



# 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



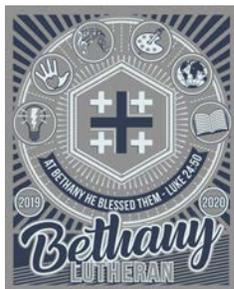
A few years ago I read an article by Ron Reynolds, director of the California Association of Private School Organizations, about why private (or in our case, parochial) schools are successful. The author believes two critical factors surpass all others: community and character.

Mr. Reynolds says many schools try to *build* a sense of community, but private/parochial schools are a community by definition, because parents, students and staff are *choosing* to be a part of a school that shares their core values and interests.

The best private/parochial schools also have a “tangible sense of character.” They stand for something and it is reflected throughout their school’s activities.

Does Bethany fit this profile? I certainly think so. It is our shared love for Jesus and His kids that brings us together in the Bethany Family. We hope that this love is reflected in everything we do or say here.

*Blessed to be at Bethany,  
Dr. Fink*



One of our best events of the year is just around the corner - our annual Pumpkin Patch carnival, paired with the church Oktoberfest! It's an evening celebrating the harvest season and is perfect for families with kids of all ages. We have games, candy, costumes, music, dinner available (adult beverages as well - pre purchase only!) and a whole lot of fun to get you ready for the season. Please plan on joining us for a really fun time!

- The cost for the Pumpkin Patch Carnival is one bag of candy per family.
- Information for ordering Oktoberfest tickets is here: <https://www.simplechurchgiving.net/App/Form/5adc1f62-2afe-4e16-9ff9-8fd6fa85314d>

As with any event, we can't do it without you and are asking for parent help with running the game booths and staffing the Pumpkin Patch event. **Please sign up for a shift with the link below** and earn some FISH hours for your time, as well as great bonding with your Bethany Bear Family. Thank YOU for all your help to make these events successful. YOU are the best part of Bethany!

- Pumpkin Patch Volunteers: <https://signup.com/go/XEuFCYg>



School Bulletin #8  
October 15, 2019

## DON'T FORGET

- ☺ Oct. 20-K-2 sings 8:00 AM
- ☺ Oct. 22-Picture Makeup Day
- ☺ Oct. 25-Middle School Dance
- ☺ Oct. 27-Bethany's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, Oktoberfest and Pumpkin Patch Carnival!
- ☺ Oct. 30-31 Parent Teacher Conferences/Minimum Days
- ☺ Nov. 1-No school-Faculty Inservice
- ☺ Nov. 3-Daylight Savings Time ends
- ☺ Nov. 6-8 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Camp
- ☺ Nov. 11-Veteran's Day-No School
- ☺ Nov. 15-Operation Christmas Child Packing Event

## Chapel Leaders

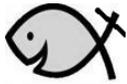
- Oct. 16-Mrs. Boerrigter
  - Oct. 23-Mrs. Lange
  - Oct. 30-Mrs. Blake
- Chapel is at 9:00 on Wednesdays in the church.  
Parents, you are always welcome to join us!*

## Bethany Bears Sports

**Tuesday**  
Volleyball HOME against St. Mark's  
3:30 and 4:30

**Wednesday**  
JV Football (no varsity) away at Emmaus, Alhambra

**Go Bears!**



The FISHin' Hole  
Opportunities to Serve

We could use some Clorox wipes in the office....donate some and earn a FISH hour!

Make sure you report your hours, but please report in ONE place (online or paper form) not both! Thanks!

*“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*

Bethany Bears, now that we have cooler mornings, just a reminder about our sweatshirt policy:

**Solid-colored (red, white, or navy blue) cardigans or sweatshirts, or sweatshirts with BLS**

**logo/spirit/camp wear may be worn over uniform clothing inside the classroom.**



**CHAPEL OFFERING**

Our chapel offerings for the month of October will support Free Wheelchair Mission.

You can learn more about this worthy organization here:

[www.freewheelchairmission.org/](http://www.freewheelchairmission.org/)

**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.



**Club 35 (Grades 3-5)**

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

**Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> from 6:00-7:00PM**

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:** November 13. **\*2020 Dates are posted on the Club 35 page Bethany's Website.** –

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



Have you signed up for *ShopWithScrip.com*? Sign up this week so you can take advantage of the on-line bonus rebates the week of Oct 19-25. Each day different vendors will offer bonus rebates on popular gift card brands.

Every time you buy Scrip/gift cards you are reducing your tuition cost for next May! There are many ways to use Scrip/gift cards: you can buy groceries and gasoline, you can go to the movies, purchase clothing or sporting equipment, go out to eat at a nice restaurant, or buy fast food.

Using Scrip/gift cards instead of a credit card at gas stations is a good way to prevent credit card fraud. Using a credit card at a gas station is one of the most common places for credit card identity theft. We have \$50 gas cards for Arco, Chevron, Mobil, Shell and Vons. 76 Gas offers a \$25 card, and we have \$100 cards for Arco, Shell and 76.

Buying your groceries with Scrip/gift cards at Vons/Pavilions will also save you money when you pump gas. Vons/Pavilions purchases earn 10 cents per gallon Gas Rewards for the Vons gas station.

“The only way God can show us He’s in control is to put us in situations we can’t control”

You ever have those parenting moments when you realize you’re most certainly not in control, and those darling kiddos of yours have taken over? One of my moments was when my then-three-year-old was found putting on my very expensive designer makeup. Trying to take it from her caused a full blown meltdown and I gave in and let the little toddler-boss apply my \$30 blush, because it was easier than the fight. I can laugh now, but I remember being legitimately upset that I was losing a battle that I should have been easily in control of!

Life sends me all sorts of reminders all the time that I’m not in control – correction – GOD sends me those reminders. He may stop me at every traffic light and make me late for work, reminding me to slow down. He may speed up the timeline on a decision I’ve been procrastinating on for a while, to help me get over the indecision and move on to better things ahead of me. He may send my kids in to give me an extra squeeze while I’m scrolling on my phone or crawl in my bed with me at night to remind me that they need my attention and that they’re only little for a while. Whatever the message or sign, they are there and I just need to trust that He has my back. Because He *always* does. Have a great week, friends!

*-Jen Carlson, PTL President*

### Middle School Corner

Bethany Lutheran is committed to a Pre-K through 8th grade model to prepare students for high school. These middle school years are a key time for students to deeply understand who they are and to learn to make mindful, good choices rather than looking to other students. Bethany's buddy system provides middle school students with the opportunity to be responsible and uplifting, while giving the younger students a friendly face to see around campus and a helper at school events.

*Here's the buddy breakdown!*

**8th Grade and 1st Grade**

**7th Grade and Kindergarten**

**6th Grade and Pre-K/TK**

Starting in 6th grade the students are paired with buddies in Bethany's Pre-K and TK classes. Approximately 1-2 times a month these buddies will get together for a planned activities. It is the hope that these activities are building a foundation that will grow over the years to come!

Our 7th and 8th grade students accompany their buddies to chapel weekly, where they can participate and worship together. These buddies are also on the same Bear Teams so they see each other at monthly Bear Team events.

*"I'm glad I have Scotty so I don't have to sit alone in chapel. And he's good on our Bear Teams." - Henry, 1st Grade*

*"I love having buddies. Your buddy brings out the good times that I remember when I was in first grade. And when they ask you a question, you can say something that will help them in the future. We love our buddies" - Scott, 8th Grade*

*"I love Bethany's buddy system because it extends even to outside chapel and school time. Henry looks for Scott at church on Sundays, asks to stay for his football games, and always wants to ride roller coasters with him at Knott's. - Sara, Henry's mom*

*"I love the buddy system! My kids have built long lasting friendships with their buddies! It is a fun way to build school community, strengthen leadership skills, and inspire lifelong friendships!" - Jen, Scott's mom*

**"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing." I  
Thessalonians 5:11**

### Operation Christmas Child

For over 40 years, Samaritan's Purse has done their utmost to follow Christ's command by going to the aid of the world's poor, sick, and suffering. They have reached hurting people in countries around the world with food, medicine, shelter, and other assistance in the Name of Jesus Christ. Shortly after Hurricane Dorian struck the Bahamas, a mobile hospital unit was put in place and continues to serve residents with serious injuries and illnesses in the wake of the Category 5 storm. As teams work in crisis areas of the world, people often ask, "Why did you come?" The answer is always the same: "We have come to help you in the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ." Our ministry is all about Jesus - first, last, and always.

For the month of October, would you help us collect "Toys and Tools" for our shoebox packing party in November? We have lots of soccer balls and pumps but could use these items: baseballs, yo-yos, jump ropes, small trucks/cars, tops, dolls, beanie babies, small to medium sized stuffed animals, slinky(s), gliders, harmonicas, flashlights, tape measures, small levers, sewing kits, screwdrivers, and small hammers.

Thanks for your support!



### COOK'S NIGHT OUT IS BACK!!

Please join your Bethany family and friends, support our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to DC and take the night off from cooking at...

#### Fuddrucker's

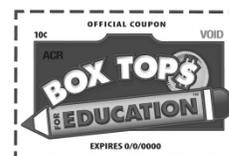
Wednesday, October 23, 2019

All Day - Lunch & Dinner - 11:00AM - 9:00PM  
**Scrip gift cards available in the school office**

*Watch next week's newsletter for a flyer!*



Bethany Bears, there are still some Boxtops out there to clip. Bring yours in this month by 10/25. If we raise at least \$150 for the school, we'll have a school pizza party!





# OKTOBERFEST

**10.27.2019**

PUMPKIN PATCH CARNIVAL OPEN 4:00-6:00 PM

*ADMISSION TO PUMPKIN PATCH = 1 BAG OF CANDY PER FAMILY*

FESTIVAL TENT OPEN 4:30-7:00 PM

*FOOD AND DRINK TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE OR IN PERSON ON  
SUNDAY MORNINGS IN FRIENDSHIP SQUARE*

**WWW.BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG**