



*"Let us run with endurance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith."  
Hebrews 12:1-2*

**Worship Schedule:**

- Monday, January 13th @ 6:30 p.m.
- Sunday, January 19th @ 10:00 a.m.
  - Congregational Voters' Meeting after worship

**Worship Encouragement:** You are missed when your family is not present 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. Each Sunday (and Monday night) we have the opportunity to 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. See you Sunday!

**Lutheran Schools' Week:** Our annual celebration of Lutheran Schools is coming up the week of January 19th through the 26th. The week will include special events and will culminate on Lutheran Schools Sunday on January 26th. Information has been sent home for several of these events. Here is an overview of the week:

- Sunday, January 19th - Family Movie Night @ Bay City Cinema
- Monday, January 20th - Game Day
- Tuesday, January 21st - Breakfast with a Buddy
- Wednesday, January 22nd - Family Board Game Night
- Thursday, January 23rd - Sledding (weather permitting)
- Friday, January 24th - Bowling @ Monitor Lanes
- Sunday, January 26th - Pre K-Grade 8 sing in worship
  - Chili Cook-Off after worship

**Family Movie Night:** On Sunday, January 19th we will be hosting a family movie night at the Bay City Cinema. The movie will begin at 5:30 and will be \$8 per person. You may purchase tickets for the movie in the office. The movie will be *Mufasa: The Lion King*. Concessions deals will be available with a Small Combo being \$6.

**Breakfast with a Buddy:** Students and their favorite adults are invited to enjoy a light breakfast before school starts. Pastries, fruit, juice and coffee will be served. Due to limited space, one adult per child please. We are also in need of food donations. Please check our Sign Up Genius link (QR code) to see what you can help with! Thanks!

**Lutheran Schools Week Bowling:** Bowling is scheduled for Friday, January 24th from 1:00 until 2:30 PM. We have to transition our entire student body there and back. That will take a lot of cars and a lot of volunteers. Permission slips for this event were sent home last week. Please return your child's permission slip with all the required information and money by Monday, January 19th. - AND PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO DRIVE! THANKS!

**Chili Cook-Off:** Our traditional chili cook-off will be Sunday, January 26th after church! Sign-up to make your favorite pot of chili to be entered. The sign-up sheet is available on the bulletin board outside of the gym. If you aren't entering a chili, we will need some other food items that we ask that you consider donating. Come out and enjoy some great food and fellowship!



**25-26 Preschool Enrollment:** Bethel Preschool will begin accepting next year's Preschool enrollment on Wednesday, January 15th. Applications will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis. Get your application in and get the word out to your family and friends.

**Congregation Text Message Updates:** The congregation is beginning to use a messaging service that many school families are familiar with called Remind. If you would like to receive Bethel Church news and updates through text message, please visit [remind.com/join/blcmmessage](http://remind.com/join/blcmmessage) or follow the QR code.



**End of Quarter:** The 2nd quarter of the school year will end on Friday, January 17th. Please encourage your child to finish strong.

**Faculty In-Service:** Your faculty will have its next monthly meeting on Friday, January 17th, in the afternoon. The school will be dismissed at noon. Please be on time to pick up your child.

**Weather Related School Closings:** It's that time of year again so this reminder is being provided. If the Bay City Public School system is closed for school due to weather, Bethel will automatically be closed. There will be no separate listing for Bethel on any school closing sites or TV.

**Bethel Booster Trivia Night:** We are about two months away from our 6th Annual Bethel Boosters Trivia Night on Saturday, March 1. This event will be held 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. THERE IS A LIMIT OF 25 TEAMS FOR THIS EVENT. Last year we reached the maximum capacity so please make sure that you sign up in advance.



Parents, this is replacing a normal fundraiser for the Bethel Boosters 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 using the QR code or online on the Bethel School Website. 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](mailto:jennithunberg@gmail.com).

**Mission Program:** Our 2nd quarter chapel offerings have been designated to Thai Village. Thai Village is a nonprofit organization that works locally with Thai artisans to support economic self-sufficiency and provide Christian education. The organization exists to develop long-term relationships with local people and produce handmade crafts that reflect their diverse cultures. They do so by training and employing low-income people. They support Christian outreach and education and create opportunities to share God's love in our community. I pray that families take this opportunity to teach their children the importance of supporting the work of the church. Last week our chapel offering was \$31.60. Our total for 2nd qtr. is \$332.34.

**Congregational Bingo Night:** Saturday, February 15th Bethel will be hosting a Bingo Night. Bingo will start at 6:30 in the gym. . All are invited to come out and enjoy a night of fellowship!

**Christian Parenting Resources:** Did you know our Synod had a variety of family resources? Our Synod's monthly magazine, *Forward in Christ*, is a great resource and can be found online. Every month there is a section of the magazine with articles for Christian parents and families called *Parent Conversations*. This resource includes Christian parenting articles, podcasts, and more. ***Scan the second QR code for Christian parenting resources.*** I pray these resources are helpful to you and your family.



### **Coming Up:**

- 1/15 - '25-'26 Preschool Enrollment Opens
- 1/17 - End of 2nd Qtr./Faculty In-Service- Noon Dismissal
- 1/19-1/25 - Lutheran Schools Week
- 1/19 - Family Movie Night
- 1/22 - 2nd Qtr. Report Cards Sent Home
- 1/24 - Bowling @ Monitor Lanes
- 1/26 - Lutheran Schools Sunday - Grades 1-8 sing
  - Chili Cook-Off after worship
- 2/15 - Congregation Bingo Night
- 2/21 - Faculty In-Service - Noon Dismissal
- 2/24 - No School: Pastor/Teacher Conference
- 2/28 - Grades 1-8 Music Concert
- 3/01 - Bethel Booster Trivia Night
- 3/02 - Coffee Hour - Sponsored by Bethel Boosters
- 3/05 - Ash Wednesday
  - Soup Supper Sponsored by Bethel Boosters
- 3/07 - Principals' Conference
- 3/14 - Preschool & Kindergarten Play
  - MALL League Meeting
- 3/21 - End of 3rd Qtr./Faculty In-Service - Noon Dismissal
- 3/29 - MALL Volleyball tournament
- 3/31-4/04 - BLS Spring Break (No School)
- 4/07 - BLS Classes Resume

### **Student Spotlight:**

Isaac Powers - Grade 6  
Keira Janz - K  
Leah Nitz - Grade 7  
Lincoln Hurley - PreK-3

### **Birthdays:**

Jade Beyer - PreK-4 - 01/13

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

- 1/26 - Lutheran Schools' Sunday - PreK-8th grade sing
- 2/28 - Music Concert
- 3/05 - Cantate Choir - Ash Wednesday
- 3/12 - Cherub Choir - Wednesday Lenten Service
- 3/23 - Preschool/Kindergarten
- 3/26 - Tone Chimes - Wednesday Lenten Service
- 4/13 - Cherub & Cantate Choir - Palm Sunday
- 4/18 - Cherub & Cantate Choir - Good Friday
- 5/4 - Cantate Choir - Confirmation Sunday
- 5/18 - Cherub Choir
- 6/1 - Grades K-8 - Graduation Sunday

**Bethel Booster Sponsored Activities:**

- 01/19 - Family Movie Night (Faulk)
- 03/01 - Trivia Night (Thunberg/Wilson)
- 03/02 - Coffee Hour (Leppek)
- 03/05 - Ash Wednesday Soup Supper (VanDenBoom)
- 03/15 - Pine Car Derby (Powers)
- 04/25 - Mother/Son Activity (Thunberg/Wilson)
- 05/02 - Father/Daughter Dance (Thunberg/Wilson)

**Boys' Basketball Game Schedule:**

- **1/14 - vs Salem @ Owosso (AB)**
- **1/17 - vs Trinity @ Bethel (AB)**
- 1/21 - vs Hemlock @ Christ Shields (AB)
- 1/24 - vs Tawas @ Tawas (AB)
- 1/25 - B Team Tournament @ Trinity
- 1/28 - vs Trinity @ Trinity (AB)
- 1/31 - vs SJBC @ SJBC (AB)
- 2/4 - vs Hemlock @ Bethel (AB)
- 2/7-2/8 - MLS Tournament @ MLS (Two day tournament)
- 2/11 - SJBC @ Bethel (AB)
- 2/14-2/15 - MALL Tournament @ SJBC (Two day tournament)

**Boys' Basketball Practices:**

- Monday, January 13th - 5:30-7:00
- Wednesday, January 15th - 5:30-7:00

**Cheerleading Practices:**

- **Monday, January 13th - 3:00-4:30**
- **Wednesday, January 15th - 3:00-4:30**
- Monday, January 20th - 3:00-4:30
- Wednesday, January 22nd - 3:00-4:30
- Monday, January 27th - 3:00-4:30
- Wednesday, January 29th - 3:00-4:30

**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>

## **Michigan Lutheran Seminary**

### **MLS JR. CARDINAL WINTER POMS CLINIC**

Registration is NOW OPEN for the MLS Jr. Cardinal Winter Poms Clinic!

Save the date: February 9, 2025! This exciting clinic is open to girls in K-5th grade from WELS/ELS churches or schools.

Join us from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. (registration starts at 1:30 p.m.) for an afternoon of fun, learning, and pom routines! Your \$20 Early Bird fee (before Jan. 21) includes a free T-shirt and a light snack. After Jan. 21, registration is \$25, and the deadline is January 28 at midnight. Participants will perform alongside the MLS poms team at halftime of the varsity boys' basketball game on February 14. Don't miss the chance to shine on the big stage!

Visit [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org) to register and get ready for an unforgettable experience! For any questions, contact Michael Priebe at [mdp@mlsem.org](mailto:mdp@mlsem.org).

### **NOW HIRING - MLS BUSINESS MANAGER**

MLS is seeking to fill our Business Manager position. The MLS Business Manager is responsible for the financial affairs of MLS, serves as the chief Human Resource officer, and is responsible directly to the President of MLS. Visit [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org) for a position description and how to apply.

### **MLS OPEN HOUSES**

Michigan Lutheran Seminary would like to invite you to one of our Open Houses this school year! We have open houses on February 14th, March 8th, and May 2nd! This is a great opportunity for 5th-8th grade students and their families to learn about the campus, academics, and extracurriculars at MLS! You'll have a chance to meet faculty, talk to parents and students, try our dining hall cuisine, and take a tour of the campus! If you're interested or would like more information, contact us at [admissions@mlsem.org](mailto:admissions@mlsem.org) or call (989) 793-1010 ext. 421.

### **MLS APPLICATIONS FOR 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR**

We encourage families with children who are interested in joining MLS for the 2025-26 school year to apply online today! This is a wonderful opportunity for young men and women to grow in their faith and consider service in the ministry. For more information or any questions, please reach out to us at [admissions@mlsem.org](mailto:admissions@mlsem.org) or call (989) 793-1010 ext. 421. Apply now at [www.mlsem.org/apply](http://www.mlsem.org/apply).