



St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield



January 2021

21434 East Hardy Road
Houston, Texas 77073



Church Office
281.443.2304



E-Mail
office@stmatthewlcms.com

Website
www.stmatthewlcms.com



Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor
Rev. Arturo Mendez

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Well, 2020 is “in the books” as they say. It was a year that will be remembered in infamy. As we begin the new year 2021, there are many who are looking for things to be better, and there are many who think things could get worse. As human beings, it is in our nature, our sin distraught nature, to be concerned or rather to worry. We worry because we look inside ourselves for the answers. We worry because we fail to remember that we are not in charge. We worry and as someone one said, “When we worry we undo our prayers,” or “Worry is not something God gives us to do.”

What will the new year 2021 bring? I do not know. All I do know is that I am not in charge. God is in charge, and with God in charge I can trust that I will be okay. Although we live in a world where it seems that fewer and fewer people look to God, or to the church or to the Pastor to speak words of comfort and encouragement, and if the last year has shown us anything, even Pastors and the church do not seem to have the right answers, or at least the answers we want to hear. But, I do believe God still has the answer, the right answer and words which can give us comfort and encouragement. With that said, please listen to God’s promises, and as you pray, remind Him of His promises.

- ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who have an anxious heart, “Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you” (Isaiah 35:3–4).
- ¹¹For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹²Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile (Jeremiah 29:11–14).
- ²⁵“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? ²⁸And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not be

anxious, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' ³²For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. ³³But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴"Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble (Matthew 6:25–34 (see also Luke 11:22-34)).

- ⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. ⁵Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; ⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus (Philippians 4:4–7).

I have found it rather amazing in my own life that the more I look outside myself, the more I look to God, and yes, the more I thank Him even for the difficulties of my life, and the less difficult life seems to be. So, rejoice in the Lord. Remind Him of His promises. Be in His Word, daily as well as weekly. Remember your Baptism. Confess your sins and hear the most beautiful words you can ever hear, "Your sins are forgiven." Come to the Lord's Table and partake of Jesus' body and blood given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins and know that there at the table with you are all the saints who have gone on before you. Be in that place where the Lord promises to deliver to you all the gifts and blessings He has to give so that you may be strengthened to face whatever it is that the world might throw at you. Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say, REJOICE!

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>.

Happy Birthday to You



01-02 John Satyton
01-03 Mark LaShomb
01-05 Aaron Bogs
01-07 Jean Hinz & Kristyn Christie
01-08 Pat LaShomb
01-09 Sandy Pedersen
01-11 Eda Nitz

01-19 Scott Christy
01-20 Cody Williamson
01-21 Troy Lilley
01-23 Annie Mae Byars & Marilyn Holland
01-28 Dillon Mosier
01-31 Ricky Gause

Baptismal Birthdays

01-01 Bob Langley, Jeanne Langley, Brenda Pali,
Louise Simmons, & Luke Tusing, Jr
01-04 Olivia Getschmann
01-05 Larry Harvey

01-07 Gloria Meyer
01-14 Aaron Bogs
01-22 Jack Lutsch
01-24 Jim Gibbs



Confirmation Anniversaries



01-01 Ricky Gause, & Jim Musgrove
01-24 Elsie Brett

Wedding Anniversaries

01-04 Ricky & Jami Gause (47 years)
01-17 Mark & Anamarie LaShomb (18 years)



Holy Days and Holidays in January

January 1st - Circumcision and Name of Jesus / New Year's Day
January 6th - The Epiphany of Our Lord
January 10th - Baptism of Our Lord
January 18th - The Confession of Peter / Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
January 24th - St. Timothy, Pastor & Confessor
January 25th - The Conversion of St. Paul
January 26th - St. Titus, Pastor & Confessor

Offering

During the continuation of this pandemic you can continue to give by dropping off your offering in the plate as you enter the sanctuary doors, by submitting your offerings online at <https://www.stmatthewlcms.com/giving.html> or sending them in by mail.

Lutheran Hour Ministries



KHCB	FM 105.7	Sun	12:30 PM
KKHT	FM 100.7	Sun	6:30 PM
KSEV	AM 700	Sun	6:30 AM

January 3

"Too Much"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Mark 1:1 - 2:12)

January 10

"The Backstory Behind a Bible 'Contradiction'"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Mark 2:13-28)

January 17

"Lost in Wonder, Love, and Praise!"

Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Dale A. Meyer

(Mark 3)

January 24

"Why Jesus Told Parables"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Mark 4)

January 31

"Under the Impression"

Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler

(Mark 5-6)

You can also listen to The Lutheran Hour on ...



Pastor Bogs ☎ 832-515-4830
 Pastor Mendez ☎ 832-883-1705
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Church Office Closed	2
3 10am - Divine Service Live Stream	4	5	6	7 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	8 Church Office Closed	9
10 8:45am - Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	11	12	13 10:00am - Bible Class 5:30pm - Confirmation Class 7:00pm - Evening Bible Class	14 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	15 Church Office Closed	16
17 8:45am - Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	18	19	20 10:00am - Bible Class 5:30pm - Confirmation Class 7:00pm - Evening Bible Class	21 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	22 Church Office Closed	23
24 8:45am - Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	25	26	27 10:00am - Bible Class 5:30pm - Confirmation Class 7:00pm - Evening Bible Class	28 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	29	30
31 8:45am - Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper						