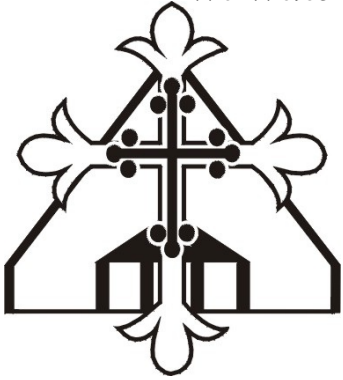


We Welcome You to St. Matthew!



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 ..... Scott Christy & Jason Christy
- Greeters ..... Melissa Sindlinger & Lillian Hill
- Ushers ..... Randy Bogs & Nathan Cross
- Counters ..... Carolyn McCorquodale
- Acolyte ..... Kaitlyn Christie
- Altar Guild ..... Sylvia Christy & Angie Mendez

At St. Matthew, we encourage families to worship God together – it is a part of His plan. 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, we invite you to take advantage of the **Nursery** located in the Sunday School wing north of the Sanctuary which is equipped with a speaker so mom and dad can attend to their child’s needs and still participate in the service. Or you may visit 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.

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.

- Pastor ..... Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs
- Organist ..... Michael Held
- Board Chairpersons:
- Elders ..... Jason Christy
- Trustees ..... Eugene Meyer
- Education ..... Vacant
- Evangelism ..... Vacant
- Stewardship ..... Vacant
- Assoc. Pastor of Hispanic Ministry ..... Rev. Arturo Mendez
- Parish Secretary ... Amanda Hobbs
- Congregational Officers:
- President ..... Scott Christy
- Vice Pres. .... David Honerkamp
- Secretary ..... Christina Cross
- Treasurer ..... Dan Cross

St Matthew News & Notes

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 LCM21S, 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**



February 13 – Epiphany VI – “Cursed is the one who makes flesh his strength” (Jeremiah 17:5) – don’t abortion and assisted suicide do exactly that? Humankind’s hope lies not in the skills or comforts of this life but in the Savior who imparts everlasting life to everybody (1 Corinthians 15:19, 22). Blessed indeed are those who heed not worldly counsels but hearken to the Lord’s words (Psalm 1:1) about human worth!

**Stewardship Every Sunday**

Luke 6:20 – “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.” The Beatitudes are largely about emptiness. If you’re poor, your pockets are empty. If you are hungry, your stomach is empty. If you are mourning, there’s an emptiness in your heart that used to be filled with the presence of a loved one. Jesus assures us in each case that the Lord will fill our emptiness. That assurance gives us not only peace, but also courage to follow the Lord faithfully.



**Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God’s family, the church, in managing all of life and life’s resources for God’s purposes.**

### **PRISM – Precious Rubies In St Matthew**

Please find information for this month's ladies PRISM meeting on Saturday, February 26<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall at the bottom of the Opportunities to Studies God Word section of your bulletin. Thank you so much!

### **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 in reaching out to our community not only teaching English but also sharing the Gospel of the Lord. Of you need more info, please see Pastor Mendez.

### **LED Light Improvement Fund**

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



### **KFUO Radio**

KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Learn about Augsburg Confession Article V: The Ministry with guest Rev. Jacob Hercamp on Concord Matters (2/19 at 10:00 a.m. CT), study Luke 9 on Sharper Iron's "The Beloved Physician's Orderly Account" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Matthew 16-18 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Listen live or on demand at kfu.org and the KFUO Radio app!

#### **Attendance for Last Week (02/06)**

Adult Bible Class - 23 Galatians Class - 15

Sun. Divine Service - 90/\$5626

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 10 Wed. Evening Bible Class - n/a

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

*Praise the Lord! ~Psalm 117:2*

### *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**

- ✘ **Erica Vogt-long term Covid complications (daughter of Michael & Jeanne Held)**
- ✘ **Elizabeth Posey-Still fighting Covid & Flu but has been moved out of the hospital and back to her nursing home (mother of Sharon Gace)**
- ✘ **Carolina Villarreal-Cancer and surgery (friend of The Mendez Family)**
- ✘ Jan Stayton-healing from back surgery this past Wednesday
- ✘ Sue Wright-Cancer Diagnosis (Elaina Alvarez Aunt)
- ✘ Benny Alvarez - Cancer (Elaina's Brother)
- ✘ Brandon Pate-diagnosed with partial sclerosis of the liver(Friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Dale Cowger-Recovering from Covid (father of Dave Cowger)
- ✘ Rosie Hildebrandt-shingles (sister of Curtis Gace)
- ✘ Florentino Castillo-suffering Alzheimer having surgery(father-in-law of Pastor Mendez brother-in-law)
- ✘ Rosemary McElroy-hospitalized in San Antonio for leg amputation (sister-in-law of Janie McElroy)
- ✘ Karren Radcliff-paraplegic needing prayers for healing of wounds (college friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ LaVerne Theiss-hospitalized w/pneumonia (cousin of Jane McElroy)

### **Cancer/Long Term Healing**

- ✘ **Andrue Barnwell-terminal cancer has been moved to hospice care (cousin of Gayle Bogs)**
- ✘ Leon Lilley-Leukemia (father of Troy Lilley)
- ✘ Chris Pirk-receiving cancer treatment (friend of David & Mikaela Reese)
- ✘ Sherry Adams-has started radiation to help treat her cancer (co-worker of Lester Sentesi)
- ✘ Paul Kron-receiving cancer treatment
- ✘ Carmen Arnold-cancer returned (friend of Jarod Christy)
- ✘ Bill Pali-Alzheimers
- ✘ Anne McIlhany-heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis

- ✘ Debbie Blanton - Health complications (Daughter of Shirley Coyle)
- ✘ Ceci–kidney issues (great niece of Jim Gibbs)
- ✘ Dave Nahrwold–bladder cancer (father of Elisabeth Held)
- ✘ Jeanie Cowger–cancer (step-family of Cowger family)
- ✘ Clarence Meal–lung cancer (friend of Bettye Carter)
- ✘ Phyllis Smith–cancer (cousin of Bryce Koslan)
- ✘ Kevin Clark–broken neck & back (brother of Corey Clark)
- ✘ Eugene File–lung cancer (friend of B.J. & Rose Jackson)
- ✘ Marian Piracci–compromised neuro system (niece of Langleys’ son-in-law)
- ✘ Vic Vaz–Lukemia (husband of Sheila 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)
- ✘ Odet Mendez–possible breast cancer (sister of Arturo Mendez)
- ✘ 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**

Louise Simmons, Richard & Karen Mavus, Bill Pali, Aileen Mercer, Mario Reyes, Marcia Carr, Dixie Garrett, Arlene Schultz & Gladys Brandt

#### **General Prayer**

- ✘ The family of Ali Lowitzer–strength & understanding during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✘ For a safe and healthy pregnancy for Mikaela & David Reese (due in May)
- ✘ For the safety of those serving in the military: 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)

#### **Celebrations**

**Birthdays:** 2/13 Jess Clark, 2/16 Mackenzie Gentes, 2/17 Amanda Goss & 2/19 Jake McIlhany

**Baptism Anniversaries:** 2/18 Jean Hinz

**Confirmed Anniversaries:** 2/19 Ashley Christy & Edna Ehrhardt

**Wedding Anniversaries:** 2/14 Corey & Carol Clark ~ 32 Years & 2/17 Bob & Jeanne Langley ~ 49 Years

#### **Life Quotes**

“The Church can become a place of belonging for everyone. As much as a person feels invisible in their loneliness, the church has a place for them. Your Church can be a place where each person finds they are indispensable to the body of Christ.” Mona Fuerstenau – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

#### **NO LESS ACTIVITY**

We're in the midst of that part of the church year that is missing the joyful flurry of activity surrounding the birth of the Christ child, but we haven't yet begun the season of reflection that marks the onset of Lent and the period of fasting and preparation for His death and glorious resurrection.



While it seems like a less active season of the church year, it's actually full of anticipation, preparation, and careful and considerate contemplation. Here at Evangelical Life Ministries, we've tried to reflect that spirit in the content of our Engaging Truth programming for the month of February. We'll address a number of topics vital to the health and growth of the church, ranging from abortion to healing prayer to how to be upright citizens of what Martin Luther refers to as "the two kingdoms."

#### **SUNDAY NIGHT ON KKHT 100.7 FM “THE WORD”**

Listed below is the schedule for February programming:

February 13, 2022

7 p.m. - Dr. Gillian Bond – “Shame”

7:30 p.m. - Rev. Fred Hinz - "Clash of Worldviews"

February 20, 2022

7 p.m. – Rev. George Spicer - "Blog Writing in Ministry"

7:30 p.m. - Rev. Bill Dasch - "Prayer for Healing"

February 27, 2022

7 p.m. - Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

7:30 p.m. - Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty



## Opportunities to Study God's Word

### Sunday School for All Ages

**Preschool - Elementary Classes** begin at 8:45 am in **Room #2**. They 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 "Revelation."



### 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. **Revelation** led by Pastor Bogs meets in the Fellowship Hall (gym). 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 **Corinthians**.



### 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 **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday** of the month at **8:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is January 9th. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



### PRISM - Precious Rubies In St Matthew

PRISM is going to meet on February 26 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. This study reminds readers that the Holy Spirit fills them with sweet faith in the Savior and it is only He who can truly satisfy. Please let Tiffany Cowger (call or text 815-719-1435) if you will be in attendance, so she can order enough books and food!

## Lutherans For Life 2022 Texas State Essay Contest

Sponsored by the Council of Federation Presidents

For Students in Grades 6 through 12

Any Lutheran student in a Lutheran school or church is eligible. Lutheran students may also enter through a home school or congregation, e.g. confirmation class or youth group, when validated by a pastor or teacher.



### Contest Guidelines

Students will write a life-affirming essay based on the theme: Blessed For Life with the Bible verse: "... the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies." Psalm 41:2.

1. Not incorporating the theme and verse in the essay will disqualify the entry.
2. Examples of topics the essay could deal with are, but are not limited to abortion, the handicapped, adoption or foster care, infanticide, cloning, stem cell research, physician assisted suicide or euthanasia etc.
3. Essays should include student's name, grade (school or church), and email address. This information should be submitted on the rubric page used in grading the essay.
4. All sources for references, statistics and quotes should be incorporated within the essay and then included in a bibliography at the end.  
Grades 6 - 8 should submit essays up to 400 words  
Grades 9 - 12 should submit essays up to 750 words  
Entries should be submitted digitally using Microsoft Word or Google Docs to [bgeistfeld@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:bgeistfeld@lutheransforlife.org) by **April 1, 2022**.
5. There will be a \$100 first place award and \$50 second place award for each of the two categories. The two first place category winners will advance to the national contest. Email [bgeistfeld@lutheransforlife.org](mailto:bgeistfeld@lutheransforlife.org) with any questions.
6. Grand prize for the national winning entry at each level: \$250 plus free conference registration to the 2022 Lutherans For Life National conference and one night stay at the conference hotel.
7. All entries become the property of Lutherans For Life.
8. For questions or resources on the sanctity of life, see [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)