



# Bethlehem Lutheran School

## NEWS SLICE

### BLS Mission Statement

Bethlehem Lutheran School provides a Christian education, preparing the whole child for life-long learning and service to the Lord.

October 20, 2016

[www.blcbls.org](http://www.blcbls.org)

### PRINCIPAL'S CORNER - SUPER HARD CHALLENGES

Dear Parents & Friends,

This morning I told the students about a race I'll be doing on Saturday – it's a Spartan Beast: 12-14 miles of running, 30-35 obstacles like climbing over 30-foot cargo nets and carrying 5-gallon buckets of rocks up and down hills... just for fun, you know. I'm pretty nervous about it, and honestly hoping just to finish and make it home alive and ambulatory.

But I know the feeling I will have when I do – because I've made it through some of these races before, as well as some other super hard challenges. I also have friends and acquaintances who have come through genuinely difficult challenges like beating cancer, losing a loved one and having the courage to keep living, losing a job and not knowing what's next, etc. When we come through on the other side of those things, we're stronger, more confident, and hopefully our faith that God has a plan for us has grown.

As a principal, I occasionally get to meet with students and their parents when they are facing, or in the midst of, a super hard challenge. At times, just getting through a school day can be overwhelming! One thing that separates children from adults is experience... if this is their first major hurdle, they might not have the tools to cope with it, or the same assurance that everything will work out.

That's why meetings like those are great blessings – because we get a chance to get it all out on the table, then make a plan that shows the student how to handle their super hard challenge AND reassures them that their support staff is behind them, making every effort so that their work will be successful. I love the sweet relief I see on students' faces at the conclusion of those meetings – and it's not just relief that the meeting is over, it's hope that maybe this will work out! Then, when we follow up and it has worked out, I love the new confidence and pride I see. It's a reminder to me to keep meeting the challenges head on and with faith and my team of supporters – God's got this!

Your Beastly Principal,  
Mr. Haan

### EDUCATORS CONFERENCE NEXT WEEK

The following is our schedule for next week when our teachers will be attending the NW District Educators Conference in Seaside, Oregon:

- School will be in session on Monday, October 24, for Pre-K and Kindergarten through 8th grade students.
- Students in Kindergarten through 8th grade will have school as usual on Tuesday, October 25.
- There is no school for Preschool and Pre-K students on Tuesday, October 25.
- There is no school on Wednesday through Friday, October 26-28.
- School will resume on Monday, October 31.

### PRAYER CORNER

Please pray for the following this week:

- \*Safe travel, good weather, and a rejuvenating, educational time for the staff that will attend the Educators Conference in Seaside, Oregon next week.
- \*The health of the students, families, and staff.

**Verse of the year:**  
**All peoples on earth will be blessed through you.**  
**Genesis 12:3 (NIV)**

The hot lunch for Wednesday, November 2, will be Jimmie John's Day.

## **FAMILY CORNER - By Pastor Noble**

You know that little red light in your car that tells you to check your engine oil? If you're anything like me, you let out a little sigh and just go about your busy day. To me, it just shows a minor issue that I can't stop my day for. It's a small matter that can wait. The thing is though, this light is important. Sure it's not as major as other warning lights in your car, but left unchecked, this minor issue can turn into a disaster!

Our marriages are no different. Every now and then we get these warning signs to check on ourselves. Little signs like forgetting to say "I love you" throughout the day. Or, because you're trying to get the kids to school on time, you have become accustomed to small pecks on the cheek instead of a true kiss good bye. I've noticed a couple "check oil" lights in my own marriage. These warning signs aren't serious right now and they aren't telling me that my marriage is failing. But if left unchecked, it can quickly turn into a disaster.

It's usually those small things that we tend to overlook. I don't want to make a small thing a big deal. I don't want to hurt my wife's feelings and I'm sure she doesn't want to hurt mine. But it's more responsible of us to make sure that these warning signs are dealt with together.

"The Lord upholds all who are falling and raises up all who are bowed down" (Psalm 145:14). We are not alone when our check lights come on. We are not abandoned on the side of the road when we tend to let those lights go on for too long and things start to go wrong. We have God! Our Lord is one who, during those moments of failures and challenges, picks us up and guides us to correction and wholeness.

Think of God as your marriage mechanic. These lights will come on now and then. You don't have to panic and trade in your car. You must first check out the issue with someone who knows how to fix it (and of course check with your spouse to make a decision). God is our help in times of need, big or small. Rely on Him, call upon His name. And never forget to keep the engine of your marriage running.

Your friendly neighborhood pastor,  
Pastor Andy



## **BL SCHOOL BOARD**

Our school board is made up of 8 members of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. This policy-based governance group is dedicated to preserving and furthering the mission of our school. About half of the members are parents of current students. The other half may have



had students here in the past, be related to families with students, be alumni of the school, or just love Bethlehem Lutheran School! Our board meets once a month, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 6:00pm in the BL library.

If you have questions for our school board members or want to share something with them, we reserve

the first few minutes of our meeting for guests. Please let Mr. Haan know if you'd like to come or email our board chair, Mrs. Jackie Davidson, at [davidsonbjk@yahoo.com](mailto:davidsonbjk@yahoo.com). In addition, the school board will review your feedback in our annual fall parent survey. This will help us in creating positive policies and planning strategically for the future.

## EAGLES' NEST REQUEST

There is no school on October 26, 27, and 28 so the teachers can attend the Northwest District Educators Conference in Seaside, Oregon.

If you plan for your K-8 student to go to Eagles' Nest during that time, please let Mrs. Humphrey, our Eagles' Nest Director, know by **tomorrow, Friday, October 21**. It helps to plan staffing for those days if she has a head count of who will be attending. You can call the school office at 582-5624 and leave a message for her or stop in at Eagles' Nest and talk to her in person. Thank you in advance for your help!

**Even if you use Eagles' Nest all the time, please let Mrs. Humphrey know if you will have your children there on any of those days. She plans special projects, snacks, and events and it helps her to know numbers prior to the date!**



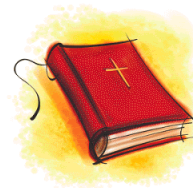
## NEW MONTH, NEW THEME

November is almost upon us. A new month means a new focus in our Integrity Program. November's Beatitude is "Meek." The theme is "Christ values me" and the character trait is "Gentle." The Bible verse associated

with the focus is from Isaiah 43:1:

But now, this is what the Lord says - He who created you, Jacob, He who formed you, Israel: 'Do not fear, for I

have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.'"



## CBC BLUE LADDER PLAYERS

The CBC Blue Ladder Players will be here once again to entertain us on Tuesday, November 1, at 1pm. This troupe of college-age thespians perform

a series of skits using only a blue ladder as a prop. We all look forward to their visits and we invite you to join us if you can!

### PARENT PLAY DATE

Tonight, Thursday, October 20, at 6pm we will have a Parent Play Date. This is open to all parents of children Preschool through 8th grade. This is a place where parents can come together to learn, encourage, and support each other as we slowly figure out this beautiful task called parenting! Child care will be provided. This event is scheduled once a month. Join us if you can!

**FLASH ALERT!**

Bethlehem Lutheran School has our own Flash Alert account!

**What does this mean for you?** You can subscribe to our feed to receive emergency alerts (school delays or closures due to weather, etc.) and non-emergency press releases related to Bethlehem in your email and/or on your Smart Phone. We are excited about this very fast, efficient way to communicate urgent information to our families. Once you set up the account, the information will come to you!

**How do you do it?** On a computer, go to: <http://flashalert.net/id/BLS>. You can put in the email address at which you wish to receive alerts, and select the type of alert you'd like to receive (emergency alerts and/or news releases). Once you have established an account you can add additional email addresses. On a Smart Phone, search for and download the "Flash Alert" app, then search for our school; you can find us by region - Columbia Tri-Cities, and type "Private Schools." **To get alerts as text messages on your Smart Phone, you will need to enter your phone number as an additional email address.** This is fairly simple, but the address will be different depending on your cell phone carrier. Below are examples of the major carriers in our area - just replace the "5095551212" with your own number including the three digit area code and you're set!

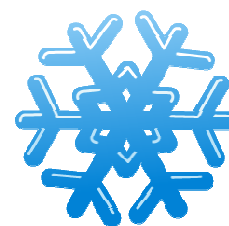
**Sprint:** 5095551212@messaging.sprintpcs.com

**AT&T:** 5095551212@txt.att.net

**Verizon:** 5095551212@vtext.com

**US Cellular:** 5095551212@email.uscc.net

**T-Mobile:** 5095551212@tmomail.net



The good news is, after you do this once you will be set up to receive alerts without doing anything else (unless you change phone numbers or email address). We will continue to post alerts for closures and delays on our Facebook pages and send out emails from Gradelink, as well.

Please see the attached Bad Weather Procedure for additional information!

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**P.S. - FLASH ALERT**

We encourage you to sign up for Flash Alert. It only takes a couple minutes and it will bring you up-to-the-minute announcements about school delays, closures,



etc. You can receive texts and/or emails.

There was a test of the system on Tuesday, October 18. If you have Flash Alert, did you receive a test message from the school?

**HOT LUNCH ORDER  
FORMS FOR  
NOVEMBER ARE  
DUE BACK IN THE  
SCHOOL OFFICE BY  
TOMORROW,  
FRIDAY,  
OCTOBER 21.**

## **LUTHERAN SCHOOLS ELEMENTARY TOURNAMENT (L.E.S.T.) INFORMATION**

It is time to start thinking about LEST! For those of you new to our school, LEST is a gathering of Lutheran elementary school 5th through 8th graders from Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Nevada, and California for a tournament that includes friendly competition in basketball, math, science, art, drama, spelling, chess, knowledge, bowl, swimming, to name some of the events. The tournament is held in Portland, Oregon at Concordia University on President's Day weekend, February 16-18, 2017.

Students who are interested in participating must fill out a sign-up form that is signed by a parent. Those forms have been sent to each family in 5th-8th grade via email today. Please prayerfully consider whether your family want to attend LEST and if your child will be able to participate on the team(s) they are signing up for. **They are due back in the school office by Friday, November 4.**

Each family is responsible for obtaining their own lodging. Our school has stayed at Oxford Suites for many years and have once again set aside a block of rooms for Bethlehem families. Our families receive a discounted rate if you mention promo code, Bethlehem, when booking your room. To receive the discounts, you need to call Oxford Suites directly rather than using their 800 number. The direct number is (503) 283-3030. The following rooms are available:

- Studio King Suite - \$105/night - one King bed and a sofa sleeper
- Executive King Suite - \$110/night - one King bed and a sofa sleeper
- Studio Double Queen Suite - \$122/night - two Queen beds, no sofa sleeper
- Family Double King Suite - \$199/night - two King beds in two separate rooms, some rooms have a sofa bed, one bathroom
- Deluxe Family Double King Suite - \$219/night - two King beds in two separate rooms, two bathrooms

If you plan to attend LEST, we encourage you to book your room early. They go fast!

Coaches needed! If you will be going to LEST and might be interested in coaching an event, we are needing adults who would be willing to coordinate and coach the following events following the rules and guidelines of the events from the LEST manual:

### **1. Science Team Coach**

The team is made up of one student (plus one alternate) from 5th-8th grade. The coach would coordinate practices and be present at the competition at Concordia.

### **2. Math Team Coach**

The team is made up of one student (plus one alternate) from 5th-8th grade. The coach would coordinate practices and be present at the competition at Concordia.

### **3. Robotics Coach**

We haven't seen the LEST Manual for 2017 yet, but we are assuming they will have a Robotics Competition again this year. The following is taken from the 2016 Manual: "The LEST Robotics Competition is a new competition starting at LEST 2016. It will be held as a LEGO Sumo-Bot competition where two LEGO robot contestants try to push each other out of a circular ring. The first robot to touch the floor outside of the ring loses. The last robot remaining in the ring wins."

If any of these sound interesting to you and you would like more information, please call the school office at 582-5624.

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Each year, our school and church participate in Operation Christmas Child (OCC) sponsored by Samaritan's Purse. Our students, families, and church members collect items and they are packed into shoeboxes. These boxes are sent all over the world and delivered to children. This has been a very successful and heart-warming event for all involved in years past. We are coming up on our Operation Christmas Child time again! Watch for additional information to be sent home via the News Slice and email as we draw closer to our collection dates. Thank you in advance for partnering with us in sharing these Gospel opportunities around the world. The following are important dates and information as we kick-off our OCC "season!"

### Dates:

- Collection of supplies/donations begins on Wednesday, October 5 (collection bins are set up in each hallway)
- Items will be collected through Monday, November 7
- National Collection Week (shoeboxes will be delivered to the Collection Center) is November 14-21
- The BLS packing party (students put together boxes from donated items) is on November 8. **Parent and church member volunteers to help with this project would be greatly appreciated!**
- 8th graders will deliver the Bethlehem Church and School-packed boxes and left over donations to the Collection Center on November 17. Parent drivers will be needed, please!

### Shoebox items suggestions:

- School supplies - pens, pencils, sharpeners, crayons, markers, stamps, ink pads, solar calculators, picture books, notebooks, coloring books, etc.
- Non-liquid hygiene items - toothbrushes, mild bar soap (wrapped in wash cloths and baggies), combs, brushes, etc.
- Toys - stuffed animals, jump ropes, balls, puzzles, cars, musical instruments, dolls, etc.
- Candy - hard candy placed in plastic baggies, no chocolate
- Personal note and photo of you or your student's class; include your address

### Needs:

- Donations/offerings for shipping boxes (\$7 per box to ship)
- Donated items for BLC/BLS boxes (extras will be taken to the Collection Center on November 17)
- Volunteers to help with the packing party (for set-up, during packing, and take-down)
- Homemade holiday cookie dough to be baked for the volunteers at the OCC collection Center
- Donated meals/healthy snacks for Collection Center volunteers

More information to come! Watch the News Slice for new updates. If you have any questions, please contact Amy Thornton at (509) 420-6171 or at [amvt@blcbis.org](mailto:amvt@blcbis.org).



## BLS SCRIP ORDER FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: \_\_\_\_\_ Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Check Amt: \_\_\_\_\_

Description	%	Qty	Price	Total	Description	%	Qty	Price	Total
<b>GROCERY &amp; PHARMACY</b>									
Albertson's	4%		\$25		Target	2.5%		\$25	
Albertson's	4%		\$50		Target	2.5%		\$100	
Fred Meyer	4%		\$25		Walgreens	6%		\$25	
Fred Meyer	4%		\$50		Walmart	2.5%		\$25	
Fred Meyer	4%		\$100		Walmart	2.5%		\$100	
<b>NATIONAL RESTAURANTS</b>									
Applebee's	8%		\$25		OutBack	9%		\$25	
Arby's	8%		\$10		PF Chang's	8%		\$25	
Burger King	4%		\$10		Papa John's	8%		\$10	
Carl's Jr.	6%		\$10		Pizza Hut	8%		\$10	
Chuck E. Cheese	8%		\$10		Red Robin	9%		\$10	
Denny's	7%		\$10		Starbucks	7%		\$10	
Jack in the Box	4%		\$10		Starbucks	7%		\$25	
Old Country Buffet	8%		\$25		Texas Road House	8%		\$10	
Olive Garden/Red Lobster	9%		\$25		Wendy's	4%		\$10	
<b>NATIONAL RETAILERS</b>									
Bath & Body Works	13%		\$10		Kohl's	4%		\$25	
Bath & Body Works	13%		\$25		Kohl's	4%		\$100	
Barnes & Noble	9%		\$10		Macy's	10%		\$25	
Barnes & Noble	9%		\$25		Macy's	10%		\$100	
Bed, Bath and Beyond	6%		\$25		Office Depot	4%		\$25	
Best Buy	3%		\$25		Payless Shoes	13%		\$10	
Best Buy	3%		\$100		Pier1	9%		\$25	
The Children's Place	14%		\$25		Sears	4%		\$25	
Claire's	9%		\$10		Shopko	3%		\$25	
Land's End	14%		\$25		Target	2.5%		\$25	
JCPenney	5%		\$25		Target	2.5%		\$100	
JCPenney	5%		\$100		ToysRUs	3%		\$10	
Jo-Ann Fabrics	6%		\$25		ToysRUs	3%		\$25	
<b>MOVIES &amp; ENTERTAINMENT</b>									
United Artists/Regal Theaters	9%		\$10						
<b>ONLINE &amp; CATALOG</b>									
Amazon.com	3%		\$25		itunes	5%		\$10	
Amazon.com	3%		\$50		itunes	5%		\$15	
Amazon.com	3.0%		\$100		itunes	5%		\$25	
<b>HOME IMPROVEMENT</b>									
Home Depot	4%		\$25		Lowe's	4%		\$25	
Home Depot	4%		\$50		Lowe's	4%		\$50	
Home Depot	4%		\$100		Lowe's	4%		\$100	
<b>GAS &amp; AUTOMOTIVE</b>									
Chevron	1%		\$50		Shell	2.5%		\$50	
Exxon/Mobil	1%		\$50		Shell	2.5%		\$100	
Exxon/Mobil	1%		\$100						
<b>LOCAL TRI-CITIES</b>									
DQ Chill & Grill	10%		\$5		Mocha Motive	20%		\$10	
Parable Christian Bookstore	15%		\$10		Mocha Express	25%		\$10	
<b>SPECIAL ORDER</b>									
<b>TOTAL COLUMN A</b>					<b>TOTAL COLUMN B</b>				
<b>TOTAL COLUMN A + B =</b>									