



BEAR FACTS

Issue 18: January 13, 2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A few years ago one of our alums who had moved on to high school had his backpack stolen. It had his wallet and his phone in it, so he didn't have any way to reach his mom. He went to a high school not far from here, so he walked to Bethany and showed up in our office. He was pretty upset, but we were able to calm him down and reach his mom. While I was upset for this student's unfortunate experience, I'm was so glad he remembered that we care about him and that he's always a part of the Bethany family.

This experience reminded me of something I'd read before from the book "Sticky Faith": kids need other significant adults besides their parents who are invested in them and can be a resource in times of trouble. Can you think of who served in that role for you, and can you think of who is serving in that role for your children? Finally, are you serving in that role for someone else's kids? J

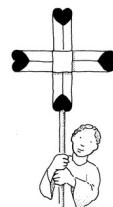
Sticky Faith is a great book, but if you don't have time to read it, here's an article that sums up the idea of the importance of kids having a "tribe" or "village" of invested adults: <https://www.annanordberg.com/article/why-kids-need-a-strong-network-of-supportive-adults-and-how-to-build-that-tribe>

Have a wonderful week!

Dr. Fink

COMING UP

- **Jan. 14**- Cook's Night Out-The Habit
- **Jan. 16**-End Quarter 2
- **Jan. 19**-No school-Martin Luther King holiday
- **Jan. 23**-Report cards go home
- **Jan. 26-30**. National Lutheran Schools Week!
- **Jan. 26**- In-n-Out Truck!
- **Jan. 30**-Talent Show!
- **Feb. 2-12** MAP Testing
- **Feb. 13/16** Presidents Day Holidays
- **Feb. 17**- Health and Wellness Week
- **Feb. 20**- Middle School Musical!



Leading chapel this week:

Mrs. Brege

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

Our chapel offerings this month will go to Garuna Ministries.



Ship, Ship, Hooray—your chance to win big is here! Enter to win free organization shipping for the rest of the year, plus a \$100 gift card just for you.

Five organizations and five participants will be selected, and every qualified purchase earns you another entry. It's a win-win for you and the organization you care about!

How it Works

- Earn one entry for each participant gift card order you place that includes one of our 11 featured brands.
- Place your order between January 17-23, 2026.
- No limit on the number of entries. All gift card types are eligible, including physical gift cards, eGift cards, and reloads.

Prize Details

- Earn one entry for each participant gift card order you place that includes one of our 11 featured brands*
- 5 participants (1 from each organization) will be randomly selected to win a \$100 eGift card of their choice from one of our featured brands:

*Featured Brands: Arby's, Buffalo Wild Wings, DoorDash, Home Chef, Home Depot, IHop, Instacart, Panda Express, Uber, Ulta, Walgreens



"Remem-bear":

Did your child receive a smartwatch from Santa? Just a reminder that students may not wear cellular-enabled devices during the school day, per school policy. Questions? Please check with your child's teacher to learn more about classroom procedures for turning in/returning smartwatches.

JOB OPENING

Bethany Lutheran Cypress Campus - Part Time Church Office Administrator Wanted:

The Church Office Administrator supports the ministry and mission of Bethany Lutheran Church by managing the daily administrative operations of the church office. This position ensures effective communication, organization, and coordination among staff, volunteers, and the congregation. The ideal candidate is detail-oriented, dependable, and able to maintain a welcoming and professional environment. Job description and application information found [here](#).

Middle School Corner

Getting to know Mr. Hicks, IT Director

Birthplace: Huntington Beach, California.

Middle School Memory: During my 6th grade history class, we participated in a project where half the class made model castles and the other half made siege engines, and we simulated a medieval battle in the field.

Education: I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from California State University Long Beach. I am a Bethany Lutheran alum and went to school here from 4th to 8th grade. Afterwards, I attended McBride High School here in Long Beach.

Favorite Bible Verse: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, 'plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.'" - Jeremiah 29:11
Lives: I live in Signal Hill with my family and our pets. We have 2 dogs and a cat.

Favorite Hobby: My favorite hobby is to get together with a good group and play some tabletop games. I also enjoy collecting trading cards, video games, and reading fantasy novels.



FEEL-GOOD FOOD FOR A CAUSE.



JOIN HABIT BURGER & GRILL IN SUPPORT OF
BETHANY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14 | 4-9PM

Enter code **GIVEBACK** when placing your order at the
in-restaurant kiosk, the Habit Burger & Grill Mobile app, or habitburger.com.

Or, simply present this printed flyer or show this offer on your smart phone to the
cashier upon ordering. Habit Burger & Grill will donate
20% OF NET SALES from this event to benefit your organization.



3801 Lakewood Blvd., STE 101
Long Beach, CA 90846



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*For Habit Team Member only

Net sales do not include sales tax, gift card purchases, or tips. Orders placed on third party websites or apps are not eligible for this Fundraiser.



The In-n-Out Truck is coming!!

Monday, January 26

for National Lutheran Schools Week!

This is also a fundraiser for our 8th graders, so we're trying to sell 300 meals!

*Parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and siblings
are invited to join us for lunch that day!*

- * Place your orders for
- * burger/cheeseburger meals by visiting
- * <https://bit.ly/BLSInNOutOrder2026>

Orders are due by Friday, January 16!

NATIONAL
LUTHERAN
SCHOOLS
WEEK

2026

K-8 STUDENTS

DRESS UP DAYS

LET'S MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE!

MON.
JAN. 26

"OLDIES" MUSIC DAY

Dress in styles from classic musiceras—like 50s sock hops, 60s hippies, 70s disco, or 80s rock—and celebrate the sounds and styles of the past.

TUES.
JAN. 27

ROCKSTAR HAIR DAY

WITH NORMAL UNIFORM

Tease it, spray it, color it (temporarily), or spike it!
Go all rock 'n roll on your hair today.

WED.
JAN. 28

DISNEY JAM SESSION DAY

Wear your favorite Disney-themed t-shirt/outfit
inspired by the magic of Disney music.

THURS.
JAN. 29

COUNTRY MUSIC DAY

Blue jeans, flannel shirts, overalls, and boots will
make you a country superstar for the day.

FRI.
JAN. 30

CLASSICAL MUSIC DAY

Keep it classic by dressing in black and white like
a music score—simple, classic, and always in style.

Dress up days are optional. If you do not wish to participate, please wear your normal uniform.