



**God said it-  
I believe it!**

Every word of God is true! Proverbs 30:5

## Bethel Lutheran School's Weekly Newsletter

# BOBCAT BULLETIN

Final Edition | May 31, 2022

---

Every word of God is true! Proverbs 30:5

---

**CHAPEL:** During the fourth quarter our chapel offerings will be used to help our WELS churches and missionaries in Ukraine. Our offering this past week was **\$34.00**. Our total for the quarter is now **\$428.50**. Our last chapel service will be combined with the closing service on **Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**.

**22-23 PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT:** BLP is accepting applications. So far there are **11** enrolled in the 4 year old program and **9** in the 3 year old program. Get your application in and get the word out to your family and friends! At this time the **4 year old - full day program is now full** and we will be starting a waiting list. There are still **5** openings for the 4 year **half day** program.

**MR. DAST'S 50<sup>TH</sup>/RETIREMENT:** The congregation has set aside **Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>**, to celebrate Mr. Dast's 50<sup>th</sup> year in the ministry and retirement. There will be a special church service starting at **10:00 AM** followed by a program and dinner in our gymnasium. You are all invited! Please RSVP either on a link on our Facebook page or on the front hall bulletin board.

**CLOSING SERVICE:** Our school year will close with a special chapel service starting at **11:00 AM** on **Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. We hope all of you can attend.

**BAND CONCERT:** Students in grades 6-8 taking band lessons from Mrs. Perkins will have a concert for Bethel staff and students on **Tuesday, May 31<sup>st</sup> at 2:15 PM**.

The concert will take place in the church. School children will attend and the public is invited!

**MLS TRACK MEET:** Students in grades 5-8 have the opportunity to participate in another track meet being held at the Cardinal Field of Michigan Lutheran Seminary (4332 N. Mackinaw Rd) on **Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>**. The MLS meet starts at 11:00 AM. Athletes will be dismissed from school at 10:00 AM.

**RECORDS DAY:** There will be a half day of school on **Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>**. Your staff will use the afternoon to finalize report cards and other permanent file reports. Classes will dismiss at noon.

**END OF QUARTER/REPORT CARDS:** The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of the school year will end on **Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Report cards will be handed out before your child is dismissed for the year. Nothing needs to be returned to school.

**LAST DAY:** **Friday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>**, is the last day of school. Classes will be dismissed for the year after the closing service and Awards Assembly.

**AWARDS ASSEMBLY:** Right after the closing service, starting approximately at 11:30 AM, BLS will have its annual Awards Assembly. During the assembly BLS will recognize all those students who have participated in extracurricular activities. Please plan to attend.

**GRADUATION SUNDAY:** **Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup>** is Bethel Graduation Sunday. During the 10:00 AM service, our

8<sup>th</sup> graders will graduate from BLS. All other graduates of our congregation will also be recognized. If you have a graduate in your family, please fill out the special form used for this purpose and return it to me right away. Forms were placed in your church mail box and there are some on the tables in the back of the church. Graduating from BLS are:

**Emma Figley**  
**Markus Herrera**  
**Silas Killinger**  
**James Krohn**  
**Connor McGehee**  
**Logan Szostek**

**FOURTH OF JULY FELLOWSHIP:** Paul and Laurie Gies will be hosting a Congregational 4<sup>TH</sup> of July Fellowship again this year. Watch for details soon.

**FALL CHURCH PICNIC/PRESCHOOL WELCOME:** Our annual picnic has been moved again. The date is **Sunday, September 11, 2022** (the first Sunday after school resumes). I think this date will become a new annual tradition for Bethel. Please put the date of this event on your calendars and make sure to attend.

**REGISTRATION DAY:** Registration Day for the 22-23 school year will be on **Wednesday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Please put this date on your calendars and watch for more information in the mail this summer.

**SCHOOL BEGINS:** The first day of school for the 22-23 school year will be **Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>**. Bethel's staff looks forward to welcoming all of you back.

**GRADUATE FAREWELL:** This year BLS will graduate six 8<sup>th</sup> graders. They will be moving on to high school. They have been well prepared to meet the rigors of high school and I pray that they accept their next educational challenge with confidence, determination, and zeal. I know they all have great potential and it will be exciting to watch them grow and prepare for their future careers. **Emma Figley** will be attending John Glenn, **Markus Herrera** will be attending Bay City Central, **Silas Killinger, Connor McGehee, and Logan Szostek** will be attending Michigan Lutheran Seminary, and **James Krohn** will be attending Garber. I have enjoyed working with this group of young people and it has been

rewarding watching them mature to the work load of the upper grades and excel in doing so. I will miss them all very much and wish them God's blessings. I also pray that they remember their roots. I ask them to let their light shine in high school. I know they will proudly represent their faith, our congregation, and our school. I finally pray that they remain active members of Bethel.

**BIBLE SOCCER CAMP:** Bethel Lutheran School will host a Bible Soccer Camp. The tentative dates are **August 8-11**. Students in preschool through grade 6 will be invited to attend. Our camp will also be open to the public. Please watch on our website and Facebook page for more details as the time approaches and then plan to attend and help us get the word out.

**BIRTHDAYS:** This is the last newsletter so all those having birthdays up to the first day of school will be listed. Happy Birthday to:

Teagan Shorkey	6/2	Pre-4
Mia Rupp	6/9	Gr. 1
Harper Doran	6/13	K
SkyLynn Grumbley	6/20	Pre-3
Isaac Powers	6/25	Gr. 3
Dylan Kramer	6/26	Pre-4
Emersyn Neveau	6/30	Pre-4
Rylee Thunberg	7/8	Gr. 3
Ronan Connaghan	7/12	Pre-4
Amelia Olvera	7/15	Gr. 1
Collin Nitz	7/16	Gr. 5
Lily Shenberger	7/18	Pre-4
Olivia Rouech	7/21	Gr. 7
Arya Raushi	7/21	Gr. 4
Mrs. Friske	7/23	
Rosalind Greenwood	7/27	Pre-4
Robby Raushi	7/29	Gr. 7
Blake Hartley	7/31	Gr. 6
Max Kowalski	8/6	Gr. 1
Logan Zube	8/7	Gr. 7
Ella Szostek	8/9	K
Gavin McGehee	8/11	Gr. 2
Adam Weiler	8/12	Pre-3
Eliza Figley	8/14	Gr. 5
Jordyn Chapman	8/16	Pre-4
Ella Killinger	8/17	Gr. 6
Mara Martin	8/17	Gr. 1
Silas Killinger	8/27	Gr. 8

**BOOKMOBILE SCHEDULE:** The bookmobile will stop at Bethel from 1:00 to 2:00 PM on the last Tuesday before school is out on **May 31**

**SINGING FOR CHURCH SCHEDULE:**

**6/5 K-7 Graduation**  
**6/12 K-8 Mr. Dast's Retirement Service**

**COMING UP:**

**5/31 Bethel Band Students Concert @2:15 PM**  
**6/1 MLS Track Meet for 5-8 grades @11 AM**  
**6/2 Records' Day – Dismiss at Noon**  
**6/3 Last Day – Dismiss @ Noon**  
**End 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter**  
**Report Cards Sent Home**  
**School Closing Service @ 11:00 AM**  
**Awards Assembly @ 11:30 AM**  
**6/5 Graduation Sunday – K-7 Sing**  
**6/12 Mr. Dast's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the Ministry & Retirement celebration @10:00 Church service with program and dinner to follow.**

**THANK YOU:** Where do I begin? There are so many! Thanks to our office volunteers, our preschool volunteers, our remedial volunteers, substitutes of any kind, our committee volunteers, our hot lunch volunteers, concession volunteers, coaching volunteers, game time volunteers, CEA event organizers and those that donated so much and so often. I hope I didn't miss anyone! You are all deeply appreciated and frankly indispensable. Our school could not possibly function without you! I sincerely hope your lives were enriched through your voluntary work here at Bethel and you all return in the fall.

**FAREWELL:** This is the last school newsletter I will ever write. I have used this letter for a variety of purposes over the many years I had the pleasure to serve in the public ministry but this time it will also be used to reflect and say good bye.

After graduating from Dr. Martin Luther College in 1972 my first call was to be a teacher of grades 5 & 6 at Zion Lutheran School in a small community just south of Green Bay, Wisconsin. After two years I moved up to teacher of grades 7 & 8 and principal. I served a total of 10 years at Zion. I was called to teach the upper grades and be principal here at Bethel starting in July of 1982. 12 years later, in

1994, after two years of background work, I was able to convince Bethel to open our Preschool. I have served as its director and/or administrator for the past 28 years. What a blessing BLP has been to our school, congregation, and me. I have met so many wonderful families. Many of them have decided to stay with us and enroll their children in our LES and join our church.

By the grace of God after 40 years at Bethel and a total of 50 years as a teacher and 48 as a principal, I will finish my teaching career in a very special congregation that I deeply love and will continue to call home.

Over all those years and in both congregations I have had the pleasure of working with many **wonderful** students and their families and will have all those precious memories to enrich my retirement.

And now the end has come! I will deeply miss the teaching ministry and the people it has brought into my life. I will miss the excitement of a school year and the joy of getting to know and work with new families and their children. I will miss my colleagues and all the fellowship of the ministry.

My thanks to everyone who let me be part of their lives! My thanks to all the dedicated people I served with and all the volunteers who lovingly filled the gaps and made our school run efficiently. But most importantly my thanks to my God for sustaining me all these years and entrusting me with His important work.

Shortly I will be handing things off to Mr. Thooft. I know he will be a fantastic Principal for Bethel and I wish him and his staff God's blessings. I look forward to the ministry of Bethel flourishing under his leadership.

Midway through the summer I will leave the ministry, but I will still be around Bethel keeping in touch with all of you and enjoying school and congregational life. God's blessings to all of you and God bless Bethel!

Mr. Dast

**HAVE A SAFE AND RELAXING SUMMER!**