



FROM THE PRINCIPAL

A few years ago, I got the greatest birthday gift: my brother-in-law built a Little Free Library for me and installed it on the parkway in front of our home. He built it to "my specs"....I asked that the bottom shelf be tall enough to hold children's picture books and the top shelf the right size for novels.

The library brings me so much joy...I love watching adults and kids stop by to see what's new. (I've even spied a few Bethany Bears out there!) I love seeing what people drop off for others to read. I love stocking it with donations, especially quality kids' books. Occasionally I find "treasures" in the library, too. (Last week it was seashells!)

Have you visited a Little Free Library in your neighborhood? It can be a great way to get your kids (and you!) in the habit of reading for pleasure! Did you know there's a map of all the registered libraries in the world?? <https://littlefreelibrary.org/map/> You can find them absolutely everywhere! (You can also find plans for building your own library on their website.)

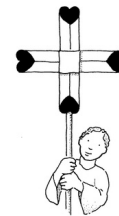
"More reading for pleasure!!" That's my rallying cry for kids and parents! :)



*Happy Reading,
Dr. Fink*

COMING UP

- **May 4-15** MAP Testing
- **May 10** K-2 Sings 9:30 service
- **May 11-12** 4th Grade to Sacramento
- **May 13**-5th Grade State Project Fair
- **May 15** Trinity, Troubadour and TrebleMakers to Knotts
- **May 22**-High School/College Dress-Up Day
- **May 25** Memorial Day-No School
- **May 26**-PTL Meeting 6:30 PM
- **May 29**-Spring Concert 7:00 PM
- **May 31**-8th Grade Graduation 4:00
- **June 1**-Fun Day!
- **June 2**-Field Day!
- **June 3**-Park and Pool Day!
- **June 4**-Last Day of School
Kinder Graduation 10:30
Minimum Day
- **June 22-26**-Vacation Bible School
- **Aug. 26/30**-Family Classroom Visits



Leading chapel this week:
6th Grade

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

Our chapel offerings this month will go
to the Long Beach Rescue Mission



RaiseRight™

May Monthly Earning Challenge

Stay motivated to earn big all year long! Every month brings a new challenge, and a new chance to win a \$500 gift card of your choice.

How it works:

- Each month RaiseRight will announce a new earning challenge.
- Complete any month's challenge to qualify for that month's \$500 gift card drawing.

May 2026:

- Between 5/1/26 and 5/31/26, every purchase of a gift card on bonus (or reloaded gift card on bonus) = 1 entry to win

Mother's Day bonuses end 5/8/26 - take advantage while they last!

Middle School Corner

These are a few of our favorite things! (8th grade edition)

- One of my favorite memories from Bethany was having a great time playing capture the flag at the first lock-in during 6th grade!
- I loved the trip to Catalina Island and enjoyed learning about the island's history and the diverse marine life. Scuba diving at night was my favorite activity!
- Kindergarten graduation is a cherished memory. It's when I took some photos with friends that I still have today.
- My favorite memory from my years at Bethany was going to Catalina. I learned so much about the island and the ocean. I loved getting to hang out and play with my friends on the beach!
- I loved participating in volleyball at this school. I also enjoyed our 8th-grade year, including the books we read, what we learned, and how we grew.
- One of my favorite memories from my time at Bethany was my first time staying the whole night for a lock-in. It was a great experience bonding with all my classmates and friends while playing games in the dark at midnight.
- My favorite memory was the night snorkel we experienced at Catalina. I really liked it because I got to see and love God's creations.
- During 7th grade, we had the opportunity to serve the school by carrying many boxes in and out of a storage container and picking up trash from the ditch. It was fun to hang out with my friends, talk and laugh, and be helpful to the school at the same time.
- Basketball games and practices were very fun, and I had a good time with my teammates.
- A favorite memory of mine is when we went night snorkeling. On the snorkel, we got to see the bioluminescence and a bunch of other aquatic animals. I enjoyed this snorkel because it was calm and very relaxing.
- One of my favorite memories here at Bethany is our class trip to Catalina Island! It was so fun, and we all had a great time. Thank you, Bethany, for giving me this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity.

"All honor and glory to God forever and ever! He is the eternal King,
the unseen one who never dies; he alone is God. Amen." 1 Timothy 1:17

Thank you to the volunteers who helped with the Book Fair last week! The willing participation of our Bethany family makes everything better! Consider volunteering next year for our Spring 2027 Book Fair...it's a great way to make new friends as you work together to bring the joy of reading to our Bethany students.

Finally, if your child didn't get to order, or if the book they wanted was sold out, IT'S NOT TOO LATE! You can order online:

- Go to bookfairs.scholastic.com
- Click on "Find Your Fair"
- Find our school
- Scroll to "shop even more titles online"
- Click on "shop now"

Bethany Lutheran

partnering with Long Beach Rescue Mission, who supplies diapers for Lydia House to help mothers, babies, and toddlers in our community who are in need.

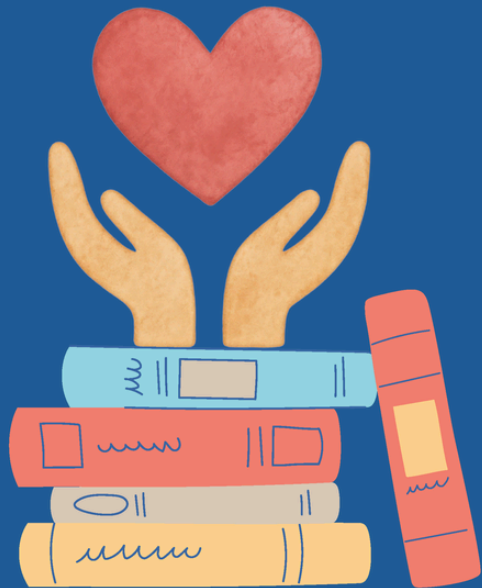
Diaper Drive

May 11-22, 2026

Students, Bring diapers to your classroom; diapers will be collected at the end of the drive.

Congregation Members, Please drop off diapers in the designated container in the Narthex during the above dates.

Questions? Ask a member of Student Council or Alissa Brege at abrege@bethanylutheran.org



TEACHER

Appreciation MONTH

MAY 2026

Celebration Schedule

Gracias Teachers!

Tues. 5/5



Taco Bar Lunch for Staff!
Give your teacher a
handmade card or sweet
note!

In Full Bloom Because of You

Tues. 5/12



Staff, enjoy a Garden Party
themed lunch!
Bring your teacher their
favorite flower!

Thanks a Latte!

Tues. 5/19



Coffee cart and continental
breakfast for staff!
Students, bring your teachers
their favorite snacks!

Mahalo for all you do!

Tues. 5/26



A luau lunch for staff!
Students, bring your
teachers their favorite
sweet treats!

*Thank you Teachers and Support Staff for all that you
do for our children and families!
Love, Bethany Lutheran PTL and Parents*

Bethany Lutheran
SCHOOL



"FURTHER YOUR EDUCATION" HIGH SCHOOL & COLLEGE WEAR DRESS UP DAY

8th Graders,

Wear a shirt/ sweatshirt showing other Bethany Bears where you will be attending high school next year.

Kindergarten - 7th Grades,

Gear up in a shirt/ sweatshirt of your favorite college.

Teachers,

Represent your college alma mater(s) proudly!

MAY 22, 2026