



# 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



Can you believe the school year is halfway finished already?? Wow...that really flew by!

We have lots of great things to look forward to this next semester:

- National Lutheran Schools Week next week (info attached!)
- Our annual **Talent Show!**
- The Middle School Musical "Pirates of the I-Don't-Caribbean"
- Our **Science Fair/Open House** on March 6
- And so much more!

We're also looking FAR forward here in the school office: it's registration/recruitment time for 2020-2021! You should have received registration information last week, but we're attaching it to the newsletter again this week. Let us know if you have questions or need assistance. ☺

Finally just a note that later this week we'll have art students from Crean Lutheran High School here for a service project. They will be helping with sets for the middle school musical! Their teacher, Leah (Jaeger) Dawson attended Bethany and both of her parents taught here! We're blessed to have our sister Lutheran school lending us a hand!

*Blessings on your week,  
Dr. Fink*

## Spring Semester Enrollment Open Bethany Music Academy

Twelve weekly private lessons will be offered beginning the first week in February. Students may select from the following instruments: piano and violin (2<sup>nd</sup> grade and up) and trumpet (4<sup>th</sup> grade and up.) Lessons are held on campus after school, 3:15-6:00. Tuition: \$275 plus \$25 annual registration fee.

Information sheets and enrollment forms are available in the church and school offices or online:

[bethanylutheran.org](http://bethanylutheran.org). **Enrollment forms are due January 27** to secure your child's spot. Questions? Contact Academy administrator Mara Widmann at (562)421-4711 ext. 55, or [mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org).

## Parent Support Group

Come join us for us for the next dyslexia parent support group meeting on Feb. 3 from 6:30-8. This will be a hands-on workshop that lets participants experience some of the challenges and frustrations that people with dyslexia face each day. After moving through learning stations that simulate language-related challenges, participants will identify and practice techniques to better understand the lives of individuals with dyslexia.

Experience Dyslexia® was put together by the International Dyslexia Association of Northern California. Please RSVP at <https://dyslexia.org/parent-support-groups>

## School Bulletin #19

Jan. 21, 2020

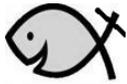
## DON'T FORGET

- ☺Jan. 21 Varsity basketball home vs. Emmaus. Boys 3:30, Girls 4:30
- ☺Jan. 22 JV basketball games home vs. Loving Savior, Boys 3:30, Girls 4:30
- ☺Jan. 23 Varsity basketball home vs. St. Mark's. Boys 3:30, Girls 4:30
- ☺Jan. 26-31 National Lutheran Schools Week
- ☺Jan. 27 In-n-Out Truck!! and Disney/Pixar/Star Wars/Marvel Dress Up Day
- ☺Jan. 28 Skating, Bowling or Wheels and School Theme Shirt Day
- ☺Jan. 28-PTL Meeting-Library-6:30 PM-Childcare provided
- ☺Jan. 29-Western Wednesday
- ☺Jan. 30-Sports Jersey Day
- ☺Jan. 31-Cozy Clothes Day and **TALENT SHOW!**
- ☺Feb. 3-14 MAP Testing
- ☺Feb. 7-Middle School Dance
- ☺Feb. 10-No School
- ☺**Feb. 12-Middle School Musical!!**
- ☺Feb. 14-Minimum Day
- ☺Feb. 17-Presidents' Day-No School
- ☺Feb. 25-Vision Screening
- ☺Feb. 26-Ash Wednesday
- ☺Mar. 3-CUI Choir Festival

## Chapel Leaders

Jan. 22-Pr. Cook  
Jan. 29-Ms. Imes  
Feb. 5-Kayleigh

*Parents, you are always  
welcome to join us!*



The FISHin' Hole  
Opportunities to Serve

Watch for the Quarter 2 FISH Report coming home with your youngest child's report card!



**CHAPEL**  
OFFERING

January's chapel offerings will support [Doctors Without Borders](#).



**Spring sports** might require a shopping trip for new equipment. Don't forget to shop with Scrip! We have \$25 Dick's Sporting Goods, and \$25 or \$100 Target cards, on hand in the school office. Big Five \$25 cards and Dick's \$100 cards can be ordered on the Special Order Form. If you are purchasing sports equipment from Amazon, we have \$25 and \$100 Amazon.com cards on hand.

### Super Bowl Sunday

shopping will increase your tuition rebate if you use Scrip to pay for party supplies, sports apparel and snacks, whether you are hosting, or going to a Super Bowl party. For pizza, wings and sub sandwiches, we have Buffalo Wild Wings, Little Caesar's, Papa John's, Pizza Hut and Subway Scrip/gift cards available. Purchasing a jersey to represent your team? You can order **Fanatics** Scrip at **ShopWithScrip.com** to use for ordering your jersey online. You might be doing Super Bowl shopping at Costco, don't forget to use our **VISA** gift cards!

Every time you purchase Scrip/gift cards, 60% of the profit we receive is credited to your tuition rebate. When your child is in 5<sup>th</sup> grade you may start "banking" your rebate to pay for their 8<sup>th</sup> grade DC trip.

**Shop Smart-Shop With Scrip!**

### Middle School Corner

"Reading is an exercise in empathy; an exercise in walking in someone else's shoes for a while."  
- Malorie Blackman

Bethany's middle school literature classes focus on reading rich, meaningful works across several genres. The students participate in relevant and significant conversations, analyze the literary elements, and make personal connections to the plot and themes.

### Happening now!

8th- *The Diary of Anne Frank* play, and *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* by John Boyne

7th- *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* by C.S.Lewis

6th- *The Giver* by Lois Lowry

Younger students, we look forward to reading these with you in middle school!



### Operation Christmas Child Update:

Our students and friends packed 283 shoeboxes at the school packing party and annual Thanksgiving dinner last November. We thank God for the Gospel opportunity each of these shoebox gifts represents and appreciate your continued support of this ministry.

As we look forward to our 2020 collection efforts, an Operation Christmas Child Committee is being formed under the leadership of one of our church Boards. Please consider joining the team as we work towards increasing our collection totals so that many more children throughout the world will come to know the love and hope found in Christ Jesus. Contact Pastor Seth or Kahana Smith (562-377-3673) for more information.

One of the goals of the Committee is to collect shoebox items each month (to coincide with retail sales), in preparation for our 2020 packing party in November. During the months of January and February, would you help us with donations of washcloths, soap, and toothbrushes? Members of the church will also be assisting us in collecting supplies each month. Look for the Operation Christmas Child container in the school office.

One of my favorite country music artists is Eric Church. A recently released song of his really spoke to me this week.

*Anymore when a restless feelin' keeps me up at night  
Fallin' on my knees is my new turnin' out the light  
I keep my faith intact, make sure my prayers are said*

*'Cause I've learned that the monsters ain't the ones beneath the bed.*

Ignoring Mr. Church's spelling and grammar (sorry, teachers!), the lyrics reminded me that with faith and prayers, and some "knee time", all my 'monsters' can be handled. We all have different monsters that we battle, some are bigger than others. Whether they're small science fair-sized ones, or larger major issues at home with health, family relationships or our own internal battles, God handles ALL our monsters. Falling on my knees does really turn on the light. I hope you use the tools Jesus gives us to handle these monsters we encounter every day. HE'S got this, friends!

*Jen Carlson, PTL President*



## National Lutheran Schools Week 2020

### Sunday, January 26

- Student greeters and readers at church services
- Trinity choir sings at 8:00 service, Troubadour sings at 9:30 service, and K-2 sings at 10:55 service
- Staff anniversaries recognized at services
  - Alicia Lagana will celebrate years of service. A reception will be hosted for her after the 8am service.

### Monday, January 27: *JOY FULLY*

- Disney Day- Dress up in your favorite Disney/Pixar, Star Wars, or Marvel attire.
- In-n-Out Truck (Grades K-2 12:00-12:20, Grades 3-5 12:30-12:50, Grades 6-8 12:50-1:10)

### Tuesday, January 28: *THANK FULLY*

- School Theme Shirt and Jeans Day
- 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grade Ice Skating (Lakewood Ice, 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grade Bowling (Cal Bowl, 12:45-2:45 p.m.)
- K-2<sup>nd</sup> Wheels Day on campus (all recesses)
- Pre-School Wheels Day on campus (10:20-11:20)

### Wednesday, January 29: *PEACE FULLY*

- Western Wednesday- Wear your best cowboy/girl attire.

### Thursday, January 30: *FAITH FULLY*

- Sports Jersey Day (with uniform bottom) - Wear your team's jersey to show your support.

### Friday, January 31: *HOPE FULLY*

- Cozy Clothes Day- Wear your favorite PJs or sweatpants
- Prayer Rock Service Project
- Talent Show at 6:30 pm

# The Amazing Penny Race

*Give your SMALL change to make a BIG change!*

This week-long challenge will kick off our Lutheran Schools Week. The money raised will go to the charity chosen by the class who brings in the most pennies.

## How it works:

- Each class will have a jar for their collection.
- Students should place their pennies in the jar before or after school.
- Any silver coins will not count for the competition, but will be donated to the school offering instead.

## Winner:

The class with the most pennies at the end of the week will get to donate all the money to their charity of choice.

## Get your pennies ready!

All jars will be located in Freedom Square before and after school.

The challenge will be during Lutheran Schools Week, January 27-31.



Should we choose charities in advance and list them here??



January 13, 2020

Dear Parents,

Believe it or not, it is time to start thinking about the next school year and enrollment at Bethany Lutheran School. *Please* take a moment to read this letter.

We have VERY exciting news for you: if you think *last* year's re-enrollment process was easy, you're going to *love* this year's process even more! We are moving to a "continuous enrollment" process, which means we will assume your children are returning to Bethany for 2020-2021 and will hold their spot unless we hear differently from you (and we sincerely hope we do not!) You will not need to fill out all of the Gradelink forms again...all you need to do is log into Gradelink and verify that all information is correct! (You can do this at any time, but we'd love it if you'd complete it by March 1. Here's how:

**Go to [secure.gradelink.com](https://secure.gradelink.com)**

- Log into Gradelink using your parent login information. (We will also email your login information in case you've forgotten!)
- Click on "Re-enrollMe" and complete the prompts.

Please note that families who are returning to Bethany have first priority in enrollment. Again, as part of "continuous enrollment," we will assume your children are returning and will charge your FACTS account for:

- Registration fees (\$300 per child. We will charge half the fee on March 1 and half on May 1. If you need a different arrangement, please let us know.)
- Technology fees \$250 per child, either half on March 15 and half on May 15 OR monthly, whichever option you are currently using. You can contact us if you wish to pay differently.)
- Please note that registration and technology fees are non-refundable.
- As a reminder, 2019-2020 Scrip rebates may be applied to your last 2019-2020 tuition payment.

The 2020-2021 tuition and fee schedule is included on the back of this letter. Please know that our goal is to keep any tuition increases as reasonable as possible. We want to carefully balance the financial demands on our families with the goal of providing an exceptional quality Christian education while accounting for the effects of inflation and the state minimum wage increase. The 2020-2021 tuition and fees increase was voted in by our Board of Schools specifically to support our valuable teaching staff, as well as to provide new curriculum materials in science and increased science, robotics and coding instruction with the addition of a STEM instructor!

We know that some of our families are experiencing some difficult economic circumstances. *We do not want to lose any of our precious Bethany families solely due to matters of finances.* If your family will struggle to make tuition or fee payments next year, please ask about need-based financial aid.

We also know that full classrooms help to keep our tuition costs down, and that your positive "word-of-mouth" is our best advertising. We want to reward you for that, so we have an INCENTIVE for you to get the good word out about Bethany Lutheran School: A TUITION REBATE IN DECEMBER!! Here's how it works:

- Refer a new family to Bethany by giving them a postcard or brochure, inviting them to a school event such as our middle school musical on February 12 or the Science Fair on March 6, sending them to our website, or giving their contact information to Kathy Tucker, our Admissions Director.
- If the new family enrolls their children and the children attend Bethany Lutheran School in the fall,
  - Let the school office know that you referred the family
  - The Board of Schools will credit your December 2020 tuition payment \$300!

*Blessed to be at Bethany,  
Dr. Fink*

## 2020-2021 Tuition and Fees

Bethany Lutheran School offers two tuition schedules; one for families who are members of Bethany Lutheran Church and another for all other families. Claiming membership in Bethany Lutheran Church means:

- a. One or both parents of the child are members and are listed on the church roll.
- b. The members are regular in their church and communion attendance and support Bethany Lutheran Church through their financial contributions.

All families are encouraged to use our SCRIP/Giftcard program and accumulate a SCRIP/Giftcard rebate, which may be used to offset some of the tuition costs.

### 2020-2021 Tuition Paid over 10 months

#### *Members of Bethany Lutheran Church*

One child .....	\$668 per month
Two children .....	\$1189 per month
Three children .....	\$1503 per month

#### *Members of the Community*

One child .....	\$743 per month
Two children .....	\$1323 per month
Three children .....	\$1672 per month

Tuition payments are made via your FACTS account. Tuitions paid in full for the year *by August 1* will receive a 5% reduction. Monthly tuition payments may be set up for the 5<sup>th</sup> or the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. Late payments are subject to a \$30 late fee.

Bethany Lutheran School does not refuse enrollment solely due to matters of money if there is room available. If your family is struggling to meet tuition payments, please ask about need-based financial aid.

## Fees

There is a Registration Fee of \$300 per child. For new students, this fee is due upon enrollment. For returning students, half of this amount, or \$150, is due in March. The remaining half will be paid in May. This fee includes a playground insurance premium, a school yearbook, a package of individual school photos, a book rental fee, and other miscellaneous fees.

There is also a Technology Fee of \$250 per child. This fee may be paid one of three ways:

- In full at registration (for new students)
- Half in March and half in May (for returning students)
- Billed monthly beginning in August (for returning students)

Finally, new students pay a one-time disaster fee of \$10. This pays for a survival kit which is kept in our earthquake shed to be used in the event of disaster.

Registration and technology fees are non-refundable. Questions concerning the tax deductibility of payments to Bethany Lutheran School or Bethany Lutheran Church should be referred to qualified tax counsel.