



Bear Facts

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

Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing



FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I've always been amazed at how Bethany Lutheran School kids form such lasting relationships. I don't know about you, but I don't have contact with any students that went to my elementary or junior high school; friends from high school and college, yes, but not my early education years. It's one of the many characteristics that sets our school apart, and it came home to me this weekend. My hubby is a Bethany grad (!) and one of his Bethany classmates was recently called home to heaven. On Saturday, six of his Bethany classmates attended the memorial service. This weekend Lindsay Grudt (daughter to our Scrip coordinator and a Bethany grad) got married. Her four bridesmaids were Bethany friends. And my freshman-in-high-school son tells me that he and his Bethany friends meet for lunch every day at Lakewood High.

One of the items we're asked to evaluate in our accreditation process is "student connectedness." I think this is a pretty good sign that Bethany kids feel connected to each other! I'm praying that your child forms the same wonderful relationships over the years.

*Serving Him with you,
Mrs. Fink*

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.

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.

Please RSVP your attendance with our church office: 421-4711.



School Bulletin #19

January 20, 2009

DON'T FORGET

- ☺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!



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 back, just put them in a marked envelope.

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 fun fundraisers because the whole place is filled with Bethany folks!

Come to the Lakewood Mug Run!

February 7

Register online by Jan 28th and put in the team name Lakewood Village Striders to get the discount: \$7 for the family run, \$10 for the 5K and 10K. More info in the school office. Here's an incentive to participate: the class with the largest percentage of runners gets Jamba Juice! Also, the School Cents program gives us 1000 points for runners/walkers and 500 points for each person that comes to cheer us on!



The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

Need some FISH Hours?
The Trustees will be doing some painting in various places on campus this Saturday. They could use your help! Just come to the campus by 8:00 AM and they'll hand you a brush!

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.

We haven't seen many RSVPs, but we're sure there are lots of grandparents coming. We have extras in the school office...they are also available on the Bethany website.



There is a mighty lot of difference between saying prayers and praying. -- John G. Lake

Join with Bethany moms and learn how to use God's word in your prayers. We meet every Wednesday morning, 8:45 – 9:45 in the conference room.

Missing Something?

Lost and Found will be out on the tables in Freedom Square. Items left after Friday 1/23 will be sent to Lutheran Social Services.

Coming Soon!

Mark your calendars! Re-registration is Friday, Feb. 27!

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.

Please join the Community Impact Committee in welcoming Hansi to celebrate Sanctity of Life Sunday and hearing her amazing story.

Music Academy Spring Semester

Enrollment forms and brochures are available in the school office this week. Enrollment forms are also available online at the school's website. Tuition fee of \$200, plus \$25 registration fee paid once per school year, covers 12 lessons. Students planning to continue from the first semester must submit a new enrollment form. New and returning students are welcome and encouraged to enroll at this time. Please return completed forms to the school or church office no later than January 30. Lessons will begin the first and second weeks of February. Continuing students will be placed first, followed by returning and new students. Openings are limited and fill up quickly. Contact Maureen Kurkowski with any questions: 562-421-4711 or mkurkowski@bethanylutheran.org.

Be a Superhero!

Donate Blood on Superbowl Sunday, February 1st. Donations will take place at Bethany in the gym from 9AM to 3PM. Sign up for your time slot this Sunday in friendship square or Call Cindy Stock (562)494-6808 to set up an appointment or show up on Feb. 1st. Join a team guaranteed to win.

Donate Blood Help to Save a Life!



Are you working toward saving a one or even two month's tuition rebate? Maybe saving toward your child's future Washington DC trip? Buying Scrip is like "free money" that benefits both you and Bethany. What could be easier?

Will you be going to see one of the Golden Globe-winning movies this weekend? We have movie Scrip on hand. Going to dinner first? Check out our great selection of local restaurant Scrip. Think you might want to finish the evening with a Baskin-Robbins ice cream? We have BR gift certificates on hand, too. Scrip is on sale every day in the school office, or you can print out an order form from our website and send your order with your child. We also sell Scrip on Sundays between church services. Thank you for supporting our Scrip program!

Upcoming High School Open Houses:

Valley: Feb. 3, Feb. 28
Connelly: Mar. 12

Turn in your Boxtops by Friday, Jan. 30. We'll be counting to see which class wins the Pizza Party! Turn them in to your teacher or to the office with your teacher's name included. Think Boxtops don't make a difference??? The school just got a check for \$1159.30 that will be used for the rubber nuggets project! That's a LOT of Boxtops...way to go, Bears!