



Bear Facts

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



Communication + Responsibility + Organization + Service + Sharing

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Last week, my hubby had foot surgery. He's hobbling about, and we're doing the best we can to "nurse him" at home. It's amazing, though, how much a hurting big toe can affect the rest of the body (and spirit!)

God's word has something to say about this phenomenon, too: "...but God has combined the members of the body and has given greater honor to the parts that lacked it, so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other. If one part suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it." I Corinthians 12:24b-26.

The writer of I Corinthians, Paul, was using the metaphor of the human body to explain the Body of Christ, the church. And that is the beauty of the body of Christ: we are all connected, so that we both bear one another's burdens, and celebrate one another's successes. The last few days I've heard countless times, "Tell Karl we're

Interested in Joining Bethany Lutheran Church?

Bethany 101 is a five-week course that explores the key truths of the Christian faith from a Lutheran perspective. Attendance at this course is required for those joining Bethany who are not transferring their membership from another Lutheran Congregation. (Those transferring from another Lutheran church are *welcome* to attend, as are any members of Bethany wanting to 'refresh' their catechism instruction.)

Bethany 201 is a one-session event that welcomes confirmed Lutherans transferring to Bethany from another Lutheran congregation as well as those who have completed Bethany 101. This session therefore joins together all those entering Bethany together in one gathering in which new members have a chance to meet one another at the same time they are learning about Bethany. This learning will focus on the history, practice and values of Bethany Lutheran Church and our BLUEPRINT for mission and ministry as the body of Christ in this corner of His Kingdom.

The next Bethany 101 session will begin at 4:00 pm on Sunday March 1st. The last Bethany 101 session will begin on Sunday March 29th at 4:00 pm and 201 will begin immediately thereafter at 5:00 pm. Child-care is provided for each session with RSVP.

School Bulletin #18
January 13, 2009

DON'T FORGET

- ☺ Jan. 16-Junior High Dance
- ☺ Jan. 19-Martin Luther King Day-No School
- ☺ Jan. 20-PTL Board Meeting
- ☺ Jan. 23-Grades 5-8 Grandparents Day, Minimum Day, Noon Dismissal, EDC Available if pre-registered. End Quarter 2.
- ☺ Jan. 26-Region II Inservice Day-No School
- ☺ Jan. 27-PTL Family Night!
See attached flyer!!!



It's time for **DOUBLE POINTS!** All receipts turned in this month count for double points, and we'd love to log all your Christmas receipts for you! Just send them to the school office. If you want them

DC Trippers Fundraiser!

Please mark your calendars, and buy your SCRIP, for our next 8th grade DC trip fundraiser: All day, lunch and dinner, January 21, at Fuddruckers. This is always one of the most

Check out the "Youth Sports Nutrition" article attached to today's Bear Facts, brought to you by our PTL Health and



The FISHin'

Opportunities to

Serve

The Booster Club would love to earn some money by selling snacks at our home basketball games, but we need folks to help coordinate,

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Calling all Grandparents and Special Friends!

Friday, Jan. 23 is GRANDPARENTS' DAY for Grades 5-8.

Come join your grandchild/friend starting at 9:00 for fun, crafts and worship time together.

Need an RSVP form? We have extras in the school office...they are also available on the Bethany website.



Wonderful Wisconsin Winds Coming Here!

On Sunday, January 18 at 7:00 PM, the Concordia University Wisconsin Symphonic Wind Ensemble will be making an appearance in our church sanctuary as a part of their winter concert tour. The Wind Ensemble is conducted by Dr. Louis A. Menchaca. Please mark this special date on your calendar. The concert is free to the public but we will take a free-

Sanctity of Life Sunday Bethany Lutheran Church January 25

9:30 AM in the Gym

Maria Anne Hirschmann, also known as "Hansi", has a powerful testimony of God's grace & love. Hansi was orphaned as a baby and grew up in a foster home, experiencing loneliness, hunger, rejection, and fear. After Nazi troops "liberated" Czechoslovakia, she was chosen for training to be a Nazi youth leader. Brainwashed, Maria's god became Adolph Hitler, and when Germany fell, her world shattered too.

Hansi writes, "When I arrived in the USA in 1955, I was confused and scared. My husband and I brought with us our two small children, two suitcases and \$100. I was 29 years old and spoke no English. I had never seen rush hour traffic, sales or endless rows of food and goods in many supermarkets. I knew only poverty, brainwashing by the Nazis and rigid rules under dictatorship."

Hansi's coming gives us an opportunity to hear from a person who has experienced firsthand the horrors of war and how her love for Jesus Christ was re-awakened. Many of us will never have an opportunity to hear such a



Using SCRIP to save money on tuition and raise funds for Bethany isn't only for Christmas, it continues all year. You can use our gift cards in place of money or credit cards for your everyday shopping. We introduced some new vendors over the holidays and just want to point them out again: Jiffy Lube (everyone changes the oil in their car, if you go to Jiffy Lube please buy a \$30 certificate before your next oil change), Home Shopping Network, Overstock.com, REI, and Zappos.com.

The blue box special is still going and we've added some new cards, check

8th Grade Parents-
Valley Christian High School will be hosting Open Houses at 7:00 PM on the following dates:

Jan. 13

Feb. 3

Feb. 21

Questions? Call 865-0281.

Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars! Re-registration is Friday, Feb.

Host Families Needed: We are in need of host families for the visiting Concordia University Irvine Wind Symphonic Ensemble on Sunday, Jan. 18th. Concert time is 7:00 p.m. Guests are grouped in pairs, 2 males or 2 females. It is helpful to know if your household includes pets and/or smokers, as some have allergies. Four basic

