



Bethany Lutheran School

Long Beach, CA

BEAR FACTS

Issue 22: February 14, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

I didn't write last week's principal column: it was written by ChatGPT. Wondering what that is? Here's how ChatGPT would answer the question:

"I am an artificial intelligence assistant trained by OpenAI to help answer questions and provide information on a wide variety of topics. I am not a physical being, but rather a program that is designed to process and generate text based on the input I receive. My primary function is to assist users like you by providing information and answering questions to the best of my ability. I have been designed to have a conversational style and can understand and respond to natural language input. I do not have personal experiences or feelings, and my responses are based solely on the information and knowledge that has been programmed into me."

Like any new technology, AI brings a host of challenges and choices for students and educators. We are witnessing the beginning stages (someone called ChatGPT the "Commodore 64 of AI!"), but it's not going to go away. Our faculty is already talking about how it can be leveraged for students' critical thinking (and how it can be used by teachers!) but also how we can teach our students about ethical use. Fascinating stuff indeed.

Blessings on your week!
Dr. Fink

HAPPY
Valentines
DAY

COMING UP

- **Feb. 17**-Minimum Day-Faculty Inservice
- **Feb. 20**-No School- President's Day
- **Feb. 22**-Ash Wednesday
- **Feb. 28**-PTL Meeting
- **Mar. 3**-Science Fair/Open House
- **Mar. 5**-Trinity sings 8:00, Troubadour sings 9:30
- **Mar. 11**-Concordia Handbell Festival (Advanced Bell Group)
- **Mar. 12**-Daylight Savings Time
- **Mar. 21**-Battle of the Books

UNIFORM DRESS

The weather is warming up (hooray!) so it might be time to review the uniform dress code rules, especially the rules for shorts. :)

You can find a copy of the code [here](#).



The new reloadable Safeway brand cards (Vons, Pavilions, Albertsons) are available and I will order some with my next shipment, arriving Friday, February 24.

Speaking of reloadable cards, they are a great way to keep your earnings moving forward. Reloadable cards are available for Safeway, Target, Walmart, many of the gas cards, some restaurants - lots of brands that you probably use often! You keep the card in your wallet and you can reload it on the go whenever you need more. I keep my Safeway card right next to my debit card so I never forget to use it when I am grocery shopping. RaiseRight makes earning a rebate easy!

Ruth Lopez, Scrip Coordinator
rlopez@bethanylutheran.org
562-420-7783 ext. 58

SUPPORT BETHANY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

COOK'S NIGHT OUT

✦
Wednesday, Feb. 15
8:00 AM - 9:00 PM
✦

20% Back on Dine In or Take Out Orders



2099 BELLFLOWER BLVD. 562-494-8226

Middle School Corner

The middle school students will be experiencing a new round of electives this week! Electives are designed for students to enjoy unique experiences that educate them as a whole child of God. We never know which student will discover a new skill or hobby they want to pursue!

During this round of electives, the students will experience dartball, ping pong, a book club, analyzing popular conspiracy theories, or being a school office or K-2 classroom aide.

Got skills? We're always looking for new elective courses to offer! Elective courses happen once a week on Tuesday afternoons from 2:30-3:10pm. Each session is usually 5-6 weeks in length. Some elective courses offered in the past include: board games and card games, square dancing, official baseball scorekeeping, yoga, finger-knitting, lawn games and life-hacks. The sky's the limit for possible electives!

We'd love to hear from you! For more information, or with questions, please contact Mrs. Carrie Evans at cevans@bethanylutheran.org.

READERS CHOICE AWARDS

VOTE FOR US!


INSPIRING LIFE-LONG LEARNING
THE SCHOOLS OF BETHANY LUTHERAN
CULTIVATING CHRISTIAN CHARACTER



BEST
PRESS-TELEGRAM
GRUNION GAZETTE
2023
READERS' CHOICE AWARDS

It's time again to choose the **BEST!**
We've made it easy for you!

Go online and vote **February 3 through March 5**
LBVotes.com

PRESS-TELEGRAM
Local News. Matters.

GRUNION GAZETTE
www.gazettes.com

Sports

It's basketball season! JV (5th/6th grade boys) and Varsity (7th-8th grade boys and girls.)

Here's the *game schedule for the next two weeks...come and cheer on the Bears!

*2/14: V at home vs. Emmaus
2/15: JV home vs. St. Mark's
2/21: V away at St. Mark's (boys)
2/22: JV away at Emmaus
*2/23: V home vs. Shield of Faith
2/28: V away at Mt. Calvary
3/1: JV home vs. Mt. Calvary

**Boys at 3:30, Girls at 4:30*



Calling all golfers!!

Our Bethany Golf Tournament is set for Friday, March 17, 1:00PM at Lakewood Country Club. Let's fill the course with Bethany golfers and friends!

Register online using the QR Code below or [this link](#). Registration closes 2/27.



BETHANY LUTHERAN SCHOOL

3 STEP

Re-Registration
2023-2024

1

FEBRUARY

Confirm and update
all family information
in Gradelink

2

MARCH

Registration Fee
charged - no tuition
this month!

3

ANYTIME!

Refer a new family and
get your Registration
Fee credited back on
December's tuition bill*

*one-time amount of \$315 only, max once per year



2023-2024 Tuition and Fees

Bethany Lutheran School offers two tuition schedules; one for families who are members of Bethany Lutheran Church and another for members of the community. Claiming membership in Bethany Lutheran Church means:

- a. One or both parents of the child are members and are listed on the church roll.
- b. The members are regular in their church and communion attendance, and support Bethany Lutheran Church through their financial contributions.

All families are encouraged to use our SCRIP/Gift card program and accumulate a SCRIP/Gift card rebate, which may be used to offset some of the tuition costs.

Members of Bethany Lutheran Church

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Paid over 10 months</u>	<u>*Full Payment/5% discount</u>
1 child:	\$7520	\$752 monthly	\$7,144
2 children:	\$13,530	\$1353 monthly	\$12,854
3 children:	\$16,920	\$1,692 monthly	\$16,074

Members of the Community

	<u>Annual</u>	<u>Paid over 10 months</u>	<u>*Full Payment/5% discount</u>
1 child:	\$8,350	\$835 monthly	\$7,933
2 children:	\$15,040	\$1,504 monthly	\$14,288
3 children:	\$18,795	\$1,880 monthly	\$17,855

Tuition payments are made via your FACTS account and are divided equally over 10 months, August to June. (March is a “no-tuition-month so that families may pay their registration/tech fees for the next year.) Payments may be set up for the 5th or the 20th of the month.

*Tuition paid in full for the year *by August 1* will receive a 5% reduction. Late payments are subject to a \$30 late fee.

Bethany Lutheran School does not refuse enrollment to returning students solely due to matters of money if there is room available. If your family is struggling to meet tuition payments, please ask about need-based financial aid.

Fees

There is a Registration Fee of \$315 per child. This fee is due upon enrollment for new students. For returning students, registration fees are due in March. This fee pays for a playground insurance premium, a school yearbook, a package of individual school photos, textbook rental and curriculum materials.

There is also a Technology Fee of \$250 per child. This fee is due upon enrollment for new students and in March for returning students.

Registration and technology fees are non-refundable. Questions concerning the tax-deductibility of payments to Bethany Lutheran School or Bethany Lutheran Church should be referred to qualified tax counsel.



Take a hike!

Join Bethany's once-a-month hiking group!
All ages welcome (but kids must have a parent along!)

This month:

Bolsa Chica Wetlands

February 25

Meet at Bethany at 8:00 AM to carpool
(or meet us there!)

Call Scott Andersen for details: 562-508-6146



Interested in growing spiritually?

Join us for **ROOTED**, a 10-week small group experience designed to connect you to God, the church and your purpose. Rooted groups will launch on March 2. More info available [here](#).

Family Matters

A CHRIST-CENTERED RESOURCE FOR FAMILIES AND TEACHERS



Lifelong Disciples ... Love Unconditionally

It seems that nearly everyone wants to be number one. This makes sense in sports, as it bestows championship status. In business sales, it acknowledges success. In academic life, it gives valedictorian honors.

But what about relationships? What about love? How does the energy we put forth in athletics, academics and work life translate to our home life, our families, our relationship with our spouse? It can be very confusing because it doesn't always transfer equally or line up. That's because love is complicated. Love is not logical. You can have a business plan, a game plan, a learning plan — but can you have a “love plan”?

Well, you can! But, it's not quite the same. In sports, in business and even in academic pursuits, you can create a set of objectives or goals, that when met can render a logical or predictable result. It's not the same in love. While one can choose a variety of ways to display and communicate love to another, there is no guarantee that it will be received and then reciprocated. This can be very frustrating because when we love we usually desire to be loved in return. Our experience in the world says that if you work hard enough and go the “extra mile,” then you can achieve your goal.

We know that doesn't always work in relationships. Parents can express love in a wide array of ways to a closed-off teenager, but there is no guarantee that the child will love in return. One can try to love a spouse

who seems distant, with the hope of creating a closer relationship, but no amount of attention, gifts or words can assure us of their love in return. We can try to reach out to an estranged family member in an attempt to reconcile some past issues, but even the kindest, most heartfelt words won't always cause them to return our love.

While we can't always expect love in return, we can adjust our expectations regarding love. Instead of expecting love to come back our way as we want, we can adopt a mindset of being one who will always “give” love, instead of being a person who always wants to “get” love. This follows the example of Jesus! Our

Savior was always showing and sharing love with others in His earthly life. It wasn't always returned. In many instances it was not even recognized. In fact, it was rejected and He was rejected. However, Christ's love for others was so deep, so strong and so committed that it took Him all the way to the cross — where He willingly died in our place so that we could have eternal life. Because of Christ's love for us we can live with Him in heaven, so that He can love us forever and ever.

Love is not always returned as expected, yet we are invited to love at all times and to love others without conditions, following the example of Jesus. Even when we don't always feel loved, we can know that we are loved by the One who died and rose from the dead, making it more easy for us to love others and to forget about trying to be number one.



FUN FAMILY ACTIVITY //

Gather the family together around a table or other hard surface, with no electronic distractions, to enjoy the family activity outlined below.

SIGNS OF LOVE

PURPOSE: To engage family members in a fun activity that allows them to create visual reminders of how they can practice showing love to others in their daily lives.

OPENER: Ask the following questions in your family setting to get a discussion going.

- › How do you know when someone loves you?
- › How do you like to show others that you love them? (Words, actions, gifts, attention, etc.)

A MOMENT IN THE WORD: As a family read 1 Corinthians 13. One person can read it aloud or several family members can take turns reading sections of it.

LOVE REMINDER SIGNS PROJECT: This wonderful section of Scripture gives us some very practical descriptions of what love is, and what love is not. It's good to have inspiring words like these as visual reminders all around us!

Provide the following supplies listed below:

- › Poster board
- › Box of crayons
- › Markers in various colors
- › Tissue paper
- › Construction paper
- › Various other “artsy” supplies

Have each family member make a “love reminder” poster in various shapes, sizes, and colors. You can use the words/phrases from 1 Corinthians 13, like “love is patient,” “love is kind,” “love does not boast” and so forth. Or, you can make up other love reminder phrases, or chose one from the list below, such as:

- › Love lets others go first.
- › Love takes the first step
- › Love goes out of its way.
- › Love never gives up.



- › We love because He first loved us.
- › God is love.
- › Other: _____

Older children or adults will have to help write out the words for younger children, allowing them to pick the words for their posters, and then color and decorate them as they desire.

When each person has made a poster (or even several), hang them in various places around the house (entry way, kitchen, stairwell, TV room, garage, etc.) as visual reminders of love for all the family members to see and read.

As a family, close this time together by having an adult or older child read the prayer below, phrase by phrase, with family members repeating each phrase in “echo” fashion.

CLOSING ECHO PRAYER: Heavenly Father, thank You for loving us, for sending Jesus to be our Savior and our friend. Thank You Jesus, for walking with us every day. Watch over us always, and help us to be loving to others, and to share Your love with them. In Your loving name we pray. Amen.

W I N T E R S A L E

10% OFF SCHOOL UNIFORMS

FEBRUARY 1ST TO 15TH



vickimarsha.com VMU Store

Store Hours

Tuesday-Friday: 10 am to 5 pm

Saturday: 10 am to 3 pm

CLOSED SUNDAY & MONDAY

Free Shipping

Orders Over \$100

\$5 Shipping

Orders Under \$100

VMU

Vicki Marsha Uniforms

5292 Production Drive

Huntington Beach, CA 92649

(714) 895-6371 ~ vickimarsha.com