



The Buzz

September 28, 2023

WALK WITH GOD-TALK WITH GOD

Bethany Hamilton Walks With God

"Be still, and know that I am God." -Psalm 46:10

October 31st was a beautiful day to spend at the beach in Hawaii doing what Bethany Hamilton loved best, surfing. Bethany was an avid surfer and knew all the moves. But this day proved to be a challenge for her and her faith. Here's how Bethany tells her story:

It came, literally, out of the blue. I had no warning at all; not even the slightest hint of danger on the horizon. The waves were small, and I was just kind of rolling along with them, relaxing on my board with my left arm dangling in the cool water. I remember thinking, "I hope the surf picks up soon..."

That's all it took: a split second. I felt a lot of pressure and a couple of lightning-fast tugs. Then I watched in shock as the water around me turned bright red. Somehow, I stayed calm. My left arm was gone almost to the armpit, along with a huge crescent-shaped chunk of my red, white and blue surfboard...

I remember most clearly what the Kauai paramedic said to me in the ambulance: He spoke softly and held my hand as we were pulling out of the beach parking lot. He whispered in my ear, "God will never leave you nor forsake you." He was right.

I believe in God. Some people don't think much about this kind of stuff unless something terrible happens to them, or like my parents, until they are older. But I can remember putting my trust in Jesus Christ when I was just a kid. When people ask me what my faith in Christ means to me, I usually answer in just one word: "everything!" This was true before the shark attack as well as after. And I truly believe that this faith is a big part of what got me through it. It helps to know that even when you don't have a clue why something has happened in your life, God has a master plan and is watching over you. It's a tremendous relief to be able to put your trust in God and take the burden off your shoulders.

My plans to be a professional surfer got hit pretty hard on that Halloween morning. In the days, weeks, and months that followed I had a lot of cleaning up to do. Often, it was scary or trying. And I won't lie to you: in some ways it still is. Although my left arm is completely gone, I've worked really hard to become a pro surfer.

But for me, knowing that God loves me and that he has a plan for my life that no shark can take away is like having solid rock underneath me. Bad things are bound to happen to everyone. That's life. Here's my advice: don't put all your hope and faith in something that could suddenly and easily disappear. And honestly, that's almost anything. The only thing that will never go away, that will never fail you, is God and your faith in him. All I can say is He gives me a really strong foundation for everything I do in life.

Today Bethany is competing with the best women surfers in the world. God has blessed her with a wonderful Christian husband and a child. What a beautiful lesson in faith and trust we can learn from Bethany Hamilton.

In Christ,
Mike Allard, Principal @ St. John's

Upcoming Events

Thursday, Sep 28

VB Games @ Home vs. Messiah
B Team-5:00
A Team-6:00

Sunday, Oct 1

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am
Bible Class 10:15 am

Monday, Oct 2

FB Games @ Messiah
4:00 and 5:00 Games

Tuesday, Oct 3

VB Games @ Home vs. St. Mark
B Team-4:00
A Team-5:00

Worship 6:00 pm

Wednesday, Oct 4

Walk to School Day
Chapel 8:20 am
FB Practice 3:30-5:00

Thursday, Oct 5

B-Team VB Triangular @ St. Paul, Menomonie
4:00 & 5:00

Sunday, Oct 8

Worship 9:00 am
Sunday School 10:15 am
Bible Class 10:15 am

Monday, Oct 9

School Picture Day
FB Games @ St. Mark
4:00 and 5:00 Games

Tuesday, Oct 10

Gr. K-8 Trip to Osseo
VB Games @ St. Mark, Eau Claire
B Team-4:00
A Team-5:00
Worship 6:00 pm

Volleyball Home Games:

Today, September 28th: We have home games vs. Messiah. B Team plays at 5:00, and the A Team plays at 6:00.

Helpers for our concession stand are needed and welcome. Come and cheer for the Hornets!

Flag Football Away Games:

Monday, October 2nd: We will travel to Messiah in Eau Claire. We will play two games: against Messiah at 4:00 and against St. Mark at 5:00.

Drivers are needed! We will leave from school at 2:30.

Directions to Messiah

Merge onto I-94 W toward Eau Claire. Merge onto US-53 N via EXIT 70. Take the North Crossing exit, EXIT 90, toward Eau Claire. Turn left onto WI-312/County Hwy-Q. Continue to follow WI-312. Turn right onto ramp. Turn left onto Abbe Hill Dr. Take the 3rd right onto La Salle St. Turn left onto N Hastings Way.

Volleyball Home Games:

Tuesday, October 3rd: We will play at home against St. Mark. The B Team plays at 4:00, and the A Team plays at 5:00.

Helpers for our concession stand are needed and welcome. Come and cheer for the Hornets!

Walk to School Day: Walk to School Day is next Wednesday, October 4th. More information is included with this newsletter.

Flag Football Practice:

Wednesday, Oct 4th: 3:30-5:00

Volleyball Away Games:

Thursday, October 5th: We will travel to St. Paul, Menomonie, for a B Team Triangular. We will play at 4:00 and again at 5:00.

Drivers are needed. We will leave from school at 2:30.

Directions to St. Paul's Lutheran School, 1100 9th St. E, Menomonie

Take US 10-W to Interstate 94-W. Take I-94 W for 35.8 miles. Take exit 52 for US-12/WI-29. Turn right onto US-12 W/WI-29 W for 9.5 miles. Turn left onto 9th St E. St. Paul's will be on the left.

School Pictures: School picture day is Monday, October 9th. Order envelopes have been sent home with the students. You can also order school pictures online by going to <https://inter-state.com/order>. Our order code is 79385ZA.

Gas/Gift Card Collection: Since our student teacher, Mr. Bryce Marohn, is driving back and forth every day from Eau Claire, we would like to take a collection of gas/gift cards to help him cover some of his travel expenses. Gift cards or cash can be dropped off in the school office. Thanks!

Camp Phillip (Gr. 6-8)-Oct 12-13: Please continue to turn in your forms and money. We need chaperones to drive. Please contact Mr. Allard if you are able to drive/chaperone. Your child has a sheet with more information.

Fall Dinner: The Friends of St. John's is sponsoring their annual Fall Dinner on Sunday, October 15, from 11:00 to 1:00 in the school gym.

Proceeds from the free-will donations raised at the dinner will go toward whiteboards for the classrooms. All are invited to attend!

If you would like to help out by providing food donations or working in the kitchen, please fill out and return the donation sheets that have been sent home with the children. Thanks!

Parent Survey: We will be closing our Parent Survey soon. If you haven't had a chance to fill this out yet, please take a few moments to do so. We value your input! You can access the survey at the link below:
[2023-24 parent survey](#)



Zoey Hubing

The student of the week is Zoey Hubing. Zoey is in 5th Grade. She has made great improvements this year! She is a hard worker, respectful to teachers and fellow classmates, and sets a good example!



Congratulations Zoey!



October 4, 2023

**St. John's Lutheran School
is participating in Walk to School Day on
Wednesday, October 4, 2023**

Join children and adults from around the world to celebrate
the benefits of walking!

About our event:

Have your child show their school pride by
wearing **BLACK** or **GOLD** the day of the event!

IGA Parking Lot to School... 7:30am

Adult volunteers will be in the
IGA parking lot at the
designated time. Parents are
invited to walk as well.
Children may join along the
route. ☺

Learn more at

walkbiketoschool.org

Walk to School Day is coordinated in the U.S.A. by
the National Center for Safe Routes to School.



Tips for Walking Safely to School

Walking is fun, but you need to be safe while doing it. Follow these tips to make sure you get to and from school without any problems.

Walk together

Younger children should always walk with an adult. Tell your parents that walking is great exercise and a nice way to spend time together.

If your parents say that you can walk to school on your own, remember these tips:

- Walk with a friend when possible.
- Ask your parents to help you pick a safe route to school; one that avoids dangers.
- Stick to the route you picked with your parents. Don't let friends talk you into shortcuts that are more dangerous.
- When you are near the street, don't push, shove, or chase each other.
- Never hitchhike or take rides from people not arranged by your parents.
- Talk to your parents and teacher about any bullying that may happen during your walk.

Be seen

Remember, drivers may not be able to see you well. Always wear bright-colored clothes and if it is dark or hard to see, carry flashlights or wear reflective gear.

Look for traffic

Watch out for cars and trucks at every driveway and intersection on your walk to school. Look for drivers in parked cars. They may be getting ready to move.

Cross the street safely

1. Stop at the curb or edge of the street.
2. Look left, right, left and behind you and in front of you for traffic.
3. Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing.
4. Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing.
5. Walk, don't run across the street.

Obey traffic signs, signals and adult school crossing guards

For more resources and information on Safe Routes to School, please visit the National Center for Safe Routes to School Web site at www.saferoutesinfo.org.

Tips for Parents and Other Adults For Teaching Pedestrian Safety to Children

SafeRoutes
National Center for Safe Routes to School



TIP SHEET

Walking is a fun and healthy way to spend time with your children while teaching them skills that can serve them well throughout life. The walk to school is a great time to use these safety tips.

Be a walking role model

Children learn through experience. Walking with parents or another caregiver is an important way for children to practice crossing real streets and picking safe places to walk. There is no magic age when children are old enough to walk without an adult. But, as a parent, you should decide when your child has the skills and experience to deal with traffic safely without you.

As you walk with your child, remember these safety tips:

- Wear bright-colored clothes, and carry flashlights or wear reflective gear if it is dark or hard to see.
- Look for traffic at every driveway and intersection. Be aware of drivers in parked cars that may be getting ready to move.
- Obey all traffic signs and signals.
- Cross the street safely:
 1. Stop at the curb or edge of the street.
 2. Look left, right, left and behind you and in front of you for traffic.
 3. Wait until no traffic is coming and begin crossing.
 4. Keep looking for traffic until you have finished crossing.
 5. Walk, don't run across the street.



Choose the safest route to school

Select a walking route with less traffic and intersections.

- Pick places where there are sidewalks or paths separated from traffic. If there are no sidewalks or paths, walk as far from the motor vehicles as possible and, if possible, on the side of the street facing traffic.
- Limit the number of street crossings. When available, cross at a location with an adult school crossing guard.
- Avoid crossing busy or high-speed streets.

Understand your child's limitations

Children are not small adults. It will take time and practice for a child to develop the ability to deal with lots of traffic. Over time, children develop the ability to accurately judge the speed and distance of oncoming traffic. Young children may think that a car is able to stop, when in fact, it is not. Also, children may think that if they can see a driver, the driver can see them. But, children are smaller and harder for drivers to see. Get down to a child's height to experience their perspective and see what they see.

For more resources and information on Safe Routes to School, please visit the National Center for Safe Routes to School Web site at www.saferoutesinfo.org.