



Bear Facts

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



Communication+Responsibility+Organization+Service+Sharing

FROM THE PRINCIPAL



I hope you had a restful Thanksgiving break, full of good times with family and friends. The teaching staff enjoyed a wonderful conference early in the week, reconnecting with other Lutheran educators across the district, attending informative workshops and being reminded why we do what we do. :) I know your children will benefit from the knowledge their teachers gained!

I was especially uplifted by our keynote speaker, Dr. Micah Parker of Trustguy Ministries, and his words regarding Psalm 23, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me." Dr. Parker feels that the most important word in that Scripture is THROUGH. When we face tough times, even the toughest of times, we can hold on to His promise that He will bring us through them....there's no need to pitch our tent in the valley! That was a great mental image for me.

As we begin this Advent season, the season of HOPE, and prepare for birth of the Savior, we're reminded that God has already brought us through our deepest valley, the valley of our own sin, by sending us His Son to set us free. Blessings to you in these busy weeks ahead as you prepare for His birthday!

*Serving Him with you,
Dr. Fink*

Congratulations!

This year our monthly awards highlight positive character traits. For the month of November, we focused on **Loyalty and Cooperation.**

Congratulations to the following students, chosen by their teachers for their demonstrations of loyalty and cooperation:

Tate Moeller, Jared Aguilar, Natnary Booncompar, Viviana Casanova, Rylan Moeller, Christina Pollard, Claire Newell, Rebekah Rhodes, Ashlynn Clady, Melissa Carlson, Mary Delgado, Ryan Thompson, and Ajay Sunny.

Worship Opportunities

Advent Worship

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 PM
December 2nd, 9th and 16th

Bethany's 40th Annual

Christmas Concerts

December 13 at 1:30, 4:00 and 7:00

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

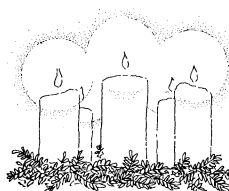
Thursday, December 24th at 5:00, 7:00 and 11:00 PM

Christmas Day Festival Service

Friday, December 25th at 10:00 AM

New Year's Eve Worship Service

Thursday, December 31st at 7:00 PM



School Bulletin #13

December 1, 2009

Hand icon DON'T FORGET

- ©Dec. 2-Advent Service 7:00
- ©Dec. 9-Red Bucket items due, Advent Service 7:00
- ©Dec. 11-Parents' Night Out
- ©Dec. 13-Christmas Concerts
- ©Dec. 14-PTL Board
- ©Dec. 16-Gr. 6-8 Service 7:00

SCHOOL CENTS

We are collecting food and funds for the Big Red Bucket food drive. Your child brought home a letter before the break, but in case you didn't see it, we've attached the class donation list to today's newsletter. Thank you for your generosity!

"Whatever you did for the least of these, you did for Me."

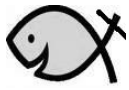
Matthew 25:40.

Are you available at 3:00 on Friday, Dec.11 ? Bethany has been entered in a drawing (with only two other schools!!!) for a \$500 gift card! We need Bethany supporters to be at the Lakewood Mall Center Court to watch the drawing and sign in at guest services for an extra 1000 points each. Can you help???

Our worship leaders for upcoming chapel services:

- Dec. 2-Ms. Stejskal
- Dec. 9-Mrs. Boerrigter's class
- Dec. 16-Grades 6-8





The FISHin' Hole
Opportunities to Serve

Thank you, Mr. Johnson, for painting our bookstore. It looks AMAZING!

Looking for more FISH Hours? Are you an Excel/Word whiz? Dr. Fink is looking for some help re-working a few documents for the school. Contact her if you're interested.

Jog-a-thon Results!

Thanks to all our generous Bethany supporters, we raised over \$15, 000! Wow! We handed prizes before the break, but here is a list of all our winners:

1st Place: Daniel Hardy, Ryan Martinez, Joshua Lemestre, Cole Jackson, Derek Murray, Brandon Hoeksema, Tiger Parraga, Noah Silverman, Everett McIntire, Jared Jetter, Conner Veliz, Brianna Taylor, Stephanie Walsh, Daniel Parraga.

2nd Place: Jesse Rhodes, Joshua Daniel, Ryan Hernandez, Aaron Onken, Alexaner Hamilton, Christian Pollard, Iyad Hosn, Clay D'Amico, Kyle Jackson, Wesley Flietstra, Jarvis Perkins.

3rd Place: Kaylie DeJesus, Isabella Alvarez, Hunter Elledge, Kyle Tunnell, Tommy Crahan, Michael Polk, Caitlin Crahan, Mary Delgado, Austin Fett.

Raised \$300 (and will go to lunch with Dr. Fink): Ryan Thompson, Julia Hansen, Jacob Fink, Jarvis Perkins, Joshua Cazares, Kimberly Orpin, Cameron Highwart, Angie Neally, Noah Silverman, Saida Wiltz, and Rilei Johnson.

Classes that raised the most money: Mrs. Lange, Ms. Imes and Mr. Gagan's classes!

Highest class participation: Mrs. Lange's class!

Raised the most money (and future "Principal for a Day"): Jarvis Perkins with \$747!!!!

ITBS Test Scores for Grades 2-8 are here! Please RSVP to Ms. Charette at 420-7783, x. 11 or lcharette@bethanylutheran.org, to attend one of these meetings to pick up your child's scores:

Dec. 8 at 8:45 AM, 2:45 or 6:30 PM

Here at Bethany, we don't do gift exchanges at our Christmas parties. Instead we prepare individual Personal Hygiene Kits for distribution by Lutheran Social Services of Long Beach. Each kit is a gallon zip lock bag containing: a bar of soap, a washcloth, a tube of toothpaste, a toothbrush, a small size shampoo & a comb.

At school the children will create a Christian Christmas message, to which they add their first name only, and these will be included in the kits.

Please put these items on your grocery list and try to involve your children in the preparation task. Send the kits with your children any time in the next two weeks.

The Scholastic Bookfair is coming next week! The youth group of Bethany Lutheran church is once again sponsoring this Holiday bookfair for your gift-giving needs! We will be open during the Sunday School time this coming Sunday, December 6, and then all next week. Bethany students will be visiting the bookfair at appointed times on Monday and Tuesday and we will be open before and after school, so come in and find some great deals for the Christmas season and beyond!

Support our DC Trippers:

Need to get out to do some Christmas shopping? The 8th graders are providing a Parents' Night Out on Dec. 11. Check out the flyer sign-up sheet attached to today's newsletter!

Upcoming restaurant fundraisers:
Dec. 9-Round Table Pizzeria
Dec. 21-23-Marie Callendars



Attached to this Bear Facts is a Christmas Special Order Form with gift ideas for everyone on your Christmas list. This order form is **in addition** to the regular SCRIP order forms...we just wanted to highlight some of the great gift cards that are available from Bethany SCRIP. With all the gift cards we have available, we hope you will not buy gift cards at the grocery store or the mall. If you buy gift cards from a retail store, you are letting them keep the profit they are willing to share with us. Buying Bethany SCRIP gift cards benefits you and your school!

Please start placing large orders now, delivery time is slower as we get closer to Christmas. Although we keep a large inventory of gift cards on hand, we sometimes run out of the more popular item. So, make your list and buy early so you aren't disappointed the last week before Christmas.

Give copies of all the SCRIP order forms to your family and friends, and ask them to use Bethany SCRIP for their Christmas shopping to help you receive an even larger tuition rebate!

Calendar Change:

We like to match our calendar to Long Beach Unified, if we can. There had been some confusion about the holidays in February, but we have now confirmed that LBUSD will be closed on these dates (and so will Bethany):

February 8 and 15

Please note on *your* calendars!