Bethany Lutheran School
Long Beach, CA

BEAR FACTS

Issue 8: October 20, 2026

From the Principal

Our parent presentation from Protect Young Eyes last night was so enlightening and helpful. I appreciate the intent of this company: "We are a movement of balanced families, teachers, and school leaders that protect without panic, train without fear, and guide with grace and grit. Our goal is to raise tech-wise, morally-grounded, and resilient kids in a wild, digital world."

If you missed last night's presentation, we're including some helpful links in today's newsletter. You might also consider purchasing PYE founder Chris McKenna's book "5 Habits of the Tech-Ready Family." We have some copies available in the school office, or you can find it on Amazon.

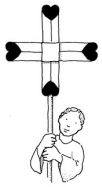
Our presenter, Doug Crawford, also spoke with our students this morning. He reminded them that they are created by God and meant for greatness, which should guide their digital decisions. He gave them practical tips and encouragement.

These presentations were funded by YOU through our PTL Jog-a-thon funds! Thank you!!

Blessed to be at Bethany,
Dr. Fink

Coming up

- **Oct. 20**-PTL Meeting-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.
- **Nov. 8**-K-2 sings 9:30
- **Nov. 11**-No School-Veteran's Day
- **Nov. 15**-Trinity sings 9:30



Leading Chapel this week:
Mrs. Morgensen

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

It's time for the annual Middle School Costume Cornhole Tournament!

Who: Every team must include at least one Bethany Lutheran middle school student or teacher
What: An elimination cornhole tournament
When: Sunday, October 25th, 4:15-5:15 pm
Where: Bethany's Parking Lot
Why: Because it's FUN!

- ·Costumes strongly encouraged! (not required) Get creative!
- ·Prizes for the winning team and prizes for the best costumes!
- ·Students and families are encouraged to enjoy the Trunk-or-Treat Event, also in the parking lot from 4:00-5:00 pm and Okto-BEAR-fest on the field. Tickets sold separately for Okto-BEAR-fest.

Teams! Sign up HERE!



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.

RaiseRight™

The RaiseRight 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!**

A Bear-y Long Time Ago

In honor of our 80th Year, we hope to bring you a little 'tidbit" of Bethany Lutheran School history each week, and maybe a few fun photos, as well!

This week:
Did you know that one of the Kindergarten classrooms used to be the school office?? The principal and school secretary worked in Room 103 (and the staff bathrooms were there, as well) and the principal ALSO taught middle school in Room 104. Wow!

Sports Schedule

Tuesday, 10/20
Volleyball away vs. St. Mark's
Thursday, 10/22
Staff vs. Varsity (home!)

GO BEARS!



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!

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



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

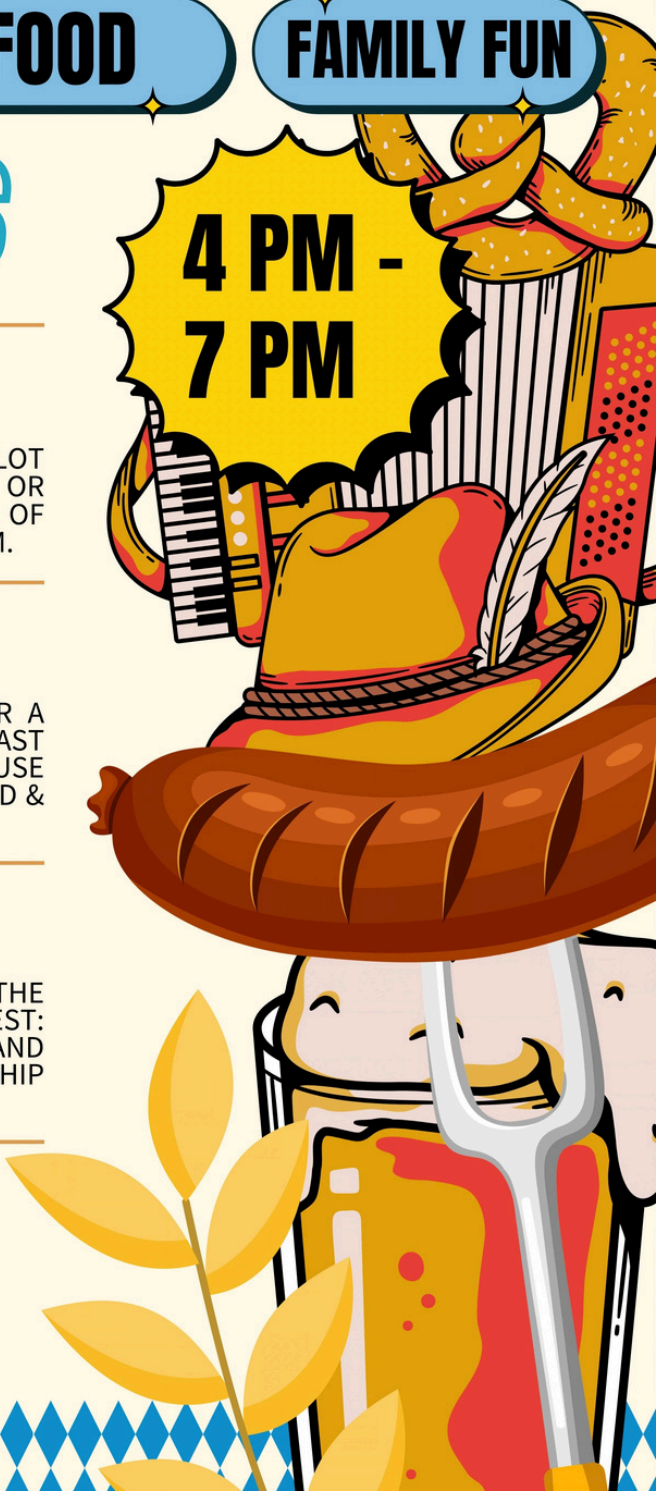
MEET US ON THE FIELD FOR A TRADITIONAL GERMAN FEAST WITH ALL THE TRIMMINGS. USE THE QR CODE TO ORDER FOOD & DRINKS!

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

ANNUAL
MIDDLE SCHOOL COSTUME

CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT

Prizes for the winning team & best costumes!

OCTOBER 25TH
BETHANY LUTHERAN PARKING LOT
APPROXIMATELY 4:15 - 5:15 PM



TEAMS MUST INCLUDE AT LEAST ONE BETHANY MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT OR TEACHER.
THIS IS AN ELIMINATION TOURNAMENT.

SSP Spotlight

Greetings from SSP!

Last week, we celebrated our 2nd annual Neurodiversity Week. Throughout the week, students learned about the different ways we've been created, and that each of us are made to think and learn in our own unique way.

We chose October to celebrate Neurodiversity Week because it is also Dyslexia and ADHD Awareness Month, which are two very common neurodevelopmental differences that shape how students learn, focus, read, and experience the world. Here are some quick facts about both.

🧠 ADHD Facts

- ADHD can affect attention, impulse control, and activity levels. It may look different from one student to another.
- Students with ADHD may have strengths in creativity, problem-solving, curiosity, and thinking outside the box.
- Movement breaks, clear routines, hands-on activities, and breaking tasks into smaller steps can help students succeed.

📖 Dyslexia Facts

- Dyslexia is a learning difference that primarily affects word reading, spelling, and decoding written language.
- Dyslexia is not related to intelligence! Students with dyslexia have a wide range of abilities, interests, and strengths.
- With explicit, systematic reading instruction and appropriate support, students with dyslexia can develop strong literacy skills and become confident readers.

Every student deserves to feel understood, supported, and celebrated. SSP strives to provide appropriate instruction and accommodations, and create an environment where asking for help is encouraged and all students can thrive.

If you have questions or would like to know more about SSP, please reach out to

Kelsey Cornett, SSP Administrator
kcornett@bethanylutheran.org

HELPFUL LINKS FROM THE TALK:

AI COMPANION APPS	DIGITAL PARENTING COACHING	THE ULTIMATE ROUTER GUIDE
KID PHONE GUIDE	RESPONDING TO SEXTORTION	BUY CHRIS'S NEW BOOK!

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