

# Messenger

*St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
of Westfield*

March  
2024

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Website  
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Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor  
Rev. Arturo Mendez



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

We have begun the season of Lent. March brings us to the time we set our clocks ahead one hour as Daylight Savings Time begins on Sunday, Mar. 10. Do not forget or you will miss Bible Class and Divine Service.

At the end of March is also the time we celebrate The Annunciation of our Lord, the announcement to Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus, the God/man who will live the perfect life demanded of us, take our sins, suffer the eternal punishment of hell for us, die and rise. We might deduce from this announcement that Christmas and our celebration of Jesus' birth, only just over two months ago, will be in nine months. Also, we do not fail to recognize St. Joseph's role as the Guardian of Jesus, again a lesser celebration on Mar. 19.

Unfortunately, because fewer and fewer people are attending the Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services, our Lectionary (the appointed Scripture readings for each Sunday) has moved the Passion readings to Palm Sunday rather than the traditional readings of Jesus riding into Jerusalem. And this year as we celebrate Palm Sunday we do so, as is our custom, with celebrating the confirmation of two young men.

As you hopefully have heard said many times, our church stands and falls on the doctrine of Justification, that is we are saved, and made just and right in God's eyes by His grace through faith in Jesus alone. Because justification is so important, I would encourage, exhort, urge, advocate, and recommend you to make use of these opportunities to come to Divine Service to be given the gifts God has to give. We have our noon and evening services on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday as well as our SONrise and regular morning Divine Services on Easter Sunday morning. Certainly our desire as members of the household of faith is to be when and where the gifts of God are being given out. We rejoice that this time of the Church Year gives us ample opportunities to revel in the gifts of God. As King David said, "I was glad when they said to me, 'Let us go to the house of the Lord!'" (Ps. 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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 125<sup>th</sup> 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



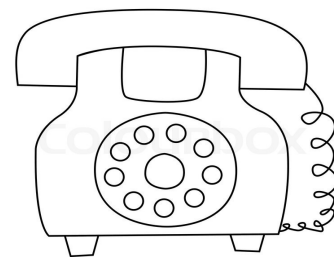
The Picnic Committee met and we are excited. There are sign up sheets in the Narthex for side dishes, desserts & for people to sign up to work. We need potato salad, coleslaw, pies & cakes. As well as lots of people to help out. If you have any questions please contact Lester Sentesi, Phillip Williamson 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.

### Church Telephone Information

Just a quick note that if you are trying to call the church during office hours (8am - 1pm) you will receive a message stating that "the person that you are trying to reach is unavailable to reach another extension press \*8 or press 0 for the receptionist." If you press 0 it will direct you back to the secretary. The voicemail is currently not working so you are unable to leave a message outside of office hours. You can also communicate with the church office by email [office.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.smlcw@gmail.com). Thank you for your patience while we work to get the phones back up and running.



### FELLOWSHIP HALL CONSTRUCTION



Repairs to the fellowship hall floor will commence the first week of January 2024. Be advised the building will be unavailable for use from January 2 through February 10 or until repairs are completed. Amanda has blocked out these dates on the church calendar so please do not request to schedule any events during this time. Once repairs are completed the congregation will be notified.

### Board of Evangelism Monthly Meeting

The Board of Evangelism & Fellowship will be meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after church service. The next meeting will be Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. So mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you have an activity you would like to see us do, please see Lester Sentesi or any board member.

### ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm and begin again on August 15th. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at [pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com).



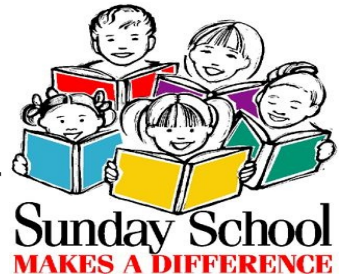
# March 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
<b>Those Serving the Lord this Month:</b> <b>Elders</b> ~ Sonny French & Scott Christy <b>Greeters</b> ~ Dave & Tiffany Cowger <b>Ushers</b> ~ Dillon Mosier & Noah Montemayor <b>Counter</b> ~ <b>Altar Guild</b> ~ Marie Fischer & Vita Malloy <b>Acolytes</b> ~ Ruby Montemayor, Heston Reed, Alex Vaz, Logan Reed, Aaron Montemayor, Heston Reed, Isabel Vaz, Aaron Montemayor, AJ Parsalaw, Ruby Montemayor, Logan Reed & Heston Reed						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service CAM Meeting		Happy Birthday Aileen Mercer & Jarrod Musgrove!	10am Bible Class 12pm Service 5:30 Confirmation 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7:15pm Hymn Sing 7:30pm Worship	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed	8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Board of Elders Meeting
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Happy Birthday Justin Parsalaw!	Happy Birthday Shirley Coyle!		10am Bible Class 12pm Service 5:30 Confirmation 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7:15pm Hymn Sing 7:30pm Worship	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed Happy Birthday Marie Fischer!	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Board of Evangelism Meeting Happy Birthday Noah Montemayor!	Happy Birthday Marilyn Kron!	Happy Birthday Jeanne Langley!	10am Bible Class 12pm Service 5:30 Confirmation 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey 7:15pm Hymn Sing 7:30pm Worship	10am Bulletin Deadline	Office Closed	Happy Birthday Bryce Koslan!
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Palm Sunday/Confirmation 8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service	<b>GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IN!!!</b> Happy Birthday Barbara Newbould!		10am Bible Class 5:30 Confirmation 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey Happy Birthday Aurora Franks!	10am Bulletin Deadline Maundy Thursday 12pm Service 7:30pm Worship Happy Birthday David Cowger!	Office Closed Good Friday 12pm Service 7:30pm/Cemetery Happy Birthday Tiffany Cowger & Pamela Lilley!	
31	April 1	2	3	4	5	6
Happy Easter! 7:00am SONrise Service 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service w/Lord's Supper			10am Bible Class 5:30 Confirmation 6:30pm Bible Study w/Larry Harvey	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 *Judges* 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 who is available to join us to study God's Word. We are studying Luther's Large Catechism.



## *Wednesday Evenings*

There are two Wednesday evening Bible Classes. The study of Baptism led by Larry Harvey meets at **6:30 pm** in **Room #4**. The study of End Times led by Pastor Bogs meets at **7:00 pm** 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, March 9<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 March

March 10<sup>th</sup> Daylight Savings Time Begins  
March 17<sup>th</sup> St. Patrick's Day  
March 19<sup>th</sup> St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus  
March 24<sup>th</sup> Passion Sunday/Palm Sunday  
March 25<sup>th</sup> The Annunciation of Our Lord  
March 28<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday  
March 29<sup>th</sup> Good Friday  
March 30<sup>th</sup> Holy Saturday  
March 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday

### Wishing You A Very Happy Birthday

March 5<sup>th</sup> Aileen Mercer  
March 5<sup>th</sup> Jarrod Musgrove  
March 10<sup>th</sup> Justin Parsalaw  
March 11<sup>th</sup> Shirley Coyle  
March 15<sup>th</sup> Marie Fischer  
March 17<sup>th</sup> Noah Montemayor  
March 18<sup>th</sup> Marilyn Kron  
March 19<sup>th</sup> Jeanne Langley  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> Bryce Koslan  
March 25<sup>th</sup> Barbara Newbould  
March 27<sup>th</sup> Aurora Franks  
March 28<sup>th</sup> David Cowger  
March 29<sup>th</sup> Tiffany Cowger  
March 29<sup>th</sup> Pamela Lilley



### Baptism Anniversaries

March 12<sup>th</sup> Curtis Gace  
March 14<sup>th</sup> Dillon Mosier  
March 20<sup>th</sup> Amanda Goss  
March 21<sup>st</sup> Nathan Cross  
March 22<sup>nd</sup> Joyce French  
March 24<sup>th</sup> Brandy McCorquodale  
March 26<sup>th</sup> Jarrod Musgrove



### Wedding Anniversaries

March 13<sup>th</sup> Scott & Kelly Gentes ~ 25 Yrs.  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> Phillip & Holly Williamson ~ 22 Yrs.



Attn: Senior Congregation Members!

Fellowship wants to re-establish our 55+ Seniors Ministry. We are looking for an excited 55+ person and/or couple to head up the program. If interested please see Lester. This is a Fellowship Group for our 55+ member



April Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the April 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, March 25th .



Texas Confessional Lutherans Free Conference News

Brothers and sisters, it is my great pleasure to announce that Dr. Ken Schurb has agreed to be the presenter at the Free Conference hosted by Texas Confessional Lutherans at Grace Lutheran Church in Brenham, Texas on Friday evening and Saturday morning, August 30-31, 2024. As an historian and theologian, Dr. Schurb's presentation will review and analyze several of the chief theological and political issues and events that led to divisions in the Synod including the "Walk-out" at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis fifty years ago.

Rev. Schurb currently serves as Administrative Assistant to the President for Missions, Evangelism, Stewardship, and Human Care in the Central Illinois District of the LCMS. He has degrees from Concordia Teachers College, Seward (B.A., B.S.Ed.), Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne (M.Div., S.T.M.), and The Ohio State University (M.A., Ph.D.). For 19 years he served as a parish pastor in two congregations: Peace Lutheran Church, Berne, Indiana and Zion Lutheran Church, Moberly, Missouri. He also served as a theology professor at Concordia College, Ann Arbor and has occasionally taught on an adjunct basis for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Presently, he is Book Review Editor of the Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly.

On a more national Synod level he has served as a member of the Board for Youth Ministry, the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, the Committee for Convention Nominations, and the Board of Governors of Concordia Historical Institute. He is now chairman of the Synod's Commission on Handbook. During the 1990s he worked for seven years as an assistant in the office of synodical President A. L. Barry. While a parish pastor in Missouri, he also served as a Vice-President of that District. He is a frequent guest and occasional host of the radio and podcast program, Issues, Etc.

More conference information will be forthcoming. Please mark the date on your calendars. Please share this notice with your friends and others in your congregation and circuit.

God bless you. Pastor Kory Boster Christ Lutheran Church in Pattison, Texas phone 918-208-9425

2024 Special Service Lent Schedule

March 6 <sup>th</sup> , 13 <sup>th</sup> & 20 <sup>th</sup>	Noon Service 7:15pm Hymn Sing 7:30pm Worship 10am w/Lord's Supper
March 24 <sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday /Confirmation	Noon Service 7:30pm w/Lord's Supper
March 28 <sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday	Noon Service 7:30pm w/Lord's Supper
March 29 <sup>th</sup> Good Friday	Noon Service 7:30pm/Cemetery
March 31 <sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday	7:00am no Lord's Supper 8:45am Sunday School 10:00am w/Lord's Supper

