

## **2020 THUNDER FOOTBALL** **(5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade tackle football)**

The Thunder program was created to develop players for the highly successful Lake Country Lutheran High School football program and is directed by the We Play For Him organization and the high school football coaching staff.

Our goal is to provide a quality tackle football experience inside a distinctly Christian environment. We are very much a “family first” organization and will function as an extension of your family values as we train your boys to be exemplary Christian young men and solid football players. Each player will gain instruction in both an offensive, defensive and special team position. We believe the only way to grow and learn in football skill is through participation and not watching from the sidelines. Therefore, our players fully participate in every drill and are instructed and participate equally in practice. We are proud to be a member of a league which forces participation of all players and is especially player-friendly at the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade level. Every player will also participate in a daily team prayer.

Today’s sports culture has created a “win at all cost” mentality. However, Thunder Football success is not based on win and losses. Coaches are trained that success is determined by how they convey character and self-esteem to each child. Thunder defines winning as “learning and teaching lessons in the game of life.” There is a fine line between being competitive and belittling others and we make sure we are on the proper side of that line. God requires us to act with utmost character in EVERY situation under EVERY circumstance. The Thunder program will cease to exist if we fail to meet this important philosophy. It is our intention to be distinctly different from any football program that opposes this.

Our league plays with a 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade team together and a 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade team together. Practices start August 10 and will run from 5:00 – 7:00 Monday through Friday that first week. The second week, practice will move to its normal time of 4:00 – 6:00 on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursdays. All practices are held at Divine Redeemer and home games are played at Lake Country Lutheran High School. Both teams will play on Saturday mornings.

We are a member of the Greater Metro Milwaukee Youth Football League (GMMYFL) which also includes teams from University School of Milwaukee, Kettle Moraine Lutheran, Nicolet, Brookfield Academy, Milwaukee Lutheran, Shorewood/Messmer and St. Charles Borromeo.

The game schedule starts September 12 and runs until October 24. We play 7 league games and one scrimmage held the last week of August.

All equipment is supplied except football cleats.

There will be a Football Camp at Lake Country Lutheran held June 20-23 that is highly recommended to all Thunder players. Greg Brazgel, 2019 State Champion head coach of LCL, will lead the instruction. Go to [www.weplayforhim.net](http://www.weplayforhim.net) and click on LCL Summer Programs for all the information to register.

Cost is \$300 for all players that register before March 31, 2020. Registration after March 31 will be \$325

The Thunder program produces a weekly newsletter throughout the season that will be emailed to you. We will also send out some informative newsletters in late Spring and Mid-Summer to keep you connected.

A parent meeting and equipment handout sessions are held before the first practice. The final game and practice schedule will be provided then.

Our league has a website [www.gmmmyfl.org](http://www.gmmmyfl.org) that has schedules for the entire league posted in early August and has directions to all away sites.

For all Thunder football contact information, please contact Thunder Football Director, Aaron Boldt at [aaron.boldt@gmail.com](mailto:aaron.boldt@gmail.com) or phone 414-331-7543.

To register your son for Thunder Football, go to [www.weplayforhim.net](http://www.weplayforhim.net) and click Lake Country Lutheran and then Football.