

Messenger

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

September
2022

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Pastor
Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs



Associate Pastor
Rev. Arturo Mendez



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

September is a wonderful month or at least one in which we look forward especially to the fact that Fall or Autumn begins on September 22. After quite a hot Summer and one I believe compares to the one I still remember back in 1981 or 82 we are certainly looking forward to cooler weather. Of course, we are not looking for such cool weather as we had last year when we were frozen for a week. Certainly, if anything, the fluctuations in weather remind us that we do live in a fallen, sin-cursed world,

and while many would look to human reasoning to explain our world, I would encourage you to always go back to what God says knowing that His Word is true and is a Word with authority. Following the great upheaval of the flood, God promised, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease" (Genesis 8:22). And so, while there may be great fluctuations in our weather from time to time, year to year, even month to month we can rest assured that God has always been, will always be, and is now in charge.

Two other important events happen in September. One is what we now call Patriot Day, the day we remember the attack on America 21 years ago and the crashing of planes in the World Trade Center, Pentagon and in Pennsylvania. And while many lives were lost, we also heard of many accounts where God saved lives because those who would usually be in that place were not there because of some delay or other reason. And while there was a change in the behavior of many Americans because of the attack, we were also reminded that unless there is a change of heart, a change of behavior is only temporary as we see our resistance to and refusal of God's Gifts in Divine Service continue even more so today.

As for the other event, I would remind you and encourage you to attend the annual Free Conference of the Texas Confessional Lutherans at Grace Lutheran Church in Brenham on Friday evening September 9 and Saturday morning September 10. Dr. Detliv Schulz will be speaking on the topic of "Church Planting, the Confessional Lutheran Way." Please see the ad in this Newsletter.

God loves you. He has shown His love in the giving of His Son, Himself to live the perfect life demanded of you, to take your sins upon Himself (He who knew no sin), to suffer the eternal death penalty of hell for you, to die for you and to rise for you defeating sin, death and the devil. His desire is to lavish you with all the gifts and blessings He has to give and He does that through the means He has given to do so, His means of grace, His Holy Word, Holy Baptism, Holy Absolution and His Holy Supper. Every Sunday morning we have the opportunity to be given the Lord's gifts through which He prepares us to always be ready to give an answer for our faith and to be ready for His return (or our passing on and going to Him). So, as always I encourage you to come and be given the gifts of God.

God's richest blessings.
In His Service,

Pastor Bogs
1 Cor. 15:3-5

SEPTEMBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
Those Serving the Lord this Month: Elders ~ Steve Roberts & Sonny French Greeters ~ Cathy Smith & Mary Davis Ushers ~ Joshua Montemayor & Noah Montemayor Counter ~ Carolyn McCorquodale Altar Guild ~ Robert & Melissa Sindlinger Acolytes ~ Alex Vaz, Lily Williamson, AJ Parsalaw & Aaron Montemayor				10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed Happy Birthday Steve Nitz!	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service	Office Closed!	7 pm ESL classes Happy Birthday James & Mary Pierce!	10am Bible Class 5:30pm Confirmation class 6:30pm & 7 pm Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed TX Confessional Lutherans Free Conference at Grace Lutheran Church Brenham	TX Confessional Lutherans Free Conference at Grace Lutheran Church Brenham Happy Birthday Edna Ehrhardt & Emeline Nelson!
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service		7 pm ESL classes Happy Birthday David Honerkamp!	10am Bible Class 5:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm & 7pm Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Classes	Office Closed	8am Men's Breakfast & Bible Study 10am Board of Elders Meeting Happy Birthday David Cowger & Dan Pierce!
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service Happy Birthday Aaron & Ruby Montemayor!	GET YOUR NEWSLETTER ARTICLES IN!!!	7 pm ESL classes Happy Birthday Carol Gentes!	10am Bible Class 5:30pm Confirmation Class 6:30pm & 7pm Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Deadline 7pm ESL Class Happy Fall!!!!	Office Closed Happy Birthday Virginia Lawrence!	9 am Prism Meeting Happy Birthday Leon Lilley!
25	26	27	28	29	30	Oct. 1
8:30am Fellowship 8:45am Sunday School 10am Divine Service		7pm ESL Class	10am Bible Class 10 am Newsletter Deadline 5:30 Confirmation Class 6:30pm & 7pm Evening Bible Class	10am Bulletin Deadline & Newsletter Deadline 7pm ESL Class	Office Closed	

Holy Days & Holidays in September

September 5th Labor Day
September 11th Patriot Day
September 14th Holy Cross Day
September 21st St. Matthew, Apostle & Evangelist
September 22nd Fall Begins
September 29th St. Michael And All Angels

Happy Birthday to You!

September 2nd Steve Nitz
September 6th James Pierce
September 6th Mary Pierce
September 10th Edna Ehrhardt
September 10th Emeline Nelson
September 13th David Honerkamp
September 17th David Cowger
September 17th Dan Pierce
September 18th Aaron Montemayor
September 18th Ruby Montemayor
September 20th Carol Gentes
September 23rd Virginia Lawrence
September 24th Leon Lilley

Baptismal Birthdays

September 1st Mikaela Reese
September 3rd Lorna Sentesi
September 6th George Nelson
September 7th Addison Christie
September 9th Joshua Bogs
September 16th Jordan Christy
September 18th Lillian Hill
September 19th Aaron Lilley
September 20th John Tautenhahn
September 21st Aaron Motemayor
September 21st Ruby Montemayor
September 25th Daniel Pedersen
September 29th Kenneth French

Confirmation Anniversaries

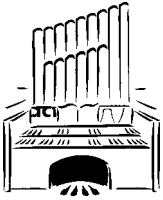
September 12th Christina Cross
September 12th Daniel Cross
September 29th Kenneth French

Wedding Anniversaries

September 16th Gary & Lisa McCorquodale ~ 17 yrs.



St. Matthew News!



Organ Music Operators Needed

Due to the extended absence of Michael Held we are in need of volunteers to play the computerized program which is playing our organ during Divine Service. No special skills are needed, just plug and play. If you are interested, please see Dave Cowger or Gayle Bogs for further information.

Helping Hands Fund

Our Helping Hands Fund is designated to help members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield and from time to time we do have members who have a need for some financial assistance. Because God reminds us that we help those in need when we are able so that others might help us when we are in need (2 Cor. 8:13-15), if you are so moved, the Helping Hands fund could use any donations you wish to give. Please mark your offering as "Helping Hands Fund."



ESL Classes

ESL classes are resuming on Tuesday, August 16th. Classes are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm here at St. Matthew. Pray for this mission that God will bless it to continue strongly in reaching out to our community not only teaching English but also sharing the Gospel of the Lord. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez.

ENGLISH
as a
SECOND LANGUAGE



Confirmation classes have begun

Confirmation classes have resumed every Wednesday at 5:30 pm.

**Let Us
Know!**

If there is anything that you think you or your fellow parishioners would like to see in our monthly newsletter please email the church secretary at office.smlcw@gmail.com. Thank you!

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 from the Growing in Christ series. **The Sr. & Jr. High School class** is led by Pastor Mendez in **Room #3** which is now studying "*For You*" to prepare for their trip to Higher Things Youth Gathering.



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 Pentetuch* 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 the "What about" series. They can be downloaded at: <https://resources.lcms.org/reading-study/what-about-pamphlets/>

Wednesday Evenings

There are two Wednesday evening Bible Classes. The study on *Word & Sacrament* led by Larry Harvey meets at **6:30 pm in Room #4**. The study on *Psalms* led by Pastor 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 at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. There is a schedule change for September. The class will be held on the 3rd Saturday, which is September 17th at 8:00 am. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



PRISM – Precious Rubies In St Matthew

PRISM is going to meet on September 24th at 9 a.m. Ladies of all ages are invited to enjoy breakfast, fellowship, and Bible study. We will be diving into "Living a Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma. "Living a Chocolate Life" invites women to savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ.



See Gayle if you're attending

One Loaf:

How Christ Keeps Us Together
When Everything is Falling Apart

A HIGHER THINGS RETREAT

September 23-24, 2022

Zion Lutheran Church in Tomball, TX

ASL interpreted

About this topic...

We are more connected today than ever before, and yet loneliness, isolation, and division define everything around us. The devil, the world, and our own sinful nature all work to separate us from God and from each other. How does Christ draw us back together when everything is splitting into a million pieces? Through the Scriptures and the story of Christ's Church, Dr. Peperkorn will lead us to understand who we are as the people of God, and why we are one loaf, not just a bunch of cracked kernels.

Dr. Todd A. Peperkorn is an Assistant Professor of Ministry and Missions at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Prior to that, he served parishes in California and Wisconsin. He is one of the founding pastors of Higher Things. He and his wife, Kathryn, have four Higher Things going children.

Things to know...

When: September 23-24, 2022

Where: Zion Lutheran Church
Tomball, TX

Cost: \$50 per person

Contact: Lynea Sander
(832) 722-3170
lynealeia@gmail.com
OR
Tana McKenna
888-482-6640 ext.4
retreats@higherthings.org

RSVP: via online registration at
www.higherthings.org/events/retreats

About this retreat...

Picture the sanctuary filled with teenagers, eager for the organ to begin the opening lines of the liturgy or their favorite hymns, listening intently as they learn how their Lutheran faith applies to their lives and relationships, and laughing as they horse around playing games and getting to know other youth from the area. This retreat will give youth and adults a glimpse of a typical Higher Things youth conference. The \$50 cost covers four meals (Friday supper and all three meals on Saturday) and lodging at the church, in addition to the retreat activities, which begin at 6pm on Friday and conclude at 6:30pm on Saturday.

Register for this retreat online at www.higherthings.org/retreats. Groups are encouraged to register online, however, you may bring your payment with you to Zion Lutheran Church when you arrive for the retreat. Please RSVP for this retreat by September 17.

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.