



***"Always be prepared to give an answer." - 1 Peter 3:15***

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**Worship Schedule:**

- 12/12 - Worship @ 6:30
- 12/18 - 9:00 am - Sunday School & Adult Bible Class
  - 10:00 am - Worship (*Advent 4*)
- 12/21 - 6:30 pm - Children's Christmas Service
- 12/24 - 6:30 pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- 12/25 - 10:00 am - Christmas Day Service
- 12/31 - 4:00 pm - New Year's Eve Worship
- 01/01 - 10:00 am - Worship

**Mission Program:** Our 2nd quarter mission offering will go to the Central African Medical Mission (CAMP). This ministry brings not only the gospel to places in Africa but also much needed medical and physical care also. Our first week's offering totaled \$257.73. This is a great opportunity for children to contribute to the mission work of our church and synod. The Ladies Aid has also offered to match the chapel offerings that are given by the kids. This is a fantastic way for us to work together as a congregation to help spread the gospel around the world!

**Mrs. Friske Divine Call:** Mrs. Friske has returned her divine call to serve as grades 1-2 teacher at Word of Life in Thornton, Colorado. We are excited that Mrs. Friske will be continuing her ministry with us at Bethel. Please keep her in your prayers with her continued ministry with us and also keep Word of Life in your prayers as they seek a new teacher.

**Popcorn Friday:** Our next Popcorn Friday will be this Friday. Popcorn will be available for \$0.50 if your child would like to participate.

**Christmas Caroling:** This Thursday kids in grades 1-8 will be going across the street to the assisted living facilities to carol as well as bring the residents part of our Children's Christmas Service. This is a wonderful opportunity for our kids to bring the gospel message along with some Christmas cheer to people in our community!

**Children's Christmas Service:** Our students have been working hard on our annual Children's Christmas Service, which will take place Wednesday, December 21st. Please help your child to be prepared for this special service and make sure to mark the date on your calendar!

**Christmas Room Parties:** Students in K-8 will have their individual room Christmas parties on Wednesday, December 21st in the morning. Please don't send your child's exchange gift until that morning. The morning will begin with our last rehearsal for the Children's Christmas service at about 8:30 AM. Room parties will follow starting around 10:00 AM. Students will be dismissed at 12:00 noon. If you have any questions about the parties, please contact your child's teacher.

**Scrip Cards:** This Friday Scrip cards will be available for purchase again in the front hallway. This is a great way to get some holiday shopping done and support our ministry at the same time!

**Basketball Uniforms:** Girls' basketball team members are reminded to clean and repair their uniforms and return them to school by Friday. Thanks!

**Christmas Vacation:** Bethel's Christmas break will be from Thursday, December 22nd through Sunday, January 8th. Classes will resume with a full day of school on Monday, January 9th, 2023. Enjoy the holidays and celebration of our Savior's birth with your family and friends! Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

**Cheerleading:** Cheerleading is going to be firing up soon. Girls in grades 6-8 will make up the A team and girls in grades 3-5 will make up the B team. There will be a cheerleading day camp run by Mrs. Killinger on Friday, January 6th from 9-2. Practices will be on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:00-4:30. A note will be sent home with more detailed information for the upcoming season.

**Playground Update:** The playground is complete! The kids have been playing on it and have loved it! We are still waiting on a piece of equipment for the big play structure which is scheduled to come in this week. Thank you to all the volunteers and various organizations and businesses that helped complete this project. I pray that this playground is a blessing to many kids for years to come!

**Boys' & Girls' Club:** The next outing for the Boys' & Girls' Club will be Sunday, Jan. 15th at Midland City Forest. Bring your own sleds, tubes and/or ice skates or rent them there! Come join for some great fellowship and fun!

**Good Shepherd Pastoral Vacancy:** Good Shepherd has put out a call to a pastor and they are awaiting his decision. I encourage you to keep Good Shepherd in your prayers as they seek a new shepherd for their congregation and for Pastor Killinger as he serves them during the vacancy.

**Birthdays:**

12/12 - Avery Kukla - Grade 6  
12/12 - Ada Figley - Grade 7  
12/16 - Reid Collicker - grade 1  
12/19 - Wesley Beyer - PreK-4  
12/26 - Blake Clark - grade 2  
01/04 - Bowen Rousse  
01/05 - Kameron VanDenBoom  
01/05 - Taylor Thunberg

**Student Spotlight:**

Dec 12-16 - Liam Faulk - grade 1; Gavin McGehee - grade 3; Atlas Kerkau - PreK-3  
Dec 19-21 (3 day week) - Olivia Rouech - grade 8; Justin Krohn - grade 5; Eliza Kent - Kindergarten

**Coming Up:**

- 12/18 - Congregational Budget Meeting after Church
- 12/21 - Classroom Christmas Parties (Last day of school before Christmas Break)
- 12/21 - Children's Christmas Service @ 6:30
- 1/06 - Principals' Conference
- 01/09 - Classes Resume after Christmas Break
- 01/15 - 23-24 Preschool Enrollment Begins
- 01/20 - End of 2nd Qtr.
- 01/23 - Beginning of Lutheran Schools Week
- 01/25 - Report Cards Sent Home
- 01/29 - Lutheran Schools Sunday
- 02/13 - Pastor/Teacher Conference (No School)



**Upcoming Worship Singing Schedule Dates:**

- 12/21 - Children’s Christmas Service
- 01/22 - Preschool/Kindergarten Sing
- 01/29 - Cherub & Cantate Combined Choir sing



**CEA Schedule:**

- 01/15 - General Business Meeting
- 02/12 - Coffee Hour after church - Crites
- 02/22 - Ash Wednesday Soup Supper - VanDenBoom
- 02/25 - Saginaw Spirit Game - Krohn
- 03/04 - Trivia Night - Thunberg/Wilson
- 04/28 - Mother/Son Activity - Thunberg/Wilson
- 05/05 - Daddy/Daughter Dance - Thunberg/Wilson
- TBD Springtime - Pine Car Derby - Powers
- TBD - Board Games Night - Friske

*Thank you to all those who have volunteered to organize these activities!*

**Hot Lunch Schedule:**

- **12/14 - Pizza Hot Lunch – Wilson/Zube**
- 01/18 - Collicker/Doran
- 02/01 - Faulk/Figley
- 02/15 - Fuhrman/Greenwood
- 03/01 - Hartley/Houghton

**Boys’ Basketball Game Schedule**

**(Games begin at 5:30, when A and B team play on the same night, B team plays first followed by A team):**

- 1/10 - vs Trinity @ Trinity
- 1/13 - vs St. John’s BC @ Bethel
- 1/17 - vs Salem Owosso @ Bethel
- 1/20 - vs Good Shepherd Burton @Bethel
- 1/21 - B Team Tournament @ St. John’s BC (One Day Tournament
- 1/24 - vs Kaw/Mid/Sag @ Trinity
- 1/27 - vs Zion Chesaning @ Chesaning
- 1/31 - vs Trinity @ Bethel
- 2/11 - MALL Tournament @ St. John’s BC (Two Day Tournament)
- 2/17-2/18 - MLS Tournament (Two Day Tournament)

**Boys A Team Practice Schedule**

- **Tuesday, December 13th 5:00-6:30**
- **Thursday, December 15th 5:00-6:30**
- Tuesday, December 20th 5:00-6:30

**Boys B Team Practice Schedule**

- **Tuesday, December 13th 3:00-4:30**
- **Thursday, December 15th 5:00-6:30**
- Tuesday, December 20 3:00-4:30
- Thursday, December 22nd 3:00-4:30
- Monday, January 9th 3:00-4:30
- Thursday, January 12th 3:00-4:30



*Check with Coach Powers or Coach Fuhrman about potential open gym dates and times for over the holiday break.*

## **Michigan Lutheran Seminary:**

**MLS Application:** Calling all 8th grade families! Now is the time to apply to Michigan Lutheran Seminary for the 2023-24 school year. Fill out the online application in just 10 minutes by visiting [mlsem.org/apply](https://mlsem.org/apply)! Applicant families are able to receive specific information about the upcoming school year. Apply before January 31st, 2023 and you'll be entered to win a \$500 or \$250 tuition discount. We're already excited to welcome a new class of Cardinal to campus and we hope that YOU are a part of it!

**JR. CARDINAL CAROLING:** Merry Christmas! MLS is inviting all our Jr. Cardinals to campus on December 6 for some Christmas caroling! The night will start at 6:30 pm and be followed up by hot cocoa in the Commons. Parents are more than welcome to attend as well. Please send an idea of how many from your family/church/school plan on attending to [3gabrw@mlsem.org](mailto:3gabrw@mlsem.org) so that we may properly plan out supplies for copies of sheet music and hot cocoa. Can't wait to have you all on campus!

**MLS CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Michigan Lutheran Seminary will present its annual Christmas concert, "Thy Light Has Come," on Friday, December 16 at 7:00 pm in the school gymnasium. Join us as the band and choirs proclaim the Savior's birth with both new and familiar carols. There is no charge for admission, but a freewill offering will be gathered.

**LIGHT UP A STUDENT'S LIFE:** Each year in November & December, the Michigan Lutheran Seminary Foundation sponsors a special giving program to benefit MLS and its students. Contributions support the MLS Student Need Fund, which provides ongoing financial assistance to the students who attend MLS now and in the future. The MLS Foundation has committed to providing MLS with \$100,000 annually in student financial assistance, and your gifts to Light Up a Student's Life will help us accomplish this goal. For each gift of \$10 or more, a white light ornament will be placed on a Christmas tree in the commons with the name of the individual being remembered or honored. A special Christmas card will be sent to the family or honoree recognizing your caring gift to MLS and its students. Please visit <https://mls-foundation.org/luas/> for details.

**MLS OPEN HOUSE:** Michigan Lutheran Seminary invites all 5th-8th grade students and their families to spend part of a day on campus learning about MLS at one of our Open House events. There will be several open houses throughout the school year. All open houses will include a tour of campus, faculty introductions, a free meal in the dining hall, and free admission to an MLS event.

- Feb 10 (1:30-5:30) - Varsity basketball games vs. Nouvel
- Mar 11 (4:00-6:00) - Children's Theater performances @ 2:00 and 7:00 (Open House between shows)
- May 5 (4:00-6:00) - Varsity baseball/softball games vs. Bullock Creek

**Google Calendar:** If you have not, please check out our Google calendar for the latest dates of events. It is important that you have access to our Google calendar because that is the primary way to know when events are happening at Bethel. If you need assistance with setting up access to the Google calendar, please contact a staff member.

**Find us on Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/BethelBayCity>

