

# St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield



## March 2021

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Houston, Texas 77073



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www.stmatthewlcms.com



Pastor  
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor  
Rev. Arturo Mendez

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The year 2020 was a difficult year and now the week of February 15 has been a difficult week. What lies ahead, no one knows and probably for good reason. Although in the beginning God created a perfect world which He described as being good, even “very good” (Gen.1:31), the human beings He created have not been good, even very good. They sinned, and their sin brought the curse. Now we live in an imperfect world, a world in which sin abounds, even a world in which the whole nature is groaning with eager expectation of the Lord’s end time judgement and re-creation. However, even though we live in this imperfect world, God has promised that He is with us. He will never leave us, and He will keep this world so that “seed time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease” (Gen. 8:22).

So, Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent came in with a bit of a dud or thud, yet the fact remains that we are now in the season of Lent. As I said last month, Lent is the season of the Church Year in which we take the time to reflect on our lives, our sins and the fact that it was because of our sin that Jesus came down from heaven, giving up the glory that was His, in order to take on human flesh and blood, to live for us, perfectly in our place, to take our sins and to suffer and die paying the eternal death penalty of hell for us. Indeed, even if we were the only person in the world, God would have shown His love for us in sending Jesus for each and every one of us personally. So much is God’s love for us. Yet, we know the whole history, the rest of the history, that is of Jesus’ resurrection for us.

The last Sunday in March is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. Palm Sunday is also the Sunday we will confirm two of our youth and so we rejoice in their accomplishment and step in their faith life. I would encourage you to participate in the services and extra services during this Lenten season either in person at our noon or evening services or online at our evening services so that we are all better prepared for our great and grand resurrection service on Easter Sunday morning.

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>.

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## ***Happy Birthday to You***

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03-05	Aileen Mercer	03-23	Bryce Koslan
03-10	Justin Parsalaw	03-25	Barbara Newbould
03-11	Shirley Coyle	03-26	Cindy Sentesi
03-15	Marie Fischer & Isabell Pali	03-27	Aurora Franks
03-18	Marilyn Kron	03-28	David Cowger & Ernest Pali
03-19	Jeanne Langley	03-29	Tiffany Cowger & Pamela Lilley

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## ***Baptismal Birthdays***

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03-12 Curtis Gace  
 03-14 Dillon Mosier  
 03-20 Amanda Goss  
 03-21 Nathan Cross  
 03-22 Joyce French  
 03-24 Brandy McCorquodale




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## ***Confirmation Anniversaries***

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03-02 Patricia LaShomb  
 03-12 Gary Lawrence  
 03-13 Richard LaShomb  
 03-20 Kenneth Lilley  
 03-21 Jean Hinz  
 03-22 Curtis Gace & Paul Nitz



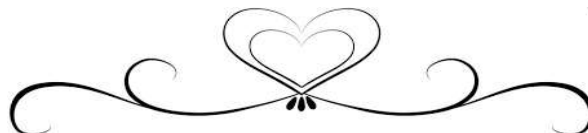
03-24 Chris Aikman, Kelly Gentes, & Brandy McCorquodale  
 03-26 Steve Niz  
 03-28 April Harvey  
 03-29 Junah Arimond, Isdell Birnbaum, Olivia Getschmann, Joshua Bogs, & Shirley Kuhlman  
 03-30 Marilyn Kron & Bill Pali

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## ***Wedding Anniversaries***

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03-13 Scott & Kelly Gentes 22 years  
 03-23 Phillip & Holly Williamson 19 years

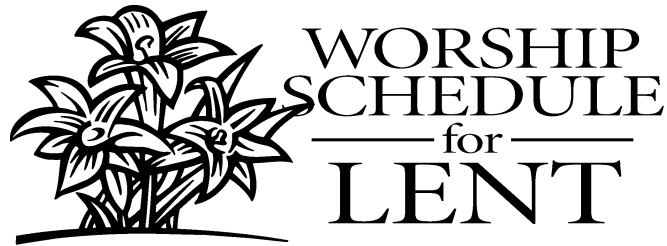


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## Holy Days and Holidays in March

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**March 14<sup>th</sup>** - Daylight Saving Begins  
**March 17<sup>th</sup>** - St. Patrick's Day  
**March 19<sup>th</sup>** - St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus  
**March 20<sup>th</sup>** - First Day of Spring  
**March 25<sup>th</sup>** - The Annunciation of Our Lord  
**March 28<sup>th</sup>** - Palm Sunday



**March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>**

12:00 pm Worship, 6:30 pm Family Meal for families only (no food sharing outside of family members), 7:15 pm Hymn Sing, 7:30 pm Service

**March 28<sup>th</sup>**

Palm Sunday / Confirmation Sunday 10 am w/ Lord's Supper

**April 1<sup>st</sup>**

Maundy Thursday 7:30 pm w/ Lord's Supper

**April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

Good Friday 7:30 pm at Cemetery

**April 4<sup>th</sup>**

Easter Sunday 7 am no Lord's Supper, 8:45 am Sunday School, 10 am w/ Lord's Supper

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## Upkeep & Maintenance

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- We are working to update our key inventory list and we are requesting that anyone who has keys to the church to please contact one of the trustees and let us know that you have a key.
- We are requesting the support of the congregation to assist with minimizing any additional expenses associated with outsourcing projects and/or repairs needed around the Church. How can the congregation

help us? By volunteering your time, talent, and materials. Starting Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup> we will have a list of the projects and repairs that we need your help with posted in the Narthex. Volunteers can choose to do the projects/repairs according to their own schedule. If you sign-up for a project that requires access to the building and you do not have direct access to the building, a trustee will be happy to accommodate. All we need you to do is put the date you wish to complete the project next to your name and a trustee will help coordinate access to the building. If you are attending services online due to COVID19 but feel one of the outside projects/repairs below is something you would like to assist with you can contact a trustee or the main office and make us aware and we will add your name to the list. Your support is appreciated!

• Included is the list of projects and/or repairs needed:

- Someone who can tear down and haul off the old wood playground set.
- Building of handrails for the stairway in the gym and the stairs in the children's building.
- Someone who can haul off the old refrigerators in the back of the church.
- Cleaning of the Treasurer's office (Library)
- Cleaning of the upstairs in the fellowship hall
- Cleaning of the Trustee closet
- Someone who can repair the manifold at the water well to supply cemetery with water
- Someone who can spread the sand at the back of the white building
- Repair the paneling on the wall from water leak in fellowship hall
- Sand and paint the train on the playground

~The Board of Trustees

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## A Note From Pastor Mendez

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### Sympathetic Love

Devotion based on Mark 1:1

“Unless you’ve walked a mile in my shoes, you wouldn’t understand.”

Have you ever had this thought? Every day we experience troubles, trials, and temptations. Every day, most people—even those closest to us—won’t know the half of it. Sometimes this is because people are too busy to ask or too self-focused to care. Other times it is because, to protect ourselves, we keep what we think and feel and experience bottled up and locked in.

But no matter who you are or what you have experienced, you have someone who knows you intimately. His name is Jesus. And he is not out of touch with your reality. He knows your triggers. He knows your turmoil. He has walked in your shoes. He went through weakness and testing in all the ways you have. He has experienced it all, except for the sin. And because he has, he can protect you.

He was born to protect you. The reason he came into this world was to destroy the devil's work. The devil's work is sin, and his end goal is our damnation. But Jesus fought the devil for us and won. God put our sin on Jesus, who never sinned so that Jesus could make us right with God. He endured our hell. He experienced our death. And in exchange, he offers us his righteous life. Because Jesus was perfectly obedient—even to death on a cross for us—those who trust in him are perfectly holy. God does not judge us guilty.

Jesus doesn't just protect you from future judgment. Every moment of every day, he is ready with his power to protect you. This doesn't mean that you will never again be tested, tried, or tempted. But when temptations come, Jesus' protection is just a prayer away.

Jesus understands. He died and was raised again to free you from the devil's work. Go to him at any time, in any trouble. Ask him for his strength to stand up against the devil. Jesus will give it. And the devil will flee.

**Prayer:**

Heavenly Father, lead me not into temptation, but deliver me from the evil one. Amen.

*Hello everyone!*

I'm so excited to share with you my final American Heritage Girls project, my Stars & Stripes project. I will be expanding the bell tower path here at St. Matthew while also adding benches and plants so that there will be another place for us to fellowship after church services that's not in the way of cars. I wanted to take a pro-life direction for my project so this will be a memory garden and a place to remember and respect life from the unborn to the elderly. I will be laying engraved bricks with names of loved ones who have gone to see Christ in heaven. And this is where you can be a part of it. Not only can you come to my work days on April 10 & 17, but you can purchase a brick or more in memory of your loved ones. The bricks will be \$35 each and will be available to order using the pink order forms found in the narthex. If you don't want to buy a brick but still would like to help me, there's a list of supplies needed in the narthex and any donations would be appreciated and can be made payable to St. Matthew.

*Thank you for your support!*

*Hannab Bogs*



# Memory Garden Brick Order Form

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

*Bricks are \$35 each. There is a \$10 extra charge to add a symbol to your brick. 21 characters (including spaces) are allowed per line. Only 18 characters per line for those bricks with symbols. Please make checks payable to St. Matthew.*

*If you have any questions, please contact Hannah Bogs at 832-286-6486.*

**Circle One:**

Cash / Check # \_\_\_\_\_ / Credit Card (add \$1 fee per brick)

**This brick is in memory of:**

[illegible]

**Donated by:**

*Last 3 spaces  
cannot be used  
if Symbol is added*

[illegible]

**Symbol Name:**\_\_\_\_\_ (optional \$10 extra)

Pastor Bogs ☎ 832-515-4830  
 Pastor Mendez ☎ 832-883-1705  
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# March 2021

St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
 21434 E. Hardy Rd.  
 Houston, TX 77073  
 281-443-2304

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3 10am-Bible Class 12pm-Searvice of Prayer & Preaching 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:15pm-Hymn Sing 7:30pm-Lenten Vespers	4 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	5 Church Office Closed	6
7 8:45am – Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	8	9	10 10am-Bible Class 12pm-Searvice of Prayer & Preaching 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:15pm-Hymn Sing 7:30pm-Lenten Vespers	11 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	12 Church Office Closed	13 8am- Men's Breakfast 10am- Elder's Meeting
14 Daylight Saving 8:45am – Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day 10am-Bible Class 12pm-Searvice of Prayer & Preaching 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:15pm-Hymn Sing 7:30pm-Lenten Vespers	18 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	19 Church Office Closed	20 10am- Trustee's Meeting
21 8:45am – Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	22	23	24 10am-Bible Class 12pm-Searvice of Prayer & Preaching 5:30pm-Confirmation 7:15pm-Hymn Sing 7:30pm-Lenten Vespers	25 10am - Bulletin Cutoff	26 Church Office Closed	27
28 Palm/Confirmation Sunday 8:45am – Sunday School & Bible Class 10am - Divine Service w/ Lord's Supper	29	30	31 10am-Bible Class 7pm-Evening Bible Class			