SUBURBAN BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL **BITS AND BARK**

January 16, 2025

Our Mission: Suburban Bethlehem Lutheran Church and School disciples each generation to grow deeply, serves humbly, and goes boldly in Christ to advance God's Kingdom.

Principal's Message

Coming Home Today- 40 days of Prayer Booklet Special Invitation to Join Our "40 Days of Prayer"

Our school began in 1883. Think about that for a moment. This was about 20 years after the Civil War and President Lincoln being killed. It was the year that France gave us the Statue of Liberty and it would still be a quarter of a century till the Model T Ford came out.

Our school founders had vision, dedication and were faithful in desiring to provide a Christ-centered education to their children. More importantly they understood that they were putting their trust to a faithful God who would provide a way. We have many visions and goals that we, too, have for our school. We have heard concerns/thoughts you have had on areas you see need or that you would like to improve. All of these take space, staffing, and physical building changes. We want to be clear and certain that decisions we make are founded in seeking God's will and path for this ministry, therefore we invite you to join us for "40 Days of Prayer" beginning Sunday, January 19.

We are seeking God's wisdom and guidance as we navigate the pressing need for expanded space to continue offering strong Christian education in a facility that meets the growing needs of all who attend. Throughout these 40 days, we will reflect on God's Word and His faithfulness through all generations, trusting Him to make the path forward clear. While we face obstacles and a challenging timeline, we believe in the power of prayer and are asking for His will to be revealed—whether that means expanding now or waiting for His perfect timing. We are not seeking an easy solution but unity and clarity as we move forward in faith, hope, and community. God encourages to lay our concerns at His feet and to trust in how He answers those prayers.

Daily devotionals will be supplied through the book. (If your family already picked up a book, feel free to have more than one for people in your home or send it back in to the school office.) We will email the daily devotion, and will provide options to listen to the daily devotion and prayer if that works better for you. On the back of the book is a link to a simple discussion board in case a devotion or prayer puts something on your heart that you want to share.

At the conclusion of the 40 days, we invite you to join us for "Prayer Conversations" to share experiences and insights: Wednesday, March 5 at 12:00 Noon (lunch provided), Sunday, March 9 at 12:00 Noon (lunch provided), Monday, March 10 at 7:00 pm

We are deeply grateful for your partnership in these prayers as we continue to build a community rooted in faith and committed to providing an education that honors God.

Thank you ahead of time for your participation.

Mrs. Greener, Principal

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Week of January 20 to January 24 **Salad Choice: Chef Salad**

MONDAY: Chicken and Noodles or Salisbury

Steak

Hot Side Options: Mashed Potatoes and

TUESDAY: Baked Chicken Drumstick or

Chicken Fried Rice

Hot Side Options: Broccoli and Carrots

WEDNESDAY: Walking Taco or Spicy

Walking Taco

Hot Side Options: Pinto Beans and Fajita

Veggies

THURSDAY: Lasagna or Cheesy Garlic Bread **Hot Side Options: Green Beans and Salad**

FRIDAY: Chicken Nuggets or Grilled Chicken

Nuggets

Hot Side Options: Sweet Potato Puffs and

Cauliflower

Peanut Butter & Jelly Sandwiches and Yogurt & Cheese can be substituted for main dish.

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

https://www.fns.usda.gov/civil-rights

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

NURSERY: Declan Murphy

PRESCHOOL: Rebecca Snyder & Dimitri

Turner

KINDERGARTEN A: Evelynne Clemons **KINDERGARTEN B:** Harper Cornman

1ST GRADE: Knox Schrader 2ND GRADE: Sophia Sipe **3RD GRADE:** Emersyn Yoder **4TH GRADE:** Noah Taylor **5TH GRADE:** Cheyenne Snyder

6TH GRADE: Cydney Perez

7TH GRADE A: Addyson Comstock

7TH GRADE B: Lily Bunker 8TH GRADE: Abe Brown

SUPPORT STAFF: Mrs. Rachel Comstock

TEACHERS: All Teachers

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tardies

We've noticed a growing trend of students arriving after the bell, and we want to address the importance of punctuality. Please remember that students walking in at the bell are considered tardy. To help your child start their day in a calm and focused way, we kindly ask that they arrive by 7:45 a.m.

We understand that unexpected circumstances can arise, which is why each student is allowed up to 10 tardies per year. However, we ask that you work with us to ensure that tardiness doesn't become a habit. Consistent late arrivals not only disrupt your child's start to the day but can also affect the entire class.

Let's work together to help our children develop the valuable life skill of punctuality. We appreciate your support in making adjustments as needed.

Youth Group Ice Skating

Youth Group Ice Skating will be postponed due to cold weather forecasted for Sunday. We will reschedule for **February 2.**

Offerings

Offerings for Jan. and Feb. are going to the Lutheran Heritage Foundation. For every \$5 given a book about Jesus is provided to a child in Indonesia in their own native language. Please help us share the love of Jesus in this way.

Second Quarter Awards

Congratulations to our students who received Honor Roll, Honorable Mention, Perfect and Faithful Church Attendance and the Bulldog Spirit Award for the 2nd Quarter. Attached you will find the full list.

REPEATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Invoices

All invoices have been sent through Remind. It is <u>imperative</u> we receive your payments especially for the month of December as we are seeing a lot of past due invoice not being paid. Payments are to be paid as soon as possible. We accept all forms of payment: cash, check, credit/debit card or Push Pay. Checks are to be made payable to SBLS. If you are using Push Pay, please use the link below.

Push Pay: https://pushpay.com/g/sblschool?src=hpp

If you prefer a paper copy of your invoice to be sent home, please contact the School Office.

National Lutheran Schools Sunday and Week/ Open House

The last week of January will bring the opportunity to thank God and celebrate our Lutheran School. We will begin the celebration on **Sunday**, **Jan. 26** with kids singing in both services. **Families whose last name begins with A-L will be asked to come to the Early Service at 8:00 a.m. and those with last names beginning with M-Z to come to Late Service at 10:30 a.m.** Please watch for more details. We will also recognize the following for special ministry anniversaries: Lindsey Noll- 10 years, Terri Hobbs- 25 years, Deb Honn- 30 years, Dan Gottschalk- 35 years and Amy Greener- 35 years. After the service we are opening our school to invite all, especially new interested families to come in, tour and meet our teachers from 12-2. If you know anyone who is interested, please invite them to come. Please see the attachment with the different spirit days.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

We would like to wish a very special birthday to our SBL students and staff who celebrate their birthday in the month of **JANUARY!**

Connor Green Penelope Gwaltney Margaret Merritt Lyanna Auer Beatrice Burridge-Waymoth

Hadyn Riley Aung Paing

Addalynn Thomas

Blake Shelton

Holland Ewell

Everett Thomas

Brook Bowen

Sadie Vancelette

Serenity Gehring

Kedon Spurling

Sullivan Oren

Korbin Snyder

Colin Masters

Ava Dunne

Oakley Noll

Presley Sorgen

Maddox Wiedenhoeft

Betty Wadley

GO BULLDOGS!

Good luck to our Boys and Girls Basketball!

JV GIRLS

Monday, January 13

SBLS vs. Concordia at SBLS at 4:30PM

JV BOYS

Monday, January 13

SBLS vs. Concordia at SBLS at 5:45PM

Calendar Update

Please remember to note the change to the upcoming calendar.

Please see attached.
We **WILL NOT** have school on
Friday, Feb. 14 and **WILL** have
school on Friday,
Feb. 21.