



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

Worship Schedule:

Wednesday, February 28th @ 6:30 p.m. (Lenten Worship)

Lenten meal @ 5:30

Sunday, March 3rd @ 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: Yesterday it was announced that Mrs. Courtney Valus has returned the divine call to serve as grades 1-2 teacher here at Bethel. Plans are being made to have a call meeting in a couple weeks. Once a date is finalized, it will be announced.

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.

CEA Trivia Night: This weekend is our 5th Annual CEA Trivia Night on Saturday, March 2. Big change this year as we will be holding this event at the Arbeitoer 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.***

School Play Survey: To help plan for our upcoming play in April, we ask families in grades 1-8 to please take some time to fill out a short survey related to the play. The survey will be sent out via Remind or you can scan the QR code to fill out the survey.



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. Applications have come in for both programs. For the most up to date openings available for next year, check the board outside the preschool classroom. As of this writing there are **7/16 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 \$37.65 and students have collected \$206.78.

MLS Fine Arts Fair: The MLS Fine Arts Fair is scheduled for this 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.



Class Trip to MLS: On Friday, March 8th the Preschool through 5th grades will be attending MLS's production of "Bedtime Stories (As Told By Our Dad) (Who Messed Them Up)". Permission slips were sent out. Please return the signed permission slip and fees as soon as possible.

CEA Events: The Christian Education Association (CEA) is our parent group and has organized a number of events for the spring. We are in need of people to help volunteer at those upcoming events. If you are able or interested in helping with upcoming CEA sponsored activities, please contact the person in charge of the event or talk with Mr. Thooft about how you can get involved.

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)

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.

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 camp-lor-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 camp-lor-ray@gmail.com.

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

Birthdays:

Alivia Phillips - February 27th - 1st Grade
Lucas Killinger - February 28th - 6th Grade

Coming Up:

- 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-4
- 5/23 - Last Day PreK-3
- 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:

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

Volleyball Schedule

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/>