

# Messenger

*St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
of Westfield*

May  
2024

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Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



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Rev. Arturo Mendez



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you can see by the listing of all the Holy Days, Holidays and special days in May, the month of May is filled with a lot of special days (at least this year it is). May 9 marks forty days after Easter and the little celebrated Ascension of Our Lord. May 12 brings us to the Hallmark Card Company celebration (as I say tongue in cheek) of Mother's Day, which we, as Christians should be on the forefront of celebrating, the joy and privilege of motherhood. Indeed, we should celebrate that God has given each of us life through our birth from our mother. We celebrate that a woman bears the image of God in that He has given her the ability to procreate as God Himself created us in the first place (and this is not the privilege given to men).

Ten days after we celebrate the Ascension of Our Lord, the day in which He returns to the place from which He descended in order to live for us, take our sins, die for us and rise, we then celebrate His sending of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, which, this year happens to be our annual Picnic Sunday. And one week later we celebrate that we worship a Triune God, a God who gives Himself to us as three persons in one Godhead, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

At the end of the month we remember all those who have given the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom as we celebrate Memorial Day (often described as the beginning of Summer vacations). Perhaps we might do well to celebrate Memorial Day with a bit more dignity and respect as we now live in a world where fewer and fewer countries and people remain free to live in peace and according to their own beliefs (freedom of worship, speech, etc.).

Interestingly enough the month of May ends with celebrating The Visitation, that is when the angel visited Mary to announce she would be the mother of the Savior of the world. So then, it is in the month of May that we move from what we call the Festival portion of our Church Year calendar (when we celebrate the feasts of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent and Easter) to the non-Festival portion of our Church Year, and for the next twenty-seven weeks we will see the liturgical color of green, the color of growth, and spend time growing in our Christian faith and life.

I leave you with the words of King David which I pray you will make your words during these next few months and weeks, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'" (Psalm 122:1).

God's richest blessings.  
In His Service,

Pastor Bogs  
1 Cor. 15:3-5

Don't forget, if you miss a Sunday, you can read the sermon on my blog:  
<http://rabswritings.blogspot.com>.

## 125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The Anniversary Committee had their 1st meeting and we are excited. The Grand Celebration will be held on May 18, 2025. We have invited Dr. Harrison to be our guest Preacher that day as we celebrate not only 125 years as a congregation, but also our 125th Annual Picnic.

We have a lot to do and time is going to fly by. We need your help. If you want to be part of the planning for this awesome year of celebration please see Lester Sentesi.

"Growing Together In Christ for 125 Years!"



### St. Matthew Lutheran Church ~ 2024 Picnic Committee/Volunteers



The Picnic Committee met this past Sunday and we are excited. There are sign up sheets in the Narthex for side dishes, desserts & for people to sign up to work. We need potato salad, coleslaw, pies & cakes. As well as lots of people to help out. If you have any questions please contact Lester Sentesi, Phillip Williamson or Melissa Sindlinger. Thank you to everyone in advance for your help in making our 2024 picnic a wonderful success.

### Church Re-pipe Fund

At the August 27 Congregational meeting of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield, the voters voted to begin a fund to re-pipe all our facilities. The cost estimated at around \$40,000. This fund is to be funded by any member wishing to make a contribution above their normal tithe. At the same time we will pursue financing the amount over what is contributed. However, if the contributions amount to more than the cost all extra monies will then be put in the general fund.

### ~ A Message from the family of Michael Held ~

Dear Members of St. Matthew,



*My family and I were overwhelmed by your generosity - the gift that was meant for Michael's retirement celebration was given to us at his committal service instead. He felt so blessed to be your organist for 23 years. During the last 2 years, as his abilities declined, playing the organ continued to give his life meaning - I thank you for your patience with him. Your prayers for him, and now for me and my family it means so much. May God continue to bless your ministry in the years ahead.*

Much Love,

Jeanne Held & family ~ "Because I live, you shall live also" John 14:19

*P.S. I neglected to say that the gift from St. Matthew would be split between the two music memorials set up for Michael at his sons schools - Concordia University Irvine organ fund and Concordia Lutheran High School - Tomball instrumental music program. Thank you so much!*

### ~ A Message from the Family of Eda Nitz ~

The Nitz Family would like to thank everyone who attended the service of celebration of the life of our loved one, Eda Nitz. She loved her church family and friends and it was apparent that she was loved as well. We will all miss her, but we also have many special memories to hold on to. Your efforts shine brightly as a beacon of selfless service for all of you who worked behind the scenes. You bring to life the words of Christ, serving others with a joyful heart and willing hands. Your dedication, love, and support to make Eda's strong request and desire that her memorial service be a celebration of life, was truly a blessing to our family. We know she would have been very pleased and would be so thankful. The Nitz Family (Steve, Paul and Jane)



# May 2024

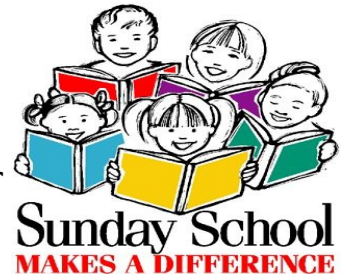
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
<b>Those Serving the Lord this Month:</b> <b>Elders</b> ~ Steve Roberts & Sonny French <b>Greeters</b> ~ Carolyn McCorquodale & Kristen McManus <b>Ushers</b> ~ Luke Tusing & Noah Montemayor <b>Counter</b> ~ <b>Altar Guild</b> ~ Sylvia Christy & Becky Reyes <b>Acolytes</b> ~ Ruby Montemayor, Isabel Vaz, Logan Reed & Alez Vaz			10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs	10am Bulletin Deadline <b>National Day            of Prayer</b>		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service			10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs Happy Birthday Janis Stayton & Phillip Williamson!	10am Bulletin Deadline Happy Birthday Caleb Bogs!	Office Closed	8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Board of Elders Meeting
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service <b>Happy Mothers            Day!!!!!!</b>	Happy Birthday Karen French!		10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs	10am Bulletin Deadline Happy Birthday Melissa Sindlinger!	Office Closed	Armed Forces Day
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service <b>Annual Church            Picnic Sunday</b>	<b>GET YOUR            NEWSLETTER            ARTICLES IN!!!</b>		10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs Happy Birthday Arturo Mendez!	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed	Happy Birthday Kenneth French!
26	27	28	29	30	31	June 1 <sup>st</sup>
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Happy Birthday Eugene Meyer!	<b>Memorial            Day</b> Church Office Closed	Happy Birthday Kelly Gentes!	10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs Happy Birthday Shawn Goss!	10am Bulletin Deadline Happy Birthday Larry Harvey, Amina Lesso & Paul Nitz!	Office Closed Happy Birthday Nicole Poppenhagen!	

2	3	4	5	6	7	8
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service			10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed	

# Opportunities to Study God's Word

## *Sunday School for All Ages*

Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in Room #5. The children are learning Biblical accounts to go with Sunday's Readings from "God's Hand in Our Lives" series from the Church of the Lutheran Confessions.



## *Sunday Adult Bible Classes*

All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited for coffee and donuts at 8:30 am each Sunday at 8:30 am. Then our Bible Classes begin at 8:45 am. The Study of *John* led by Pastor Bogs meets in the **Room #2**. And *Galatians* led by Larry Harvey meets in **Room #4**. Please join us. Bring a friend!



## *Wednesday Mornings*

The Wednesday morning Bible study group will be meeting at 10:00 am in Room #2. We invite everyone to join us to study God's Word. We are studying The Augsburg Confession.



## *Wednesday Evenings*

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on Baptism led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study of The Passover Seder Haggada led by Pastor Bogs meets at 7pm in Room #2.

## *Men's Breakfast Bible Study*

Join us for the Men's Breakfast and Bible study on the 2nd Saturday of the month, May 11<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



## Holy Days & Holidays in May

May 1<sup>st</sup> St. Philip and St. James, Apostles  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> National Day of Prayer  
May 9<sup>th</sup> The Ascension of Our Lord  
May 12<sup>th</sup> Mother's Day  
May 18<sup>th</sup> Armed Forces Day  
May 19<sup>th</sup> The Day of Pentecost  
May 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Church Picnic Sunday  
May 26<sup>th</sup> Holy Trinity  
May 27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day  
May 31<sup>st</sup> The Visitation

## Wishing You A Very Happy Birthday

May 8<sup>th</sup> Janis Stayton  
May 8<sup>th</sup> Phillip Williamson  
May 9<sup>th</sup> Caleb Bogs  
May 13<sup>th</sup> Karen French  
May 16<sup>th</sup> Melissa Sindlinger  
May 22<sup>nd</sup> Arturo Mendez  
May 25<sup>th</sup> Kenneth French  
May 26<sup>th</sup> Eugene Meyer  
May 28<sup>th</sup> Kelly Gentes  
May 29<sup>th</sup> Shawn Goss  
May 30<sup>th</sup> Larry Harvey  
May 30<sup>th</sup> Amina Lesso  
May 30<sup>th</sup> Paul Nitz  
May 31<sup>st</sup> Nicole Poppenhusen

## Baptism Anniversaries

May 3<sup>rd</sup> Gary McCorquodale  
May 9<sup>th</sup> David Cowger  
May 14<sup>th</sup> Caleb Bogs  
May 14<sup>th</sup> Yair Mendez  
May 14<sup>th</sup> Barbara Newbould  
May 15<sup>th</sup> Don Cornman  
May 19<sup>th</sup> Mark LaShomb  
May 21<sup>st</sup> Justin Parsalaw  
May 24<sup>th</sup> Barbara Ellis  
May 24<sup>th</sup> Dwayne Lilley  
May 25<sup>th</sup> Scott Gentes  
May 29<sup>th</sup> Mary Garrett  
May 30<sup>th</sup> Melissa Sindlinger  
May 31<sup>st</sup> Karen French

## Confirmed Anniversaries

May 1<sup>st</sup> Sharol Aikman  
May 1<sup>st</sup> Tess Clark  
May 1<sup>st</sup> Trent Clark  
May 1<sup>st</sup> Dale Haude  
May 1<sup>st</sup> Mark LaShomb  
May 1<sup>st</sup> Troy Lilley  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> Chad Lilley  
May 2<sup>nd</sup> Holly Williamson  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> Jarrod Musgrove  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> Joel Musgrove  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> Lester Sentesi  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> Megan Williamson  
May 4<sup>th</sup> Amanda Goss  
May 6<sup>th</sup> Jess Clark  
May 6<sup>th</sup> Clay Lilley  
May 6<sup>th</sup> Kathleen Montemayor  
May 7<sup>th</sup> Scott Gentes  
May 9<sup>th</sup> Mikaela Reese  
May 14<sup>th</sup> Melissa Sindlinger  
May 14<sup>th</sup> John Tautenhahn  
May 15<sup>th</sup> Marie Fischer  
May 15<sup>th</sup> Luke Tusing  
May 16<sup>th</sup> Sandra Pedersen  
May 16<sup>th</sup> John Stayton  
May 17<sup>th</sup> Virginia Lawrence  
May 18<sup>th</sup> Jennifer Cornman

May 20<sup>th</sup> Anne McIlhany  
May 21<sup>st</sup> Kristyn Christie  
May 21<sup>st</sup> Brent Harvey  
May 21<sup>st</sup> John Lisius  
May 21<sup>st</sup> Eugene Meyer  
May 25<sup>th</sup> Carolyn McCorquodale  
May 28<sup>th</sup> Sharon Gace  
May 30<sup>th</sup> Frances Bell

## Wedding Anniversaries

May 9<sup>th</sup> Shawn & Amanda Goss ~ 10 Yrs..  
May 11<sup>th</sup> David & Kathy Honerkamp ~ 32 Yrs.  
May 12<sup>th</sup> Jarrod & Maria Musgrove ~ 12 Yrs.  
May 27<sup>th</sup> Ronald & Gayle Bogs ~ 35 Yrs.