

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield Messenger

February  
2025

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Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor  
Rev. Arturo Mendez



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On Sunday, Jan. 12, during the announcements I felt obliged to speak a few words concerning our anniversary year. It came to my attention that there had been some misunderstanding about what we were celebrating, as if we were celebrating a building (and just as a reminder, we are in the third church building), or certain people, or what. So, having been asked to write a preface to our anniversary book coming in May and with our theme and my constant reminder that we always get it right when we point to Jesus (and I would say, just Jesus), I read what I had written. This month I am including these words once more:

All of the Old Testament points to Jesus. All of the New Testament points to Jesus. The years of our world, B.C. (Before Christ) and A.D. (*Anno Domini*, the year of our Lord) all point to Jesus. The center of all of History, all of time, all of Holy Scripture points to Jesus. Ergo, we get it right when we *Point to Jesus*.

125 years ago Jesus gifted the people of Westfield with a Pastor and a congregation. He gifted them with His means of grace, His Holy Word, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution and His Holy Supper. He gifted them with the means He would use to bring the message of salvation, the message pointing to Jesus, so that through these means He would build His Church in this place and so the gates of hell might not prevail against it.

For 125 years God has gifted this congregation with all that she needed to be His congregation, His people in this place. It has been a history of ups and downs. It has been a history that started small, included a school, as well as, two pastors and a Director of Christian Education at times. It has been a history that included divided people, as well as, regional economic boons and busts moving people away. And yet, never has God's Word been absent nor failed. His Word is just as strong today as the mark of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield remains that it points to Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith.

And just as Jesus has been the center of St. Matthew so He will continue to be the center. And just as He has gifted His congregation with all she has needed for the past 125 years, so He will continue to gift Her with all she needs until He comes again. This hope is the hope of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield. To God be the Glory!

My prayers is that the Lord will bless our year long celebration of His good gifts and blessings to us while looking forward to many more years of gifts and blessings.

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>.

## “A New Year and a New You”

Happy New Year! May God richly bless each and everyone of us in this New Year. Well, it's here. The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of the founding of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Westfield Texas. We praise God for all the blessings He has poured out on our church in that 125 years and we pray for many more blessings in the years to come.

Have you made any resolutions this New Year? Maybe you need to shed a few of those holiday pounds that creep up on us as we celebrate. Maybe you have resolved to up your gym game from 3 days a week to 4. Maybe you just want to spend more time with friends and family. Whatever resolution you have made, surveys show that most New Year Resolutions do not survive even to the end of January. Humans can be very fickle creatures. What about the resolutions that concern your church life? Have you made any of those? If we don't resolve to up our "Church game" then we become stale and stagnant. As Jesus tells the Church in Laodicea in Rev. 3:14, "These are the words of the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the ruler of God's creation. I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! So because you are LUKEWARM-neither hot nor cold-I am about to spit you out of my mouth." Lukewarm. Stuck in the same place, in the same rut, week after week, month after month. We go through the motions. The same routine. Is that how our Church life looks? Are we just going through the motions? Are we coming to church on Sunday just because we've done it our whole life? Lukewarm.

And what do we contribute to the life of St. Matthew and our fellow members? Do we involve ourselves in the life of the church or do we just show up on Sunday morning to put in our 2 hours worth? Lukewarm. Are we coming to church to take advantage of all the good gifts and blessings poured out on us by our Father in Heaven through His Means of Grace or are we just doing it to put our names down in the Friendship book so we can be counted as present? Lukewarm. Are we serving in some capacity on a Board or Committee or do we just sit back and say "someone else will do it?" Lukewarm.

Folks, we need to RESOLVE to do better. If we don't attend Bible Class and Sunday School we need to RESOLVE to make that a priority resolution. We have Sunday morning Bible Class and Sunday School. We have Wednesday morning Bible studies and we have TWO awesome Wednesday evening Bible Studies. We have Men's Breakfast and Bible Studies once a month. There is no reasonable excuse for not being in God's word. LUKEWARM. Have we prayed about our tithe recently or do we just keep giving the same amount every Sunday like we have for years? LUKEWARM. If so, we should pray about it and then RESOLVE to up our tithe. Remember folks: Our tithe is not just about money. It's Time, Talents and Treasures. You cannot out give GOD. Believe me. I've tried. If you are not serving as an Officer or on some Board have you prayed about that? Have you prayed about your extracurricular involvement in your Church? It is just a fact that we have to conduct business to keep our doors and our Church functioning, and we need people who are willing to give of their time to help keep that happening. Or is it one of those things where you just don't have the time and after all, "Someone else will do it" Lukewarm.

When a Fellowship activity is planned do we make it a priority or do we say, "Oh, if nothing else is going on I might go." These are very important to the life of the Church as it shows our Community and each other that we are committed to one another and to the spread of the Gospel in this place. Lukewarm. Folks the Bible is very clear. Our involvement in the Church doesn't stop at walking through the doors every Sunday and dropping an envelope in the Offering Plate. It's about commitment. It's about involvement. It involves a brand new attitude in our daily lives: Putting God and the Church as the top priority in our lives. It needs to be above all things we rush around to accomplish in our Daily lives. It should be above sporting events and games, it should be above that hunting trip. It should be above sleeping in to get that extra hour of sleep you need because you stayed out too late the night before. Do we want to go to church or do we feel that we have to go to church? I once asked my Mom how long I had to go to Church.. Her reply was, "Until you want to." Let's all resolve to be more involved and more present in the life of St. Matthew. Let's present ourselves to Christ not lukewarm like the church in Laodicea. Let us be hot. On fire for the New Year and on fire for the amazing things God is going to make happen here at St. Matthew Lutheran Church in the next 125 years. May God bless your 2025.

Eyes Always on the Lord,  
Lester Sentesi ~ Chairman Board of Evangelism and Fellowship

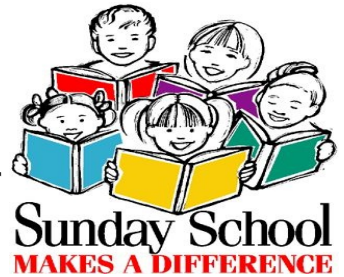
# February 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
<b>Those Serving the Lord this Month:</b> <b>Elders</b> ~ Sonny French & David Honerkamp <b>Ushers</b> ~ Aaron Montemayor, Joshua Montemayor & Dwayne Lilley <b>Altar Guild</b> ~ Marie Fischer & Vita Malloy <b>Acolytes</b> ~ Dalton Reed, Isabel Vaz, Abi Hernandez, Alex Vaz			10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed	Happy Birthday Susie Wells!
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 Happy Birthday Curtis Gace!	8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Board of Elders Meeting
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Picnic Committee Planning Meeting Happy Birthday Yair Mendez!			10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs	10am Bulletin Deadline Happy Birthday Jess Clark!	Office Closed	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Board of Evangelism Meeting Happy Birthday Mackenzie Gentes!	<b>GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IN!!!</b> Happy Birthday Amanda Goss!		10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs Happy Birthday Jake McIlhany & Troy Lilley!	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed Happy Birthday Cathy Smith!	Happy Birthday Werner Hartl!
23	24	25	26	27	28	March 1
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Senior Ministry Meeting & dinner Happy Birthday Gary McCorquodale!			10am Bible Class 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7pm Bible Study w/Pastor Bogs Happy Birthday Carol Clark!	10am Bulletin Deadline Happy Birthday Joyce French!	Office Closed Happy Birthday Tess Clark & Trent Clark!	

# 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 every Sunday at 8:30 am. Then our Bible Classes begin at 8:45 am. The study of Epistles of Paul led by Pastor Bogs meets in Room #2 and First Thessalonians led by Larry Harvey meets in Room #4. Please join us and feel free to 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 Formula of Concord.



## *Wednesday Evenings*

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on The Lord's Supper led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study of How We Got the Bible led by Pastor Bogs meets at 7pm in Room #2.

## *Men's Breakfast Bible Study*

Join us for the Men's Breakfast & Bible Study on the 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is February 8<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



## Holy Days & Holidays in February

February 2<sup>nd</sup> The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord  
February 14<sup>th</sup> Valentine's Day  
February 17<sup>th</sup> President's Day  
February 24<sup>th</sup> St. Matthias, Apostle

### Wishing You A Very Happy Birthday

February 1<sup>st</sup> Susie Wells  
February 7<sup>th</sup> Curtis Gace  
February 9<sup>th</sup> Yair Mendez  
February 13<sup>th</sup> Jess Clark  
February 16<sup>th</sup> Mackenzie Gentes  
February 17<sup>th</sup> Amanda Goss  
February 19<sup>th</sup> Jake McIlhany  
February 19<sup>th</sup> Troy Wells  
February 21<sup>st</sup> Cathy Smith  
February 22<sup>nd</sup> Werner Hartl  
February 23<sup>rd</sup> Gary McCorquodale  
February 26<sup>th</sup> Carol Clark  
February 27<sup>th</sup> Joyce French  
February 28<sup>th</sup> Tess Clark  
February 28<sup>th</sup> Trent Clark

### Confirmed Anniversaries

February 19<sup>th</sup> Ashley Christy  
February 19<sup>th</sup> Edna Ehrhardt

### Baptism Anniversaries

February 2<sup>nd</sup> Amina Lesso  
February 4<sup>th</sup> Joshua Montemayor  
February 4<sup>th</sup> John Stayton  
February 5<sup>th</sup> Jacob Christy  
February 6<sup>th</sup> Cody Williamson  
February 8<sup>th</sup> Kristyn Christie  
February 11<sup>th</sup> Sandra Pedersen  
February 18<sup>th</sup> Jean Hinz  
February 24<sup>th</sup> Troy Lilley  
February 27<sup>th</sup> Annie Mae Byars  
February 28<sup>th</sup> Susie Wells

### Wedding Anniversaries

February 12<sup>th</sup> Gordon & Peg Munson ~ 20 Yrs.  
February 14<sup>th</sup> Korey & Carol Clark ~ 35 Yrs.  
February 17<sup>th</sup> Bob & Jeanne Langley ~ 52 Yrs.



**HELP  
NEEDED**

### Picnic Chairman Needed

The Anniversary Committee is in need of someone to fill the role of "Picnic Chairman". If you are interested in this position and/or know somebody that would be please see Lester Sentesi.

### New Board of Trustee Contact Information

If for any reason you need to contact the Board of Trustees and/or a board member there is a new email dedicated to these questions, concerns or inquiries. It is [smlctrustees@gmail.com](mailto:smlctrustees@gmail.com). Thank you!



### March Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the March 2025 newsletter. Please submit them to [office.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.smlcw@gmail.com) by Monday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

### Picnic Committee

The Picnic Committee will be having its initial meeting to start planning our 125<sup>th</sup> Picnic on February 9<sup>th</sup> immediately after Divine Service. We need lots of volunteers this year. We have a Chairman but we still need a Kitchen Supervisor and a Cooking Team Leader. If you would be interested in either of these positions or just want to help plan on being at this meeting. Any questions see Lester Sentesi, Picnic Chairman

### Board of Evangelism

The Board of Evangelism will be meeting on February 16<sup>th</sup> immediately following Divine Service. We will be meeting regularly now on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month. We have a lot to discuss so please plan to be there. Any questions see Lester Sentesi

### St. Matthew Senior Group

Our Senior Ministry will be having a carry in dinner and planning meeting on February 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately after Divine Service. We are asking everyone to bring a main dish and a side or dessert. We will be planning events for the rest of the year so bring your ideas and let's show the youngsters how it is done. If you are over 50 please join us.





# Serving Schedule 2025

## Usher 2025 Schedule

January ~ Jordan Christy/Yair Mendez  
February ~ Aaron Montemayor/Joshua Montemayor/Dwayne Lilley  
March ~ Dillon Mosier/Noah Montemayor/Logan Reed & Heston Reed (2nd and 4th weeks only)  
April ~ Joshua Montemayor/Yair Mendez  
May ~ Aaron Montemayor/Jarod Christy  
June ~ Noah Montemayor/Dillon Mosier  
July ~ Logan Reed & Heston Reed (2nd & 4th weeks only)/Troy Lilley/Dwayne Lilley  
August ~ Yair Mendez/Aaron Montemayor  
September ~ Joshua Montemayor/Jarod Christy  
October ~ Logan Reed & Heston Reed (2nd & 4th weeks only)/Troy Lilley Dwayne Lilley  
November ~ Aaron Montemayor/Noah Montemayor  
December ~ Jarod Christy/Dillon Mosier

## Altar Guild 2025 Schedule

January ~ Sylvia Christy & Becky Reyes  
February ~ Marie Fischer & Vita Malloy  
March ~ Rose & BJ Jackson  
April ~ Tiffany Cowger & Carol Clark  
May ~ Sylvia Christy & Becky Reyes  
June ~ Marie Fischer & Vita Malloy  
July ~ Rose & BJ Jackson  
August ~ Tiffany Cowger & Carol Clark  
September ~ Sylvia Christy & Becky Reyes  
October ~ Marie Fischer & Vita Malloy  
November ~ Tiffany Cowger & Carol Clark  
December ~ Rose & BJ Jackson

## Elder 2025 Schedule

January ~ Scott Christy & Luke Tusing  
February ~ Sonny French & David Honerkamp  
March ~ Jordan Christy & Steve Roberts  
April ~ Scott Christy & BJ Jackson  
May ~ Luke Tusing & David Honerkamp  
June ~ Sonny French & Jordan Christy  
July ~ Steve Roberts & BJ Jackson  
August ~ Luke Tusing & Sonny French  
September ~ David Honerkamp & Steve Roberts  
October ~ Scott Christy & Jordan Christy  
November ~ BJ Jackson & Luke Tusing  
December ~ David Honerkamp & Steve Roberts

