Bethany Lutheran School
Long Beach, CA

BEAR FACTS

Issue 7: October 13, 2026

From our SSP Admin

This week we are hosting our 2nd annual Neurodiversity Week celebration! This special week is dedicated to honoring the beautiful diversity of human minds and recognizing the unique strengths of every individual. What is Neurodiversity? At Bethany Lutheran, we believe that God has created each person wonderfully and uniquely. Neurodiversity refers to the many different ways our brains are wired. These differences can include:

- Autism
- ADHD
- Dyslexia
- Dyscalculia
- Dysgraphia
- And other neuro-divergences

Throughout the week, our teachers will be:

- Discussing and reading about neurodiversity with compassion
- Highlighting the strengths and challenges that come with our differences
- Promoting understanding and acceptance of individuals who are neuro-divergent

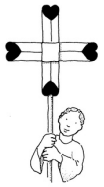
Our goal this week is to celebrate that our differences are not deficits, but beautiful variations of God's incredible design.

If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact Kelsey Cornett, the SSP Administrator, by email (kcornett@bethanylutheran.org) or phone (562) 420-7788 ex. 41

Blessings,
Kelsey Cornett, M.A. Ed.
Student Success Program Administrator

Coming up

- **Oct. 12-16-**Neurodiversity Week
- **Oct. 16-**No school-Teacher Inservice Day
- **Oct. 19-**Protect Young Eyes Parent Event-6:30 PM
- **Oct. 22-**Staff vs. Varsity Volleyball Game. 3:30
- **Oct. 23-**Picture Retake Day
- **Oct. 25-**Trunk or Treat/Okto-bear-fest
- **Oct. 30-**End Quarter 1, Jog-a-thon and Minimum Day
- **Nov. 1-**Daylight Savings Time ends
- **Nov. 5-**Minimum Day-P/T Conferences
- **Nov. 6-**No school for students, morning P/T conferences available.



Leading Chapel this week:
Mr. Bestelmeyer
Chapel offerings this month:
Lutheran Bible Translators

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

Middle School Corner

This week in Advisory, the students are meeting one-on-one with their advisory teacher and looking at their recent MAP testing scores, discussing how they felt about the tests, and making goals for taking the test again in a few months. This opportunity provides the students with an important chance to see their results and be part of the MAP test discussions. The students are encouraged to see themselves as life-long learners, striving to do their best while understanding that they haven't learned it all...yet!

Parents, **here's a link** to watch videos and/or read some articles about these MAP tests and how to support your student.



Veterans Day Letters

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 2026 list. Please complete this form for one veteran at a time. Please complete this form no later than Friday, October 23rd, 2026.

Please reach out to Mrs. Carrie Evans at cevans@bethanylutheran.org with any questions.

Last year, over 90 envelopes full of thank you notes were mailed around the USA. We hope to do that again! Thank you!

RaiseRight™

NEW!

Reloadable eGift cards eliminate the need to purchase multiple cards for the same brand - no more leftover balances across many cards, or scanning multiple cards at checkout. A few brands are currently available with more on the way. (Target, Home Depot, Starbucks...)

The RR Back-To-School Giveaway and Bonus Fest weekends continue through October! Take advantage of those weekend bonus events PLUS earn tickets for the Giveaway - boost your rebate AND get a chance to win gift card prizes. It's a win-win! Featured brands for the next two weekends are Old Navy (Oct. 16-18) and Total Wine (Oct. 23-25).

Ruth Lopez
Scrip Coordinator
Bethany Lutheran Church and School
562-420-7783 ext. 58

Operation Christmas Child

One of our beloved traditions is coming up in November: packing shoeboxes with toys and hygiene items for Operation Christmas Child.

We're collecting items for the boxes now. You're invited to contribute...we are in need of: hair brushes, color markers, small calculators, fun adhesive bandages, and quality toys like hot-wheels, small magnatiles, dolls, and harmonicas. Drop items off in the school office!

A Bear-y Long Time Ago

Did you know that as the Bethany Lutheran School grew, one of the classes met in the church/chapel during the week? The "classroom" was put away for Sunday services then set up again the next week!



Sports Schedule

Tuesday, 10/13
Volleyball home vs. Loving Savior
Wednesday, 10/14
Football away vs. Emmaus
Thursday, 10/15
Volleyball away vs. Mt. Calvary

GO BEARS!

RAISE RIGHT BACK-TO-SCHOOL GIVEAWAY

1 Ticket

- Show that you have downloaded the RaiseRight App (app must show your name and Bethany Lutheran)
- Make a purchase online or in person during the month of October. (1 ticket per total transaction, not per gift card)

RaiseRight™

2 Tickets

- View the online presentation available on the BLS website and submit the code word to rlopez@bethanylutheran.org

5 Tickets

- Attend a presentation on:
  - Tuesday, October 13 at 8:45am in the Parish Lounge
  - Wednesday, October 14 at 2:30p in Multi Purpose Room
- This option is highly recommended, especially if you are new to RaiseRight.

Winners will be determined based on a random drawing.
Prizes will be awarded from 3rd place to 1st place.

1ST **$100 Gift Card** of your choice

2ND **$50 Gift Card** of your choice

3RD **$25 Gift Card** of your choice

Bethany Lutheran School



BETHANY LUTHERAN FAMILY MINISTRIES

Fall Fun:

God's children of all ages are welcome to join us for fun on the patio!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2026
CYPRESS CAMPUS

5:30 P.M. - CARAMEL APPLE BAR,
CONNECT WITH FRIENDS & PLAY ON THE PATIO

6:30 P.M. - COMMON TABLE WORSHIP



TO ENSURE THAT WE HAVE
ENOUGH CARAMEL APPLE BAR
SUPPLIES, KINDLY RSVP
BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 12TH
BEFORE MIDNIGHT.

THIS IS A FREE EVENT.

QUESTIONS?
ASK ALISSA BREGE AT
ABREGE@BETHANYLUTHERAN.ORG

CREATING A TECH-READY HOME *in the AI Age*

Free Workshop for Parents



PROTECT young eyes
creating safer digital spaces

This workshop will equip you to:

- **Build a five-habit framework** that will move you from scared and overwhelmed to prepared and confident.
- **Talk to your kids about difficult topics** like pornography, sextortion, and AI companions in an age-appropriate way with practical, step-by-step guidance.
- **Implement a five-step plan** to prevent harm and create a safer digital environment in your home.
- **Flex your digital superpowers.** You have them!

Register here for the event and childcare!

Monday, October 19
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.
Free childcare for school-age children!

Bethany Lutheran School



We LOVE our school theme t-shirts, how about you? Want one for yourself? Or an extra for your child? How about a sweatshirt?

Here's your chance to order!
https://bit.ly/BLSShirtsNSweats

(We will take orders until Oct. 28.)

Bethany Lutheran Church & School's

Okto~bear~fest

Food ◆ Music ◆ Games ◆ Family Fun

OCTOBER 25TH

AT BETHANY LUTHERAN'S LONG BEACH CAMPUS

WITH A MUSIC PERFORMANCE BY: LADYHOSEN

BEER **MUSIC** **FOOD** **FAMILY FUN**

ORDER OF EVENTS

4 PM - 7 PM

TRUNK OR TREAT

4 - 5 PM

JOIN US IN THE PARKING LOT FOR OUR ANNUAL TRUNK OR TREAT! ADMISSION IS 1 BAG OF CANDY + 1 CANNED FOOD ITEM.

FOOD IS SERVED

4:30 - 6:30 PM

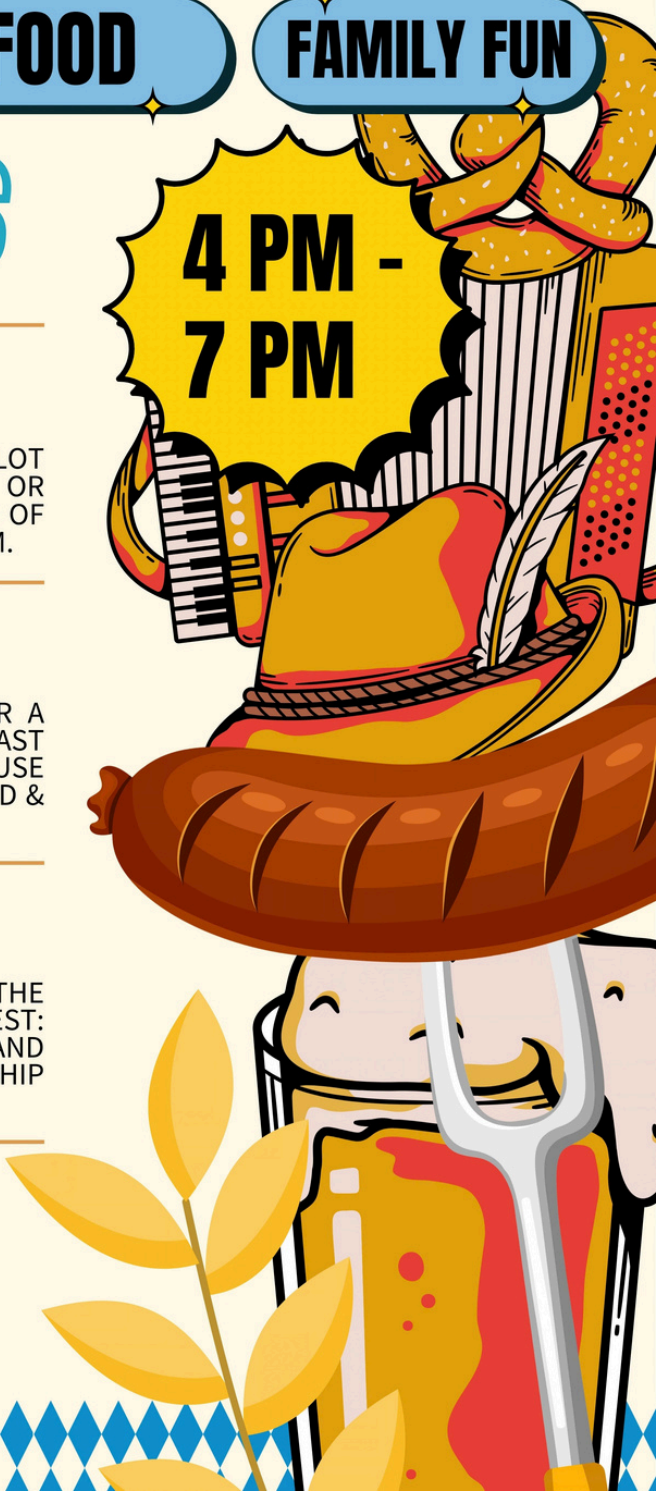
MEET US ON THE FIELD FOR A TRADITIONAL GERMAN FEAST WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS. USE THE QR CODE TO ORDER FOOD & DRINKS!

OKTO-FEST

4 - 7 PM

THE FUN CONTINUES UNDER THE TENT WITH OKTO-BEAR-FEST: LIVE MUSIC, GOOD FOOD, AND PLENTY OF FUN & FELLOWSHIP FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

SCAN TO REGISTER AND ORDER FOOD + DRINKS BY OCT. 21



BETHANY LUTHERAN SCHOOLS

TRUNK -OR- TREAT

Sunday, October 25, 2026

4:00pm–5:00pm

Bethany Lutheran Schools
Parking Lot

Admission is
1 Bag of Candy +
1 Canned Food Item



Want to Host a Trunk?

Scan This Space!

bit.ly/BLSTrunkorTreat26