

SCHOOL CONNECTIONS

Bethany Lutheran School
December 14, 2009

www.bethanylcs.org

MISSION: "By the power of God's spirit, the mission of Bethany Lutheran School is to train, equip, and support witnesses for His kingdom."

Holiday Worship: Wednesday, December 16th, is the third Advent service at Bethany. If you do not have a home church, please plan on joining us for worship. The Advent vespers begin at 7:15 p.m.

Christmas Worship Services:

Thursday, December 24--Christmas Eve Family Nativity Service—5:00 p.m.
Christmas Eve Festival of Lessons & Carols—7:15 p.m.
Christmas Eve Divine Service (w/communion)—11:00 p.m.
Friday, December 25—Christmas Day Divine Service (w/communion)—9:00 a.m.

Chapel: Wednesday, December 16th, beginning at 8:48 a.m. led by Pastor Schumacher. December baptismal birthdays will be celebrated. All are invited to attend.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

THE NATIVITY (Luke 2:1-20)

The Birth of Jesus Christ

¹In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered.

²This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³And all went to be registered, each to his own town. ⁴And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, ⁵to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. ⁶And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. ⁷And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

The Shepherds and the Angels

⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

¹⁴"Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

¹⁵When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." ¹⁶And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger.

¹⁷And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. ¹⁸And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. ²⁰And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Merry Christmas from the Staff of Bethany Lutheran School

SCHOOL OFFICE NEWS

School Connections To Be Delivered Electronically

Beginning the week of February 1st, 2010, the “**School Connections**” will only be delivered electronically. From now until February 1st, both paper and electronic versions of the “Connections” will be sent. Please contact the school office at 630-355-6607 with your email address if you did not receive the “Connections” via email this week. The “School Connections” are also available on our school website at www.bethanylcs.org.

“O Come, The Symbols of Advent”—Tuesday, December 15th

On Tuesday, December 15th, at 7:00 p.m., Bethany Lutheran School will be presenting the Christmas program “O Come, The Symbols of Advent”. This program will include grades Preschool through 8th grade. This is a wonderful celebration of the Christmas season. Mark your calendars for this event.

Parents—For the safety of all the children, if you arrive early, please keep your children with you until 6:45 p.m.(unless otherwise instructed) when the classrooms will be open and teachers will be there to supervise the children.

Bring on the cookies! All families are asked to bring two dozen Christmas cookies to the kitchen on either Monday, December 14th or Tuesday, December 15th. These will be the treats provided at the reception after Bethany’s Christmas Program. Please email Aimee Walsh at awalsh@bethanylcs.org with questions.

Festival of Lights at Cosley Zoo

Be sure to take your family over to Cosley to see the Bethany Christmas Tree during the month of December. Students from all grades made wildlife friendly ornaments to decorate a 5 foot lighted tree. Our third graders took a special field trip to decorate the tree, share some cookies and hot chocolate and stroll around the zoo for a bit. Entrance is free and lights and music begin at 3:00 p.m. every day. Cosley Zoo is located at 1356 N. Gary Avenue in Wheaton. Their phone number is 630-665-5534 and their website is www.cosleyzoo.org. We are tree #12! (While you are there, snap your picture with our tree and we’ll hang it in Bethany’s hallway! Email pictures to awalsh@bethanylcs.org.)

Preschool and Kindergarten Registration

Registration information for Preschool and Kindergarten for the 2010-2011 school was sent home with all presently enrolled Preschool 3s and 4s. If you did not receive a packet, please call or stop by the School Office for the information.

Preschool and Kindergarten Registration information for 2010-2011 school year was also mailed to all families in the congregation who have children eligible for these programs.

Registration will take place on Saturday, January 9th, from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

National Geography Bee

Students in grades four through eight took class qualifying tests to determine two class champions and a runner-up in the days before or right after Thanksgiving Break. Questions on U.S. geography and cities, continents and world geography, and historical and cultural geography made up the test. These contestants will meet before the school body on Wednesday, December 16, after chapel to determine the school champion. You are welcome to attend.

Our class representatives are:

4th Grade – Michael James and Thomas Buwick – Lisa Curfs runner-up

5th Grade – Jack Dietz and Daniel Mackey – Collin Wilder runner-up

6th Grade – Katelynn Kuehl and Ryan Dierking – Sarah Balla runner-up

7th Grade – Martin Carroll and David Mackey – Cody Esposito runner-up

8th Grade – Melissa Patterson and Clayton Bailey – Kevin Bick runner-up

We congratulate not only our class representatives, but all those students who did well on the qualifying tests. We look forward to seeing you on December 16th.

Library Closed for Christmas

There will be no check out of books after December 7th. Inventory of books will be done during Christmas break, so we are asking that all books be returned before December 11th. Thank you.

Kane County Cougar Reading Program

Watch for information about the Kane County Cougar reading incentive program and the Six Flags reading incentive program to begin in January.

Parents Wall of Fame

Check out our new Parents Wall of Fame above the gym doors. Many families have already completed their PIP hours. As soon as you turn your sheet in, you will get your very own sports ball on the wall and we'll add to the Parents Wall of Fame our Total Number of Volunteer Hours. Thank you so much for all you do. Bethany has the best parents!

Bethany's Parent Teacher League to host "Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction"

Saturday, March 13th at 4:00 p.m. mark your calendars for this fun and exciting evening! Along with a fabulous dinner, you'll be able to bid on silent auction items. Each class will be contributing some special baskets that you won't want to miss. We are now taking silent auction item donations. You can turn them in to the School Office with a silent auction label. This event needs many hands to make it's work light, so please check the bulletin board outside the office to sign up to help. Email Aimee Walsh at awalsh@bethanylcs.org with questions.

Basket Themes for Individual Classes

As we head into the holidays, please be on the lookout for great deals on any items you could add to your class's basket. These themed baskets will be auctioned off at our Spaghetti Dinner/Silent Auction in March. Take a look at your class's theme and then start looking while you are Christmas shopping or after Christmas sales.

Auction Basket Themes:

Pre-3s "Let's Read"—Children's Classics, boxed book sets, bookstore gift cards, book lights, stuffed friends to snuggle and read with, reading pillow.

Pre-4s "Cook with Me"—Recipe book by Mrs. Walsh's class, cooking utensils, cookie cutters, apron, dish towels, miscellaneous cooking accessories.

Kindergarten "The Great Outdoors"—Camping toys, outside games, lanterns, flashlights
1st "Pamper Yourself"—Gift cards, manicure items, soaps, candles, lotions, bath gels, body massagers, robe, slippers.

2nd "Let's Stay Healthy"—Exercise videos, jump ropes, exercise balls, weights, towels, water bottle.

3rd "Artistic Expressions"—Crayons, paper, paints, clay, craft supplies

4th "Find Your Rythym"—iTunes gift cards, CD's, toy instruments, microphone.

5th "Mom's Night Off"—Restaurant Gift Cards, favorite food items from restaurants, coupon book.

6th "Trader Joe's"—Variety of items from Trader Joes.

7th "Let's Go to the Movies"—Movie tickets, rental gift cards, movies, soda, popcorn/poppers, candy.

8th "StayCation"—Tickets to community events, skating, bowling, museums, mini golf, local sites.

School Office-Chocolate Heaven—Anything chocolate!!

Boosters-School Spirit—Spirit wear for a family of four or more.

January 20th—meatball sandwich, curly fries, pears, sherbet

Early Helpers: None

Serving Helpers: Lisa Hetherman, Polly Patterson, Julie Chesnut

NOTE: Hot Lunch Helpers---if you can't work on your assigned day, please call Gina Stoehr as soon as possible so a replacement can be found.

Pizza Day—The next lunch will be Friday, January 8th.

Pasta Lunch—Tuesday, December 15th. The next lunch will be Tuesday, January 12th.

OTHER NOTEWORTHY NEWS

Bethany to Host Dave Ramsey Program

Register Online Now--Financial Peace University (FPU) is a 13-week life-changing program that teaches you to achieve your financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before. You will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your family tree forever. Bethany will host a preview session on Tuesday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m. The regular 13-week program begins on Tuesday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m. To sign up for the Bethany sessions, go to: <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu/locate-class/>

Use Bethany's zip code of 60565 to search. The cost of the 13-week program is \$99 but those who sign up by 12/21/09 will pay only \$93. You are encouraged to register for the class now but **wait to purchase a membership** until our bulk discount has been determined. Contact Nate Teske (nateteske@comcast.net or 630 750-7341) or Aaron Clasen (aclasen22@aol.com or 630-461-0284) with any questions.

