



# BEAR FACTS

Issue 6: October 1, 2024

## From the Principal

We all lead busy lives, don't we? Some days it might feel like your time at home is spent just getting ready for time *away* from home at work, at church, at practices, etc. It's true for me, too. That means it's hard to make time to visit with my neighbors...it's pretty easy to just wave at them as I pull in the driveway and head into my house.

Years ago I read a great, but VERY convicting book, "The Art of Neighboring" by Jay Pathak and Dave Runyon. The organizing question of this book asks "What if Jesus was being literal when He said we should love our NEIGHBORS as ourselves?" In other words, could loving our *actual* neighbors be a solution for many of society's ills?

Here's the convicting part: the book has a quiz with questions about the reader's 8 closest neighbors. The questions are easy at first ("what are their names?"), but get increasingly difficult ("what are their hopes and dreams?") I'm pretty sure I would fail miserably and I definitely need to work on that!

In our *school* community, we all have "Bethany Lutheran School" neighbors, too: folks we pass in the hallway or sit near as we wait to pick up our kids after school. How well are we connecting with our school neighbors, and how can we "love these neighbors as we love ourselves?" Something to consider...

*Your neighbor in Christ,  
Dr. Fink*

## Coming Up

- **Oct. 6**-K-2 sings 9:30 AM
- **Oct. 10**-Private High School Fair
- **Oct. 11**-Jog-a-thon/Minimum Day-Noon Dismissal
- **Oct. 16-18**-6th Grade Camp
- **Oct. 22**-PTL Meeting 6:30 (in person or Zoom)
- **Oct. 25**-End Quarter 1
- **Oct. 25**-Middle School Dance
- **Oct. 26**-Lutheran Schools Spelling Bee
- **Oct. 27**- Oktobearfest and Trunk or Treat
- **Nov. 3**-Daylight Savings ends
- **Nov. 7-8**-Parent Teacher Conferences-Minimum Days
- **Nov. 11**-Veteran's Day-No School
- **Nov. 12**-Parent Education Event

Leading chapel this week:  
Mr. Brege

Parents, you are always welcome to  
join us!

Chapel begins at 9:00 AM!

Bonus Fest Earn big all 4 weekends in October with 3-day bonuses up to 20%!

Things to know:

- Bonuses start at 12am ET Friday and end 11:59pm ET Sunday.
- Offers will be announced Friday via email and on Facebook.
- All gift card types are included (eGift cards, physical cards, and money added to reloadable cards).
- Each weekend will include a featured brand along with other brands on bonus.

Featured brands:

Oct. 4 - 6 Bath and Body Works

Oct. 11 - 13 REI

Oct. 18 - 20 GAP (Includes GAP, Old Navy, Athleta, Banana Republic)

Oct. 25 - 27 Total Wine and More



Bethany Lutheran School looks forward to thanking veterans for their service and appreciates your help in advance! We hope to thank as many veterans as possible for their service by sending a package of thank you cards to them by mail. The goal is for the package of student-created thank you cards to arrive just before the Veterans Day holiday.

**\*Important Note\*** In order to keep the list as accurate as possible, we are collecting names/addresses yearly. If you submitted a veteran in previous years, please submit them again. We will only be mailing to those on the 2024 list.

Please complete this form for one veteran at a time.

Please complete this form no later than Friday, October 25th, 2024.

Please reach out to Mrs. Carrie Evans at [cevans@bethanylutheran.org](mailto:cevans@bethanylutheran.org) with any questions.

Last year, over 80 envelopes full of thank you notes were mailed around the U.S.A. We hope to do that again! Thank you for your help!



# Jog-a-thon

It's time to start getting sponsors for our biggest fundraiser of the year! The Jog-a-thon supports student camp fees, transportation, PTL events, campus safety improvements, teacher discretionary funds, and SO MUCH MORE!

WE NEED PARENT VOLUNTEERS for this event! It's such a fun day, and a great way to earn those FISH hours!

Sign up [HERE](#) or use the QR code below:



**FAMILY MINISTRIES:**  
**“FALL-OWING JESUS”**  
**PUMPKIN DECORATING JAMBOREE**

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024**  
**AT 11 A.M. IN THE GYM**  
THIS IS A FREE EVENT. SIGN UP TODAY!  
REGISTRATION CLOSSES ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2ND.  
[HTTPS://BIT.LY/PUMPKINDECORATING24](https://bit.ly/pumpkindecorating24)

DIRECT QUESTIONS TO ALISSA AT [ABREG1@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG](mailto:ABREG1@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG)



## Middle School Corner

Parents, You are invited to check out this week's Food for Thought article:  
"[Top 10 Homework Tips](#)".

Also...attention Middle Schoolers! Support your BLS 8th graders by purchasing snacks on Fridays! They are raising money for their Washington DC trip. \*Snacks will also be available for ALL to purchase at home sports games throughout the year!

## Moms in Prayer

Do you ever worry about your kids? Lift them up in prayer at Bethany Moms in Prayer! We meet on Tuesdays in the Youth Room from 8:30-9:30am. Meetings are structured (we follow a prayer sheet) and confidential. Our prayers cover Bethany students, teachers and the school - as well as our children. Parents and students are welcome to leave prayer requests in the boxes at EDC, the preschool, and in the school office. Come weekly or occasionally. Fish hours can be earned. If you'd like to learn more about this international prayer group, check out [momsinprayer.org](http://momsinprayer.org).

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God." Philippians 4:6-7*



Shoebox Season is HERE, which means we once again have the opportunity to touch the lives of children all over the world with a shoebox gift prayerfully packed full of fun gifts.

Samaritan's Purse collects Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts and delivers them to children around the world through churches and other ministry partners in over 100 countries. These local believers tell boys and girls about Jesus Christ - God's Greatest Gift.

Our Bethany students will be packing shoeboxes on Wednesday, November 13. We could use pens, small calculators, fun adhesive bandages, and quality toys like hot-wheels, magnatiles, dolls, and yo-yos. Items can be placed in the OCC boxes in the narthex and school office. If you prefer, you can donate funds to cover the \$10 cost of shipping each box.

Please drop off cash or checks (payable to Bethany Lutheran Church with OCC written on the memo line) to Mrs. Maraley Shaeffer, Financial Administrator. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to help with the packing event, please contact Kahana Smith (310-387-0728), Ruth Lopez, or Aleina Aiello.

OCC SHOEBOXES: GOOD NEWS!! GREAT JOY!!

Our PTL International Potluck and Bingo was a success! We want to extend a huge thank you to all of the families for coming out (our school and church families), bringing their delicious dishes, generous donations, and most importantly, their love. It was a wonderful night! We want to give a big shout-out to these folks for helping us make the event a success!



### Committee Members:

Melanie Noble (co-chair)  
Ms. Jennifer Garcia  
Julie Bunting  
Joanna Haner  
Stephanie Persico  
Millie Bermudez  
Bonnie Colello  
Cory Steele

### Special thank-yous:

Mr. Noah Freeman (our DJ/ Bingo caller)  
Mr. and Dr. Fink (Bingo Callers)  
Jacob Murdock (Bingo Caller)  
Mrs. Sara Cerulle



### Blessing of the Animals

Did you know that the church has different seasons and celebrations throughout the Church year, besides Christmas and Easter? One such celebration is in honor of an early church father named St. Francis of Assisi.

In celebration of St. Francis of Assisi, known for his love of all of God's creatures, we will hold a "Blessing of the Animals" prayer service in Friendship Square on Saturday, October 5, at 10am.

Animal lovers are invited to bring their pets to have them blessed and prayed over. The service is a way of thanking God for the pets that bring joy to so many.



**BETHANY LUTHERAN PTL**

**PRESENTS**

*Bethany Lutheran's annual*

# JOG-A-THON

friday, october 11

**ON THE GRASSY FIELD**  
raffle prizes

Include:

- **A SILLY STRING FIGHT WITH PASTOR KYLE, MR. FREEMAN, AND MRS. KAYLEIGH**
- **LUNCH WITH TWO FRIENDS AND YOUR TEACHER**
- **CREDIT TO THE BOOK FAIR**
- **FREE DRESS DAY**

**10 Raffle Tickets for Every \$100 Raised!\***

These prizes are in addition to the class ice cream parties, Jump for Joy Day, Handels ice cream cards, and "Get Air" grand prizes.



\*Raffle tickets are available for pledges made through PledgeStar. For instructions on how to set up a PledgeStar account, please see your Jog-a-thon envelope.



# Sunday, October 27

## Event Timeline

- 3:30-4pm Preschool Open House
- 4-5pm "Trunk or Treat" in Parking Lot
- 4-7pm Okto-BEAR-fest on the Field
- 4:30-6:30pm Food is Served



**Admission to Trunk or Treat**  
One bag of candy per family  
and one canned good

**Order Food & Drink by**  
**Sunday, October 20**



**FREE Kid's Meal with the  
purchase of an Adult Meal**

**Adult Meal Includes:** Bratwurst w/bun, Sauerkraut, German Potato Salad, Cheese Spaetzle, Pretzel, Water or Lemonade

**Kid's Meal Includes:** Hot dog w/bun, Chips, Applesauce, Water or Lemonade



## Connect Learn Thrive

Bethany Parents,

If you have a child or family member with ADHD, we encourage you to take advantage of a wonderful learning opportunity coming this Fall. November 14-16, CHADD is hosting its annual conference in Anaheim, which will provide parents, teachers, therapists, doctors with best practices and research - based information on ADHD, as well as discuss treatment options and practical strategies for managing ADHD at home and in the classroom.

Session topics will include:

- ADHD and Faith: How our Spiritual Practice Plays into Managing ADHD
- Screen Time Parenting
- Tired but Wired: Solutions for the Sleep Challenges of ADHD
- ADHD and Video Games: What Families Need to Know
- Behavior Management: Keeping Your Child's Relationship
- The Overwhelmed Child: Parenting Children with Big Emotions
- Guiding Families to Thrive: Insights from Behavioral Parenting Training Groups
- Managing Homework: Parent and Teacher Edition
- Helping Youth Build Better Emotional Regulation
- Fostering Executive Functioning Skills at School and Home
- The Importance of Nutrition and ADHD

And many more!

Below is a QR code to scan and learn more about how you can register. There are options to attend portions of the conference if you are interested, but unable to attend the entire thing. We hope you can take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to embrace and learn more about ADHD!

Sincerely,  
Bethany Lutheran Student Success Program

