair accessories like barrettes, headbands and bows.

Thanks for your support!



## **Middle School Corner**

This week the 7th graders are taking their classes to the sea! The 7th grade extra-curricular trip to Catalina Island provides the students with a truly unique learning experience that includes marine biology classes, kayaking, hiking and snorkeling. They always return with amazing stories to share and new knowledge gained. Plus, no white noise sound machines needed, they will fall asleep to the sound of the Pacific Ocean just outside their cabins! We pray that the Lord blesses their trip!

*"It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity! The water was beautiful." Gabriella, 8th grade*

*"It was an amazing experience that helped us get to know each other better!" Gina, 8th grade*

*"The campfire, kayaking, snorkeling and the open cabins were awesome!" Angelina, 8th grade*

The 7<sup>th</sup> graders are in Catalina this week on one of the best trips we offer here at Bethany! Did you know that the PTL will give our 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade families 75% of their Jog-A-Thon funds back in a check directly to you to help pay for these outdoor education experiences?! WOW! Just think – your friends and family could help fund your child's trip and help our school out a little bit too.

Our biggest fundraiser of the year, our annual Jog-A-Thon, is coming up on Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Info will be coming home TODAY. In addition to PTL activities and class trips, we're also raising funds for new speakers in the gym and a Bluetooth sound system for Freedom Square. We will need parent helpers for counting laps, bringing water, cheering on our kids and more. Get excited, get ready and let's get jogging!

*-Jen Carlson, PTL President*



September 2019

Dear Bethany Parents,

Our kids have learned important safety procedures like “look both ways before crossing the street,” “stop, drop and roll,” and “duck and cover.” As we are all painfully aware, we now live in a day and age where it has become prudent and necessary to equip them with a new safety procedure: what to do in the face of a violent threat. Fortunately, the science of protection has provided us with effective responses to increase safety and survivability.

This school year Bethany Lutheran School is partnering with Safe Kids Inc., a team of law enforcement and education experts, who have developed a curriculum that teaches these responses in a non-threatening manner: The H.E.R.O. Program.

H.E.R.O. is an acronym for: **Hide! Escape! Run! Overcome!** Our teaching staff has already participated in the training and will be leading students through the curriculum this year.

Your child will learn these safe-thinking skills and empowerment strategies through age-appropriate activities, stories, classroom discussions, journaling, and student-parent discussion. Once they have been prepared in this non-threatening manner, the school will participate in school-wide drills that meet and exceed safety mandates determined by government officials.

The H.E.R.O. Program has been vetted by numerous focus groups consisting of students, teachers, school administrators, school psychologists, university faculty, law enforcement and most importantly, parents!

**We want all parents to be fully informed about this program before we teach the lessons**, so the authors of the program, Scott Johnson and Adam Coughran, will be giving a parent presentation here at Bethany:

**Safe Kids Presentation**  
**October 7, 2019**  
**6:30 PM in the church**  
**Childcare and homework passes provided**

We also encourage you to visit Safe Kids Inc.’s website at [www.SafeKidsInc.com](http://www.SafeKidsInc.com) to learn more. You can also download the free H.E.R.O. Companion Guide for Parents by clicking on the “Families” tab.

We value the safety of our children above all else and believe the H.E.R.O. Program will create a safer learning environment for our entire school community as well as equip our students for potential threats outside of school.

Please plan to join us on October 7. And as always, if you have any questions please don’t hesitate to contact me!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Fink



# EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

NO MORE CLIPPING. ALL YOU NEED IS YOUR SMARTPHONE.

The NEW and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

LOOK FOR THE NEW LABEL:

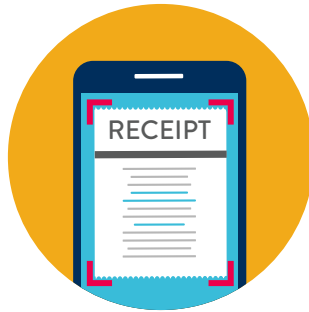


## HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:



### BUY BOX TOPS PRODUCTS

You can find Box Tops on hundreds of products throughout the store.



### SCAN YOUR RECEIPT

Use the app to snap a photo of your receipt within 14 days of purchase.



### EARN CASH FOR OUR SCHOOL

Box Tops earnings are identified and automatically updated at BTFE.com.

You do not need to clip or send Box Tops labels to school.



## BOX TOPS CLIPS ON PACKAGES

Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production but may continue to be found on many products throughout the store as packages transition to the new Box Tops labels. **You can still clip these and send them to school.** Please make sure each clip has a valid expiration date.



**BUY**  
BOX TOPS  
PRODUCTS



**CUT**  
OUT THE BOX TOP  
FROM EACH PACKAGE



**SEND**  
YOUR BOX TOPS  
TO SCHOOL

SEE PRODUCTS & LEARN MORE ABOUT THE BOX TOPS APP AT [BTFE.COM](http://BTFE.COM)

THE ALL-NEW BOX TOPS IS HERE!  
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