



Welcome to the Bethlehem Star Newsletter!

If you currently receive a paper copy and no longer require one, please email infoschool@ourbethlehem.com

January 29, 2021

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Friday, January 29

No School

8:00 – Noon Parent Teacher
Conferences

Saturday, January 30

5:30 pm Worship

Sunday, January 31

8:00 am Worship

10:30 am Worship

Monday, February 1

Tuesday, February 2

Wednesday, February 3

6:00 pm Worship

Thursday, February 4

3:15 pm Student Council

6:30 – 7:15 pm 5th & 6th Gr. Band

7:15 – 8:00 pm 7th & 8th Gr. Band

Friday, February 5

MAP Testing

Students in grades 5K – 8 will be taking the MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) tests for Math and Reading between the dates of February 1st and February 12th. Test like these are among the most important tools we have for evaluating individual student academic progress and our curriculum as a whole. These tests can identify strengths and weaknesses and determine which areas, if any, a student may need help and in which areas he or she excels. Encourage your child to do their best, take the test seriously, but not to worry about the results. For each testing day, please ensure that your child get plenty of sleep, eats a good breakfast, and wears comfortable school appropriate attire.

3 Yr. , 4 Yr., and 5 Yr. Kindergarten

Do you have a child or now someone who has a child that will be at least three years old as of September 10, 2021? If you do, we have a program for you. If you now of a family who has a child who you think will benefit from what Bethlehem has to offer, please give the school office their name and address.

Tax Deductions

Remember, tuition payments made before December 31 may be able to be used for the State of Wisconsin tax deduction for private school families on your 2020 income tax return.

The State of WI, allows parents to deduct private school tuition. Parents could receive an income tax deduction of up to \$4,000 for tuition paid for each kindergarten through eighth grade student and up to \$10,000 per high school student. We highly recommend that families work with their tax advisor to determine benefits.

Year End Tuition and Extended Care Statement

Year end statements can be found on your Sycamore account.

Extended Care: “My Accounting”, “Summary”, “Childcare” – change year in the drop-down box in the upper right to 2020, click the “All” tab and click “Yearly Statement”

Tuition: “My Accounting”, “Summary”, “Tuition” – click the “All” tab, highlight the 2020 transactions and print



Monday, February 1

Sausage and Egg English Muffin
Hashbrown
Carrot Sticks
Orange Juice
Strawberry Cups

Tuesday, February 2

Cheese Pizza
Salad
Mandarin Oranges
Apples
Cookie

Wednesday, February 3

Mini corn Dogs
Tater Tots
Corn
Peaches
Pears

Thursday, February 4

Meat Ball Sub
Fresh Vegetable cup
Salad
Grapes

Friday, February 5

Breaded Chicken Sandwich
Baked Beans
Mixed Peaches and Pears
Craisins

Sandwich of the Week:
Cold Ham and Cheese

*USDA is an equal
opportunity provider*

Bible Study Opportunities at Bethlehem

Online Bible Studies Continues at Bethlehem. Join at any Time!

Email bethlehemsheboyganFB@gmail.com today to sign up for online classes:

“Reel” Parables: looking at Biblical themes in classic family movies.

Go Make Disciples!: study on evangelism resources with Pastor Moon

Peter’s second letter to the Church: Be On Guard Against False Prophets

Monday’s 6:30 pm in the Century Room

Other In-Person Bible Studies at Bethlehem:

De-Mystifying Revelation: Pastor Niles, Sundays 9:15 in the Sanctuary

A Lutheran Deep Dive: Pastor Moon leads a look at the chief parts of the faith, Sundays 9:15 in the Century Room

The Whole Counsel of God: Pastor-led study of alternate-year weekly scripture readings. Saturdays 4:15 pm in the Century Room

Winter School Closings

When school is closed due to weather please DO NOT call the school. Answering the phone and responding to emails prevents us from efficiently getting information out to everyone in a timely and accurate manner.

We will be using the text messaging application through Sycamore to notify you of any delays or closures due to inclement weather. If you have not yet signed up, we highly recommend you do. Log in to your Sycamore account, go to “My School”, “My Notifications”, select the “Primary Parent” from the drop down menu (we are only able to add one number per family). Make sure the ‘Enable Messaging’ box is checked and then select the correct cell phone number (including area code) in the “SMS”. Select your carrier and “School Closing Notifications”. Update using the blue “Update” button in the upper right corner.

You may also tune in to these stations for school closing announcements. WHBL 1330AM, WTMJ Channel 4 Milwaukee and WISN Channel 12 Milwaukee. Information will also be posted on Bethlehem’s Sycamore homepage, Facebook and Twitter pages. We will also email those families that have current email addresses on file with the school.

Birthday’s and Baptism’s

The following member of our Bethlehem family will celebrate their birthday during the coming week:

Brandon Nikisch

happy
birthday
to you!

The following will observe the anniversary of their baptism’s during the coming week:

**Nyla Albertin, Dannielle Bult,
Sophia Gries, Quinn Littmann,
Camilla Militello, Megan Stroede,
Patrick Stroede, Ayden Wildman**



School Vouchers - Parent Applications - Feb. 1-April 15 – Bethlehem Lutheran School has applied to participate in the state-wide WI Parental Choice Program (WPCP) for 2021-2022.

WHO should apply? A family must have an income at or below 220% of the federal poverty limit and live in WI.

WHEN to apply? Feb. 1 - April 15, 2021. If applying before 2020 taxes are filed, 2019 income will be used. [CLICK HERE](#) to apply.

HOW to apply? Parents complete the online application each year and provide schools with proof of residency and, if using the DPI method, proof of income. If they applied in 2020, they should log on using the same email address and password that they used last year. Please also present a birth certificate for your child to the school office. Copies are not needed and the original will be returned to you.

HOW to qualify? Income eligibility for the WPCP is based on the parent's **prior year (2020) income**.

- Dept. of Revenue method (DOR): Schools enter the parent's social security number into the online application system and perform the DOR check to import income data. DOR will first check for prior year (2020) income information. If 2020 information is not available, DOR will check records from 2019.

- Dept of Public Instruction method: If the family chooses to use the DPI method to verify income, they must provide proof of their 2020 income.

WPCP Program Brochure - [CLICK HERE](#)

WPCP Frequently Asked Questions - [CLICK HERE](#)

Family income includes the income of the child's parent(s) or legal guardian(s) that reside in the same household as the student applicant.

The following are NOT included in the family income calculation:

- Public assistance programs such as Wisconsin Works (W2) cash benefits and FoodShare (food stamps), Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Caretaker Supplement.
- Child support payments. *Alimony payments are considered taxable income and would be included in family income.*
- Social security benefits.
- Supplemental Security Income "SSI" benefits are not included in total income.
- Amounts received under W2 (Wisconsin Works) by an individual for job access loans, health care coverage, childcare subsidies, and transportation assistance. *Amounts received under W2 for trial jobs are considered taxable wages and would be included in family income.*
- Tax credits such as the federal earned income credit, the federal child tax credit, the Wisconsin earned income credit and the Wisconsin homestead credit.

Family size includes parents/guardians and their children by birth, marriage or adoption that reside in the same household as the student applicant. *Foster children and children in the kinship care program are counted as a family of one (1) because they are still supported by the state or county.* Therefore, the income of parents/guardians is **not** counted when determining eligibility for the Choice program. The parent/guardian should indicate that the pupil is in kinship care or foster care on the online parent application.

220% of the Federal Poverty Level for 2021-22 - Family Size Yearly Income Must Exceed

1 \$28,072

2 \$37,928

3 \$47,784

4 \$57,640

5 \$67,496

6 \$77,352

For each additional member add \$9,856.

RESIDENCY VERIFICATION All applicants must submit current residency documentation (within 90 days) directly to the school during the application period. Acceptable proof of residency:

1. Wage statement or W2 year-end earnings statement that is in the name of one of the parents/guardians at the address on the student application and dated within 3 months of when the application is received.
2. Water, gas, electric, cable, satellite, or landline phone bill in the name of one of the parents/guardians at the address on the student application and dated within 3 months of when the application is received. Cell phone bills are not acceptable.

3. Lease agreement with a term that includes the date the parent applies to the school that is in the name of one of the parents/guardians at the address on the student application. Expired leases are not acceptable.

4. Governmental correspondence that is in the name of one of the parents/guardians at the address on the student application and dated within 3 months of when the application is received. Examples include a property tax bill, Supplemental Security Income "SSI", Wisconsin Works "W2" Cash Benefits, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families "TANF," Food Share "Food Stamps," or Housing Assistance letter with the address listed and the name of the parent/guardian. Printed statements from Access.gov can be used as residency support if the statement includes a date that is within 3 months of when the application is received.

SECURITY E-MAIL VERIFICATION A security feature will be included in the online parent application to help ensure application related emails are sent to a parent's correct email address. This feature will send an email to the parent's email account after the parent logs into the online parent application and will ask the parent to verify the email address.

Parents applying to the Wisconsin Parental Choice Program will verify their email address when they log into the system to apply for the 2021-22 school year. Once an email address is verified, it will not need to be verified in the future.

Please remember only parents may use the online parent application. Email addresses used to apply must be the parent's address and passwords may not be shared. Schools can answer questions and have computers available for parents to use.

How the process works:

1. The parent or guardian logs into the online parent application.
2. Once logged in, the application will take the parent to an instruction page on how to verify the email address. The parent's instructions read as follows:
 - a. You need to verify your email address for the Private School Choice Program Online Application.
 - b. Go to the inbox for your email account for: "email address@email.com"
 - c. Click the "Confirm Email Address" link in the email to confirm your email address.
3. Once the parent clicks the "Confirm Email Address" link in the email, the link will take the parent to the email verification confirmation page where it notifies the parent that their email address has been verified.
4. On the email verification confirmation page, the parent will be instructed to click on a link to return to the online parent application log-in page where the parent will need to enter his or her email and password to continue the application process.

Please note the following regarding the email verification process:

1. **Parent does not receive verification email:** Please note that it may take 5 minutes to 24 hours for the email to arrive. The parent should check his or her spam or junk folders for an email from PrivateSchoolChoice@dpi.wi.gov with a subject of "Verify your School Choice Program Email Address".
2. **Parent must have a valid email:** If the parent does not have a valid email, the parent will need to create an email using any email provider (such as Gmail, Yahoo, or Outlook.com).
3. **Parent does not remember the password to their email account:** The parent must use the email provider password recovery service or create a new email address to use in the online parent application.
4. **Email address is incorrect or the parent no longer has access to the email account:** The parent must create a new Choice application account using a new email address. The only impact that the parent will have when using a new email address is that the parent will need to re-enter data. The system remembers and recognizes continuing students by their first and last names with date of birth.
5. **Need a new verification email sent:** If a parent has not verified his or her email address, the parent may go to the login page for the online parent application and enter their email and password again and a new verification email will be generated.

Ways to Support Bethlehem Lutheran School

Box Tops: They are going electronic, but it is still quite easy! For any Apple or Android phone can download the “Box Tops for Education” app. Once the app is downloaded you will have create an account and select the school name. From there on, all you will have to do is scan receipt and it will automatically add the items to the school. You only have 14 days to scan receipts. So, you can ad them yourself or give them to someone who can scan them for you. Bethlehem earns 10 cents for every box top. You may still turn in clipped box tops if they are not expired.



you
to
your

Coke Rewards: We earn 10 cents for every cap/code you enter in! This is on any and all Coke products. Codes are located on the outside of the box for cans and under the caps for any size bottle. You can use the below website to find the school and enter the codes online. It does require you to create a sign in, but that allows you to sign in and not have to search for the school every time 9it should just “recall” your recent school).

<https://us.coca-cola.com/give/>



We currently have a large amount of caps in the office. If anyone has free time and is willing to enter, please contact the office.

Amazon: The use of AmazonSmile can earn 0.5% of the purchase of eligible products on Amazon. You will use your Amazon sign in on the AmazonSmile site versus regular Amazon. Select you r charitable organization before shopping. <http://smile.amazon.com/about>



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