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Greetings Bethany Lutheran Youth & Families!

August has officially arrived, which means: BACK TO SCHOOL! As a student, the struggle with back to school was real. Some years I was excited to go back, and other years, I was already looking forward to the next break from class! But now as an adult, the start of August means it's time for Bethany programming to start again.

Special thank you to all of the volunteers who helped with VBS and to families who attended VBS this year! We had a great week full of lots of fun games, cool Bible stories, and great crafts. Keep your eyes open to spring 2019 as we'll have details for VBS 2019!

I apologize, in the July Herald, I made an error when I congratulated our Bethany students. I missed one of our Soccer and Tennis players. Congratulations to all of our soccer students, (Ethan Huntoon, Ian Youngdahl, Kendel Loehr, Payton Cooper, and Alex Winterboer), our tennis players (Marcus Klemme), and to all of our students who participated in Spring & Summer activities! My prayers will be with students as they begin fall activities this month. ☺

Now, onto the events coming up in August:

Urban Plunge: Due to the number of students signed up, this event has been rescheduled to November 9-11. We'll still be heading to Sioux Falls. **College-aged students who expressed an interest in going, are still welcome to join us!** If ***you*** are interested in more information, please contact me!

Blessing of the Back Packs Milestone: Our Back Pack Blessing will be August 19 during both worship services. This milestone event is for students of ALL ages who are going back to school. So bring your back pack with you to worship on the Sunday, August 19 and we'll have a little gift for the school year.

Confirmation Orientation: Parents & students in grades 7-10, mark Wednesday, **August 29** on your calendar for the first meeting of our Confirmation year. Look for information about this meeting in your mailbox at home the first week of August. Grade 7-8 families will meet from 6-7 PM, with and grades 9-10 families meet from 7-8 PM.

Wednesday Evening Youth Group: BYG (Bethany Youth Group) resumes with a time of fellowship on Wednesday, August 29! Join us in the Youth Room immediately following the Confirmation orientation meeting.

Bethany College Students: We want to keep in touch with you! We'd love to know when and where you'll be heading back to school and to know what you're up to and pray for you throughout the school year. Please send me an email or text me with your contact information (address, email, etc.) where you'll be this year!

2019 Mission Trip: At our meeting on Wednesday, August 29 we will announce where we're headed for our 2019 Mission Trip! We're especially excited for this mission trip as it's going to be a great location!

Third Grade Bible Milestone: Attention families with third grade students – I'll be mailing information to your homes toward the end of August regarding our third grade Bible milestone. Keep an eye on your mailbox!

Fall Rally Day, September 23! Don't miss this event as we kick-off a new Sunday School year!! We have a special program planned for ALL Bethany families to attend during the Sunday school hour, as well as registration for all Sunday school students.

It hit me once again this year that with the end of July, summer is coming to an end. But I'm very excited for this programming year. We've got an awesome year planned and it'll be great to see all of our students again after the summer.

Thank you to all of our Bethany families for your unending support of our students and for the youth ministry we're able to do. I'll be praying for ALL of our students who will be heading back to school. May it be a smooth transition, especially for students entering school for the first time and for our college students!

May the peace of Christ be with you always!



In His Grip,
Katie