



***"I am the vine; you are the branches." - John 15:5***

---

**Worship Schedule:**

Monday, October 30th @ 6:30 p.m.

Sunday, November 5th @ 10:00 a.m.

- Sunday School & Bible Class @ 9:00 a.m.

**Congregational Open Forum:** Yesterday at our Congregational Voters' Meeting there was discussion about the potential expansion of our school staff by calling another teacher. Discussions about the future of our ministry are ongoing. In anticipation of the December budget meeting, our leadership will be holding two open forums for anyone in our church or school to ask questions related to the budget and the future staffing proposal. The dates for those forums will be Sunday, November 12th and Sunday, December 3rd. Please make an effort to attend one of these forums and be informed about what is going on with our ministry.

**Worship Encouragement:** As we have settled into our school year routines, I would like to remind our families of the opportunity we have each week to gather as a church family. Each Sunday (and Monday night) we gather together around God's word to ask and receive His forgiveness, hear of His great love for us, thank him for the blessings He has provided us in our lives as well as celebrate the fellowship we have as a church family. You are missed when your family is not in worship. I pray and encourage all our school families to gather around God's word as often as they can, both at church and at home as well as to be present and active in our worship services each week.

**Pie, Pajamas, Popcorn and Peanuts Movie:** Join the families of Bethel for a pie tasting evening on Nov 21st from 6:30-7:30pm. Bring your favorite pie to share (homemade or store bought). Wear your comfy pajamas. We will taste some pie, have popcorn, and watch the Peanuts *A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving*.

**Mission Program:** Our first quarter mission offering is going to support Kingdom Workers Indonesia, who are helping to bring clean water and sanitation solutions to rural Indonesia along with the message of the gospel. Our chapel offering last week was \$51.05 and students have collected \$365.70 this quarter.

**End of Quarter:** This Friday marks the end of the 1st quarter. Report cards for quarter one will be sent home Wednesday, November 8th.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences:** Parent/Teacher Conferences are scheduled for Monday, November 13th in the afternoon. A link will be sent out next week with available times for conferences. Please sign up for a time when they become available.

**Boys' Club Leader:** Our Boys' Club is still looking for a new leader to run the program. This typically meets monthly providing different activities for students in grades K-5th grade. If you are interested in serving in this role, please talk to Mr. Thooft.

**Girls' Club:** The Girls' Club is planning to meet again on Wednesday, November 29th in the gym from 3:00-4:30. Mark your calendars for this event!

**MLS Play Grades 6-8:** A permission slip for the MLS play *Oklahoma* was sent home to students in grades 6-8 last week. Please return that permission slip with the \$2 donation by Tuesday (10/31).

**Good Shepherd Pastoral Vacancy:** Our sister congregation, Good Shepherd in Midland, is currently without a pastor. Pastor Killinger has been serving as vacancy pastor for their congregation. Good Shepherd currently has a call out for a pastor. Please keep Good Shepherd's ministry, as well as Pastor Killinger, in your prayers during this time of vacancy.

### **Birthdays:**

Ashton Irwin - October 30th - grade 2  
Benjamin Greenwood - October 31st - grade 5  
Kerian Kent - November 1st - grade 4  
Reese Clark - November 2nd - grade 1  
Abigail Vanness - November 4th - Kindergarten

### **Coming Up:**

- **10/30 - PreK-4 Pumpkin Party**
- **10/31 - PreK-3 Pumpkin Party**
- **11/03 - End of 1st Quarter**
  - **Principals' Conference**
- **11/05 - Board of Education**
- 11/08 - Report Cards sent home
- 11/13 - No School
  - Faculty In-Service in the morning & Parent Consultations in the afternoon
- 11/22-11/24 - No School (Thanksgiving Break)
- 11/29 - Girls' Club from 3:00-4:30
- 12/2-12/3 - Living Christmas Card @ Mount Olive from 5-7 pm
- 12/03 - Board of Education
- 12/19 - PreK-3 Last Day before Christmas Break
- 12/20 - Children's Christmas Service @ 6:30
  - ½ day of school before Christmas Break
- 12/21-1/02 - No School (Christmas Break)
- 1/03 - Classes Resume

### **Girls' Basketball Schedule**

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

- **11/03 - vs Sag/Hem @ Christ Shields (B team)**
- 11/07 - vs SJBC @ SJBC (AB)
- 11/10 - vs Owosso @ Bethel (A team)
- 11/14 - vs SJBC @ Bethel (AB)
- 11/17 - vs Emaunel (Lansing) @ Lansing (A team)
- 11/28 - vs Trinity @ Trinity (AB)
- 12/01-12/02 - MALL Tournament @ SJBC
- 12/08-12/09 - MLS Tournament @ MLS

### **CEA Sponsored Activities:**

- 12/10 - Coffee Hour (Powers)
- 02/14 - Ash Wednesday Soup Supper (VanDenBoom)
- 03/02 - Trivia Night (Thunberg/Wilson)
- 03/03 - Coffee Hour (Leppek)
- 04/26 - Mother/Son Activity (Thunberg/Wilson)
- 05/03 - Daddy/Daughter Dance (Thunberg/Wilson)
- TBD - Pine Car Derby (Powers)
- TBD - Family Movie Night (Wilson)
- TBD - Board Game Night (Friske)

### **Upcoming Singing Schedule Dates:**

- 11/12 - Cantate Choir
- 11/22 - Grades 1-8 (Thanksgiving Eve)
- 12/10 - Cherub Choir
- 12/20 - Children's Christmas Service

### **Popcorn Fridays:**

*The following are dates that we will have Popcorn Friday:*

11/10; 12/01; 12/15

**Check these out!** Did you know our Synod had a variety of family resources? Below are a couple links that include family devotions that can be used at home as well as articles on a variety of parenting and family topics. I pray these resources are helpful to you and your family.

Family Devotions: [Family Devotions – WELS](https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/family-devotions/) (https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions/family-devotions/)

Forward in Christ Parent Conversations: [Parents – FORWARD IN CHRIST](https://forwardinchrist.net/parents/) (https://forwardinchrist.net/parents/).

### **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**

#### **MLS Presents: Oklahoma!**

Tickets are now on sale for Michigan Lutheran Seminary's production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" Join us on November 11-12 for this classic musical full of cowboys, farmers, romance, and fearless optimism. You'll enjoy familiar songs like "Oh, What a Beautiful Morning," "People Will Say We're in Love," and "Oklahoma." Purchase tickets in advance at [mlsem.org](http://mlsem.org).

#### **MLS Blood Drive**

The MLS Student Council is working with the American Red Cross to host our fall 2023 blood drive on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, from 10:00 am to 2:45 pm. Interested adult donors can sign up by visiting [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and searching MLS SAGINAW.

#### **MLS Foundation Dinner & Auction**

Save the date for the annual dinner & auction on Sunday, February 18, 2024 at the Great Hall in Midland! If you would like to donate an item to be auctioned off, visit our donation page at <https://bit.ly/44ZPmxK> to fill out a donation form. Watch for updates and ticket sales to open up in early November at our website: <https://mls-foundation.org/>

