

Enriching lives and sharing Christ through quality Lutheran education.



The Purple Note

January 29, 2021

[Visit our Website](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

29th Information coming home about Reading Month! We are "Mad about Reading." (This is a good mad, not an angry mad! :))

February

1st *MAD ABOUT READING!*
"Reading Month begins"

11th Giving Hearts Day!

12th No School Professional Development Day

15th No School Presidents Day



THIS WEEK'S PRAYER FAMILIES

This week we remember the families of John Lee, Olivia and Eddie J. and Micah K. . If you know of a family you would like us to include in our prayers, please let the office know.

**Chapel will be led by Vicar Ben Ramthun, Wednesday,
February 3 at 8:30 am.**

**Chapel services will be live-streamed on the
[Martin Luther Facebook page](#) .**

(Please note it is NOT the Martin Luther 2020-2021 group)

MAD about Reading!

Reading Month!

While the importance of reading is



emphasized through out the entire school year, we enjoy giving it an extra emphasis during the month of February with a creative theme and activities for home and school.



This year's theme is "Mad about Reading" with a science theme. Our kick-off for this will be Friday, January 29th.

(We promise that no staff or students will be harmed in the celebration of this event! :))



Martin Luther School Giving Hearts Day

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

APP.GIVINGHEARTSDAY.ORG/#/CHARITY/411

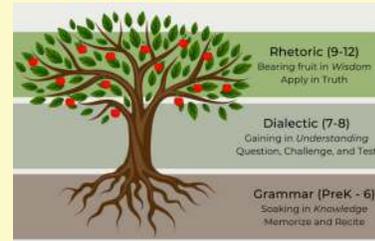
Scan
with
phone



YOUR SUPPORT IS APPRECIATED!

Classical Education Update

We are moving forward with our transition to classical education! We have been pleased with the move to a new history curriculum and the addition of Latin to our course of studies for our students. Next year we will bring our science curriculum up to date as we look at classical education approach.



For more information on classical education, take a look at the updated information on our website under "About Us."

www.lutherschools.org

IT'S TIME to ENROLL!!

We are making plans for the 2021-2022 school year and so are you! Registration is OPEN for K-5!

Reduced Early Registration!

The registration fee is \$125, but is reduced to \$75 if you register by March 1st! (Grades K-5 only)



The extra \$50 will be applied to our technology fee that is required in the fall. For those of you who already registered, we have applied that credit to your account so you did not miss out. :)

We appreciate the early applicants as it helps us **immensely** as we plan staffing for the fall!

Preschool registration is also open. See more information below

Chapel Services



The Martin Luther Chapel services will be live streamed on the **Martin Luther Facebook Page**. This is a change from the Martin Luther School 2020-2021 group. This will allow more people the opportunity to worship with us.

We know that there are grandparents, family members, and other MLS supporters who appreciate seeing the services and hearing any special music that the students provide.

Watch for chapel every Wednesday at 8:30 AM!

Our chapel offerings and Hat Day dollars collected during the 3rd quarter will assist Adopt-a-Block!

"And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'" Matthew 25:40

Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution

As part of The Banquet's affiliation with the Dream Center Network we introduced the Adopt-a-Block program. The Dream Center Adopt-a-Block Food Distribution Truck visits 6 locations each week distributing grocery product to those in need. You will be asked to fill out a short intake form at the Adopt-a-Block truck location-it's easy!

**Money Saved On Groceries
Means More For Life's Other Necessities.**

Help for Today & Hope for Tomorrow



<p>Monday 4:30-6pm South Central High School East Parking Lot 406 S. Anderson St. Bismarck</p>	<p>Tuesday 4:30-6pm Lewis & Clark School South Side of School 600 14th St. NW Mandan</p>
<p>Wednesday 4:30-6pm Jeannette Myhre School East Parking Lot 919 S. 12th St. Bismarck</p>	<p>Thursday 4:30-6pm New Song Church Parking Lot 3200 N. 11th St. (Behind Menards)</p>
<p>Friday 4:30-6pm Tatley Place (Just South of Tatley Meadows) Corner of West London Ave. & Manchester Street Bismarck</p>	<p>Saturday 3-5pm River of Hope Church Parking Lot 1996 43rd Ave. NE Bismarck</p>

For information contact Jim Barnhardt at 701-955-2150 or e-mail jimbarnhardt@msn.com



Thank You to Our Partners:
Bismarck Emergency Food Pantry
River of Hope Church
Jack's Food Pantry

National Lutheran Schools Week 2021

The first weekend in March we will join with the 1000's of other Lutheran Schools across the country as we celebrate Lutheran Schools Week! Our theme for this is "Sent to Serve," based on Matthew 20:28 which says: "The Son of Man came not to be

served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." We will include opportunities for our students to serve others, as well as participating in fun activities with a "homecoming" sort of feel. We truly get to celebrate the fellowship of Lutheran education around the world!



Sent to Serve
2021 NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK

Remember your masks!!

We have been blessed these past few weeks with very few colds and little to no COVID cases. However, we did have one student who has tested positive. We have been in touch with those who would be affected with any contact with this person. Fortunately, we will not need to quarantine because all affected parties were masked when needed.

Please remember to have your child come to school prepared with mask, especially if they will be spending any time in before school ABC Care as we are seeing more students who do take advantage of that service and it can get a little crowded, so masks are needed. We will order more masks for those students who do not have a mask. The fee for these will be charged to either your TADS account or ABC Care account.



School Lunch

**Lunches are still at
NO COST TO OUR STUDENTS!!**

We are LOVING the good eats that our cook, Miss Beverly, has created for us! From the office and kitchen staff, we apologize for any menu changes that have taken place as we have gotten started. We will try to announce those changes earlier to allow you time to make any arrangements as you see fit. We sometimes need to make substitutions as we navigate through this new program with the "Summer Lunch Program" which allows us to provide these meal at no cost to you.

RECENT CDC QUARANTINE CHANGES

Public health experts locally and at the national level are always analyzing data and making changes as new information becomes available. As a result, the CDC issued new guidance reducing the number of days close contacts will need to quarantine following an exposure to a COVID-positive individual.

- The new guidelines allow close contacts of those infected to reduce their quarantine period from 14 days to 10 days.
- If the close contact receives a negative result from a COVID test, they can reduce their quarantine to seven days.
- Residents at long-term care facilities and other congregate living settings are exempt from the new guidance and should continue to quarantine for the full 14 days.
- “Individuals will be able to end their quarantine after seven days if they receive a negative COVID-19 diagnostic test, are symptom free and wear a face covering or after 10 days without being tested,” explained Howell.
- To test out of quarantine, a person can either do a PCR test or a rapid antigen test. The earliest a test should be done is 48 hours before being released from quarantine. Individuals must continue to quarantine while awaiting test results.
- Individuals should continue to monitor their symptoms and wear a face covering for the full 14 days.
- The NDDoH will be working to update the website and factsheets with the new information. For more information on COVID-19, visit health.nd.gov/coronavirus.
- [Click here for a printable version on the new guidelines](#)

Lanyard Usage

Our students have done a good job remembering to wear their masks at the appropriate time, and we have seen how it has helped us avoid having to quarantine two classes.

The students remember to use them-- when they have them. The school had been given some generic white, fabric masks at the beginning of the school year. We made them available for students who had forgotten or misplaced their masks, but now we have run out.

We recently provided each student with a lanyard that they are to use during the day so that they will not misplace their mask.

- The lanyards themselves will stay at school.
- Before going home, whether it be the end of the school day or after ABC Care, our child's teacher will remove the lanyard and have it ready for the next day.
- Upon arriving to school, your child should have a mask ready to go. If in morning ABC Care, they can get their lanyards there. If

they arrive at a time that they go directly to their classroom, they can get their lanyard there.

- It doesn't hurt to simply pack 5 masks in your child's back pack at the beginning of the week so they have a clean mask ready to go each day.

Please make sure that your child has a mask when entering school each day, especially if they participate in morning ABC Care.

Students should take their mask home daily to be washed.

We will have some disposable masks for purchase (.50 per mask) if your child forgets. The fee will be added to your TADS account.

MASK POLICY

To parents of students in Kindergarten-6th grade.

(This DOES NOT pertain to PRESCHOOL CLASSES.)

When it comes to the battle against COVID 19, we do have some great advantages at Martin Luther School.

- Our small class help us to more easily social distance in the classroom. Students are able to do seat work or use flexible seating while still social distancing.
- We have installed a HALO LED air purifying system which constantly is working to clean and recycle air through the building.
- By God's grace and measures listed above, the number of positive COVID cases in our student population is extremely low with symptoms minimal.

However, even with these factors in place, the possibility of one of our students, staff, or a member of our families contracting COVID is very real that needs to be addressed.

As much as we try to keep our classes separated and contacts limited, the reality is that we have several teachers who are "floaters," who teach different classes. There are many overlapping relationships in our small school where all it would take is one positive COVID case to put several classes in quarantine or isolation due to close contacts.

We all see the numbers of COVID cases on the rise on our community and state. We currently are dealing with a significant number of staff members and families who are absent because they have either tested positive and need to quarantine, or they are close contacts and forced to self-isolate. When staff members, as well as our substitutes are absent, this puts an extra burden on the staff that IS present at school. These measures can be addressed simply by having our teachers and students periodically wear masks in school.

Current COVID protocols by health care officials include:

When both parties are wearing masks or maintaining 6-foot distance, only the person who tested positive would need to quarantine. Close contacts would

need to self-monitor for symptoms while continuing at school.

Because of our current situation in our community, our students and staff will use masks on a more frequent, yet very limited basis.

Times we will require mask use:

- Small group work where students are working less than 6 feet apart, “centers” work
- Teacher and student working closely, one-on-one
- Classes where grades are intermixed and not able to be 6 feet apart
- ABC Care when less than 6 feet apart.

Times when masks are NOT needed

- When students are seated or in an activity where they are already 6 feet apart
- Lunch
- Recess
- Depending on the activity, gym

Our goals

- To maintain a healthy environment for our students and staff.
- To maintain adequate staff to serve our students and their families while taking safety measures to address close contacts and positive cases
- To continue as much face-to-face education for our students as we can.

We will begin this safety measure this Monday. If they are in morning ABC Care, they will need to have a mask. Several students have already been wearing masks on their own and have found what works for them. (One class has pretty much been up and running with this practice purely on their own.)

Consequences and concerns about COVID-19 are multi-faceted. Reactions and opinions reach widely across the spectrum. This has been a challenging decision to make. My hope and prayer is that we can navigate through this process together in a spirit of unity, illustrating God's care and love for one another. What a blessing it is to help our kiddos grow not only academically and spiritually in the knowledge and love of our Lord and Savior!

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. (wolfgram@lutherschools.org or 400-1179) As always, I welcome your input. In His service,
Denise Wolfgram

Pick Up During the School Day and Office Access

One of the hardest adjustments for us to make at MLS **AND** the hardest restriction to have to enforce is to limit parent access to the building. We've always appreciated the opportunity to visit with our parents and grandparents at drop off and pick up time. We appreciate your understanding when we work to reinforce new procedures to help keep all of us healthy and in school.

Just as a reminder for our K-6 grade guardians/parents.

- Parents are to drop off their student at the south door and not enter the building.

- If you need to contact Julie or Mrs. Wolfgram in the office, call the office (224-9070) and we will arrange to let you in and meet with you.
- In the case that you are in the building, we ask that you wear a mask.
- If you need to pick up your child early or for an appointment during the school day, contact the school when you have arrived, and we will escort your child to the front door to meet you.
- **Please note that the NORTH door is for Zion Lutheran Church activity only. Martin Luther families are to use the SOUTH and WEST doors only, NOT THE NORTH DOOR.**

If you need to visit in person with Julie, our office manager, call her at 224-9070, and she will arrange a time for you to meet with her.

IMPORTANT INFO----SNOW DAYS!?!?!

We've already had our first bit of cool weather, and soon we'll be seeing snow in the forecast. To be informed about any cancellations due to weather, we will be using the "Remind" program and will contact parents via text.

To be included in the system, enter this number: (Like the phone number to whom you are texting) **81010**

Text the message: **@mrsdwolfg**

If you do not text, simply send an email to the following address:

mrsdwolfg@mail.remind.com.

Thank you for participating We don't want to leave anyone out in the cold!
(No pun intended. It just happened.)
