



We Welcome You to St. Matthew!

We are so glad to share with you the blessings of God's Holy Word today. If you have no church home, we invite you to consider membership at St. Matthew. Please fill out the Record of Fellowship book found at the end of the pew and sign our guest book in the Narthex (entryway). We hope to see you again soon. Come often to be given the gifts our Lord has to give!

Worship Information

Elders..... Jason Christy & Steve Roberts
 Greeters.....
 Ushers..... Luke Tusing & Jordan Chirsty
 Counters.....
 Acolyte..... Isabella Vaz
 Altar Guild..... Hannah Bogs & Becky Mendez

At St. Matthew, we encourage families to worship God together – it is a part of His plan. We love the sound of children. This shows a growing church. We do recognize, however, the special needs of our youngest church attendees. While we encourage children to be present in worship, if they are a distraction to you or others, you may take advantage of the Cry Room located on the south side of the narthex where the Restroom is located as well, which is equipped with a changing table and a rocking chair for the times you may just need to step out for a brief moment. Please do come back in the sanctuary to continue in the Divine Service.

Any prayer requests may be made using the prayer request card on the shelf in the Narthex or in the pews. Place them in the offering plate or give to a pastor or elder.

We're Here to Assist You

Church Office Hours: Monday–Thursday – 8:00 am-1:00 pm

Appointments for counsel, home visits or hospital calls
 may be requested with Pastor by phone at any time.

Senior Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs
 Associate Pastor of Hispanic Ministry..... Rev. Arturo Mendez
 Organist..... Michael Held
 Parish Secretary..... Amanda Hobbs

Board Chairpersons:

Elders..... Jason Christy
 Trustees..... Eugene Meyer
 Education..... Vacant
 Evangelism..... Vacant
 Stewardship..... Vacant

Congregational Officers:

President..... Scott Christy
 Vice Pres..... David Honerkamp
 Secretary..... Christina Cross
 Treasurer..... Dan Cross

St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield is a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) which is a denomination that confesses the historic, orthodox Christian faith, a faith built on “the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone” (Eph. 2:20).

The LCMS, headquartered in St. Louis, Mo., is mission-oriented and Bible-based. LCMS doctrine reflects the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther, as summarized in *The Book of Concord: The Confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church*.

Today, the LCMS has nearly 2 million baptized members in more than 6,000 congregations and some 9,000 pastors. Two seminaries and nine colleges and universities operate under the auspices of the LCMS, and its congregations operate the largest Protestant parochial school system in America.

Life Thoughts

January 1 – Christmas I/Circumcision and Name of Jesus – Our Lord became incarnate to give all humankind the privileges of His name (Numbers 6:27). He means to make the littlest of us into His sons and daughters (Galatians 3:26). The designation of baby Jesus as divine Child demonstrates the Father's delight in declaring infants (Psalm 8:2), eight-day-olds, and even unborn ones (Luke 2:21) as infinitely precious. Receiving them as gifts celebrates Him as God!

Stewardship Every Sunday

Luke 2:21 – “And at the end of eight days, when he was circumcised, he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.” There it is: the shortest Gospel lesson of the whole Church Year. It is for the festival of the Circumcision and Name of Jesus. What more do you need to know than the name of Jesus — “the Lord saves.” That's who Jesus is: the Lord who saves us sinners. That simple Gospel message is the foundation of our faith and the strength to live out our faith.



Attendance for Last Week ~ 12/25/2022

Adult Bible Class - 12 Galatians Class - 7

Sun. Divine Service - 70

Offering - \$

Wed. Morning Bible Class - N/A Wed. Evening Bible Class - 8

For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.

Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

"[Jesus] will care for you until you stand before His throne. Trust Him. Seek Him. Serve Him. Love Him. He's your King. He suffered and died for you. He rose for you. He only has words of love and promise to speak to you. So, when all is equal for you on your deathbed, you can rejoice and say, 'Come quickly, my King,' because He has given you the promise, 'You will be with me in paradise.'"

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 every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. Pray for this mission of St. Matthew that God will bless it to continue strongly. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com.



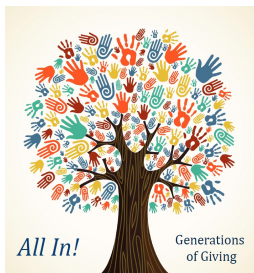
New Board and Committee Training

All those elected to serve beginning in January of 2023, we will have our installation in the Divine Service on Sunday, Jan. 8th. Also, mark your calendar and plan to attend an informative and instructive training workshop on Saturday, Jan. 21st from 9 am to noon. We will learn about electing a chair for the board, planning and carrying out meetings including preparing agendas, and setting goals for 2023. Coffee and refreshments will be provided and ready by 8:30 am.



Board Of Evangelism

The Board of Evangelism will once again be meeting starting in January 2023. We have some things planned and want to do more but we can't do it without your help. We aren't asking anyone to serve on the Committee, just help out. Anyone interested in helping out or if you have a Fellowship Activity you would like us to do see Lester Sentesi. We are looking forward to a year full of Fun & Fellowship.



Prayers for Our Church Family & Friends

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people. . . This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.—1 Timothy 2:1-4

Please remember those whose needs have been reported with prayers, cards and visits. Most requests will be listed for **THREE** Sundays unless updated. **BOLD FONT** indicates request is new or has been updated this Sunday.

Strength & Healing

- ✘ Peggy Berry - diagnosed w/Covid & has Afib (Nicole Poppenhusen Aunt)
- ✘ Gayle Berry - has pneumonia, bilateral pleural effusions, severe DSD, spinal stenosis & some spondylosisthesis (Nicole Poppenhusen Uncle)
- ✘ Oakley Rose Simmons - Born 2 months premature on Nov. 11th weighing 2lbs. 11oz. (Randy & Kathy Bogs)
- ✘ Mariela Guerra - pray for healing (friend of Pastor Mendez)
- ✘ Dave Nahrwold - recovery from complications of cancer surgery (father of Elisabeth Held)
- ✘ Eda Nitz - prayers for new leukemia treatment she is undergoing
- ✘ Carol Ainsworth - Under hospice care with alzheimers (neighbor of Arlene Schultz)
- ✘ Debbie Blanton - suffered a stroke (daughter of Shirley Coyle)
- ✘ Carol Gentes - has shingles
- ✘ Richard Mavus - In rehabilitation

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Michael Held - pancreatic cancer
- ✘ Gladys Banewski - Diagnosed with Cancer (friend of Curtis & Sharon Gace)
- ✘ Jake Fodderie - brain tumor has returned (nephew of Christina Cross)
- ✘ Samantha Brown - being treated for cancer (daughter of Eda Nitz niece)
- ✘ Stephanie Favreau - Breast cancer (friend of the Gace and Goss families)
- ✘ Colin Brogan - recovering from heart surgery (friend of Sonny French)
- ✘ Stephanie Nixdorf - stage 4 melanoma (friend of The Helds)
- ✘ Craig Johnson - in rehabilitation and will hopefully be moved to skilled nursing soon (father of Christina Cross)
- ✘ Brandon Pate - scerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Aileen Mercer - failing eye sight
- ✘ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery
- ✘ Erica Vogt - Covid complications (granddaughter of The Helds)
- ✘ Carolina Villarreal - cancer & surgery (friend of Mendez Family)

- ✱ Benny Alvarez - cancer (brother of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✱ Leon Lilley - Leukemia
- ✱ Chris Pirk - receiving cancer treatment (friend of The Reese Family)
- ✱ Paul Kron - receiving cancer treatment
- ✱ Carmen Arnold - cancer returned (friend of Jarod Christy)
- ✱ Bill Pali - Alzheimers
- ✱ Anne McIlhany - heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✱ Jeanie Cowger - cancer (step-family of The Cowger Family)
- ✱ Kevin Clark - broken neck & back (brother of Korey Clark)
- ✱ Marian Piracci - undergoing neurological treatment (niece of Langley's son-in-law)
- ✱ Vic Vaz - Leukemia (husband of Shelia Vaz)
- ✱ Chryssa Sharp - ovarian cancer (cousin of Karen Mavus)
- ✱ JoAnn Roberts - chronic Leukemia Stage 1 (wife of Steve Roberts)
- ✱ Miranda Rodriguez - bipolar disorder (friend of Shirley Coyle)
- ✱ Betty Carroll - cancer w/dementia (friend of Cathy Coyle's aunt)
- ✱ Sue Wright - cancer (aunt of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✱ Matthew Piserelle - no treatment (brother of Phillip Williamson)
- ✱ Charlie Garton - child w/brain cancer (friend of Mark Johnson)
- ✱ David Saville - MS (nephew of Louie Pali)
- ✱ Christina Cross - multiple health issues (sister of Dan Cross)

Our Shut Ins

Gladys Barton, Marcia Carr, Dixie Garrett, Richard & Karen Mavus, Aileen Mercer, Bill Pali, & Arlene Schultz

General Prayer

- ✱ The family of Ali Lowitzer - strength during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✱ Julie Saunders - for a healthy pregnancy & baby (friend of Gayle Bogs)
- ✱ For the safety of those serving in the military: Bradley Shipes (US Airforce) (former member), Greggrie O'Garro (Navy)-Bahrain (son of Claire O-Garro), Anthony Valles (Army)-Japan (grandson of Nancy Baeza), Chris Crowley (Navy)-USS Roosevelt (son-in-law of Nicole Poppenhusen), Timothy & Benjamin Menz (sons of Paul Menz, Steven & Robert Hailey (Marines) - (nephews of The Haileys)

Birthdays: 1/1 BJ Jackson, 1/2 John Stayton, 1/3 Mark LaShomb, 1/5 Aaron Bogs, 1/7 Kristyn Christie, 1/7 Guy Hardy & 1/7 Jean Hinz

Baptism Anniversaries: 1/1 Melba Bammel, 1/1 Guy Hardy, 1/1 BJ Jackson, 1/1 Bob Langley, 1/1 Jeanne Langley, 1/1 Brenda Pali, 1/1 Luke Tusing, Jr., 1/4 Sandra McGuire, 1/5 Larry Harvey & 1/7 Joel Musgrove

Confirmation Anniversaries: 1/1 Ricky Gause, 1/1 James Musgrove & 1/6 Janis McClure

Wedding Anniversaries: 1/4 Ricky & Jami Gause ~ 49 Yrs.



2023 Serving List

If you have not turned in your 2023 serving list, please turn that in as soon as possible to the church secretary at office.smlcw@gmail.com.

Elders Schedule for 2023

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

Usher Schedule for 2023

January ~ Luke Tusing & Jordan Christy
 February ~ Aaron Montemayor & Joshua Montemayor
 March ~ Dillon Mosier & Noah Montemayor
 April ~ Joshua Montemayor & Aaron Bogs
 May ~ Robert Sindlinger & Aaron Montemayor
 June ~ Luke Tusing & Noah Montemayor
 July ~ Jordan Christy & Aaron Bogs
 August ~ Dillon Mosier & Robert Sindlinger
 September ~ Joshua Montemayor & Noah Montemayor
 October ~ Robert Sindlinger & Aaron Montemayor
 November ~ Luke Tusing & Jordan Christy
 December ~ Dillon Mosier & Aaron Bogs

Altar Guild Schedule 2023

January ~ Hannah Bogs & Becky Mendez
 February ~ Sylvia Christy & Angie Mendez
 March ~ Nancy Baeza & Marie Fisher
 April ~ Rose & BJ Jackson
 May ~ Hannah Bogs & Becky Mendez
 June ~ Sylvia Christy & Angie Mendez
 July ~ Rose & BJ Jackson
 August ~ Tiffany Cowger & Becky Reyes
 September ~ Melissa & Robert Sindlinger
 October ~ Nancy Baeza & Marie Fisher
 November ~ Tiffany Cowger & Becky Reyes
 December ~ Melissa & Robert Sindlinger

January Acolyte Schedule for 2023

January 1st ~ Isabella Vaz
 January 8th ~ Alex Vaz
 January 15th ~ Kaitlyn Christie
 January 22nd ~ Isabella Vaz
 January 29th ~ Alex Vaz



Opportunities to Study God's Word



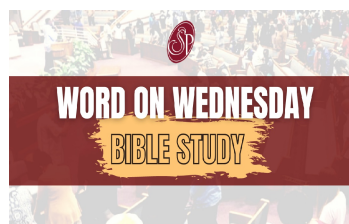
Sunday School for All Ages

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.

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 Pentetuch led by Pastor Bogs meets in Room #2 and Galatians 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 "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 Bogs meets at 7:00 pm 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 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is January 14th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



Poinsettias Year Round Care

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| January - March Keep poinsettias by a well-lit window and water whenever the soil feels dry. | April Gradually decrease watering a move into a dark room after a week or two. Keep at 60 degrees F. | Mid-May Re-pot and place back near a well-lit window. |
| June Move your poinsettia to a partially shaded location outside. | July Begin pinching back each new stem about 1 inch. | Mid-August Bring your poinsettia back inside and place by a window with direct sunlight. |
| September Continue watering and fertilizing your plant while keeping its temp above 65 degrees F. | October Keep your plant in total darkness from 5pm - 8am. During the day place your plant in a sunny window. | November In the last week of November, you should begin to see flower buds. You can now care for your poinsettia as usual. |

Yearly Housekeeping for 2023!!



Mailboxes in the Narthex: Your mailbox is in the narthex in the Ushers room against the back wall. The monthly newsletter, offering envelopes, schedules and any other information that the church needs to get out to you is delivered here. If you do not have a box please notify the church secretary. These boxes will be cleaned out January 26th so please take home whatever papers that you wish to keep.

Prayer Requests: Please take a look at the prayer requests list. If you have an update for someone please let Pastor know or email/call the office so that we can get the update posted.



2023 Flower Chart: Sign up for flowers is in the Usher's room for 2023. Please only use the dry erase pen to choose your day.