

Purpose of the program

Bethany Lutheran Music Academy provides after school instrumental music instruction during the school year. Students study in a Christian environment and are taught by instructors who are professionals in their respective fields.

Instruction at Bethany's Music Academy is founded on the firm conviction that music is a gift from God used to express praise and thanks to Him. This God-given gift is an invaluable tool which facilitates spreading the Gospel to others.

Anyone associated with Bethany Lutheran Church or School is encouraged to enroll.

General information

Music instruction will take place on the Bethany campus, Monday through Thursday, from approximately 3:15 until 5:45 p.m. Lessons are 30 minutes in length. Students who wish to take lessons that are longer than 30 minutes will be assessed additional tuition fees. There are 12 scheduled lessons per semester**, and one recital at the end of each semester.

The academy encourages parents to take an active interest in their child's musical instruction: encourage good practice habits at home, schedule time for practice, support them in their growth; compliment them on their progress, honor their lesson time with their instructor, attend recitals—invite family and friends too. Parents should help set up a daily schedule that allows their child to practice at least 30 minutes a day. These 30 minutes can be divided into two or three smaller segments; consistency is the key to mastering new skills. We encourage parents to sit in on a lesson and communicate with their child's instructor. We do request that parents contact their child's instructor to set up any additional conversations (if needed) so as not to infringe on reserved lesson times. Schedules are tight, and instructors must adhere to their allotted time with each student.

Child care is available through Bethany's Extended Day Care program. You may contact the director, at 562-496-0611 for more information. If your child does not attend Bethany's Extended Day Care program, please understand that it is the parent/guardian's responsibility to keep children with you before and after each lesson. Students are not to be left unattended on campus; this is a Bethany Lutheran Campus Policy.

Piano

Individual piano instruction is offered for students in grades 2 through high school. Students wishing to study piano, must have a piano or keyboard at home so they can practice. Keyboards are available to rent at local music stores. Music lesson materials will be purchased by the parents. Lessons are scheduled once per week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Trumpet

Individual trumpet instruction is offered for students in grades 5 through high school. Students must have a trumpet available for practice; rentals are available at local music stores. Lesson materials are to be purchased by the parents. Lessons are scheduled once per week, on Wednesday.

Voice

Individual voice instruction is available to students grades 6-12, either at Bethany **or** at Valley Christian School. Please speak with Academy Administrator regarding your child's interest in voice lessons.

Forms

Enrollment forms are available in the school or church office, they can also be found on the church's website: www.bethanylutheran.org. Enrollment forms must be filled out completely, signed, and returned to the church office by the date shown on the form. **Please note:** students **will not** be guaranteed a lesson slot or scheduled for a lesson if the enrollment form is turned in past the deadline, no exceptions. Students will receive lesson confirmation one week before their first lesson. Fall lessons begin the week of September 14***; spring lessons begin the week of January 11, 2027.

Fees and Policies

Each student in the music academy will pay a tuition fee for their scheduled lessons. Tuition is \$260.00 for the Fall semester (there are 8 scheduled 30-minute lessons this semester). Students who wish to take longer lessons (45 minutes) will be assessed additional tuition fees. Half of the tuition fee must be paid by the first scheduled lesson; the remaining half of tuition is due by October 1. Tuition payments can be paid in cash, personal check, or cashier's check. Bethany's Music Academy **DOES NOT** accept tuition payments via FACTS. Additionally, we are **NOT** authorized to use venmo, zelle, or credit cards for any Music Academy tuition.

There are no refunds or make-up lessons for any lessons missed by the student. You are reserving a spot with your child's instructor for the semester, and we request that you honor this commitment. **Exceptions to this policy:** **1**—illness (this **MUST** be communicated to either the Music Academy Administrator or your instructor before the scheduled lesson time). **2**—Bethany students in grades 4-8 who attend scheduled class enrichment camps for 2-5 days in a row. Your child's instructor will make every effort to schedule make up lessons with these students. ***If a student misses an arranged make up lesson, the lesson is forfeited/no additional lesson will be offered, and the instructor will be paid.*** Students should attend their scheduled lesson even if music books are forgotten at home. If the instructor is unable to keep a scheduled lesson, a make-up lesson will be arranged.

Lessons are scheduled by the Academy Administrator on a first-come, first-served basis as the enrollment forms are turned in. Please indicate the best day for your child to have a lesson on the enrollment form, taking into account all extra-curricular classes, enrichment programs, faith ministries, and sports your child might also take part in. Once lessons are scheduled, it is impossible to move a student to another time slot. Please plan carefully. Every effort will be made to accommodate lesson scheduling requests, however not all students will fit into a 3:15 lesson slot.

Scholarships

Need-based scholarships may be available. Please contact the Academy Administrator for information or to obtain a scholarship request form at: mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org

Requests are based on **financial need**, and/or as funds become available. All requests are kept strictly confidential.

If you have any questions about our program or policies, please contact Academy Administrator, Mara Widmann at 562-421-4711 ext. #55 or mwidmann@bethanylutheran.org

**** Fall Semester 2026 has only 8 lessons; our Fall Recital is scheduled for Wednesday, November 4.**

*****Trumpet Students begin September 9th and follow a slightly different calendar of lesson dates.**