



# March Beaver Log

"Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, break forth into joyous song and sing praises!" Psalm 98:4



The Bay City Noon Optimist Club is having their Annual Youth Appreciation Luncheon. Schools in the area have been asked to nominate a student

that may be a quiet leader who lifts others and strengthens their community, or whose leadership shows up in kindness, reliability, and support. This student is someone who leads without a spotlight, and impacts their peers, and yet quietly strengthens our community through service, empathy, and responsibility.

Zion nominated 8<sup>th</sup> grader **Makayla Schwannecke!** Makayla will be honored on March 10<sup>th</sup> at the luncheon, accompanied by her parents.

**Congratulations Makayla!**



**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter  
Chapel Offerings:  
Life Clinic, Bay City**

This quarter our mission is to help Life Clinic in Bay City. Life Clinic supports women to choose life. They use parenting programs to provide the education to be a mom, and they also help by supplying needed items for the baby. Don't forget to bring in an item for Life Clinic's collection. See list included in this Beaver Log.

Thank for supporting this mission!

## March is Reading Month

March is Reading Month and it's just around the corner. 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders are inviting people to come and share information about their professions. This is intended to help them learn what types of careers are out there and maybe interest them. Please contact Mary Ann Woods (989-708-5008) or the office if you would be willing to share information about your career path. Thank you.

### In-School Counselor Grants

We are excited to report that Michigan District Church Extension Fund (CEF) and the Neeb Family Foundation, in partnership with the LEAP Alliance and 7 other Lutheran Schools in the Great Lakes Bay Area, has provided a total of \$72,000 in grants to support the In-School Counselor program in our schools. We are grateful for the generous support of CEF and the Neeb Family Foundation through our membership in the LEAP Alliance.

God is Good!

*To better know & show Christ's love.*

Zion Lutheran School & Church, 1557 W. Seidlers Rd, Auburn, MI 48611  
Phone: 989-662-4264 email: office@zionauburn.com  
Email: office@zionauburn.com Website: zionauburn.com



Check out the March Reading Month Calendar that is enclosed for reading inspiration and other activities related to reading. Also included is the March prayer calendar.



Have you turned in your registration? We love our Zion families and we look forward to continued education of your student and working with your family for success! Open enrollment is now open.



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Myles Beaver	03/01/2020
Theo Slater	03/07/2022
Jacquelyn Stanford	03/08/2015
Will Morrisette	03/13/2020
Gracie James	03/17/2015
Frankie Arnold	03/19/2022
Blair Beaudin	03/20/2020
Jared Stanford, Jr	03/23/2021
Carson Freehling	03/29/2017
Madelyn Menz	03/31/2016



## Baptized into Christ

Collyns Bender	03/26/2017
Carolyn Fick	03/31/2019
Colton Fick	03/31/2019



**Little Caesars  
Pizza**

### 7/8th Grade Class Trip Fundraiser

Every year students at Zion work together to sell Pizza Kits to raise money for the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Class Trip. The Pizza Kit Fundraiser is a huge help in off setting some of those costs. Thank you for supporting the efforts. Little Caesar's Pizza Fundraiser is with your March

Beaver Log. Please note there is a new website for online orders.

Visit: [Fundraising.LittleCaesars.com](http://Fundraising.LittleCaesars.com)

**Fundraiser ID # 52523**

**Pizza order forms are due by  
Friday, March 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Online orders must be completed  
by Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>**

**Orders will be delivered the week of April 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Thank you for supporting the Class Trip!

**RaiseRight.**  
GIFT CARD PROGRAM



**FUNDRAISE FOR  
YOURSELF!**

**Zion's enrollment  
code: 42L15A7L3691**

Visit [raiserright.com](http://raiserright.com)

Register an account online and start earning toward your tuition! It's easy with e-gift cards and physical gift cards.



**Easter Egg Hunt at Zion  
Palm Sunday, March 29th  
after Sunday School  
at the pavilion.**

T.E.A.M. is looking for candy donations to fill Easter eggs. Candy need to be small in size to fit inside of a plastic egg. **Please drop donations off to the office by Wednesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.**

## Athletic News

- C-basketball season will wrap-up on March 14<sup>th</sup>.
- Pee Wee games will be hosted at St. Paul Frankenlust by their activities committee. **March 7:** Kindergarten plays at 9:00AM on court 1; Team 1 at 9:45AM on court 2; Team 2 at 11:15AM on court 1  
**March 14:** Kindergarten plays at 9:00AM on court 2; Team 1 at 10:30AM on court 1; Team 2 at 10:30AM on court 2  
**March 21:** Kindergarten plays at 9:00AM on court 2; Team 1 at 10:30AM on court 2; Team 2 at 11:15AM on court 1
- Track signup notes were handed out to those interested. If you find out your student has changed their mind, deadline to sign up with pay to play of \$20 is Monday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. **Coaches needed.** We have one so far.
- **2026/27 Athletics:** Athletic interest forms went home and were requested to be returned by February 20<sup>th</sup>. Based on forms returned, the following information has been determined.
  - **No** 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade soccer.
  - Cross country is a possibility. COACH NEEDED.
  - We will have an A-girls volleyball but **no** B-team. There was a discussion for 5<sup>th</sup> graders to join practices to develop skills.
  - We will have boys and girls B-basketball teams.
  - There will be **no** A-girls basketball team. The possibility of an A-boys team is still being determined.
  - 5<sup>th</sup> grade down to 2<sup>nd</sup> grade soccer will be planned for. COACHES NEEDED.
  - C-basketball will be planned again as well as pee wee.
  - And let's not forget cheer. There is a ton of interest. COACH NEEDED.
  - Track will continue. COACHES NEEDED.

If you have an interest in coaching and/or supporting athletics by joining an athletic committee, please notify the office.

Thank you for supporting your athlete and Zion Athletics.



The Science and Mathematics Extravaganza for Kids (SMEK) summer camps involve area students, ages 5 - 14, in engaging, age-appropriate science, technology, engineering and mathematics enrichment activities. SMEK has been offered here at SVSU for over 25 years. Past activities include building a trebuchet, engineering bubble wands, studying organisms from our very own wetlands, LEGO robotics, constructing a mini golf course and more!

Students participating in this 3-day camp will experience hands-on, project-based lessons taught by area certified teachers and assisted by SVSU undergraduates aspiring to become teachers, as well as enjoy lunch in the Marketplace at Doan. Registration deadline is June 5, 2026, but seats are limited for each camp, so register early!

Early Bird Registration through March 31, 2026, save \$5! Regular prices resume April 1, 2026. There are limited scholarships available to assist with the cost of attending SMEK Camps. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, email [STEM@svsu.edu](mailto:STEM@svsu.edu) for additional information and the scholarship application. To be considered for a scholarship, applicants must either be from a traditionally underrepresented group in STEM and/or of low socioeconomic status (qualifies for free/reduced lunch). Scholarship applications are due by May 1, 2026.

*If you are an SVSU Employee or registering more than one child, please email [STEM@svsu.edu](mailto:STEM@svsu.edu) to receive a discount code.*

**SMEK Littles (ages 5–6): July 28–30, 2026 -8:30am – 11:30am**  
**SMEK Junior (ages 7–10): July 14-16, 2026 -8:30am – 3:00pm**  
**SMEK Senior (ages 11–14): July 21-23, 2026 -8:30am – 3:00pm**

**Volunteers needed! If you can share some time, please contact Jessica Beson or Kourtney Collins.**

**SCHOLASTIC**  
*It's* **BOOK FAIR** *time!*

Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup>: 10:00am-12:00pm  
Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>: 7:40am - 7:00pm  
Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>: 7:40am - 12:00pm  
Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>: 7:40am-6:00pm

COME TO  
THE FAIR  
CHOOSE BOOKS  
YOU LOVE



Shop with Book Fair eWallet for **cash-free** purchases

**SCHOLASTIC**  
**BOOK FAIR**

## Create a **Book Fair eWallet** for cash-free shopping.

**Convenient and secure, eWallet lets your child choose books they want to read.**

Plus, you can share your eWallet link so friends and family can help your child find even more to read. **Unspent funds from a past Fair?** To transfer them to this Fair, log in to your Scholastic account and create a new eWallet—then your previous balance will be available to transfer as an eGift Card.

When you fund an eWallet, you can also contribute to **Share the Fair**, the giving program that **benefits kids in your school** who need help buying new books.



Create account



Add funds



Share link



















Your child shops

**Visit our school's Book Fair homepage to get started:**

<https://bookfairs.scholastic.com/bf/zionlutheralschool1>



# MARCH 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Read a church bulletin	2 Kick off March is Reading Month! Dress up as your favorite book character.	3 Read a fairytale or legend. 	4 Read OR Write an adventure story.	5  Bring a flashlight to school and read with the lights off.	6 No School! - Build a fort and find a cozy spot to read.	7 Turn off electronics and read for 20 minutes. 
8 Daylight Savings Time - Read a book about time. 	9 Read about your favorite author.	10 Read an autobiography or biography	11 Read a newspaper or magazine article. 	12 Readers are leaders - Read a book about a job you would like.	13 Read the lyrics to a song. 	14 Read a recipe and make it. 
15 Read your favorite bible story. 	16 Read about an inspirational woman (Women's History Month)	17 St. Patrick's Day - Read a book about luck. 	18 Animal Day! Bring a stuffed animal to school and read about animals.	19 Read a book about a superhero. 	20  First Day of Spring! - Read a book about Spring.	21 World Poetry Day - Read a poem.
22 Read your favorite bible verse.	23 Wear a shirt with words on it for all of us to read.	24 Read a book about sports. 	25 Read a map and create a route to a favorite destination. 	26 Silly Goose! - Read a silly book. 	27 National Scribble Day - Read the book 'I'm Not Just a Scribble.'	28 Read with your pet or in your favorite room at home.
29 Palm Sunday - read Matthew 21:1-9 	30 Dreaming about Spring Break - read a book about a vacation spot.	31  Read a book OUTSIDE - lets hope for good weather.	1	2	3	4



## Fight For Life

*An excerpt from chapel during Life Week. Written by Clark Briggs, Member of VLHS Protect Life Club*

"And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb." John 1:41

Christ often comes to people that our world may consider less valuable - he goes to the blind and the deaf, the mute and the paralyzed - and they all see that He is Lord.

John is an excellent example, so extreme in fact, that in the eyes of the world he couldn't do anything. He was unborn, he had no experience or knowledge. He hadn't yet learned the scriptures or studied the prophecies. But in the presence of God he must react. He leaps for joy, recognizing and proclaiming the coming of the Lord.

All human life longs for it's creator, for God. All the lives - the ones which are called less than, those called inconveniences, they who are looked down upon. They can all hear the Gospel, they can all hear the words of the Lord.

When the world wants to kill we know that life still has value, that it never ceases to be valuable.

So fight for life. Do not stand idle while life is destroyed. Life is of God, for life glorifies God. And share with those who do not know it the Gospel, for more important than anything else is the precious words of the Gospel.

"And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.'"

## Financial Literacy: A Life Skill

A Valley Lutheran education is marked with experiences and skills that prepare students for life, both now and in their future. Financial literacy - the knowledge and practice of budgeting, saving, investing, making positive financial management choices, and fostering Christian stewardship - is a key example.



A few instances of this in action include:

- budgeting practice in Freshman Health class - not only thinking ahead to living on their own one day, but also the more immediate budgeting of any income they currently earn and the value of allocating it as spend, save, and give.
- a new Algebra 2 Finance course, complete with units on banking services, consumer credit, automobile ownership, income taxes, and more.
- experiences for all seniors in budgeting, insurance, and other financial topics including participating in a Reality Fair (thanks to Frankenmuth Credit Union) that simulated a month of real-life expenses and income and the

related decisions about housing, transportation, leisure, and everyday needs that follow.

- the use of Dave Ramsey's Foundations of Personal Finance curriculum in Economics class.

"This content is extremely important for students to learn and have at least a basic understanding about before leaving high school," said Miss Mackenzie Bernreuter, Economics teacher. "It is a foundation that will help students have a successful and stable financial future - which clearly fits with our mission statement!"

How have students responded?

"Students are engaged! We have honest conversations about the real-



life impact of finances while learning the vocabulary necessary to understand and navigate the world of finance," said Mrs. Barb Doyle, Algebra 2 teacher. "This year's inaugural class has demonstrated the ability to process and execute complex mathematical calculations in context" -

*continued on back*

Valley Lutheran High School  
**Auction & Benefit Dinner**

**Saturday, Feb. 28, 2026**  
at DoubleTree Bay City Riverfront



VLHSAUCTION.COM

REGISTRATION IS OPEN!  
PURCHASE FOUR TICKETS HERE



**Tickets are \$85/person**  
Includes dinner, drinks, and a donation to VLHS

- You may purchase tickets for *In-Person* attendance or *Register for Virtual Participation*
- Bid from anywhere, from any internet device
- Three days of bidding!  
Create a watchlist  
Be alerted when you are outbid  
Set your maximum bid(s)

Thank you for supporting VLHS!

## JOIN US FOR FAITH NIGHT AT THE SAGINAW SPIRIT!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026  
@ 5:30 PM  
DOW EVENT CENTER, SAGINAW

\$19 TICKETS AT:  
<http://www.saginawspirit.net/groupsales>  
Username: VLH50222  
Password: SPIRIT

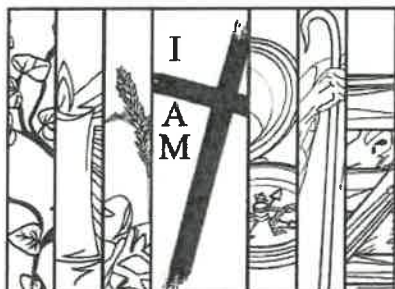
## Christmas Collection for Shoebox Saginaw Project

During the holiday season, Valley students participated in the Shoebox Saginaw Project. This service project was led by **Mr. Patrick Winningham**, Social Studies teacher and Global Awareness Club leader.

He shared, "The Shoebox Saginaw Project was an opportunity to share the love of Christ to an often-forgotten segment of our society: homeless men. Over 240 men in our region received a gift box that included gloves, socks, basic hygiene items, and devotionals that told them about Christ's love. The VLHS Family did amazing work in putting these together - exemplifying the mission of VLHS: Preparing students for life, with Christ as our foundation."



### THE VLHS SYMPHONIC BAND AND GOLDEN VOICE CHOIR PRESENT



### A LENTEN WORSHIP TOUR

MARCH 11 - 15, 2026

Follow Valley's Facebook page for the full schedule!

## VL Quiz Bowl Team Named Co-Conference Champs

Valley Lutheran Quiz Bowl team received the title of Co-Conference champions in the fall. Group leader and math teacher, **Mr. Caleb Abraham**, shared about the championship:

"We had an amazing second day of competition. After going 3-2 the first day, we knew we had to win all of our matches in order to have a shot to win the championship. We went 5-0 on that second day, beating teams by an average of more than 100 points.

"Jakob Schlicht received all-conference honors for his performance, scoring the most points for our team. With only two



Back (left to right): Alex Schlicker, Colton Moore, Micah Layer, Luke Bright. Front: Jakob Schlicht, Emily Beethe, Adam Birchmeier

seniors graduating off the team, we're excited to be able to continue to compete for the conference championship in the future!"

## Literacy, from front

an impressive and most practical skill.

It's not just teachers who are seeing value. Senior **Natalie Slone** shared, "Economics really had me start thinking about how I'm going to pay for college and come up with a realistic plan. It also pushed me to start budgeting so that I'd have an early start on financial literacy before I move on from high school."

It's these relevant classroom experiences, opportunities for critical thinking, and real conversations that prepare and equip students for steps now and into the future.

## Robotics Team Kicks Off Season



Best of luck to VLHS 9662 - Valley's Robotics team as they embark on their third annual season.

Official Kick-off weekend was in mid-January; since then the team has been hard at work building their competition robot. Building requires technical skill, programming knowledge, and hands-on precision.

Team progress and build updates are visible on their website at [bit.ly/vlhs-robotics](http://bit.ly/vlhs-robotics). Official competition weekends are March 7-8 and March 12-13.