

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

Messenger

November
2021

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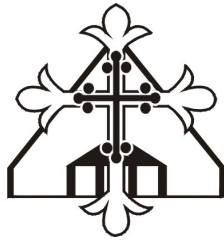
Website
www.stmatthewlcms.com



Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor
Rev. Arturo Mendez



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The month of November is often referred to as the month our Holiday season begins. For many, the “holiday” season begins with Thanksgiving (often kicked off with the Black Friday sales, getting ready for Christmas). Although Thanksgiving Day is a secular holiday I believe it is one which we, as Christians, can and should embrace. Indeed, who should be more thankful than we Christians who know who gives us all? We rightly know that we are born into this world with nothing, and we will leave this world with nothing. We are merely stewards, caretakers of all that God has given on loan to us to use for Him and service to Him and Him alone while He gives us life and breath in this world.

As a Christian and Lutheran Congregation here in this place, St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield has much for which we may be thankful. Unlike many congregations, we have no debt. We actually own all our facilities and land. And we might add to that fact that we also actually have a savings. Not long ago the Lord placed into our midst a second pastor, a worker/priest who has a passion for and is working to bring the Gospel to our neighbors, especially our Hispanic neighbors. Would it not be great if his enthusiasm wore off on the rest of us so that with zeal we might become impassioned anew to share the Good News of Jesus with others? This is our purpose and response for being God’s people in this place.

With all these physical blessings mentioned we must realize that these items are not the Church. The building is not the Church and most certainly it is not *our* Church. Many have gone on before us to begin this congregation, to build these buildings and to get us to the place where we are today. And after we are gone, if the Lord wills, many will continue to be God’s Church and this congregation in this place. The Church is the body of Christ, the body of believers so that even if all these physical items disappeared, are destroyed or taken, the Church remains. The Church remains wherever the people of God gather for Divine Service. It is too often that we forget what is the Church and instead tend too focus too much, as did the Pharisees, on the buildings and facilities. Remember Jesus’ words, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up” (John 2:19). The Church is the body of Christ, that is, those who have faith in Jesus and Jesus alone for salvation.

As the “holiday” season begins anew, I would encourage you, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to renew your zeal and thanksgiving to God and your desire to make regular and diligent use of His means of grace, attending as many if not all the extra opportunities that will be offered to be in Divine Service and Bible Class, to be given the gifts and blessings God has to give.

God’s richest blessings.
In His Service,

Pastor Bogs
1 Cor. 15:3-5

A HIGHER THINGS YOUTH GATHERING
July 26-29, 2022
Valparaiso, Indiana



Topic . . .

Six Letters. That's all you need. Six letters to explain the point of everything. Six letters to make crystal clear the entire Christian faith. What are those letters? FOR YOU.

When: July 26-29, 2022

Where: Valparaiso, Indiana

Cost: \$435 (not including transportation)

Contact: See Gayle Bogs if you want to go with the group from our church.

RSVP: Either tell Gayle or you may go online yourself and register at www.higherthings.org/events/retreats

About this retreat . . .

Our S.M.A.R.T. youth group is planning for Higher Things in Valparaiso, Indiana (aka "Valpo"), and we're hoping to share the transportation cost with the youth group from Zion, Tomball. Valpo will fill up fast being the most central and southern location. So we will want to get our registrations in asap. This will be July 26-29, 2022, most likely leaving the 24th and arriving home the 30th. If you want to go, get that week on your calendars now! Registration opens on November 1st. A \$150 deposit will lock in your spot. This deposit will be non-refundable unless you find someone to take your place. The total registration (not including travel) is \$435. The other \$285 is due January 31st. After that, the registration cost rises to \$460, the \$500. So, we want to start fundraising and saving early. Our first fundraiser will be THIS MONTH during our Reformation Festival on Sunday, October 31st. Be sure to plan to be there!

About Higher Things...

Higher Things is a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The mission of Higher Things is to support the church in passing on the Faith by teaching the next generation the Gospel of Jesus Christ: that they are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, as revealed in Scripture alone. For more information about Higher Things, please visit www.higherthings.org or email info@higherthings.org.



*The Rev. Dr. & Mrs. Ronald Bogs and
American Heritage Girls Troop TX0355
invite you to the Stars & Stripes Court of Honor for*

Hannah Gayle Bogs

*Saturday, November 13, 2021 at 11:00 am
in St. Matthew Fellowship Hall*

*A Dinner Reception will follow the Ceremony.
Please RSVP by November 7. Sign up in the Narthex today!*

November 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		7pm ESL Classes	10am Romans Bible Class 5:30 Youth Confirmation Class 7pm Psalms Evening Bible class	10am Bulletin Cutoff 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed/Pastor Bogs' Family Day 4pm-7pm Picture Day	12pm-3pm Picture Day
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service		7pm ESL Classes	10am Romans Bible Class 5:30pm Youth Confirmation Class 7pm Psalms Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Cutoff 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed/ Pastor Bogs' Family Day 4pm-7pm Picture Day	8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Board of Elders Meeting 12pm-3pm Picture Day
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service		7pm ESL Classes	10am Romans Bible Class 5:30pm Youth Confirmation Class 7pm Psalms Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Cutoff 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed/ Pastor Bogs' Family Day	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service CAM Meeting After Divine Service		7pm ESL Classes	10am Romans Bible Class 7pm ESL Classes 7pm Psalms Evening Bible Class	Happy Thanksgiving! Enjoy time with family and friends!	Office Closed/ Pastor Bogs' Family Day	
28 8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service	29	30				
		7pm ESL Classes				

Trustees' Report

CAM - Congregational Assembly Meeting

Immediately following the Divine Service on Sunday, November 21st we will be having a CAM Meeting.

LED Light Improvement Fund

There is also a fund for a gradual upgrade of all building lights to LEDs to help in reducing our utility cost in the future. Any dedicated donations towards this fund please specify "LED Light Improvement Fund."

Holy Days & Holidays in November

November 1st - All Saint's Day

November 7th - Daylight Savings Time Ends

November 11th - Veterans Day

November 25th - Thanksgiving Day

November 30th - St. Andrew, Apostle

Happy Birthday to You!

11-06 Kenneth Lilley
11-10 Kate McIlhany
11-11 Don Cornman
11-11 Carine Pierce
11-13 Claire O'Garro
11-15 Rose Goebel
11-15 Holly Williamson
11-19 Patsy Hodges
11-23 Nathan Cross
11-26 Chad Lilley
11-27 John Lisius
11-30 Jane McElroy

Baptismal Birthdays

11-11 Mackenzie Gentes
11-16 Kathleen Montemayor
11-19 Charles Baumgartner
11-21 Gary Lawrence
11-24 Carol Gentes
11-25 Caroline Christy
11-29 Patsy Hodges

Confirmation Anniversaries

11-20 Louise Simmons
11-21 Scott Christy
11-21 Sylvia Christy
11-21 Ashley Massuda
11-23 Jeanne Langley

Wedding Anniversaries

11-13 Don and Jennifer Cornman - 28 years
11-29 Werner and Karen Hartl - 34 Years

Opportunities to Study God's Word Sunday School for All Ages

Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in **Room #2**. The children are learning Biblical accounts from the Growing in Christ series. The **Jr. High through High School** class is led by Pastor Mendez in **Room #3**.



Sunday Adult Bible Classes

All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited to attend the Adult Bible Classes each Sunday at 8:45 am. **Answers in Revelations** led by Pastor Bogs meets in the Fellowship Hall (gym). And **Galatians** led by Larry Harvey meets in **Room #4**. Please join us.



Wednesday Mornings

The Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group meets at **10:00 am** in **Room #2**. We invite everyone who is available to join us to study God's Word. We are studying **Romans**.

Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday evening Bible Class meets at **7 pm** in **Room #2**. We are studying the **Psalms**. Bring a friend for an enjoyable evening!

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Join us for the Men's Breakfast and Bible study on the **2nd Saturday** of the month at **8:00 am** in the **Fellowship Hall** where we are studying **Nehemiah**. **The Board of Elders meet following study at 10:00am.**



PRISM — Precious Rubies In St Matthew

Ladies' PRISM meetings *usually* take place the **4th Saturday** of the month where we begin with Breakfast and a Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am. However, since the Covid break we have not met. If you are interested in starting to meet again, please let Tiffany Cowger, Melissa Sindlinger or Gayle Bogs know and watch here for more information.

Those Serving the Lord this Month

Elders ~ Jarod Christy & Scott Christy

Greeters ~ Sonny & Joyce French

Ushers ~ Luke Tusing & Jordan Christy

Counters ~ Barbara Newbould & Luke Tusing, Jr.

Altar Guild ~ Robert & Melissa Sindlinger