



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

Worship Schedule:

Monday, February 19th @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, February 21st @ 6:30 p.m. (Lenten Worship)

Lenten meal @ 5:30

Sunday, February 25th @ 10:00 a.m. (Sunday School & Bible Class @ 9:00 a.m.)

I pray you and your family take advantage of our Sunday morning or Wednesday evening worship opportunities as we continue to gather around God's Word. See you there!

Congregational Divine Call Update: We have extended a divine call to Mrs. Courtney Valus to teach grades 1-2 at Bethel. Mrs. Valus is currently serving as grades 1-2 teacher at Divine Grace in Lake Orion, Michigan. Her family will be moving to Saginaw this summer as her husband (Nolan) will be serving as academic dean at Michigan Lutheran Seminary beginning next school year. Additionally, Mrs. Valus is holding calls to serve at MLS as a part-time piano instructor and a call to teach 2nd grade at St. Paul's in Saginaw. Please keep the Valus family in your prayers as they deliberate where to serve where to serve.

Mrs. Friske Call: Mrs. Friske is currently holding a divine call to teach 1st grade at St. Paul's in Livonia, Michigan. Please keep her and her family in your prayers as she deliberates where best to serve the Lord. Please reach out to her if you have any questions or have feedback you would like to share with her.

½ Day Friday: This Friday (02/23) is a noon dismissal. Please make the proper arrangements for pick-up. Your Bethel staff will have faculty meetings in the afternoon.

CEA Trivia Night: We are less than two weeks away from our 5th Annual CEA Trivia Night on Saturday, March 2. Big change this year as we will be holding this event at the Arbeiter Hall above Governor's Quarters where you will be able to purchase food and adult beverages during the event - no outside food will be permitted but the cost for trivia will remain the same at \$10 per team member (6 max per team) and the event will run from 6-9 pm. Participants must be high school age and older. ***Parents, this is replacing a normal fundraiser for CEA that would involve selling pizza kits, cookie dough, candy, etc. It has been a successful annual event and we get enough support that we do not have to have any other fundraisers during the year. 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 or using the QR code. 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 jennithunberg@gmail.com.

Spirit Week: Last week our annual Spirit Week took place. The class with the highest participation and the winner of the Spirit Stick is grades 3-5. Thank you to all those who participated and showed their school spirit.

MALL Basketball Tournament: Our boys' basketball team participated in the MALL Tournament this past weekend. The boys lost their first game on Friday but rallied with two victories on Saturday to finish the tournament as Consolation Champions! Thank you to parents, players, coaches and cheerleaders for a great season! Go, Bobcats!

Basketball Uniforms: With the conclusion of the basketball season all boys basketball players should turn in their uniforms after they have been cleaned. Uniforms should be returned to Mr. Thooft.

Enrollment for 2024-2025: Enrollment for the 2024-2025 Preschool year began on January 15. Applications are available from Mrs. Virant. A few applications have come in for both programs already. For the most up to date openings available for next year, check the board outside the preschool classroom. As of this writing there are **9/16 spots available** in Pre-K4 and **12/14 spots available** in Pre-K.

Mission Program: Our 3rd quarter chapel offering is going to support the Bethel Equip for Quality Fund (EQF). This is a special fund that is used to continue to make improvements to our school. I pray that families take this opportunity to teach their children the importance of supporting the work of the church. Our chapel offering last week was \$35.45 and students have collected \$169.13.

Girls Club: The Girls' Club will meet next on Monday, February 19th in the gym from 3:00-4:30. It will be a Galentines party, food, games, photos (feel free to dress up, wear valentine colors) & all things girly!

MLS Fine Arts Fair: The MLS Fine Arts Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 2nd at MLS. Students in grades 3-8 may participate in the various categories. For information about registration, rules and different competitions, go to the MLS website (<https://www.mlsem.org/>) and click on the Science and Fine Arts Fair tab. MLS is using that link as their center for all information related to the Fine Arts Fair.



Munger Potato Festival: This year our church and school has been selected to run the food tents/concessions at the Munger Potato Festival on July 25-28, 2024. This is an excellent way to get funds for projects for our church and school and, if it goes well this year, we will have the opportunity to do this on an every-other-year rotation. The main thing we need is volunteers for this event as on the evenings of the Figure 8 event, we will need up to 25-30 at one time in order for things to run smoothly. **There will be more information in the coming months but please SAVE THE DATES of July 25-28, 2024 to help us at some point that weekend by working a shift.** If everyone pitches in for a shift (and students can help as well!) it will be a fun time and no volunteers will feel overworked. If you have specific questions, please contact Jenni Thunberg at jennithunberg@gmail.com but we will have an information meeting and sign-ups available in the coming months.

Popcorn Friday: The following upcoming Fridays will be Popcorn Fridays - **2/23; 3/8; 3/22**

Camp Lor-Ray Kids Camp 2024: Hey kids are you ready for some outdoor fun? Well tell your parents/guardians that Kids Camp 2024 registration is open and is awaiting your spot to be filled! It's a great time surrounded by other believers doing activities such as fishing, swimming, crafts and so many more games and silly songs! The weeks are 1st-3rd grade (June 30th -July 3rd), 4th-6th (July 7th-12th) and 7th-9th (July 14th-19th). Costs are as follows: 1-3 Grade: \$199 (Early Bird: \$175). 4-6 and 7-9 Grade: \$299 (Early Bird: \$275). Apply before April 30th at camplor-ray.org to secure the early bird discount. ps. parents there is a scholarship application on the registration so we can all be able to enjoy camp! Feel free to email us any and all questions, comments or concerns at camplorray@gmail.com

Birthdays:

Kaylen Janz - February 19th - 5th Grade

Mrs. Killinger - February 25th - Kindergarten

Coming Up:

- **2/23 - ½ Day of School (Faculty In-Service)**
- 2/26 - Kindergarten Screening Begins
- 2/27 - Boys' Club in MP Room
- 3/01 - Principals' Conference
- 3/02 - CEA Trivia Night
 - MLS Fine Arts Fair
- 3/04 & 3/06 - Preschool Kindergarten Visitation
- 3/08 - MLS Children's Theater (PreK-5th Grade)
 - MALL Athletic Meeting
- 3/22 - End of 3rd Qtr. (½ Day Faculty In-Service)
- 3/23 - MALL Volleyball Tournament
- 3/27 - 3rd Qtr. Report Cards Sent Home
- 3/29 - Good Friday Worship @ 1:00 (Grades 1-8 Sing)
- 4/01-4/05 - BLS Spring Break (No School)
- 4/08 - BLS Classes Resume
- 4/15-4/20 - Grades 1-8 Play Week
- 5/03 - ½ Day of School (Faculty In-Service)
- 5/05 - Confirmation Sunday
- 5/10 - BLS Career Day
- 5/20-5/22 - Grades 5-6 Camp Timbers Trip
- 5/22 - Last Day PreK-3
- 5/23 - Last Day PreK-4
- 5/24 - MALL Track Meet @ Garber
- 5/27 - Memorial Day (No School)
- 5/30 - ½ Day of School (Records Day)
- 5/31 - ½ Day of School (Last Day of School & Awards Day)

Upcoming Singing Schedule Dates:

- **2/21 - Cherub Choir (Wednesday Lenten Service)**
- 3/06 - Cantate Choir (Wednesday Lenten Service)
- 3/13 - Cherub Choir (Wednesday Lenten Service)
- 3/29 - Grades 1-8 (Good Friday)

CEA Sponsored Activities:

- 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)
- 04/28 - Pine Car Derby (Powers)

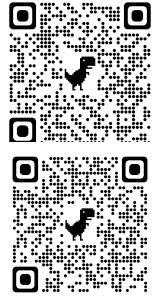
Volleyball Schedule

Monday, February 19	Practice @ Bethel	6:30 – 8:00 pm
Tuesday, February 20	Practice @ Bethel	6:30 – 8:00 pm
Thursday, February 22	Practice @ Bethel	4:00 – 5:30 pm
Monday, February 26	Practice @ Bethel	4:30 – 6:00 pm
Tuesday, February 27	Practice @ Bethel	4:00 – 5:30 pm
Thursday, February 29	Practice @ Bethel	4:30 – 6:00 pm
Monday, March 4	Practice @ Bethel	4:30 – 6:00 pm
Tuesday, March 5	Practice @ Bethel	4:30 – 6:00 pm
Friday, March 8	Game @ Bethel	4:00 pm & 6:15 pm
Monday, March 11	Practice @ Bethel	4:00 – 5:30 pm
Tuesday, March 12	Game @ St. John's Bay City	4:00 pm & 4:45 pm
Thursday, March 14	Practice @ Bethel	5:00 – 6:30 pm
Monday, March 18	Practice @ Bethel	4:30 – 6:00 pm
Tuesday, March 19	Game @ Shields	4:00 pm & 4:45 pm
Thursday, March 21	Game @ Trinity Bay City	4:00 pm & 4:45 pm
Saturday, March 23	MALL Tournament @ BCC	TBD

Forward in Christ Parent Conversations: Our Synod's monthly magazine, *Forward in Christ*, is a great resource. Every month there is a section of the magazine with articles for Christian parents and families called *Parent Conversations*. Scan the QR code to get access to this great parent resource. This resource includes Christian parenting articles, podcasts and more.

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](#) (QR code)



Michigan Lutheran Seminary

Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament

The Michigan Lutheran Seminary Adult Co-Ed Volleyball Tournament will be on Saturday, April 13 and will begin between 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. depending on the number of teams.

The main purpose of this tournament is to better acquaint church members with your ministerial education training school and its students, as well as the facilities, while also serving as a fundraiser for Michigan Lutheran Seminary. Money raised will go the MLS general fund.

- We will take entries from congregations of the WELS and ELS. Congregations may enter multiple teams in the tournaments.
- A player should be a member of the congregation for which he/she is playing. They should not be members of any other church, especially if that congregation also has a team participating in the tournament.
- If a congregation does not have enough interested players for the tournament, we would encourage you to contact congregations nearby to see if combining your efforts could result in a team for the tournament.
- Participants are to be of confirmation age or older.

Any exceptions to these rules must be cleared by the tournament director prior to registering for the tournament. A team entry fee of \$100.00 per team will be charged this year. The payment will be due at registration time and will be paid online. The registration deadline is Saturday April 6th.

Summer Camps

Many of our students say their first experience at MLS was a summer camp. You'll become more familiar with campus, use the same facilities as our students, meet future classmates, and sometimes dine and sleep here!

Our MLS camps emphasize teaching teamwork, fundamentals and skills in a positive, Christian setting. The camp directors see this as an opportunity to use the beautiful facilities of Michigan Lutheran Seminary to work with our synod's youth. Our staff is dedicated to make our camps a positive experience for each camper.

Staffs are made up of members of the MLS faculty and staff, who are assisted by MLS alumni and current MLS students.

MLS offers a variety of camps designed for both the beginners and the advanced.

FAMILY DISCOUNT: If you will be registering for more than one camp within the same household we now offer a 15% family discount. Enter the code FAMILY when ordering to receive the discount. You **MUST** be signed up for multiple camps to use the code. If you use the code and have only signed up for one camp your order will be voided.

Registration ends on June 1, 2024 at midnight. To register or get mor information visit <https://www.mlsem.org/>