



TIGER TALES



“Make a Joyful Noise”

A New Song & A New Year

Christmas is known for its songs. No other holiday has so many. We hear them in stores, in the car, at home, and at church. Every year we expect to sing many of the same songs and our children practice them and sing them in services and pageants. Why is that? Why does Christmas have so many songs?

Psalm 98 calls to us: *Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done marvelous things! His right hand and His holy arm have worked salvation for Him.* The song we sing is “new” because it’s a song about the “new thing” our Lord has done. Our God became a man! And He died on a cross! And He rose from the dead, defeating sin, devil, and death! Christmas is a great outburst of song because it is the beginning of this new work that Christ did for us. And this new work of Christ actually makes us new.

Jesus says that we must be born again, born of water and the Spirit (John 3:3,5). In Baptism, we are made new. Just as Christ was born, we are given new birth (Titus 3:5). And just as Christ was raised from the dead, we are given new life (Romans 6:4). This is why we sing a new song—because Christ’s new work of salvation makes us new people. *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come (2 Corinthians 5:17).*

The changing of the calendar can even serve as a reminder of this new thing. It’s fitting that the Christmas and New Year holidays go hand in hand. We celebrate the beginning of Christ’s new work in His birth. At the same time, the old year dies and the new year is born. So also, Christ continues to do His new thing as He make us new with life and joy.

This is why we sing so many Christmas songs. We’re always singing the new song of Christ’s salvation. So, begin this New Year by making a joyful noise to the One who makes all things new (Revelation 21:5).

Happy New Year!

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Dodgers



January 2026

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



				1	2	3
4	5 NO BUS OR Hot Lunch 5p Girls vs Zion 6p Boys vs Zion 					
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Girls St. John Emmanuel Tournament	6p PTL Meeting	5:30p Board of Christian Education Meeting	3-5p Cheer Camp	MaKayla Berkey 	Bethlehem Varsity Girls Tournament 	Bethlehem Varsity Girls Tournament
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
1-4p Cheer Camp			Regular schedule		 Delaney Wood Bethlehem Varsity Boys	Bethlehem Varsity Boys Tournament 
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	100th Day of School	6p Boys vs Harlan 7p Girls vs Harlan		Olivia Household- er 	Mid-term	Mat- thew Re- keweg 
National Lutheran Schools Week						



Please join us for Tiger's Basketball

1/5/2026	Monday	Girls	Zion Lutheran	Home	5:00p
1/5/2026	Monday	Boys	Zion Lutheran	Home	6:00p
1/9/2026	Friday	Girls JV	St John-Emmanuel	Away	TBD
1/10/2026	Saturday	Girls JV	St John-Emmanuel	Away	TBD
1/11/2026	Sunday	Girls JV	St John-Emmanuel	Away	TBD
1/16/2026	Friday	Girls V	Bethlehem Tourney	Home	TBD
1/17/2026	Saturday	Girls V	Bethlehem Tourney	Home	TBD
1/23/2026	Friday	Boys V	Bethlehem Tourney	Home	TBD
1/24/2026	Saturday	Boys V	Bethlehem Tourney	Home	TBD
1/27/2026	Tuesday	Boys	Harlan	Home	6:00p
1/27/2026	Tuesday	Girls	Harlan	Home	7:00p

School Gym Use after school hours – Before using the school gym after school hours, please be sure to contact our current Athletic Director, Brandon Schumm. Please call or text him at 260-273-7403 to make arrangements. Thank you

***Rules for the gym include NO Roller Blading or Skateboarding. Please be diligent in wearing clean non-marking shoes. Thank you**

With Gradelink you can stay updated on your child's academic progress at school and get information on upcoming assignments such as assignment descriptions and due dates. The following information is available to you when you **log in to Gradelink**:

- Current Grade in each class
- Current GPA for the term, if applicable
- Descriptions, Grades, and Teacher Comments for graded assignments
- Descriptions and Due Dates for upcoming assignments
- Assignment handouts or documents (attachments)
- Email Alerts you can configure for grades and attendance
- Attendance Information
- Transcript Information, if applicable
- Billing Information, online payment for tuition and lunch fees



To access this information go to **www.gradelink.com** and click on the green Log In button.

PLEASE CALL THE SCHOOL OFFICE IF YOU NEED ANY HELP logging in.

PRIVACY NOTICE We all love to share pictures of our child's school activities and accomplishments. However, we have to be very careful where those pictures are posted and respect that other students might also be in the picture. Parents, please remember to not post pictures that may have students in them other than your own child. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office before posting anything. Thank you

Weather permitting the students will be going outside for recess time. Please have your child dress appropriately for the weather.



Potential delays and cancellations for Bethlehem will follow the same as Northern Wells Community Schools.

Bethlehem will be on a normal school day schedule, Monday, January 5th with NO bus or lunch service.

Bethlehem will NOT be following the Northern Wells Community Schools 2 hour delay on Wednesday, January 21st. Therefore, unless a weather related delay or closing comes along, Bethlehem will operate on a regular schedule. Morning bus service will NOT be provided. The 7-8th grade students will be excused from their NW morning classes and are asked to be at Bethlehem by 9:15 a.m. Please contact the school office if you have any questions.

December / January Birthday Pizza Lunch
with Pastor Dodgers

Thursday, January 15th at 12:00 Noon

Those celebrating will be:

Annabelle Fuhrmann, Anna Haiflich, Violet Nahrwold, Emma Campbell
MaKayla Berkey, Delaney Wood, Olivia Householder, Matthew Rekeweg



Lutheran School Week Dress-up



Monday, Jan. 26- Teacher/Student Swap Dress-up: Students dress like teachers. Teachers dress like students.

Tuesday, Jan. 27- Dress as a Saint: Dress like a famous believer from the Bible or Church History.

Wednesday, Jan. 28- Dress Your Best: Wear your nicest, fanciest, snazziest clothes.

Thursday, Jan. 29- Dress as a Book Character: Dress like one of your favorite characters from one of your favorite books.

Friday, Jan. 30- Letter Day: Wear something or dress up like something with the first letter of your first name.



Sign up today!

Shop at Kroger and help Bethlehem Lutheran School tuition assistance fund with the **Kroger Community Rewards Program**.



Register online at krogercommunityrewards.com, be sure to have your Kroger Plus card handy and register your card with Bethlehem Lutheran School as your organization for the reward. The NPO number for Bethlehem is **WG595#**.

If you don't have a Kroger Plus card, they are available at the customer service desk.

Members must swipe their registered Kroger Plus card or use the phone number that is related to their registered card when shopping for each purchase to count.



To redeem Box Top products, you will need to download the Box Tops app on your phone and then scan each receipt that contains your Box Tops products. **KEEP ON SCANNING!**

PLAN TO USE SCRIP FOR ALL YOUR SHOPPING NEEDS

Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for information on how to create your own account through Raise Right using Bethlehem's enrollment code noted on the attached flyer. Physical cards, ecards and reloadable cards are all available for your purchase and can be sent directly to your home.

Please be sure to check out our new scrip order sheet attached to this newsletter. Physical cards from local vendors and more are now available for order. Ordering dates are set to reduce shipping costs. For questions or for placing an order, please contact Jill Holtzclaw 260-301-1965 our current PTL representative.

As you purchase SCRIP you will also accumulate a percentage of profit to be applied to your child's tuition. Thank you to the church congregation and school families for supporting the Scrip Program.

Our Washington D.C. group appreciates your support.

This year's trip for our 7th & 8th graders will take place in April 2026

Please save your newspapers, catalogs, magazines, junk mail, old phone books, office/school papers and hard/soft cover books. Along with cereal type boxes (NO CARDBOARD). Bring your recycled paper to school and dispose of it in our "PaperGator" located right next to the trash dumpster in the front parking area of the school.



Aluminum cans and scrap metal The Washington DC group would like to remind everyone that we are looking for "pop can" style cans only for collection purposes. We are starting to find trash and glass in the recycling bin here at church which slows the sorting process down. If anyone has any questions, please contact Jay Werling or Jason Rekeweg. Thanks to everyone for your continued support.



As you are able, please bring an Offering for Chapel on Wednesdays

Our God has given so much to us! One way that we worship Him is by giving back a portion of His gifts to Him and to His Church. Students may place their offerings in the offering plate as they come into chapel every Wednesday.

The third quarter chapel project will be for Orphan Grain Train. More details will be coming home soon.

Please feel free to join us for Wednesday morning Chapel at 10:00 a.m.



Thank you to everyone who donated to our Northern Wells Food Pantry Chapel Project last quarter. We appreciate everyone's kindness and generosity. The 5-6 grade students will be taking a field trip to the Northern Wells Food Pantry in Osian to deliver all the collected items and a check from our chapel offerings.



A big thank you to the Women of Bethlehem for a wonderful Christmas luncheon! The kindergarten students made special ginger man houses as centerpieces. All the students sang Christmas carols to entertain and thank the ladies.



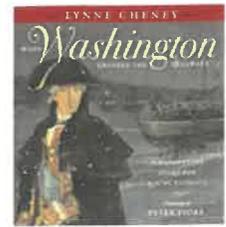
**LITERARY
TIGER**

We have New books for the new year!

Remember, you can browse our library catalog online any time from

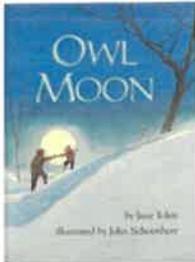
<https://www.librarycat.org/lib/BLCSOssianLibrary/>

The search page shows the books most recently added to our system. We have several new picture books perfect for winter reading.



We also invite everyone to a Bingo reading challenge!

When you complete a Bingo you can get your picture in the Tiger Tales, plus a special prize!



You have until the last library day of the school year to work on the challenge. You have to share the titles of the books or tell the librarians about what you read. Yes, audiobooks and books read aloud by parents count! Printed Bingo cards will be distributed in the school library.

Happy New Year of Reading!



Bethlehem Library Bingo

Book with a One Word Title	Historical Fiction	2nd in a Series (after reading the first!)	Nonfiction American History Book	A Librarian Favorite
Re-read a Book	A Book Older than Your Dad	A Picture Book	Biography	Write a Book Review for Tiger Tales
Recommend a Book to Someone	Suggested by your Parent	Free Read	Mystery	Book from the Public Library
A chapter or story from the Old Testament	Read in a Blanket Fort	Book Made into a Movie	10 Poems	A Teacher Favorite
Nonfiction Animal Book	Read to Someone Else	Write a Story or Poem	Memorize a Poem or Psalm	Your Friend's Favorite Book

Children's Christmas Artwork



Pictures from our Winners were used for
Worship Service bulletin covers:
Children's Christmas Service – Emma Campbell
Christmas Eve Service – Brooke Werling
Christmas Day Service – Harper Miller



Personal picks from our Headmaster
Jude Wirgau
Delaney Wood
MaKayla Berkey



Honorable Mention Award
June Trammel
Mazie Day
Cora Day
Violet Nahrwold
Maren Meyer
Jonah Bultemeier
Emma Schueler

Children's Christmas Service





Skating Party Highlights



The last few days before Christmas break were filled with a week of special dress up days. The last day was PJ's and Flannel Shirt Day along with classroom parties! Even Vicar McLain and his wife Natalie joined in the festivities!

MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

DEC 17 HANGING AROUND AND...

DEC 21 BAAL GOES DOWN THE...

SCRIPTURE: 1 KINGS 18

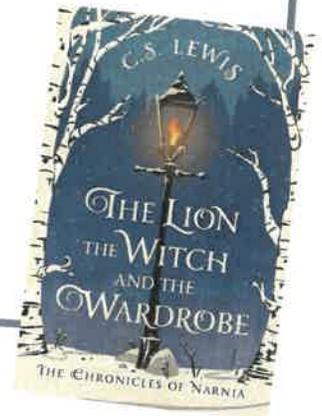
SUMMARY: WORSHIPPING OF FALSE PROPHETS, THE PROPHETS OF BAAL DIED IN A SLAUGHTER.



Book Club

THE LION,
THE WITCH
AND THE WARDROBE
BY C. S. LEWIS

MEET JANUARY 17



DATES

12.18 (1.8)
NLSW Project

1.15
Lent Devotional

Deaconess Discussion

NLSW Project

Rescheduled to January.

Will have two meeting times in January.

Adult Fellowship Group

Sun. Jan. 11
Noon

Potluck & card games

At Bethlehem Church
in fellowship hall

Women's Bible Study

TBD

We will be having a spring Womens bible study. More info to come.

Let's
Make
& Joyful
Noise PSALM 98:4

News Notes To Parents

Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service

January 2026

8 Parenting Goals to Start the New Year Strong.

New Year's resolutions are often sweeping and grand. But you can often reap the biggest rewards by building off strengths already in place. Helping to make your family safer, stronger and more harmonious in the coming year may not require a complete overhaul, but rather a few strategic tweaks.

The start of a new year is a great time to take a step back, take a breath and look at how you are taking care of yourself and others in your family. Consider these suggestions for a healthy new year.

1. Get everyone up-to-date on recommended immunizations

Vaccines are the best way to protect yourself, your children, and other loved ones from dangerous viruses such as RSV, flu and COVID, which have been rising among children. Call your pediatrician to make sure your children are up-to-date on all recommended immunizations. Also, remind your kids that good hand hygiene habits will help prevent the spread of germs.

2. Build healthy digital habits

What are your kids watching on TV and online? Devote some time to researching age-appropriate media. Make a family media use plan, and try to prevent gaming from becoming an unhealthy habit.

3. Read together

Set aside some time for shared reading each day. For younger kids, an easy way is to build it into your child's bedtime routine. For older children and teens, share a favorite book by taking turns reading aloud or listen to audiobooks together.



4. Get outside more

Spending time outdoors can be a great mood booster. It also helps families get needed physical activity and vitamin D while enjoying time in nature.

5. Check your car seat limits for safety

Kids grow so fast and can easily outgrow car seats faster than parents realize. Keep kids riding rear-facing as long as possible, up to the limits of their car seat, because this is the safest mode. This commonly includes children under 2 and most children up to age 4.

6. Set aside time to cook together & share family meals

Many families enjoy baking treats together during the holidays. Schedule special times to cook together as a family. Research finds that kids who eat with their families at least 3 times a week enjoy physical, emotional, social and academic benefits.

7. Make a family disaster kit

It's scary to think how disasters like wildfires, hurricanes or tornados could affect our communities. But extreme weather events are becoming more frequent due to climate change. Ask your children what they would want with them in a disaster and assemble basic supplies.

8. Mind mental health & practice self-care

When was the last time you had a check-up? Got proper rest? Once a baby is no longer a part of your body, it's easy to forget that how you care for yourself affects how well you can care for your child. The National Maternal Mental Health Hotline is available 24/7 by calling 1-833-943-5746. And for non-emergency support, you can contact Postpartum Support International: call or text "Help" to 1-800-944-4773.

Source: adapted from [healthychildren.org](https://www.healthychildren.org)
American Academy of Pediatrics

Photo credit: Canva



MyPlate
MyWins 

Eating better on a budget

Get the most for your budget! The three main steps are planning before you shop, purchasing the items at the best price, and preparing meals that stretch your food dollars.

1 Plan, plan, plan!

Before you head to the grocery store, plan your meals for the week. Check to see what foods you already have and make a list for what you need to buy.



2 Get the best price

Check the local newspaper, online, and at the store for sales and coupons. Look for specials or sales on meat and seafood—often the most expensive items on your list.

3 Compare and contrast

Locate the "Unit Price" on the shelf directly below the product. Use it to compare different brands and different sizes of the same brand to determine which is the best buy.

4 Buy in bulk

It is almost always cheaper to buy foods in bulk. Before you shop, remember to check if you have enough freezer space.



5 Buy in season

Buying fruits and vegetables in season can lower the cost and add to the freshness! If you are not going to use them all right away, buy some that still need time to ripen.

6 Convenience costs... go back to the basics

Convenience foods like frozen dinners, pre-cut fruits and vegetables, and take-out meals can often cost more than if you were to make them at home. Take the time to prepare your own—and save!

7 Easy on your wallet

Certain foods are typically low-cost options all year round.



8 Cook once...eat all week!*

Prepare a large batch of favorite recipes on your day off (double or triple the recipe). Freeze in individual containers.

9 Get creative with leftovers

Spice up your leftovers—use them in new ways. For example, try leftover chicken in a stir-fry, over a garden salad, or in chili. Remember, throwing away food is throwing away your money!

10 Eating out

Restaurants can be expensive. Save money by getting the early bird special, going out for lunch instead of dinner, or looking for "2 for 1" deals. Ask for water instead of ordering other beverages, which add to the bill.

Center for Nutrition Policy and Promotion
USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and sender.

Go to ChooseMyPlate.gov
for more information.

DG TipSheet No. 16
November 2011
Revised October 2016

Molly Hoag, Health & Human Sciences Educator

www.extension.purdue.edu/Wells

News Notes To Parents is a product of Purdue Extension—Wells County. If you have comments or need information, call (260) 824-6412. The office is located at 1240 4-H Park Road, Bluffton IN, 46714. Tell someone about us!

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Extension - Health and
Human Sciences

YOUR SHOPPING IS OUR EARNING



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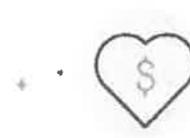
How it works



You buy a gift card
You get the full value.



The brand gives back
No extra money comes out of your pocket.



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Impacting what matters most to you.

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Getting your morning coffee. Doing DIY projects around the house. Ordering takeout. Conveniently raise money by doing everyday things.



amazon



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Jen H., earns for hockey

Get started by downloading the *RaiseRight™* app on your phone or go to *RaiseRight.com* on your computer.

For step-by-step instructions, visit *RaiseRight.com/m/StartEarning*.

Organization enrollment code: 43ALE7851441

For questions, contact our coordinator: Mariah Trammel at (260)2671614



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Bethlehem Lutheran Scrips Order Form [Orders due on Monday]

Date: _____

Student _____

Name _____

Circle One: BLS Student(named above)

Phone # _____ Check # _____ Total _____

		QTY.	Total
A	Amazon.com	1.6%	\$25
	Amazon.com	1.6%	\$100
	Applebee's	8%	\$25
	Arby's	8%	\$10
	Arby's	8%	\$25
B	Barnes & Noble	8%	\$10
	Barnes & Noble	8%	\$25
	Bath & Body Works	12%	\$10
	BP	1.5%	\$50
	BP	1.5%	\$100
	Buffalo Wild Wings	8%	\$10
	Buffalo Wild Wings	8%	\$25
	Burger King	4%	\$10
	Burger King	4%	\$25
C	Chipotle	10%	\$10
	Colliers Comfort	5%	
	Cracker Barrel	8%	\$10
	Cracker Barrel	8%	\$25
	Culvers	10%	\$10
D	Dairy Queen	6.5%	\$10
	Dick's Sporting Goods	8%	\$25
	Disney	3%	\$25
E	East of Chicago	10%	\$10
	East of Chicago	10%	\$25
F	Fazoli's	9%	\$25
G	Galley	10%	\$20
	Ginger Fresh Market	5%	\$25
	Ginger Fresh Market	5%	\$50
	Ginger Fresh Market	5%	\$100
	Gordons Food Service	4%	\$25
	Gordons Food Service	4%	\$100
H	Hall's	10%	\$15
	Hall's	10%	\$30
	Happy Moments	10%	\$25
	Hardees	5%	\$10
	Hills Market	4%	\$25
	Hills Market	4%	\$50
	Hills Market	4%	\$100
	Hollywood Nails	17%	\$20
I	iTunes	5%	\$15
K	Kohl's (can NOT use to pay bill)	4%	\$25
	Kohl's (can NOT use to pay)	4%	\$100
	Kroger	4%	\$25
	Kroger	4%	\$100
L	Little Caesars	8%	\$20
	Lowe's	4%	\$25
	Lowe's	4%	\$100

		QTY.	Total
M	Marathon	3%	\$25
	Marathon	3%	\$100
	Marathon	4%	\$250
	McAlister's Deli	6%	\$25
	McDonalds	5%	\$5
	McDonalds	5%	\$10
	McDonalds	5%	\$25
	McDonalds	5%	\$50
	Meijer	3%	\$25
	Meijer	3%	\$50
	Meijer	3%	\$100
	Menard's	3%	\$25
	Menard's	3%	\$100
	Mike's Carwash	20%	\$11
N	Nine Mile	8%	\$20
O	O'Charley's	13%	\$25
	Old Navy	14%	\$25
	Olive Garden/Cheddars	8%	\$25
	& Longhorn Steakhouse		
	Outback	10%	\$25
P	Panda Express	8%	\$25
	Panera Bread	8%	\$5
	Papa John's Pizza	8%	\$10
	Pizza Hut	8%	\$10
R	Richards	10%	\$20
	Red Lobster	8%	\$25
S	Speedway	4%	\$25
	Starbucks	4.5%	\$5
	Starbucks	4.5%	\$10
	Starbucks	4.5%	\$25
	Steak & Shake	8%	\$10
	Subway	6.0%	\$10
	Subway	6%	\$50
T	Taco Bell	5%	\$10
	Target	2.5%	\$25
	Texas Roadhouse	8%	\$25
	T.J Maxx/ Marshalls	6%	\$25
V	prepaid VISA	1.25%	\$25
	prepaid VISA	1.25%	\$50
	prepaid VISA	1.25%	\$100
	prepaid VISA	1.25%	\$250
W	Walmart / Sams Club	2.5%	\$25
	Walmart / Sams Club	2.5%	\$50
	Walmart / Sams Club	2.5%	\$100
	Walmart / Sams Club	2.5%	\$250
	Walgreens	5%	\$25
	Walgreens	5%	\$100
	Wendy's	6%	\$25
Z	Zurcher Tire	5%	



Bethlehem Lutheran School Lunch Menu January 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 First Day Back Be sure to pack your lunches	6 Chicken Nuggets Broccoli Baked Beans Applesauce Soft Pretzel	7 Corn dog Salad Potato Smiles Apple Slices	8 Bosco Sticks Marinara Sauce Fresh Vegy Mixed Fruit	9 Pancakes Sausage Hash Brown Patty Vegy Juice	10
11	12 Popcorn Chicken Green Beans Fresh Carrots Fruit	13 Cheeseburger Fresh Vegy Waffle Fries Peaches	14 Nachos w/ Meat and Cheese Salad Refried Beans Juice	15 Pizza Cheesy Broccoli Cucumber Slices Banana	16 Chicken Tender Wrap Potato Wedges Applesauce Rice Krispy Treat	
	19 Chicken Patty Fresh Vegy Broccoli Fruit	20 Meatball Sub French Fries Cucumber Slices Pears Scooby Grams	21 Breakfast Sandwich Hash Brown Patty Fresh Vegy Juice	22 Soft Taco w/ meat and cheese Lettuce, Tomatoes Corn Fruit	23 Pretzel Dog Fresh Vegy Baked Beans Blueberries	24
25	26 Cheeseburger Fresh Vegy Tator Tots Fruit Choice	27 Pizza Broccoli Salad Applesauce	28 Chicken & Waffles Hash Brown Patty Vegy Juice	29 Walking Taco Lettuce, Tomatoes Refried Beans Fruit	30 PB&J Uncrustible Cheese Stick Fresh Vegy Pretzels Fruit Cup	31