SUBURBAN BETHLEHEM LUTHERAN SCHOOL BITS AND BARK

October 31, 2024

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

Many this week think of Halloween but in church history, this week marks Reformation. This was a time where the church body at large had swayed from the truth in God's Word and had corrupted some of its teaching on forgiveness and salvation. A man by the name of Martin Luther, after diving deep into God's Word, saw a truth that had been overshadowed. He desired for all people to grasp the profound, unconditional love God has for us because for many years of his life, he did not. He wanted all to understand that salvation is a free, undeserved gift of God through Jesus Christ. Through Jesus' death and resurrection, He conquered sin and death, offering redemption to all who believe. Luther wanted people to realize that nothing they could do, no amount of good works, would earn this grace, because it was already given—fully, freely, and out of God's boundless love.

Luther taught that we are justified (or made right) before God purely by faith in Christ. This understanding shifted the focus from human effort to God's mercy. Our good works, then, aren't a way to earn His favor or ensure salvation. Rather, they become a joyful response, an outflow of gratitude and love for the gift we've received. The life of sanctification—the day-by-day walk in God's ways—is not a "have-to" but a "want-to," a reflection of a heart that has been touched by divine love and transformed by grace.

In our lives, this means seeking ways to let that love flow outward. Every act of kindness, every word of encouragement, every selfless choice becomes a testimony of the grace we've experienced. It's a beautiful reminder that our lives can be a reflection of God's love, not as a means to an end, but as an end in itself—living in the fullness of His grace. As Luther taught, may we always remember that this gift of redemption is complete and finished in Jesus, and may we live out that truth in gratitude and joy.

In Christ, Mrs. Greener, Principal

WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

Week of November 4 to November 8
Salad Choice: Cobb Salad

MONDAY: Chipotle Chicken Dip or Beef and

Cheese Burrito

Hot Side Options: Sweet Potato Puffs and

Corn

TUESDAY: Egg Sausage Sandwich or

Breakfast Burrito

Hot Side Options: Cauliflower and Maple

Sweet Potatoes

WEDNESDAY: Cheese Toastie or Fish Sticks **Hot Side Options:** Broccoli and Tomato Soup

THURSDAY: Breaded Chicken Sandwich, Spicy Breaded Chicken Sandwich or Grilled Chicken Sandwich

Chicken Sandwich

Hot Side Options: French Fries and Salad

FRIDAY: Fiestada or Breakfast Pizza **Hot Side Options:** Cauliflower and Baked
Cinnamon Apples

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

THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK:

NURSERY: Nora Elder

PRESCHOOL: Margaret Merritt and Ellie

Schaefer

KINDERGARTEN A: George Shupe KINDERGARTEN B: Liam Sawvel 1ST GRADE: Andrew Holman 2ND GRADE: Nathan Norris 3RD GRADE: Sullivan Oren 4TH GRADE: Lily Hart

5TH GRADE: Lily Hart
5TH GRADE: Layla Jones
6TH GRADE: Elijah Gehring
7TH GRADE A: Emma Nichols
7TH GRADE B: Landon Mueller
8TH GRADE: Brooklynn Norris
SUPPORT STAFF: Mrs. Amber Yoder

TEACHERS: All Teachers

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Shorts

As a reminder, students will **NO** longer be able to wear shorts beginning tomorrow (November 1) during the school day.

<u>Afternoon Latchkey - This Friday and Next Friday</u>

Afternoon latchkey will be held in the Fellowship Hall on both this Friday, November 1 and next Friday, November 8. Please pick up your child(ren) at Door #8. Thank you.

Walk-a-thon

Walk-a-thon raised **\$17, 496.** This went above and beyond our goal of \$13,000. Thank you! This means that Whip and Chill will be coming and providing all the students a special treat. Date will be announced later. Prizes are in the process of being ordered so be patient, they will be coming. Thank you to all the leaders and volunteers that helped put this all together.

Survey

A link was sent out on Tuesday from a capital campaign committee looking at future needs in our building. Please take a few minutes to log in to the link and fill it out. We appreciate your feedback. Thank you to those who have already completed it. https://forms.gle/8L7yRHwboMqNhu5z5

Basketball Tournament

The Bulldogs are hosting a Varsity boy basketball tournament this weekend. Proceeds from the tournament go to support our upper grades as they save money for their Washington DC trip. Come on out and enjoy a game and some delicious items from the concession stand.

REPEATED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fall School Picture Retake Day

School picture retakes will be on Friday, Nov. 8. If you need a new order form for this day, please contact the School Office and we will be sure to send one home with your child.

SBL Spirit Wear

The SBL Spirit Wear store will be open again from Oct 30-Nov 10 for anyone who may have missed the first order window or wants ideas for Christmas! Order online at:

https://suburbanbethlehemwinter24.itemorder.com/shop/home/

STAFF SPOTLIGHT - GET TO KNOW OUR SBL STAFF!

NAME: Pastor Alex Duff

POSITION: Associate Pastor (Part-Time) **HOMETOWN:** Frankenmuth, Michigan

FAVORITE SUBJECT: History **FAVORITE COLOR:** Blue **FAVORITE FOOD:** Spare Ribs

FAVORITE BIBLE VERSE: Mark 10:14

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 **OCTOBER!**

> Lydia Goheen Kimber Kendrick Audriana Archer Holden Gordon Logan Mertens Harper Pollock Asher Sai Jaylon Robinson Adelynn Stahlhut Briella Hicks Edison Schaefer Emma Fisher Abby Hoffman Lillian Fisher Whitley Noll Camden Parker **Aubrey Roberson** Annastasia Lampkins Megan Dunne Olivia Brincefield-Dorgan Jordan Andrus Jayden Howard Carter Brackmann Dylani Moffitt Vincent Russell

GO BULLDOGS!

Good luck to our Varsity Boys' Basketball Team this weekend!

Friday, November 1
SBLS vs. Concordia Lutheran
4:00PM at SBLS

Saturday, November 2
SBLS vs. Emmanuel-St. Michael
9:00AM at SBLS

SBLS vs. Central Lutheran
2:45PM at SBLS

