



*"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, March 3rd @ 6:30 p.m
- Wednesday, March 5th @ 6:30 p.m.
  - Lenten Meal before worship

**Worship Encouragement:** This week marks the beginning of the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday worship this Wednesday beginning at 6:30. Fellowship meals will be provided before each service. Our children's choirs will sing several times in worship during Lent. There will be no Monday night service during this time. Monday night services will resume after Easter. I pray and encourage all our school families to take advantage of this season of reflection on our Savior's passion. Looking forward to seeing you there!

**Ash Wednesday Supper:** Wednesday, March 5th begins the Lenten season with Ash Wednesday worship at 6:30. The Bethel Boosters are in charge of the meal before the service. **Scan the QR code to sign up to help with this supper or sign up on the bulletin board by the gym.** Please contact Nicole VanDenBoom or Mr. Thooft if you have any questions about the meal.



**Sports Pictures:** This Friday (03/07) sports pictures will be taken for our basketball and cheerleading teams. Picture forms will be sent home this week. Please bring picture forms and payments on the day of the pictures. Coaches are invited to come for pictures as well.

**Hot Lunch:** Our Hot Lunch program resumes this week (03/05). Hot Lunch will be Hungry Howie's pizza. Please have your child turn in their order forms by Tuesday morning.

**Pine Car Derby:** Our annual Pine Car Derby is fast approaching! **We are still in need of a few volunteers to help with this event.** If you are able to help or want more information about helping, please contact Mr. Thooft or Steve and Sarah Powers. ***The pre weigh-in for the Pine Car Derby will be Tuesday, March 11th from 6:00 to 7:30 in the gym.***

**Bethel Booster Trivia Night:** Over the weekend our annual Trivia Night was held at the GQ. I am happy to report that the event raised almost \$4,500 for the Bethel Boosters fund to support future special school projects! Thank you to all who donated items, volunteered to help, or participated in the event in some way. A special thank you to Governor's Quarters for hosting and Jen Thunberg for her work in organizing this annual fundraiser. **Save the date as the next Bethel Booster Trivia Night will be February 28th, 2026! See you there!**

**Thooft Call:** I continue to hold the divine call to serve as principal and upper-grade teacher at St. John's Lutheran School in Pardeeville, Wisconsin. I ask for the Holy Spirit's guidance during this deliberation process and welcome your comments and feedback related to the call.

**Girls' Club:** Girls' Club is collecting donations for our local animal shelter! We have two boxes in the front hallway with more information on what is needed. We will be collecting donations until March 13th and will be delivering to the shelter on Monday, March 17th! Girls' Club hopes to be able to deliver many items and would love your support to help us earn a grant for our school!

**MLS Arts and Academic Fair:** The MLS Arts and Academic Fair is scheduled for Saturday, March 8th at MLS. Students in grades 3-8 may participate in the various categories. If you have entered into the fair please submit your \$3 per entry fee to Mr. Thooft.

**25-26 Preschool Enrollment:** Bethel Preschool began 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. As of this writing, there are 12 openings in Pre-K4 and 9 in Pre-K3.

**Mission Program:** Our 3rd quarter chapel offering is going to support the Bethel Equip for Quality Fund (EQF). This is a special fund 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. Last week our chapel offering was \$49.21. Our total for the quarter is \$314.03.

**Popcorn Fridays:** The following dates will be Popcorn Fridays: **Mar. 7**, Mar. 21

**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.



**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.

**Birthdays:**

Jace Grady - PreK-3 - 03/09

**Student Spotlight:**

Aurora Longley - Grade 1

Aiden Pillot - Grade 1

Taylor Thunberg - Grade 7

Addison Peterson - PreK-4

**Coming Up:**

- **3/05 - Ash Wednesday**
  - **Soup Supper Sponsored by Bethel Boosters**
- **3/07 - Sports pictures**
  - **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

**Upcoming Singing Schedule Dates:**

- 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:**

- 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)

**Volleyball Practices:**

- Tuesday, March 4	Practice @ Bethel	4:30 – 6:00 pm
- Thursday, March 6	Practice @ Bethel	4:00 – 5:30 pm
- Monday, March 10	Practice @ Bethel	4:00 – 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 11	Game @ Bethel	4:30 pm
- Thursday, March 13	Game @ Shields	4:30 pm
- Monday, March 17	Practice @ Bethel	4:00 – 5:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 18	Game @ St. John’s Bay City	3:45 pm
- Monday, March 24	Practice @ Bethel	3:00 – 4:30 pm
- Tuesday, March 25	Game @ Bethel	4:30 pm
- Thursday, March 27	Game @ Bethel	4:30 pm
- Saturday, March 29	MALL Tournament @ BCC	TBD

**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.

**Michigan Lutheran Seminary**

**MLS SUMMER CAMPS - REGISTER NOW**

Registration is now open for MLS Summer Camps! These camps provide a fun, faith-filled environment where young athletes and artists can develop their skills, build teamwork, and grow in confidence. With excellent facilities and a dedicated staff, each camp offers a rewarding experience for every participant. Camp options include Fine Arts, Basketball, Football (including a Father/Son Camp), and Volleyball for various age groups. Spots are limited, so early registration is encouraged! Families registering multiple campers from the same household can receive a 15% discount using the code FAMILY at checkout. The registration deadline is June 1, 2025—don’t miss out on this exciting summer opportunity! Visit [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org) to secure your child’s spot today.

**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.

## **GERMANY TRIP 2026**

Ever dreamed of traveling the world? Here's your chance! Michigan Lutheran Seminary is organizing a trip to Germany in June 2026, open to all who are interested. For more details, contact Mrs. Virginia Ash ([vaa@mlsem.org](mailto:vaa@mlsem.org)) or Prof. Dan Westendorf ([djw@mlsem.org](mailto:djw@mlsem.org)), or visit [educationaltravel.com/ASH-1817](http://educationaltravel.com/ASH-1817). We'd love for you to join us!

## **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 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**

Enrollment for the 2025-2026 school year is underway at Michigan Lutheran Seminary. If your family plans to send a new student in the Fall, now is the time to apply! Visit [www.mlsem.org](http://www.mlsem.org) for information and the application form. If you would like to know more about the school or the admissions process, please reach out to MLS Admissions Director, Pastor Jared Natsis, at [jared.w.natsis@mlsem.org](mailto:jared.w.natsis@mlsem.org).