



# 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



This week our 8<sup>th</sup> Graders, Mrs. Schuldheisz and Ms. Charette are on the DC trip. Here's just a few sites they will see:

Jamestown/Williamsburg  
Monticello  
White House/Capitol  
Library of Congress/Supreme Court  
Presidential Memorials  
War Memorials  
Arlington National Cemetery  
Ford's Theatre  
Holocaust Museum  
National Archives  
Museum of Natural History  
Smithsonian Complex

We've already heard from them, and all is going well EXCEPT that one of the kids got pretty sick the first night and ended up in the hospital. Fortunately, her mom is on the trip, too, and the student is going to be able to finish the trip. When we heard about her illness, we prayed for her then started calling Lutheran pastors and DCEs in the area who could lend a hand. One of the DCEs has been helping this mom get around town and figure out transportation to catch up to our group. The mom texted this to me last night:

*"God is so good....the DCE has been wonderful....It has been a horrible experience, but at the same time God has shown me that He is here with me and He is sending wonderful people to help me."*

The song refrain "they'll know we are Christians by our love" keeps going through my head...it's a blessing to be part of the Christian community!

*Dr. Fink*



*Save the Date:*

## LEGO FUN DAY Is Coming!

Saturday, May 20th  
11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Mark your calendar:  
Everything about it is going to be  
**AWESOME!**

## School Bulletin #31

May 9, 2017

## DON'T FORGET

- ☺ May 7-12-8<sup>th</sup> Grade DC Trip
- ☺ May 12-Minimum Day-School dismisses at noon-Teacher Inservice
- ☺ May 15-19-Book Fair
- ☺ May 19-Middle School Dance
- Coming SOON:*
- ☺ **May 20- FUN DAY!!! 11-3**
- ☺ May 21-K-2 sings 8:00 AM
- ☺ May 23-PTL Meeting-Childcare provided
- ☺ May 29-Memorial Day-No School

## Annual Fun Day Bake Walk

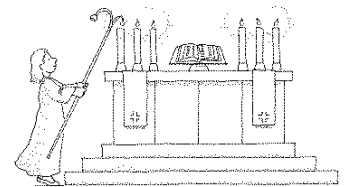
Cookies, cupcakes, brownies and other sweets keep the music playing the FUN DAY rolling! Donate items to the FUN DAY Bake Walk and earn FISH hours! Drop of your sweets to the Bethany kitchen on May 18-19!



## +Chapel Leaders+

May 10-Mrs. Dahlin  
May 17-Mrs. Lange  
May 24-Ms. Imes

*Chapel is at 9:00 in the church.*



## Paint Night for Mission Alaska

Join us for a fun night out **Friday, June 2nd** to support the Bethany Lutheran Mission Alaska team! Paint Nite invites you to create art with friends, guided by a professional artist and party host. Grab your friends and spend two hours painting, laughing, and flexing your creative muscles. There is no experience necessary and we'll provide all the supplies, so you don't have to worry about a thing (except having a great time!). **The event begins promptly at 7:00p.m.** Please allow extra time to get settled.

**Tickets are \$45 per person.** Mission Alaska earns \$15 for every ticket purchased. You can sign up online by visiting the Bethany Facebook page and on our Bethany website. You can visit the Alaska Paint Night table in Friendship Square and sign up on an iPad.



The FISHin' Hole  
*Opportunities to Serve*

We will need LOTS of parent help for Fun Day! Sign up for a booth shift here:

<http://signup.com/go/MbMUKB>

Also, our art teacher, Mrs. Sandlin, could use some help assembling student art portfolios. This is something that can be done from home! If you can lend a hand, e-mail her at [lsandlin@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:lsandlin@bethanylutheran.org).

### **Bethany Summer Music & Arts Camp 2017**

Announcing the return of our summer fine arts camp for kids entering Kindergarten-7<sup>th</sup> grades.

**"Weather the Weather"** is our theme this year, come join in the fun!

Camp courses will be taught by Bethany church and school staff. We will highlight 4 daily themes, introduce kids to a variety of arts, & increase appreciation for the musical gifts we have been given by our Heavenly Father.

BSM&A 2017 will take place on the campus of Bethany Lutheran Church during the week of **June 26-June 29**, M-Th, from 9AM –noon.

**Registration Fee:** \$100 per child (non-refundable) with a maximum of \$175 per family. Registration forms available in the church or school office or downloaded from Bethany's website [www.bethanylutheran.org](http://www.bethanylutheran.org). **Forms and fees are due by May 31.** Registration is limited to 50 participants. Questions? Contact co-director Mara Widmann at (562) 421-4711 ext. 55.

### **Club 35**

*(Grades 3-5)*

Upcoming Event:

- **Bowling and Pizza**  
Saturday, June 3  
Round 1 Bowling  
10:30-12:00  
\$20

Questions?  
Contact DCE Intern Nathan  
(858)863-3291

The Book Fair is coming  
next week!

**May 15-19**

Bethany Bears LOVE to read....all funds from this fair will support our BLS library!



Our next Cook's Night

Out will be on May 24 at  
SuperMex.



**Got a lemon tree??**  
**Bethany's Student Council needs LEMONS for Fun Day! You can drop them off in the school office.**  
**Thanks!**



### **Disney Music Day**

**participants-** We have \$25 Disney gift cards on-hand in the school office. If your child is going to Disneyland purchase a gift card for them to use for food and souvenir purchases. A gift card is easier than a pocketful of cash for a child to use for purchases at Disneyland.

Did you know you can use Scrip for online shopping? Many of our gift card merchants offer gift card redemption as a form of payment for online shopping. Before you shop online, purchase gift cards from Bethany Scrip, and enter the number on the gift card to pay for your purchase.

If you are signed up for ShopwithScrip.com you can choose from merchants that offer online shopping only. A few of the merchants available are: 1-800-Flowers, Amazon.com, eBay, Hulu, QVC, Sirius XM Radio, Sling TV, Sony PlayStation, Stub Hub and Uber. Once you are enrolled with ShopwithScrip.com you simply log in to your account and purchase Scrip using your phone or computer and enter the eCard code for online purchases.

The Bethany Lutheran Enrollment Code is: 1BL8EE69719L. Once you register and enroll in PrestoPay, the ShopwithScrip online payment method, you will pay for your orders through electronic funds transfer and have your Scrip within minutes.

### **Boxtops News:**

We appreciate all the support we get from the Boxtops program! In fact, **we just deposited a check for \$298 that we will use for our student garden!** Sadly, however, the California legislature is considering a measure that would prohibit schools from participating in the Boxtops program, along with other school fundraising efforts related to food purchases. If you disagree with this legislation, find your legislator at [legislature.ca.gov/your-legislator](http://legislature.ca.gov/your-legislator) and ask them to oppose Assembly Bill 841.



# Parent Pages

RESOURCES FOR CHRISTIAN PARENTS IN THE 21ST CENTURY

## UPON THIS ROCK: **Vision and Learning**

It's easy to take vision for granted. When God created us, He blessed us with senses that help us to communicate, learn and process our world. For most of us, being able to see has been a constant part of our lives. We don't think about vision until it does not work. Research tells us that 1 in 4 children have undetected vision problems. This happens because vision changes can be so gradual that a child does not notice and because young children do not know what they are supposed to be able to see. Children may not know to tell a parent that a problem exists.

An eye screening that typically takes place in the pediatrician's office checks for visual acuity, which is the ability to see clearly at both near and far distances. These exams are only for screening purposes; while they work fairly well, they may miss other vision needs. It is therefore recommended that young students receive thorough eye exams on a regular basis.

Of course, we realize that learners need to be able to see the difference between "B" and "3" or "S" and "5," but vision is important to learning in other ways. Learners also need the following visual skills:

- Eye-hand coordination that allows a student to accurately write, type and respond to movement in their environment;
- Visual focus that allows for acuity when a student moves from reading the whiteboard to focusing on close work, such as a book or computer screen;
- Eye teaming that allows both eyes to work together to judge distance; and
- Visual memory, which is creating a mental picture of a scene and holding it in both short- and long-term memory.

These skills go beyond the ability to see clearly. They also involve the way the brain processes and uses information from our sense of sight. The brain is what allows us to register what has been seen and to use it. If the brain's processing skills are not working, a person can be effectively blind, which is true of people with a condition known as blindsight. Such people "see" nothing even though their eyes work fine. Their blindness is in the brain, not in the eyes.

Visual-processing skills can be impaired or delayed in several different ways. A child who loses his place while reading, rubs his eyes frequently or complains of headaches



“Several Bible stories tell of Jesus restoring vision to the blind. It is God’s will that we both see and understand.”

after doing homework might have a more complicated visual issue than seeing clearly. Likewise, head tilting or closing one eye in order to focus are symptoms that should not be ignored. Because the brain processing aspect of vision is so complex, symptoms such as letter reversal, omitting letters or words while reading, trouble identifying an object in a complicated background, and the inability to create a mental image of a scene from a story are also possible indicators of a visual-processing problem. In this way, a vision issue can impact learning by inhibiting not only decoding, but reading comprehension as well. Furthermore, when comprehension is impacted, learning problems are seen in other subjects.

There are numerous reasons why children experience challenges in school. Many children struggle with reading comprehension for reasons other than vision impairment. However, vision impairment is a relatively easy thing to check for and should be ruled out in the process of diagnosing a learning disorder. If a child does have a visual-processing impairment, this information will influence treatment for learning problems.

If you frequently see the following behaviors in your child, it might be a good idea to make an eye appointment and mention these issues to the optometrist:

- Distracted by visual information;
- Difficulty copying information and following lines or margins;

- Reversing, omitting or misreading letters, numbers or words;
- Frequently bumping into things;
- Difficulty remembering spelling word patterns;
- Poor reading comprehension;
- Poor handwriting skills;
- Frequently confused by function signs, steps and formulas in math; and/or
- Routinely does not notice visual changes at school or home.

Many of these are characteristic of children with learning disabilities. Visual-processing difficulties might be part of the puzzle when diagnosing learning issues. Some problems might be developmental and could improve over time, but often children with visual-processing challenges need to learn to compensate. This can make a big overall improvement in learning.

Several Bible stories tell of Jesus restoring vision to the blind. It is God’s will that we both see and understand. God has blessed medical and learning professionals with new information regarding how our visual-processing abilities impact learning.

### For Further Study

The American Optometric Association is happy to answer your questions about eyes. Learn more at [aoa.org/?sso=y](http://aoa.org/?sso=y).

## Parent Pages

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**WRISTBANDS** allow the wearer access to all games and activities. Food purchases, raffle tickets and basket bids are NOT included in the wristband price. Wristbands ONLY may be purchased on pre-sale for a reduced rate. Wristbands purchased on FUN DAY will be \$15 each. “Late entry” wristbands will be available for \$10 each to attendees arriving after 1:00 pm on FUN DAY.

**RAFFLE TICKETS** may be purchased on pre-sale with this form or at FUN DAY. The price for raffle tickets remains the same.

**PRE-ORDERS** placed before May 15<sup>th</sup> will be filled and delivered to your child’s teacher. Orders received May 16<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> will be available at the FUN DAY Info Booth under your child’s name. **Return the completed form to the school office or your child’s teacher.** Make checks out to **Bethany Lutheran PTL.**

**RAFFLE TICKET PRICING:**

5 TICKETS/ \$1	25 TICKETS/\$5	50 TICKETS/\$10
75 TICKETS/ \$15	100 TICKETS/\$20	125 TICKETS/\$25

(Cut and send back with your child for easy ordering)

## PRE-SALE ORDER FORM

	Cost per	Total Needed	Cost (\$)
RAFFLE Tickets	5 for \$1		
One Wristband Only	\$12		
<b>Family Pack</b>			
Wristband #1	\$12 each		
Additional Wristbands	\$10 each		
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			
Payment Type (cash/check/FACTS)			

Please Charge my FACTs account: \_\_\_\_\_

Authorizing Signature Required

Child’s Name \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher \_\_\_\_\_