

# Bethany Christian Schools BULLETIN

Winter 2024, vol. 69, no. 1



## *Rooted in Community*

- 2 From the Head of School
- 3 At long last, We are the Champions
- 8 Alumni News - Northern Indiana Clay Alliance
- 10 Alumni News - Alumni Panel Discussion
- 15 A note from Admissions





## Cover photos:

### Top row left to right:

High School boys soccer state champions.

High school play *The Curious Savage*.

Middle school during wilderness experience.

2nd grade teacher Mrs. Bontrager with Leannah Reese during spirit week, dress like a teacher.

### Second row left to right:

Ms. May and 1st and 2nd graders during wilderness experience.

2nd grade students singing during outdoor ed.

Middle school teachers competing against students on the first day of school.

Paraguayan students dancing and singing during high school chapel.

### Third row left to right:

Orchestra playing during this year's Music on the Lawn event.

1st grade students during a field trip.

Jesse Bontrager and Roman Nyce after the sectional meet.

### Fourth row left to right:

6th grade students during science class trying to remove oil from water.

Ian McHugh and Nico Brennenman-Ochoa qualify for Nationals in Speech and Debate.

1st grader, Raelynn Beer poses for a picture during class.

Middle school playing disc golf during phys. ed.

## Bethany Christian Schools BULLETIN

USPS 817-760

Editor: Eric Dyck Hilty  
Designer: Sumer Schlabach  
Consulting Editors:  
Tim Lehman  
Kevin Miller  
Abbe Buller

Winter 2024  
Vol. 69 No. 1

2904 South Main Street  
Goshen, IN 46526-5421  
574 534-2567  
info@bethanycs.net

POSTMASTER: Send form  
3579 to Bethany Bulletin,  
c/o Bethany Christian Schools  
2904 South Main Street  
Goshen, IN 46526-5421

# From the Head of School

Every year has its highs and lows...some more than others. As a former government and civics teacher, I can't help but note that 2024 is an election year and that we appear to be headed toward another tumultuous election. At present, respect and civility is a challenge in public discourse and at times in conversations with family and friends. So how do we learn respect? How do we live it? My favorite author, Wendell Berry, writes, "Respect, I think, always implies imagination – the ability to see one another, across our inevitable differences, as living souls." That is, we must seek to recognize the light of God in one another despite our differences.

'Rooted in Community' is a core Bethany value, which reminds us to model God's love, respect each other despite differences, build compassionate relationships, and practice reconciliation. We strive to help students from the earliest grades to treat others as living souls who bear God's light. This is often difficult in our polarized communities, but if we are able to see others as "living souls," our interactions can be truly transformative. Our community certainly isn't a utopia, but our hope is that

each day students come to school, they know someone here knows them, loves them, and looks forward to seeing them... recognizing exactly who they are in this particular moment.

Our community has much to celebrate: students and staff who strive to treat others as living souls, our first ever state athletic championship, the anticipation of welcoming our first class of kindergarten students in August, alumni who are active and engaged in their communities, and generous donors and encouraging supporters from many walks of life.

In this issue of the Bulletin, and in all your interactions with Bethany, I pray you can see glimpses of God's light and love breaking into our world through the community we're building here.



Tim Lehman  
Head of School



## DEATHS

**Harold Bontreger (B '53-54, 66-75)**  
Goshen, IN, Dec. 28, 2023

**Philip Dintamin ('58)**  
Howe, IN, Aug. 15, 2023

**Jeannette (Eby) Hostetler ('58)**  
Columbus, OH, Apr. 14, 2023

**Herbert Zook (F '60-66)**  
Hesston, KS, May 4, 2023

**Sanford Schrock ('67)**  
Goshen, IN, Aug. 27, 2023

**Charles Bontreger ('68)**  
Elkhart, IN, Sept. 4, 2023

**James Derstine (F '70-72)**  
Souderton, PA, Nov. 17, 2022

**Ora Troyer (B '85-87, '89-91)**  
Goshen, IN, Dec. 31, 2023

## BIRTHS

**Tori Crow ('14)** and Cole McClain  
Goshen, IN, son Cooper Cole,  
Nov. 25, 2022

**Tessa (Clark) Gaby ('17)** and Will  
Gaby Goshen, IN, daughter Laken  
Elizabeth, Jul. 5, 2023

## MARRIAGES

**Emily Sherk ('11)** and Andre  
Ziebold Goshen, IN, June 17, 2023

**Evan Grimes ('12) and Katie Hurst ('14)**  
Indianapolis, IN, June 17, 2023

**Tori Crow ('14)** and Cole McClain  
Middlebury, IN, Sept. 18, 2021

**Aaron Maust ('14)** and Kaylee Shand  
Kalamazoo, MI, Aug. 19, 2023

**Lucas Brownsberger-Keyes ('18)**  
and **Brooke Reinhardt ('18)**  
Nappanee, IN, Aug. 19, 2023

**Anthony Stover ('18)** and Grace  
DeYoung Kankakee, IL,  
Nov. 13, 2020

## NOTES

**Karen Jane Weldy ('68)** retired from Eskenazi Hospital (Indianapolis, IN) as a night chaplain and moved to Tucson, AZ, for warmer winter weather and part-time work.

**Jonathan Bornman ('85)** has a newly published book, *American Murids: A lived Muslim practice of nonviolence* (2024). He is currently in post-production on a film, *Unexpected Peace*.

**Elizabeth Eby ('18)** wrote and directed a three-person play about mental health and loneliness. It was performed in July 2023 in Harrisonburg, VA.

Keep in touch with Bethany and share your news. Give us an update by using the link below or by scanning the QR code.

[bethanycs.net/apps/form/alumni](https://bethanycs.net/apps/form/alumni)



Stay connected with your classmates while keeping up-to-date with what is happening at Bethany. Use the following link or scan the QR code to join the Facebook group today!

[facebook.com/groups/bethanycsalumni](https://facebook.com/groups/bethanycsalumni)



At long last,

**WE ARE THE**

**Champions!**



Senior Jayden Schlabach celebrates with his team after kicking the game winning penalty kick.

How does it feel to be state champs? For the first time in Bethany history, the Bruins know! The varsity boys soccer team won the **IHSAA 1A State Championship** in a nail-biter of a match against Forest Park, winning 3-1 on penalty kicks after a tied game of 1-1 during regulation and overtime.

Bethany controlled the ball during the first half, but wasn't able to complete their runs, and the game was tied 0-0 at the half. Then, in the 49th minute, Forest Park had a scramble in the box, which resulted in the first goal of the day. As time was running down, the Bethany fans were getting nervous, thinking they might be heading home with a runner-up title. However, with less than three minutes left on the clock, a quick throw-in by senior Tyson Chupp

sent the ball down the line to senior Jayden Schlabach, who was able to beat a defender and make a perfect pass in front of the goal to sophomore Sawyer Beachy, who blasted the ball into the back of the net. New hope was in the air for the Bruins team and fans as the time expired with a 1-1 tie in regulation time.



Coach Tony Janzen celebrates after receiving his medal.





Top photo: *Shemaya Magatti lifts the state trophy up and celebrates with his team.*

Left photo: *Jacoby Reinhardt makes an incredible save during the penalty shoot-out.*

Right photo: *Student section bands together to cheer on the Bruins to victory.*

Bottom photo: *Sawyer Beachy dribbles past an opponent.*



The Bruins controlled the ball and made several runs toward the goal in overtime. With less than 20 seconds left, a Bruin cross nearly made it into the goal except for the quick response by the Forest Park goalie tipping the ball over the post. The Bruins would have to finish yet another match with penalty kicks.

Thankfully, the Bruins were a very successful team this year in penalty kicks, winning all four games decided by penalty kicks. After three tries by both teams, the Bruins were up 2-0 with goals from Sawyer Beachy and senior Shemaya Magatti, and excellent goal-tending by junior Jacoby Reinhardt, who denied Forest Park on their first three tries. The final goal, to secure Bethany's win, came from Jayden Schlachach, who sent the ball into the upper left of the net beyond the reach of Forest Park's goalie. Running toward Bethany's fan section, Jayden belted out a scream of success as his teammates ran to greet him on the field.

Jayden said, "I didn't overthink it. I just was thinking of kicking the ball in the back of the net."

Receiving the trophy from the IHSAA tournament officials, Shemaya lowered the trophy slightly and then hoisted it in the air with a roar from his teammates and fans. **Bethany cemented its place in IHSAA history as the 1A champion!**





# Season Highlights of Senior Captains:

“We prepared for a lot of big games. One that stands out is the Marion game in which we lost 0-1, but we nearly tied it with a late penalty kick.” Jayden Schlabach (Marion is 2023 2A State Champions)

“Winning conference was pretty exciting, scoring in the Semi-State game, and having 16 wins in a season were highlights.” Shemaya Magatti

## 2023 Boys Soccer Team Roster

Jacob Bontrager	Makai Hochstetler
Jacoby Reinhardt	Julian Torres-Enciso
Jude Miller	Tyson Chupp
Benji Fleming	Zane Parson
Shemaya Magatti	Toby Mast
Josiah Yoder	Daven Molina
Jayden Schlabach	James Lind
Luke Yordy	Trey Caffee
Lian Espinosa Lopez	Pablo Columna
Zach Reiff	Victor Ralios
Sawyer Beachy	Ayden Falcon

### Coaches

Tony Janzen	Head Coach
Kory Kern	Asst. Coach
Hank Willems	Asst. Coach



The 2023 Bethany boys soccer seniors.

## EDGAR SILVA

receives IHSA Education  
Champion Award

Edgar Silva, Bethany’s Spanish teacher, received the IHSA Education Champion Award during the boys soccer state championship game. The purpose of the award is to identify, acknowledge, and celebrate teachers who make a significant impact in the education of student-athletes in their community and school.

Bethany’s boys soccer team voted unanimously to nominate Edgar for this award.

Senior Daven Molina says, “Edgar makes learning fun and really relates well with the students.”

Senior Tyson Chupp adds, “Of all the teachers, Edgar really shows he likes soccer the most. And he is a fun teacher to be around.”

The award recognizes teachers who go above and beyond to challenge students to reach their full potential and help them become the best version of themselves. During the ceremony, the following statement was read:

“Edgar Silva is a Spanish teacher at Bethany Christian and is known for his tremendous positive impact on Bethany’s school culture. Mr. Silva is infectiously energetic and adds so much to the Bethany community through his teaching and support of all students in their various activities. His understanding and relatable nature have fostered many wonderful relationships with his fellow staff members and students!”

**Congratulations  
Edgar!**





# SALT

brings light to lower school

Every other Monday, the lower school gathers in the chapel for SALT – singing and learning together. This is a time for our youngest Bruins to sing together, pray, and listen to individuals or classes share their unique gifts. SALT aims to build relationships across the lower school grades and helps each student realize that it's good to share your talents and shine your lights within your community.



## SERVING... *sweet and simple*

Bethany sixth grade students take a year-long Family and Consumer Science (FACS) course with teacher Katelyn Hochstetler. In addition to learning basic cooking, food safety, and sewing skills, they become more aware of the importance of the resources God has given to them and how to be good stewards of these resources in both their home and the community. So when Mrs. Hochstetler saw on social media that our local soup kitchen and food pantry, The Window, hardly ever has dessert to serve with their lunches, she saw the perfect opportunity for collaboration.

In November, FACS students learned to make pumpkin bars, but instead of simply eating them themselves, they loaded up six pans of treats and headed downtown to The Window. Director Ed Swartley received the food prepared by our students, but also asked if they might have time to help with a small service project. Within twenty minutes,

## Walkin' in the Light



The theme in the fifth-grade class this year is “Walkin’ in the Light.” Teacher Eliza Stoltzfus’ students have worked at finding the Light in each other as they build classroom community and have also worked hard at sharing their Light – and God’s Light – with those around them. In December, half the class served lunch at Faith Mission in Elkhart. The students learned about factors that can lead to homelessness and what we can do to help our unhoused neighbors. The other half of the class blessed local businesses with paper stained glass art projects to grace their store windows and spread some joy and colorful “light” to shoppers during the holiday season. This class has also visited residents at Greencroft, collected shoes for Samaritan’s Feet International, and raised money for Mennonite Central Committee newborn kits. These students are great examples of how our lights – no matter how small – can brighten someone’s world!



*“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”  
Psalm 119:105*



## MIDDLE SCHOOL

Bethany sixth graders finished unloading a large food donation – a task that would have taken staff and volunteers several hours to complete.

Mrs. Hochstetler and her students plan to visit The Window several more times during the spring semester. It’s a great lesson to learn that service doesn’t always have to be time-consuming, complicated, or costly. Sometimes it can just be sweet and simple!



# CADETS excel at *building community*

UPPER SCHOOL

“Cas-si-a, Cas-si-a, Cas-si-a!” It is not uncommon to hear this chant when first-grade students pass their cadet teacher, junior Cassia Nice, in the hallways. She’s spent a semester building relationships with this group of children, and it’s clear this experience has been a great one for all involved. “Cassia jumps right into things,” says Ashton Cluts, first-grade teacher. “She’s great at seeing what needs to be done, and just doing it. She is so friendly and kind with the students. They love playing with her at recess, showing her all the things in the classroom, and loudly chanting her name whenever we pass her in the hall.”

The Bethany cadet teaching course provides junior and senior students with the opportunity to earn academic credit while providing hands-on assistance in classrooms for grades 1-6. Cadet teachers must exhibit commitment to their own success as a student before being accepted into the program: a GPA of 2.5



or higher, an above-average citizenship record, an excellent attendance record, and recommendations by two high school teachers. Once our cadets are matched with a lower school classroom teacher, they assist students in their learning activities, provide supplemental instruction, and eventually do some classroom teaching under the direction of the lead teachers.

Cassia reflects, “This has become my favorite part of the day. I have so much fun with these kids...their hugs are the best.” Cassia plans to pursue a career path that involves working with children. “I have found that I’m able to be a leader with these kids in a way I can’t always be with my peers. I have really appreciated that.”

We are thankful for the leadership and commitment of all our cadet teachers. They’re working to make Bethany a better place for our youngest Bruins!

## THE *Curious* SAVAGE



In November, high school theater students presented a tender comedy in the show *The Curious Savage*. When Ethel Savage decides to use her late husband’s wealth to help people achieve foolish dreams, her greedy stepchildren commit her to a private institution, called The

Cloisters, in a thinly-veiled attempt to get at her money. Mrs. Savage quickly makes friends with the little community of The Cloisters, while pulling some ornery tricks on her stepchildren.



At The Cloisters, Mrs. Savage discovers a community of people who accept each other just as they are, who gently love

each other, and who support each other’s dreams. We have a term for this way of being in theater – “yes, and...” Our hope in this show, and in all productions at Bethany, is that we help students be formed in this way of kindness, dignity, and community.





# Northern Indiana Clay Alliance

September is a wonderful time to visit northern Indiana. At Bethany, you can attend the Bruin athletic tournaments for soccer and volleyball, Homecoming, and class reunions. Mennonite Central Committee (MCC) has its Michiana MCC Relief Sale and the Michiana Pottery Tour has had a weekend event since 2011.

The Michiana Pottery Tour was founded by Dick Lehman, Mark Goertzen, and Justin Rothshank (Bethany trustee and parent) as a collective marketing strategy to create more interest in the artists' work. They initially focused on artists with Goshen College connections, but the annual event has since expanded to include nearly 50 participants who showcase their work in ten locations. Through the pottery tour, the Northern Indiana Clay Alliance has emerged.



Justin Rothshank photo credit: James Korn

In the fall of 2022, Justin Rothshank and Trevor Daugherty ('07) successfully formalized the Northern Indiana Clay Alliance (NICA). In making this alliance, their hope and mission is to develop, strengthen, and advance the local ceramics community in northern Indiana and southern Michigan. Justin serves as president and Trevor as executive director.

Justin and Trevor are two of many local ceramic artists in the area. For both, their love of working with clay started when they were in high school. Justin attended Bethany as a freshman and sophomore and then transferred to Goshen High School, where he developed his love of ceramics. Trevor attended and graduated from Bethany. He learned to love working with clay through the instruction of Eric Kaufmann, former Bethany art teacher. Trevor's experience was unique because he had the opportunity to apprentice with Dick Lehman for several of his independent courses for Bethany credits.

Initiating the clay alliance was necessitated out of a couple of realities. First, the Michiana Pottery Tour had grown to be a wonderful asset for the local clay community, but it wasn't a formal institution. Justin says, "Basically, we were a bunch of people putting money into a pot and

then collectively deciding how to spend it on marketing." Likewise, receiving funds from donors or organizations needed formality when accepting these gifts.

Supporting local potters was another reality. The pottery tour was building momentum within the ceramic community, but it was structured on marketing. Trevor says, "Supporting people is important. Of the artists who are part of the tour, only half are from this area. With the alliance, we are able to provide them with support in finding studio space or even getting new artists recognized."



Trevor Daugherty photo credit: James Korn

As Dick and Mark transitioned away from leadership and managing responsibilities of the pottery tour, Justin found the need to garner assistance saying, "Trevor has a great set of skills and experience in setting up a leadership structure and had a shared interest in setting up the alliance." With Justin and Trevor working together, they formalized the Northern Indiana Clay Alliance and received their full 501c3 non-profit status.

The alliance now has a board of directors, a website, and additional events. The board is a diverse group of individuals who represent the region and plan to carry out the mission of NICA. Their website, [indianaclay.org](http://indianaclay.org), provides a hub of information. Along with a history of clay work in the area, it includes a directory of members, with links to their work, and a schedule of workshops and events.

It is wonderful to see alumni working together to invest in community and support the arts. If you aren't able to make it to the Michiana Pottery Tour in September, then plan to come in December for Goshen's First Friday to attend the NICA Christmas Sale. Or you can stop by Elkhart in July for the Ruthmere Ceramic Showcase held at the Ruthmere Museum in conjunction with NICA.

**Check out the work of the following Bethany alumni who are connected with NICA by scanning the QR code below.**

Seth Krabill ('11)  
Trevor Daugherty ('07)  
Eric Kaufmann (F'97-05,'08-21)





# BACK TO THE FUTURE HOMECOMING 2023

*Class of 1973*

Homecoming 2023 was held September 15-16. To start the weekend, Caleb Morris ('13) spoke in Friday's high school alumni chapel. Friday evening, the annual Music on the Lawn concert featured the high school band, orchestra, and choir. Pie, donated by Rise'N Roll Bakery, was served before the concert.

Saturday events included a welcome by Head of School, Tim Lehman, a hymn sing led by former staff members J.D. Smucker and Diane Schrock Hertzler, and a panel discussion of young alumni who have returned to Goshen to raise their families. Tours were available of our new elementary wing, allowing alumni a unique, in-progress peek at the home of our lower school and first kindergarten classrooms.



Later in the afternoon, reunion gatherings were held for classes with graduation years ending in 3 and 8. Highlights from the gatherings

included the class of 1958 celebrating its 65th reunion, and the class of 1973 celebrating its 50th reunion with a sit-down meal and a presentation organized by classmates. Along with the gatherings and celebrations, the Bruin girls soccer team hosted town rival Goshen, losing 5-0.

Alumni returned from as far away as California, Oregon, and Washington. For some, it was their first time back on campus after nearly 60 years. The weekend was a wonderful time of bringing old friends back together, and also sharing Bethany's exciting future with all.



## Caleb Morris Featured in the Alumni Chapel

During the alumni chapel, Caleb Morris '13 talked about his time at Bethany and how it shaped him. He remembered tough times during basketball and the push for excellence in soccer. He highlighted the role of coaches who helped him make decisions that were based on authentic values.

Caleb shared how he redefined leadership and pursued excellence despite setbacks. In a short activity, he urged the high school students to identify their own set of values. Caleb's personal values — justice, enrichment, and novelty — led him to make a significant career change.



Caleb concluded by encouraging the high school students to reflect on their own decision making and to use a set of guiding principles: "You all have the capacity and abilities to do amazing things and I'm convinced that your generation will change the world."





# Alumni Panel Discussion



“My wife and I moved back to this area because we both grew up in smaller, tight-knit communities and we saw a lot of value in being close to family and raising kids in that type of environment.” Simon Smucker, class of 2007.

“What is known here is that Bethany pushes students to their own level of success. I encourage the staff to continue to push students to know education is beyond the walls of Bethany and the books in front of them. It is living in community and broader than this place [at Bethany]. I hope students can know this as they grow and strive for excellence.” Vanessa Adcock, class of 2002.

In a first for Bethany Homecoming, an alumni panel was brought together to discuss a shared experience.

This year’s panel featured Vanessa Adcock (’02), Simon Smucker (’07), Tom Stahly (’01), Heidi Birky Sawatzky (’98), and Anna Newburn (’01). All left the Goshen community, but are now back and raising their families in the area. So the topic of the panel discussion was, *What brings young alumni back to Goshen?*

Sarah Lind, former Advancement Director, guided the panelists in their discussion. Highlights from the discussion include:

“When I moved back to Goshen, I saw Bethany’s billboards around town that said, Known, Loved, and Prepared. I think this message resonates with me as I think of how Bethany was a safe place for me to explore and try so many things as I grew up. I want my daughter in a place where she can learn to think for herself and see herself in a true, honest, and loving way. Education is an act of love, and Bethany is positioned to adapt to the needs of society. For me, I want my daughter in a place that will love her in her growth and development.” Anna Newburn, class of 2001.



## BCS Alumni

Join the Bethany Christian Schools Alumni Group on Facebook. Stay connected with your classmates while keeping up-to-date with what is happening at Bethany. Use the following link to join the group [facebook.com/groups/bethanycsalumni](https://facebook.com/groups/bethanycsalumni)



# Bright Future Update

Thanks to the Bright Future Campaign, Bethany is building for the future...a beautiful lower school wing that will enable children in our community to experience Bethany's unique, holistic education from the very start – kindergarten! We're already so excited about welcoming our first Bruin kindergarten class this fall.


Thanks to the blessing of beautiful, warm fall weather, construction on the new elementary wing is ahead of schedule. Crews have finished the exterior of the building, poured sidewalks, laid the first layer of pavement for the driveway, and created a retention basin amphitheater! Inside, drywall work is completed and preliminary painting has begun. Teachers will be able to prep their classrooms this summer with students occupying the new space at the beginning of the 2024-25 school year.





## WAYS TO GIVE

The excitement is building and we can't wait to open the doors this fall, but the work is not done yet!

Here's how you can make a difference:

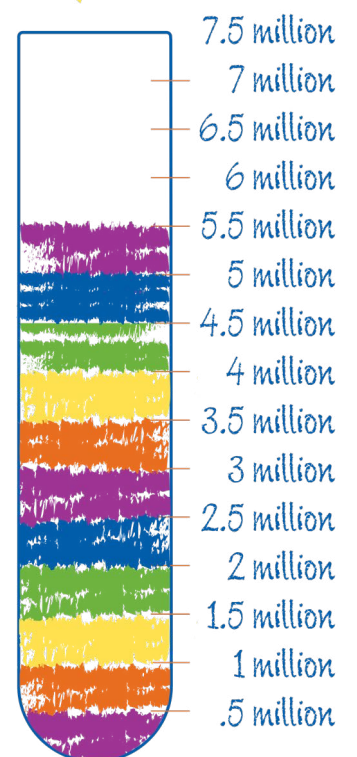
 **Donate Today:** Your contribution will have a direct impact on the future of education here at Bethany. Visit our website or scan the QR code and donate today!

 **Spread the Word:** Share our campaign on social media, with friends and within your community. Your network is powerful, and with your help, we can reach our goal!

 **Join Us:** Consider ways you may help us reach our goal. Maybe it's by becoming a vocal advocate for Bethany or by hosting a small gathering of Bethany alum in your home. Join us in making the Bright Future Campaign a success!



Visit [bethanynycs.net/brightfuture](https://bethanynycs.net/brightfuture) or scan the QR code below.





# Welcome NEW FACULTY AND STAFF!



**Ryan Brenneman** joined Bethany's Food Services team. He attended Eastern Mennonite University and has served in a variety of roles, including product engineer at Nappanee Window; restaurant manager at Sauk Trails in Union, MI; and business development manager at Aluminum Trailer Company.

Ryan's hobbies include playing pickleball and soccer. He and his spouse, Michelle Thomas ('98), have two children attending Bethany: Sam in seventh grade and Ian in third grade. Ryan and his family attend College Mennonite Church, where he sings in the choir and assists with immigration services.

**Betzy Calderon** is Bethany's receptionist. She has two years of Ivy Tech training in early childhood development. Betzy loves to spend time with family and has three children attending Bethany and a younger daughter Zoe in kindergarten: Elly and Luna in 10th grade and Andres in 2nd grade. Betzy's hobbies include reading, listening to music, and watching movies.



**Guy Kagonbe** volunteers at Bethany through Mennonite Central Committee's International Volunteer Exchange program (MCC - IVEP). He is from N'Djamena, Chad, and is trained as an English teacher. He speaks French, English, Spanish, and some Arabic, and is an English-French translator. Guy is from

a large family of five brothers and four sisters. He is a member of the Lutheran Brethren Church of N'Djari, Chad. He enjoys reading, spending time with family and friends, playing soccer, and watching movies.

**Daniela Lopez** is Bethany's first Liaison to the Hispanic Community. She has a degree in computer systems engineering from the University of Tecnológico de Monterrey and has worked as an IT manager and director for the past 15 years. Daniela has three children: Jorge, a 2019 Bethany alum, Alexa, in 8th grade, and Valentina in 4th grade. She attends Grace Community Church and helps teach English classes. Her hobbies include playing soccer, walking, and bike riding with her family.



**Elizabeth Lopez** is Bethany's structured study time teacher, a position in conjunction with Goshen Community Schools. Elizabeth is from Elkhart and attended Holy Cross College and Indiana University South Bend. She attends Saint Vincent De Paul in Elkhart and has a one-year-old daughter, Ximena. Elizabeth

enjoys running, playing tennis, and attending outdoor concerts in the park with her family.

**Lindsey Mason** joins Bethany as the Chief Advancement Officer. Lindsey worked as the Assistant Campaign Director at Goshen Health and was a development officer at Hesston College. She graduated from Goshen College in 2009 with a degree in social work. Lindsey and her husband, Luke, have three children: daughter Haddie, a first grader at Bethany and two sons, Bodie (age 4) and Baker (age 3). Lindsey and her family attend Silverwood Mennonite Church. She likes to work in her garden, ski, bike, and travel to be with her extended family.







**Jonathan Reuel** is Bethany's study hall supervisor. He graduated from Goshen College with a BA in art. He has worked as a graphic designer, touring musician, junior high art teacher, transitions coach, leadership coach to small non-profit organizations, and as the executive director of a small arts organization. Jonathan

and his wife Christa have one daughter, Chiara, who is in second grade at Bethany. He and his family attend College Mennonite Church and help with visual arts and music. Jonathan enjoys traveling, music, art, reading, and spending time with family and friends.

**Sarah Steiner** is Bethany's third-grade teacher. She is a Goshen College graduate with 13 years of teaching experience in lower elementary schools. Most recently, Sarah taught first grade with Middlebury Community Schools. Sarah and her husband, Rob, live in Goshen with their two sons:

Eli is an eighth grader at Bethany and Jonah attends Marquette University. Her family enjoys board games, camping, and traveling. Sarah enjoys walking their family's dog and quilting while listening to audiobooks.



To stay up-to-date with Bethany news visit [bethanycs.net/bcsnews](https://bethanycs.net/bcsnews) or scan the QR code.

# 2023-24 Bethany Christian Schools





# BRUIN Athletics

## FALL HIGHLIGHTS

Another successful Bruin fall athletic season is in the books! Along with the boys soccer state title (see p. 3), highlights included junior Noah Schrock advancing to the boys tennis No. 1 singles sectional championship. He ended his season with a 20-3 record. In cross country, senior Jesse Bontrager and sophomore Roman Nyce advanced to regionals. Bethany had 23 fall athletes recognized for their outstanding academic achievements.



This year's Winter Alumni Night was held on January 5, 2024. At halftime of the varsity boys game, the 2022-23 girls basketball team was celebrated for its IHSA 1A State Championship Runner-Up. Each of the players and coaches received a ring as a memento of the season and championship run. Alumna players were invited to the floor to celebrate their success with a team photo.

Head girls basketball coach Krysten 'KP' Parson, achieved a milestone with a career 200th win on December 16, 2023. The girls basketball team beat Lakeland Christian Academy 50-15. Athletic director, Gary Chupp said, "We are fortunate to have her teaching the game of basketball and mentoring our young women." KP is currently the longest-tenured high school basketball coach in Elkhart County and has coached 400 of Bethany's 999 games.





# A Note from *Admissions*

If you had told me 20 years ago that I would be back at Bethany as an employee, and have my own seventh and second-grade students here as well, I would have laughed at you. I loved my time here, but this is definitely *not* where I thought we'd end up. But exciting things are happening at Bethany, and I'm truly glad to be a part of it!

Bethany has definitely evolved and changed from the school I graduated from in 2002. We have transformed our cafeteria with



our farm-to-school program. We are actively teaching students to take ownership in their education, while still living in community with one another and learning to be respectful despite differences. Our student body

is more diverse in cultures and comes from 21 different Christian denominations. And with the addition of our lower school – complete with kindergarten in the fall of 2024 – we can now be the sole source for a student's K-12 educational experience.

I invite you to come back and experience Bethany firsthand. Please contact me as you explore school options for your own children and grandchildren – I think you'll be surprised and delighted by what we have to offer!

Vanessa Adcock  
Admissions Director



# BETHANY

is a great

place to

# GROW

Now accepting applications for  
**KINDERGARTEN**  
through high school for the 2024-25 school year!



Scan  
the QR  
code to  
learn  
more.



## DATES TO KNOW

### FEBRUARY

Feb. 9 - [Campus Preview Night for new families](#)

Feb. 29 - [HS Musical - Matilda](#)

### MARCH

Mar. 1-3 - [HS Musical - Matilda](#)

Mar. 9 - Fine Arts Night

Mar. 26 - [Campus Preview Night for new families](#)

### APRIL

April 5-7 - MSC Choir Festivalw

April 11- [Campus Preview Night for new families](#)

April 15 - Bright Time online registration opens

April 19 - Junior Class Fish Fry

### MAY

May 3-4 - MS Play - *Wind in the Willows*

May 3 - Grandfriends Day

May 16 - [Campus Preview Night for new families](#)

May 23 - 8th Grade Recognition

May 26 - Commencement

### JUNE

June 3-7 - Bright Time Summer Camp

### SEPTEMBER

September 13-14 - Homecoming Weekend

Please visit [bethanycs.net](http://bethanycs.net) for a full list of upcoming events.



Bethany's third-annual, all-school Christmas Gala was a magical evening filled with beautiful music, lovely artwork, and warm fellowship. All students in grades 1-12 participated in making the event possible, as we explored the expanding circle of welcome and love born in the nativity narrative. As our students said – in over 15 languages – “There is room in the circle!”

To watch the recording of the program, or simply learn more, visit [bethanycs.net/gala](http://bethanycs.net/gala).



To stay connected with all the latest happenings at Bethany, follow us on  