



BEAR FACTS

Issue 15: Dec. 12, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

It was a blessing to participate in Bethany's Christmas concerts this past weekend. The music was uplifting and pointed us to the "Reason for the season": the birth of our Savior King.

Our Trinity and Troubadour choirs sang beautifully and were seated right by the orchestra, which was a great experience for them. (Seriously: how often does a person get to sit five feet from the violin player during a live performance?)

I'm grateful for all the music opportunities our students have here at Bethany: music classes, lessons, performance groups, musicals, etc. Research consistently points to the ways music education strengthens memory, eye/hand coordination, study habits, problem-solving, teamwork and so much more. And music speaks to our souls in such profound and unique ways....it is a wonderful gift of God.

This week our K-2 students will present their Christmas musical, "One Starry Night." We know that singing the story of Jesus' birth will help them to remember and cherish it for years to come! We hope you can join us on Friday at 9 AM or 6:30 PM.

*Blessed to be at Bethany,
Dr. Fink*

COMING UP

- **Dec. 12**-Middle School Game Day
- **Dec. 15**-K-2 Christmas Program, 9:00 and 6:30
- **Dec. 22**-Minimum Day, Noon Dismissal
- **Jan. 8**-School resumes
- **Jan. 12**-Middle School Movie Night
- **Jan. 15**-No school in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- **Jan. 19**-End Quarter 2
- **Jan. 21**-Trinity sings 8:00, Troubadour sings 9:30
Family Skating event
- **Jan. 21-26**-National Lutheran Schools Week
- **Jan. 23**-PTL Meeting-6:30 PM
- **Jan. 26**-Talent Show-6:30 PM





This month's offering is going to Free Wheelchair Mission, a God motivated mission which gives people the opportunity to move around on their own. They have distributed wheelchairs to almost 100 countries around the world.

Cook's Night Out
Buying donuts for a birthday or office party? Support our 8th Graders' Krispy Kreme fundraiser!

"Remem-bear":

- Missing a jacket/sweatshirt/lunch bag/water bottle? Check the cart by EDC by Dec. 22. We will be donating the leftover items over Christmas break! Students may wear Christmas sweatshirts/sweaters/hats, etc. on December 22. (Jeans are ok, too!)
- The school office will be closed Dec. 25-Jan. 3 and open Jan. 3-5 from 9:00-2:00.



KRISPY KREME DOZENS TO SUPPORT

Bethany Lutheran - Washington DC Fundraiser
Enjoy some sweet donuts and let's help our 8th Graders!



\$15 PER DOZEN



**OVER 50%
DONATED BACK**



ENDS December 20.

Order here!

Did you help with choir robes for the concert this past weekend? Are you helping out or bringing supplies for the class Christmas party? Don't forget to log your FISH hours!

Wrap up your holiday shopping with bonuses on eGift cards - the perfect last-minute gift! Now through December 18. On the RaiseRight app or the website you can choose the option to "send as a gift by email". You can send right away or schedule delivery for a future date. OR save to print and deliver it personally. We still have lots of cards on hand in the school office as well.

Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator
rlopez@bethanylutheran.org
562-420-7783 ext. 58

Middle School Corner

Bethany Lutheran offers team sports as one avenue for building problem-solving strategies, practicing effective communication skills, and exploring and developing God-given gifts. All while getting some exercise!

Sports available for students in grades 5-8

Fall Season: Girls Volleyball and Boys Football

Winter Season: Girls Basketball and Boys Basketball (games start January 2024!)

Spring Season: Girls and Boys Track and Field

Go Bears!

The Bethany Talent Show is coming
on January 26! Hint: Christmas break
is not too early to start
planning/practicing your act!





THE CLOTHING OF THE KING MID-WEEK ADVENT SERIES at Bethany Lutheran Church

Every morning, the sun rises, alarm clocks sound, foggy eyes open, and then, at some point, we get dressed. Socks, underwear, pants, shirts, and shoes: we don clothing that rightly corresponds to our vocations, our culture, and even the weather outside. Our clothing serves as the marker that sets us apart as a species and as an indicator of societal and individual values and traits.

As Mark Twain once said, “Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence on society.” Twain may have been right on that first part, but his statement excludes the first naked people in history, Adam and Eve.

The biblical authors use both metaphorical and actual descriptions of priestly and royal garments to point us to the one true Priest and King, Jesus. And it’s this King, first wrapped in the rags of a swaddle, who then hangs naked on the cross in order to clothe us in the riches of his righteousness.

You are welcome to join us for mid-week Advent Worship here at Bethany:

December 13th at 6:30 PM in Bethany’s Sanctuary: “An Envious Style”

December 20th at 6:30 PM in Bethany’s Sanctuary: “Clothed in Conviction”

If you’d like a downloadable daily Advent devotional of this series, go to www.1517.org/advent.





The Literati Book Fair will be at Bethany Lutheran next week, December 10th-17th in the Parish Lounge (located next to the church offices across from the Sanctuary.) All proceeds support the Bethany High School Youth Group as they plan for future Youth Gatherings!

Hours and Classroom Visits

Your child will visit the Book Fair during class time and have an opportunity to shop for books. If sending money with your child(ren) to be spent in the Book Fair, please include 10.25% for sales tax. Cash, checks (made out to Bethany Lutheran) and credit/debit cards are accepted.

This year, we are utilizing Literati Gift Cards as a way to pay! You can sign up using [this link](#). If a Literati Gift Card is not completely used at the end of our Winter book fair, it will roll over to future book fairs and can be used online throughout the year!

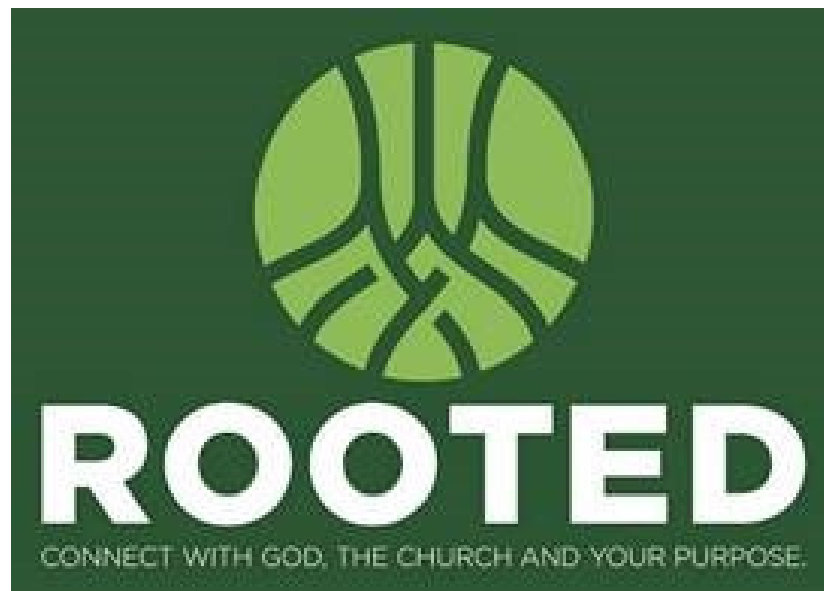
Parents can attend before school, after school, or during our Wednesday Family Night. Help your teachers by purchasing books for their classrooms from their wish list. Wish lists will be posted on the doors to the Parish Lounge.

Book Fair Hours

December 10: 7:30-11:00a.m. (Before and after Christmas Concerts)
December 11-12: 8:00-9:00am, 12:00-1:00pm, and 3:00-4:30pm
December 13: 8:00-9:00am, 12:00-1:00pm, and 3:00-4:30pm,
plus a special Family Night from 5:00-6:30pm
December 14-15: 8:00-9:00am, 12:00-1:00pm, and 3:00-4:30pm
December 17: 7:30-11:00a.m.

Online Book Fair

Can't make it to the Book Fair? Visit our online fair from now until 12/16/23 at <https://efairs.literati.com/>



You are invited to join us!
Sundays: Jan. 7 – Mar. 17, 2024
11 am – 1 pm

- Women's and Men's groups
- Childcare free for kids potty-trained to 5th grade
- Break for President's weekend
- Group service projects in community
- Closing celebration Sat. March 23 at noon
- **Online Registration: Now to December 18, 2023 at midnight**
- Registration fee: \$40 book & closing celebration (assistance available)
- Registration for repeat Rooted Participants is \$20. (without a new book)

ROOTED is not a program, seminar or life-long small group; ROOTED is a catalyst for life change. ROOTED provokes questions and conversations that are designed to help us find ourselves in God's story. Rooted is a means to further you walk and our walk together as disciples of Jesus!

"ROOTED impacted my life GREATLY! Every week for 10 weeks, I had the privilege of bonding with women who TRULY are my sisters in Christ! I endearingly call them my ROOTED sisters, as we cried, laughed, prayed, and fellowshiped together with God at the center. I would strongly encourage anyone who is looking for a deep ROOTED experience in God to join! You will certainly come out on the other side, STRONGER!"

Brandi Lewin (Murdock), Bethany school parent

Register here: <https://bit.ly/rooted24>