



BEAR FACTS

Issue 28: April 8, 2025

From the Principal

Some faculty members are headed to a workshop tomorrow to develop an AI policy for our school. I'm sure it will be a fascinating day as we think about the future and use of AI for staff and students.

Personally, I already find AI to very useful in my role. Here's an example: I keep a file of articles that I think might be helpful to parents. I don't have room to reprint those articles in this column, so I usually summarize them for you. But now AI can help me get started, then I can edit it to fit my purposes. Here's a summary of an *article I read about specialization in youth sports (and life!):

"While early specialization—like Tiger Woods starting golf at age 2—can lead to success, many top performers actually benefit from trying a variety of activities first. Athletes like Roger Federer and Abby Wambach played multiple sports growing up, which helped them build diverse skills and discover what they truly loved.

Author David Epstein, in his book *Range: Why Generalists Triumph in a Specialized World*, found that people who explore different interests early on often achieve greater success and fulfillment later. This "sampling period" allows kids to develop creativity, adaptability, and a better understanding of themselves.

For parents of young children, the message is clear: don't worry if your child hasn't chosen a single passion yet. Encourage them to try different things, play, explore, and learn from the experience. A winding path often leads to the strongest outcomes. Success isn't about specializing early—it's about growing through variety and discovering what truly fits over time."

It took AI less than 20 seconds to generate a summary for me to edit...pretty useful and pretty amazing....but also so much to consider when it comes to educating for the future! Stay tuned!

Blessings on your week!

Dr.Fink

*"Science Says the Most Successful Kids Have Parents Who Refuse to Embrace This Common Parenting Approach."
By Jeff Haden, Inc. Magazine, May 7, 2021
Summarized by genAI 4/7/25

Coming Up

- **April 13**-Palm Sunday-Troubadour sings 8:00, Trinity sings 9:30
- **April 16**-Grades 5-8 Track Meet-St. Mark's
- **April 18**-Good Friday-No School
- **April 20-EASTER!!**
- **April 21**-Easter Monday-No School
- **April 22**-PTL Meeting
- **April 22-25**-Health and Wellness Week
- **April 27**-Confirmation Sunday
- **April 30**-Grades 5-8 Track Meet-St. Mark's
- **May 2**-Minimum Day/Noon Dismissal
- **May 2**-Grades 5-8 Track Meet-Los Altos High
- **May 2**-Middle School Dance
- **May 5-12** MAP Testing
- **May 11** K-2 sings 9:30
- **May 14**-5th Grade State Event
- **May 16-23** 8th Grade DC/NY trip
- **May 21-23** 4th Grade Sacramento trip
- **May 26**-Memorial Day-No School

Leading chapel this week:

8th Grade

Parents, you are welcome to join us at 9:00 in the church.

Add some flavor to your earning potential! Now you can earn by dining at your favorite local restaurants. Local dining brings thousands of new earning opportunities to RaiseRight—outside of gift cards and shopping online. Log in to the RaiseRight app to search restaurants near you and get started.

How it works:

1. Link a credit or debit card in your RaiseRight account.
2. Search for participating local restaurants in the app (some restaurants have limited days when earning is available)
3. Dine and earn 5% when you pay with your linked card.

Middle School Corner

Bethany Lutheran's middle school students will be leading a special chapel service on Wednesday, April 16th. **"The Way of the Cross"** follows Jesus through Holy Week and His journey to the cross for us.

Guests are welcome to join the 9:00 AM group which starts at the lunch tables and takes a guided walk around campus while visiting stations from Palm Sunday through Christ's victorious resurrection. The walk takes 30-40 minutes.

"It's hard to believe isn't it? First a hero in a parade and in a few short days a man hated by all and punished unjustly...for you and me. Let's take a walk down the way Jesus took for us...THE WAY OF THE CROSS."



Bethany Lutheran Church

- Palm Sunday Worship - Sunday, April 13th at 8:00, 9:30AM & 11:00AM
- Maundy Thursday Worship - Thursday, April 17th at 6:30PM
- Good Friday Worship - Friday, April 18th at 1:00PM & 6:30PM
- Easter Festival Worship - Sunday, April 20th at 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00AM

We're hiring...

Kindergarten Teacher

Pastor and Mrs. Blake have accepted positions in Texas for next year. We will miss both of them TERRIBLY, but we know they will be blessings to Concordia High School in Tomball and Trinity Lutheran School in Klein.

God has continually blessed Bethany with amazing teachers, and we know He is already preparing the heart of our next Kindergarten teacher. We have started the search process and are collecting names and resumes:

Position Description:

Teach full-day Kindergarten, providing a classroom environment that is Christ-centered, engaging and developmentally appropriate. Develop strong relationships with TK teachers and students/families to build a smooth transition from preschool to K-8 school.

Candidates must possess excellent communication and collaboration skills, the desire to work cooperatively with team-mates (including a full-day aide) and a whole-parish understanding of ministry. Teaching credential a must. A LCMS-rostered teacher is preferred.

Contact: Principal Mary Fink mfink@bethanylutheran.org

Director of Finance and Operations

Bethany Lutheran Church and School is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Director of Finance and Operations. This position will oversee the financial and human resources responsibilities of our organization for both the church and the school, along with overseeing some of our operational functions. This is a full-time benefitted position with an anticipated start date in late Spring 2025. A full job description is available here: <https://bit.ly/BethanyDPO>. If you are interested in this position please submit your name, email address, and a brief summary of your qualifications to jobs@bethanylutheran.org.



Ready for some fun in the sun?
Bethany offers summer camp for
students entering Grades K-5!

Sign up here by April 25!



Bethany Lutheran School
Honor Roll and Principal's List 3rd Quarter, 2024-2025

Honor Roll

6th Grade

Liam Quitoriano
Henry Cerulle
Elias Gagne
Mia Gorne
Aaron Castellanos
Justin Armstrong

7th Grade

Ethan Attia
Madison Lott
Noah Wegman
Samuel Salazar
Sarah Kibe
Audrey Kienitz
Christian Cortado
Adam Marentez

8th Grade

Gavin Bermudez
Julia Tec

Honor Roll: 3.5 GPA minimum
Principal's List: 3.8 GPA minimum

Principal's List

6th Grade

Nathan Haro4.0 GPA**
Lily Craft, Riley Osborn

7th Grade

Ethan Lo4.0 GPA**
Ezra Anema4.0 GPA**
Eric Vega4.0 GPA**
Alex Cuizon, Elizabeth Albers,
Samantha Baldwin, Emilee Torres,
Nixon Szych, Sebastian Zingler

8th Grade

Irene Long4.0 GPA**
Olivia Alvarado4.0 GPA**
Jacob Murdock **4.0 GPA
Robert DeFrance **4.0 GPA
Lily Marentez, Daniella Martins,
Hailey Avila, Alexandria Mendoza,
Analia Arellano

EASTER EGGS-TRAVAGANZA

BETHANY
LUTHERAN

EGG HUNT,
CRAFTS, SNACKS & DEVOTION

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2025

11:00 A.M.

WE ARE MEETING IN THE GYM.
THIS IS A FREE EVENT.

PLEASE RSVP BY

TUESDAY, 4/8

SO THAT WE PREPARE FOR THE
CORRECT AMOUNT OF PEOPLE.

QUESTIONS? REACH OUT TO ALISSA
ABREGE@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG

TAKE ME OUT TO THE ANGELS GAME WITH BETHANY LUTHERAN

SUNDAY, MAY 4, 2025

1:07 P.M. GAME TIME
AT ANGEL STADIUM
TICKETS ARE LIMITED
COST: \$20 PER TICKET

[HTTPS://BIT.LY/BLCBASEBALL25](https://bit.ly/BLCBASEBALL25)



QUESTIONS? CONTACT ALISSA BREGE AT
ABREGE@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG

JOIN US FOR AN AMAZING WEEK!

The Easy VBS®



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH
4644 CLARK AVENUE, LONG BEACH, CA 90808

JUNE 23-27, 2025, 8:30 A.M.-NOON

THIS **FREE** VBS IS FOR AGES
3 YEARS OLD AND POTTY-TRAINED THROUGH ENTERING 6TH
GRADE.

REGISTRATION IS OPEN
APRIL 13TH THRU JUNE 20TH