



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

Worship Schedule:

- Monday, May 13th @ 6:30 pm
- Sunday, May 19th @ 10:00 am
 - Sunday School/Bible Class @ 9:00 am

I pray you and your family take advantage of either our Sunday morning or Monday evening services as we continue to celebrate and reflect on the resurrection of our Lord! See you there!

Congregational Divine Call Update: As part of our plans to expand our teaching staff, our congregation intends to go to the assignment committee to request a graduate from Martin Luther College to teach grades 1-2 next school year. Graduation and Call Day will be held this Saturday afternoon. We will know later this week whether or not we will be receiving a graduate from MLC. Stay tuned and please keep our ministry in your prayers as we seek our additional teacher.

CEA Information: The next meeting of the CEA will be Sunday, June 2nd after church. Plans for events for next school year will be discussed at this meeting. Please plan to attend and see how you can be involved!

Preschool 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 ***3/16 spots available*** in Pre-K4 and ***8/14 spots available*** in Pre-K3.

Mission Program: Our 4th quarter chapel offering is going to support the Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary (WLS). WLS trains and equips our pastors for their work in gospel ministry. I pray that families take this opportunity to teach their children the importance of supporting the work of the church. Our last chapel offering was \$57.20 and we have collected \$247.57 for the quarter.

Career Day: Thank you to those who volunteered as presenters and who shared information about their careers with the students last Friday for Career Day. I am sure the students learned a lot and it was a great experience for them!

MAP Testing: Our last round of MAP testing will take place this week. Students in grades 3-8 will be taking the reading, math and language tests next week.

MALL Track Meet: Plans are already underway for our annual MALL track meet at Garber High School. The date is Friday, May 24th. Students in grades 1-8 will be participating. There is no classroom instruction but it is considered a day of school and we look forward to everyone participating. Please make sure your child is working at home to get in condition for the meet. Running regularly is a good start!

MLS Track Meet: Students in grades 5-8 also have the opportunity to participate in another track meet being held at Michigan Lutheran Seminary on Wednesday, May 29th. The MLS meet starts at 11:00 a.m. Students will be dismissed at 10:00 a.m. Please make sure to arrange transportation to MLS for your child that day.

Records Day: Thursday, May 30th will be a half day of school. Your Bethel staff will use the afternoon to finalize report cards and permanent file reports. Classes will dismiss at noon on that day.

End of Quarter/Report Cards: The 4th quarter of the school year will end on Friday, May 31st. Report cards will be handed out before your child is dismissed for the school year. Nothing needs to be returned to school related to report cards.

Last Day of School: Friday, May 31st is the last day of school. Classes will be dismissed for the year after the closing service and awards assembly. Everything related to the last day of school should be finished by 12:00 noon.

Closing Service: Our school year will close with a special chapel service starting at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, May 31st. We hope all of you are able to attend!

Awards Assembly: Right after the closing service, beginning at approximately 11:30 a.m., we will have our annual awards assembly. During the assembly we will recognize all those students who have participated in extracurricular activities as well as academic achievements.

Graduation Sunday: Sunday, June 2nd is Bethel Graduation Sunday. During the 10:00 a.m. service, our 8th graders will graduate from BLS. All other graduates of our congregation will also be recognized. If you have a graduate in your family who is a member of Bethel, please fill out a special form used for this purpose and return it to Mr. Thooft right away. Forms were placed in your church mailbox or are available in the school office. Graduating from BLS are:

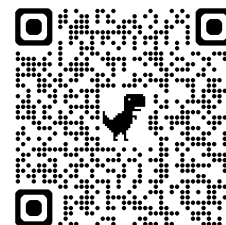
Ada Figley
Blake Hartley
Ella Killinger
Jacob Krohn
Caleb Powers

Ladies' Aid at Buds to Blooms: Do you plan to purchase spring flowers or plants from Buds to Blooms? If you purchase between May 1st and 31st, mention Bethel Ladies Aid! 10% of our purchase will be credited to Bethel Ladies Aid. Thank you!

Updated Band Schedule: Please note the following updates and changes to the band schedule:

- Thursday, May 23rd will be lessons instead of Tuesday, May 21st
- Tuesday, May 28th will be an in-school end-of-the-year concert

St. Paul's Summer Band Program: Our sister school, St. Paul's in Saginaw is offering a summer band program. Lessons take place at St. Paul's school (2745 W. Genesee Ave. in Saginaw). Mrs. Arianna Siegler is the lesson teacher (she is a flute player, and directed the band at MLS for 4 years.) Lessons begin Wednesday, June 5. Scan the QR code for sign-up information.



Munger Potato Festival: This year our church and school have 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.

An informational meeting will be held on May 19th after church to discuss how you can get involved with this event. Look for dates and details in future newsletters.

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 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:

Nolan Koscielski - May 14th - 4th grade
Riley Kramer - May 16th - PreK-3
Isabelle Urban - May 17th - 5th grade
Charleigh Wilson - May 17th - 5th grade
Luke Clark - May 17th - 6th grade
Aurora Longley - May 18th - Kindergarten

Coming Up:

- **5/15 - Grades 1-2 Field Trip Sloan Museum**
- **5/16 - K & Pre-K3 Field Trip Wilderness Trails Zoo**
- 5/20-5/22 - Grades 5-6 Camp Timbers Trip
- 5/21 - Grades 7 & 8 Field Trip to CMU
- 5/22 - Last Day PreK-4
- 5/23 - Last Day PreK-3
- 5/23 - Preschool Farewell 6:30 pm
- 5/24 - MALL Track Meet @ Garber
- 5/27 - Memorial Day (No School)
- 5/28 - In-School Band Concert
- 5/29 - MLS Track Meet
 - Grades 3-5 Field Trip to Henry Ford
- 5/30 - ½ Day of School (Records Day)
- 5/31 - ½ Day of School (Last Day of School & Awards Day)
- 6/02 - Graduation Sunday

Upcoming Singing Schedule Dates:

- **5/19 - Cherub Choir (Pentecost)**
- 6/02 - Grades K-7 (Graduation Sunday)

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

MLS SUMMER CAMPS

Registration for our 2024 MLS Summer Camps is now open! Our 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 making our camps a positive experience for each camper.

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.

To register visit www.mlsem.org. Registration ends on June 1, 2024, at midnight