



# BOBCAT BULLETIN

Edition #17    **BETHEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER**    January 20, 2020  
*God is our refuge and strength; an ever-present help in trouble. Psalm 46:1*

**CHURCH & SCHOOL INFORMATION:**

Church Phone: 989-892-4252  
School Phone: 989-892-4508

**E-MAIL:**

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Principal / 6-8: Douglas Dast  
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**CHURCH & SCHOOL WEBSITE/EMAIL:**

[www.bethellutheranbc.org](http://www.bethellutheranbc.org)  
[bethelschoolbc@gmail.com](mailto:bethelschoolbc@gmail.com)

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Sunday school is held each Sunday at 9:00 AM. We hope to see all our students attend. After dropping off their student for Sunday school, parents are encouraged to stay and attend Bible Class in the Multipurpose Room. See you next Sunday!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL SNACKS:** Sunday school parents, we are in need of snacks and water for Sunday school. Donations would be appreciated.

**INVESTING IN FAMILIES, OUR COMMUNITY, AND THE FUTURE:** At yesterday's voters meeting decisions were made that clearly invest in our families and the future of our school. Reacting to surveys and public sentiment regarding the needs and desires of our members as well as the families of our community, the voters decided to expand our educational program. God willing, next year we will offer a full day 4 year old Preschool and a full day Kindergarten. The calling process will soon begin to find a replacement for Mrs. Mayhew and to extend a full time call to Mrs. Virant. The congregation recognized the needs of our parents in making this decision. They also hope these changes will impact and improve our outreach efforts to our community. The vote may be the easy part of this equation. The congregation needs the support of

its members and the help of God in bringing about the desired outcome. Your support in purpose, your support through encouragement, your emotional support, and your financial support will be needed. I am excited about moving forward with these changes! I hope all of you rally around your church and school as we make this bold move. God bless us!

**CHAPEL:** Our mission offerings for the second quarter will be used to support the WELS effort to stop abortions. Our chapel offerings will be sent to the **Pregnancy Counseling Center** in Saginaw. This past week we collected **\$30.89**. Our total for the quarter is now **\$265.34**. This was the final offering for the current mission project. For the third quarter of this school year our chapel offerings will flow into our own Equip for Quality program.

**HOT LUNCH:** Thanks to those who worked hot lunch this past Wednesday! Everything was great! **Our next hot lunch is a special hot lunch being served on Friday not Wednesday** because of Lutheran Schools Week. It is Hungry Howies Pizza hot lunch. Tickets will be sold Friday morning. Lunch will be served early at 11:30 so workers will have to come in a bit early. Our workers are scheduled to be **Nitz, Powers, and Raushi**.

**BOOKMOBILE:** The Bay County Bookmobile will start servicing Bethel on **Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>**, in the afternoon. They will come about every three weeks until school is out. I hope our students take advantage of this free service!

**SURVEY RESULTS:** Thanks to the 20 families that filled out the online survey about BLS! I thought you might like to see some of the results.

**What would better help meet your needs?**

- 46% transportation help
- 46% full day Kindergarten
- 33% full day Preschool
- 33% before school care
- 44% after school care

**What programs would better meet community needs?**

- 64% full day Kindergarten
- 46% full day Preschool

73% before school care  
91% after school care

**What things are important to you? (Answered as either important or very important)**

91% Christian education  
91% Small classroom sizes  
91% Strength of curriculum  
81% Extra-curricular programs  
91% Family atmosphere

Your responses are helpful to the School Vision Committee, Board of Education, and Church Council as we work to improve our school.

**LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK:** Our school's annual celebration of Lutheran Elementary Education is this week. Below is a schedule of events.

Tue. Jan. 21 Breakfast with a Buddy Day  
Wed. Jan. 22 Game Day and at night Dr. Slime  
Thur. Jan. 23 Blood Drive  
Fri. Jan. 24 Special Pizza Hot Lunch/Bowling  
Sun. Jan 26 Capstone Sunday Service & Chili Cook-off

**DR. SLIME SHOW:** A show by Dr. Slime will take place on **January 22, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.** Dr. Slime is a crazy scientist who educates and entertains through eye-catching science demos. A fun evening for the whole family! Tickets are on sale in the school office at **\$2.00 per person.** Please join us for this fun event!

**PRE TO 8 BOWLING:** Another event during Lutheran Schools Week is a bowling outing. All students in the preschool through grade 8 are invited to participate.

**BREAKFAST WITH A BUDDY:** Students and their favorite adults are invited to join us for a light breakfast of pastries, fruits, juice, and coffee on **Tuesday, January 21 from 8:00-8:45.** Due to limited space, only one adult per child please. Please sign up on the front bulletin board if you are able to help or provide food for this special event.

**BLOOD DRIVE:** As part of Lutheran Schools Week, Bethel will be hosting a blood drive on **Thursday, January 23 from 1:00 to 7:00 PM.** Sign up to donate and recruit others to as well. A reward will be given to our students if we meet our blood drive goal. Check with Mrs. Virant for details.

**MLS FINE ARTS FAIR:** Students in grades 3-8 have an opportunity to participate in the annual MLS Fine Arts Fair. The date of this year's fair is **Saturday, March 7<sup>th</sup>.** All our third through eighth grade students are encouraged to participate. Students can receive extra credit for doing so. All the necessary parent information is attached to this newsletter. This year the sign up process is all online (a link can be found on the MLS home page and in the attached documents). The only thing you will need to send to school is the \$3.00 fee per entry. Online registration opens up on

**Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>.** The deadline to enter is **Sunday February 9<sup>th</sup>.** Entry fees must be submitted to school no later than **Tuesday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.** Remember if your child enters multiple events it is \$3.00 for every entry. Please encourage your child to participate – thanks!

**TRIVIA NIGHT:** The Bethel CEA will again be hosting a trivia fun night. **The date is Saturday, February 29, 2020.** We are about 5 weeks away from our 2nd Annual CEA Trivia Night. Parents, this is replacing our normal fundraiser for CEA that involves selling pizza kits, cookie dough, candy, etc. It was successful enough last year that we did not have to have any other fundraisers and if every Bethel family finds at least one team to compete in the Trivia Night it will be a great evening - the more teams, the more successful the event. Teams may register online on the Bethel School Website. This is the link to sign up. <https://forms.gle/f8N5eJQdAk9BS5379> If trivia is not your thing, please consider helping in some other way that evening. There is a volunteer sign-up sheet in the hallway at school. Any questions regarding this event please contact Jenni Thunberg at [thunbergj@bcschools.net](mailto:thunbergj@bcschools.net).

**VEBA MEETING:** I will be participating in a teleconference with the WELS VEBA Commission on **Wednesday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, starting at 1:30 PM.** I will not be available to assist you with any of your concerns after that time. I will be glad to help you before my conference or the next day. Thanks!

**PLAYS:** This is a play year! It won't be long until work begins on preparing our lower and upper grades plays. Please watch for future announcements. Your help will be needed, please be ready.

**TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:** All those that volunteered to work on the basketball tournament that Bethel is hosting at St. John's BC on **February 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>** are reminded to be working on getting their responsibilities covered. There are only a few weeks left before we are on deck. Please watch this newsletter for an announcement of a possible wrap up meeting.

**BOYS' "B" TOURNAMENT:** The tournament was held this past weekend. Our boys lost in the consolation game but played well! Thanks to our players for their efforts and thanks to our fans for their support.

**PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT BEGINS:** Enrollment for the 2020-21 preschool year has begun on **January 15, 2020.** Enrollments will be taken on a first come first served basis. Please do what you can to promote our preschool with your family, coworkers, friends, and acquaintances. Help us with this great community and outreach program. Thanks!

**REPORT CARDS:** Report card for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter will be sent home on **Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>.** Please

return only your child's signed envelope. If you have any questions or would like a consultation please contact your child's teacher. S/he will be happy to meet with you.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Happy birthday to:

Emma Powers 1/21 Pre.

**BOYS' BASKETBALL:**

**B - Practices:** Practices are from 3:00 to 4:30 unless otherwise noted

1/20  
1/27  
1/30

**A - Practices:** Practices are from 4:30 to 6:00 unless otherwise noted.

1/20  
1/27  
1/30

**Games;** All game nights will begin at 5:30 unless otherwise noted.

Tuesday, 1/21 vs. St. Barts/SJ/GS @ St. John's BC

Friday, 1/24 vs. Trinity @ Bethel

Tuesday, 1/28 vs. Tawas @ Tawas – A Only

Tuesday, 2/4 vs. St. John's BC @ St. John's

Fri./Sat. 2/7-8 BALL Tourney @ St. John's BC

Tuesday, 2/11 vs. St. B/SJ/GS @ Bethel

Fri./Sat. 2/14-15 MLS Large School Tournament

**CHEERLEADING PRACTICES:** Practices are from 3:00 to 4:30 unless otherwise noted.

1/20  
1/27  
1/30

**CHOIR SCHEDULE:**

(Cantate = Grades. 4-8; Cherub = Grades 1-3)

**1/26 Pre-8 – Lutheran Schools Sunday**

2/16 Cherub Choir

2/26 Cantate Choir

3/4 Cherub Choir

3/18 Cantate Choir

3/25 Cherub Choir

**BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE:** The bookmobile will be at school from 1:30 to 2:15 on the dates listed below.

1/21  
2/11  
3/3  
4/14  
5/5  
5/26

**COMING UP:**

**1/20-1/24 Lutheran Schools' Week.**

**1/20 Girls and Boys Club @ Ports. Town. Fire. S.**

**1/21 Breakfast with a Buddy**

**1/22 Report Cards Sent Home**

**Game Day/Dr. Slime**

**1/23 Blood Drive**

**1/24 Bowling in PM**

**1/26 Lutheran Schools' Sunday Service  
Chili Cook off**

2/7 Faculty In Service 8:00 to 12:00 Noon  
NO SCHOOL – TOURNAMENT WEEKEND

2/10 Map Testing Window Begins

2/10 Pastor/Teacher Conference – NO SCHOOL

2/26 Ash Wednesday – CEA Soup Supper

2/29 CEA Trivia Night

3/1 Effects of Tech on Children presentation at St. John's on Alp 3:00 to 5:00 PM

3/2 Kindergarten Visitation Day One

3/4 Kindergarten Visitation Day Two

3/5 Literacy Night – Storyteller 6:30 to 7:30 PM

3/6 Principals' Conference

**CEA SPONSORED EVENTS:** The CEA has decided to sponsor more events this year to help create school family bonding and fun for all. Below is a tentative list of what is being planned as well as those heading up these various events. Obviously there is a lot of work for these events, so contact those listed if you are willing to help. Put these events on your calendar and plan to attend! Thanks!

**2/9 Coffee Hour**

**Powers, Killinger**

2/29 Trivia Night

Thunberg, Wilson

2/26 Soup Supper

Herrera, Crites

3/22 Coffee Hour

Wilson, Crites

4/11 Easter for Kids

Figley

4/25 School Plays

Faculty

5/1 Daddy/Daughter Dance Thunberg, Killinger, Figley

5/3 Confirmation

Willard & Co.

5/29 Awards Presentation

Faculty

5/31 Church Picnic

Willard and Co.

The CEA is also likely to be sponsoring the following events but no firm date has been chosen. Watch for future announcements and volunteer to help those heading these events up.

Mother/Son Event

Thunberg, Killinger,

Figley

Pine Car Derby

Powers

**CLASSROOM NEWS:**

**Preschool:** This week the children will be participating in a variety of activities for Lutheran Schools Week. The three year olds will be able to enjoy breakfast with a special guest on Tuesday with Breakfast with a Buddy. The four year olds will be participating in game day on Wednesday and also are invited to go bowling on Friday afternoon. The children will be singing in church this **Sunday, January 26**. They are to meet in the classroom no later than 9:45 a.m. On Wednesday evening all preschool families are invited to attend the Dr. Slime presentation in the gym beginning at 6:30 pm. Looking forward to seeing you there! Also don't forget that Thursday from 1-7 pm there will be a blood drive in our gym. Please consider donating and helping those in need of this precious gift. This week the children will begin the theme *Scribbles and Splats*. They will be learning

about the way artwork is created. The letter is O, the number 12, the octagon shape, and the color white. The Bible lesson for the 4 year olds is *The Daughter of Jairus* They will learn Jesus showed that he can make a dead person alive again. The memory treasure is John 14:19: *Because, I live, you also will live.* The 3 year olds will study *Jesus Helps His Friends Catch Fish.* They will learn Jesus asked his friends to tell others about him. The memory treasure is Mark 16:15: *Preach the good news.* Enrollment for the 2020-2021 school year has begun. A few applications have been coming in. If you are in need of an application or have any questions see Mrs. Virant.

**Kindergarten:** Because this week is going to be an unusual week celebrating Lutheran Elementary Schools, the schedule is going to be very different. Kindergarten will be doing some activities with the preschool and some with grades 1-8. On Friday, prior to going bowling, there will be a pizza hot lunch starting at 11:30am. If you would like your child to participate you may purchase pizza tickets that morning in the front hallway. If not, you may send a lunch with your child. Report Cards for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter will be sent on Wednesday. Please sign the envelope and return it to school on Thursday. You may keep the report card. If you would like to speak with me about your child's progress, please do not hesitate to set up an appointment. I am more than willing to do so. Show and Tell for this week will be things begin with the letter E. As part of Lutheran Schools Week the children will be singing in church on Sunday, January 26. Please meet in the Preschool room by 9:45am. You are also invited to attend the Chili Cook-off following the service. Have a great week!

**Grades 1-2:** We have a busy week ahead of us! We have Breakfast with a Buddy on Tuesday, Game Day and Dr. Slime on Wednesday, and bowling on Friday. Second quarter report cards are being sent home on Wednesday. Please review your child's report and sign and return the envelope. Please let me know if you have any questions or would like to have a follow-up conference regarding your child's progress. We will stay on track with our Superkids units this week and fill in where we can with the other subjects. I plan on having a science test on matter on Thursday. Please complete the review sheet and review the terms in your child's homework folder. I will be submitting the Scholastic book order this Friday, the 24th. Please order online using code Q4X4B. Check your child's homework folder for additional information about what we are learning, especially Memory Treasures and Spelling words.

**Grades 3-5:** This week is Lutheran Schools Week! I hope you enjoy our celebration of the blessings of Lutheran Schools. Please check other portions of the newsletter for information on what is going on this week. On Wednesday, hymn 573 *Hark the Voice of Jesus Crying* will be due. On Friday, Memory Work and

Spelling are due. Today starts the 3rd quarter of the school year. Report cards will be sent home on Wednesday, please send back the signed report card envelope back to school. Blessings on your week!

**Grades 6-8:** It's going to be an exciting week filled with activities, games, and fun. I hope everyone takes in all the experiences. Report cards will be coming home this week. Parents, please review them carefully. Sign and send back only the envelope. If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. I am keeping this short so as not to require another page of copy.

## **MICHIGAN LUTHERAN SEMINARY:**

**REWARDS PROGRAM:** Every year MLS is excited to welcome new students into the MLS family! This year we want to thank you by giving any new students who apply early a reward! Prospective students who submit an online application by January 31, 2020 will receive a gift card, upon registration in August, to the Cardinal's Nest, which can be redeemed for great MLS apparel or other MLS merchandise. Apply by January 31, receive a \$25 gift card. It is the goal of the MLS admissions department to get 65 applications this year, so please encourage anyone thinking about attending MLS to please apply. Visit [www.mlsem.org/apply](http://www.mlsem.org/apply) to apply.

**MLS FOUNDATION DINNER & AUCTION:** Gather your friends on February 16 and join us for a fun evening of support for MLS at the foundation's dinner and auction! Discounted tickets are available through January 31. We also need donated auction items to make this event a success. Visit our website for details and to get your tickets. <https://mls-foundation.org/events/dinner-auction/>

**MLS WINTER OPEN HOUSE:** Michigan Lutheran Seminary invites all students - especially 5th-8th graders - families, schools, churches to spend part of a day on campus learning about MLS at the upcoming winter open house. The open house takes place on **Friday, February 7, 2020** and runs from 1:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m. Registration starts at 1:30 p.m. To register for the open house, please visit [www.mlsem.org/openhouse](http://www.mlsem.org/openhouse)

**MLS SCIENCE & FINE ARTS FAIR:** MLS is pleased to announce that it will host the Science and Fine Arts Fair once again! It will take place on Saturday, March 7th from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.. This year we would like to invite parents and students to consider staying to enjoy all of our added special features: a coffee and donut table, Science and Fine Arts Fair t-shirts for sale, face-painting, drawing table, math/science game stations, "Bird Feeder" snacks and lunch, photo opportunities, contests and more! Registration opens January 19, 2020 on the Michigan Lutheran Seminary website: [mlsem.org](http://mlsem.org). The deadline for registration will be Sunday, February 9th at midnight.