

# 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..... Sonny French & Scott Christy  
Greeters..... Dave & Tiffany Cowger  
Ushers ..... Dillon Mosier & Noah Montemayor  
Counters .....  
Acolyte..... Aaron Montemayor  
Altar Guild..... Marie Fischer & Vita Malloy

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  
281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463

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

Senior Pastor ..... Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs ~ 832-515-4830  
Associate Pastor of Hispanic Ministry . . . Rev. Arturo Mendez ~ 832-883-1705  
Organist.....  
Parish Secretary..... Amanda Hobbs

### Board Chairpersons:

Elders.....  
Trustees..... Eugene Meyer  
Education... Kathleen Montemayor  
Evangelism..... Lester Sentesi  
Stewardship... Nicole Poppenhusen

### Congregational Officers:

President ..... Scott Christy  
Vice Pres ..... David Honerkamp  
Secretary .....  
Treasurer .....  
Financial Secretary.. Nicole Poppenhusen

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

March 17 – Lent V – Jesus Christ embodies the God who abides beside us in our ailments and frailties. Our incarnate and crucified Savior suffers with and for those who cannot sustain or save themselves. He regards even human beings beset by weakness or sickness high enough to take on our condition Himself (Hebrews 5:7-9). The Gospel just leaves no room for abortion or assisted suicide.

## Stewardship Every Sunday

Mark 10:45 – “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Jesus gives everything He has: He gives Himself. That self-giving is the model for our giving in all aspects of our lives. In our family, in our church, and in the world at large, Jesus calls us to follow His example of self-giving. We can only do this if we are connected to His self-giving in faith.

Attendance for Last Week ~ 03/10/2024  
Adult Bible Class - 9 Galatians Class - 12  
Sun. Divine Service - 81  
Offering - \$N/A  
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 7 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 4  
*For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2*

## Life Quotes

“God loves everybody. God loves people that are big and small. God loves people that are every age. God loves people no matter where we live. All people are special to God. The Bible says, ‘For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand’ (Ephesians 2:10). God has good things for each of us.” Timothy, a sixth grader from southern Minnesota, who has Down syndrome – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

## Board of Evangelism Monthly Meeting

The Board of Evangelism & Fellowship will be meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after church service. The next meeting will be Sunday, March 17<sup>th</sup>. So mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you have an activity you would like to see us do, please see Lester Sentesi or any board member.

## Church Re-pipe Fund

At the August 27 Congregational meeting of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield, the voters voted to begin a fund to re-pipe all our facilities. The cost estimated at around \$40,000. This fund is to be funded by any member wishing to make a contribution above their normal tithe. At the same time we will pursue financing the amount over what is contributed. However, if the contributions amount to more than the cost all extra monies will then be put in the general fund.

## ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm and began again on August 15th. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at [pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com).



## Church Telephone Information

Just a quick note that if you are trying to call the church during office hours (8am - 1pm) you will receive a message stating that “the person that you are trying to reach is unavailable.” If you press 0 it will direct you back to the secretary. You can also communicate with the church office through email at [office.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.smlcw@gmail.com).



UPDATE: We are having someone come in to work on the phones Tuesday, 3/19 and hopefully will have them up and running on Wednesday, 3/30. Thank you for your patience during this process.



## 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. **BOLD FONT** indicates request is new or has been updated this Sunday.

### Thanksgiving

✘ Lester Sentesi - successful heart catheter & stint

### Strength & Healing

- ✘ Keith Baker - internal complications - friend of John Lisius
- ✘ Patsy Hodges - recovering at home from cataract surgery
- ✘ Ruben Alvarez - health challenges (father of Elaina Alvarez Christy)
- ✘ Jean Hinz - recovering from hernia surgery
- ✘ Jose Galvaz - recovery from 3<sup>rd</sup> degree burns
- ✘ Mario Deleon - Personal Issues (friend of Scott Christy)
- ✘ Werner Hartl - fell and broke his hand among many other injuries
- ✘ Dale & Kerri McLeod - In critical condition after a plane crash (friends of John & Jan Stayton)

### Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Patricia LaShomb - prayers during her continued treatment and healing from cancer
- ✘ Hunter Baty - Fhar's disease (friend of Marie Fischer)
- ✘ Denise Berry - diagnosed with ALS (cousin of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Helena Goss - prayer for healing as she goes through cancer treatments (Aunt of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Karren Radcliff - hospitalized for wound healing (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Rose Ortiz - stage 2 pancreatic cancer (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Eda Nitz - comfort and peace as she deals with skin cancer, leukemia, and macular degeneration
- ✘ Justin Street - facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Toby Turley - cancer (niece of Gaces)
- ✘ Carolyn Nitche - lymphoma, no treatment plan (aunt of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Michael Held - pancreatic cancer
- ✘ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery
- ✘ Leon Lilley - leukemia
- ✘ Paul Kron - cancer

- ✠ Bill Pali - Alzheimers
- ✠ Anne McIlhany - heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✠ Gladys Banewski - cancer (friend of Gaces)
- ✠ Stephanie Nixdorf - stage 4 melanoma (friend of the Helda)
- ✠ Brandon Pate - sclerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✠ Aileen Mercer - failing eye sight
- ✠ Carolina Villarreal - cancer & surgery (friend of the Mendez Family)
- ✠ Jeanie Cowger - cancer (step-family of the Cowger family)
- ✠ Marian Piracci - neurological treatment (niece of the Langleys' son-in-law)
- ✠ Vic Vaz - leukemia (husband of Shelia Vaz)
- ✠ JoAnn Roberts - chronic Leukemia Stage 1 (wife of Steve Roberts)
- ✠ Sue Wright - prayer of thanksgiving that cancer is in remission but other undiagnosed medical issues are under testing (aunt of Elaina Albarez)
- ✠ Matthew Piserelle - no treatment (brother of Phillip Williamson)

#### Our Shut Ins

Gladys Brandt, Karen Mavus, Aileen Mercer, Bill Pali, Arlene Schultz, Eda Nitz, Sherry Betz, Laverne Theiss & Betty Carter

#### General Prayer

- ✠ Comfort & Protection for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Israel
- ✠ Jason & Kim Christy - healthy pregnancy & baby
- ✠ Sisilie and Chris Lawrence - healthy pregnancy & baby due May 2024 (son & daughter-in-law of Gary & Virginia Lawrence)
- ✠ Susie Wells - seeking employment after 9 years with Microsoft
- ✠ The family of Ali Lowitzer - strength during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✠ 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/USC Roosevelt (son-in-law of Nicole Poppenhusen), Timothy & Benjamin Menz - Marines (sons of Paul Menz), Steven & Robert Hailey - Marines (nephews of the Haileys)

#### April Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the April 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to [office.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.smlcw@gmail.com) by

Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**dates**  
Remember

#### Celebrations

Birthdays: 3/17 Noah Montemayor, 3/18 Marilyn Kron, 3/19 Jeanne Langley & 3/23 Bryce Koslan  
 Confirmed Anniversaries: 3/20 Jason Christy, 3/20 Kenneth Lilley, 3/21 Jean Hinz, 3/22 Curtis Gace & 3/22 Paul Nitz  
 Baptism Anniversaries: 3/20 Amanda Goss, 3/21 Nathan Cross & 3/22 Joyce French  
 Wedding Anniversaries: 3/23 Phillip & Holly Williamson ~ 22 Yrs.

#### 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The Anniversary Committee had their 1<sup>st</sup> meeting and we are excited. The Grand Celebration will be held on May 18, 2025. We have invited Dr. Harrison to be our guest Preacher that day as we celebrate not only 125 years as a congregation, but also our 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic.

We have a lot to do and time is going to fly by. We need your help. If you want to be part of the planning for this awesome year of celebration please see Lester Sentesi. "Growing Together In Christ for 125 Years!"

#### St. Matthew Lutheran Church 2024 Picnic Committee/Volunteers

The Picnic Committee will be meeting on Sunday, 3/24 right after service. There are sign up sheets in the Narthex for side dishes, desserts & for people to sign up to work. We need potato salad, coleslaw, pies & cakes. As well as lots of people to help out. If you have any questions please contact Lester Sentesi, Phillip Williamson or Melissa Sindlinger. Thank you to everyone in advance for your help in making our 2024 picnic a wonderful success.



#### Hymn Sing Requests for the Lenten Services



Your favorite hymn, that hymn that we never get to sing, can be requested now to be sung at our Hymn Sing at 7:15 pm on Lenten Wednesdays before Vespers. Put the hymn number and title on the sheet in the Narthex, and it will be played at Hymn Sing. "First come, first sung!"



Attn: Senior Congregation Members!  
Fellowship wants to re-establish our 55+ Seniors Ministry. We are looking for an excited 55+ person and/or couple to head up the program. If interested please see Lester. This is a Fellowship Group for our 55+ members.

**2024 Special Service Lent Schedule**  
March 20<sup>th</sup>

Noon Service  
7:15pm Hymn Sing  
7:30pm Worship  
10am w/Lord's Supper

March 24<sup>th</sup> Palm Sunday  
/Confirmation

March 28<sup>th</sup> Maundy Thursday

Noon Service  
7:30pmw/Lord's Supper  
Noon Service

March 29<sup>th</sup> Good Friday

7:30pm/Cemetery  
7:00am no Lord's Supper

March 31<sup>st</sup> Easter Sunday

8:45am Sunday School  
10:00am w/Lord's Supper



**Easter Breakfast Tacos & Pancakes**

Please help the youth group to get to Higher Things at the University of the Ozarks in Clarksville, Arkansas this summer. Come to the Easter Breakfast and enjoy their Breakfast Tacos with all the fixings & delicious Pancakes! The youth will appreciate any freewill offering you can make. Another way to support the youth is to sign up for requested items for the breakfast in the Narthex.



This will help them in purchasing what is needed for the meal.

And as always, the youth really appreciates your prayers, but if you would like to support them financially, please make your checks out to St. Matthew Lutheran Church noting for "Higher Things Youth" and place in the offering plate. THANK YOU SO MUCH!!!



**Easter Lilies**

The Easter Lily Sign-Up sheet is in the narthex. Lilies are \$10 a plant. Please make your checks payable to St. Matthew and state if you would like them in honor or in memory of someone. Thank you!



**Opportunities to Study God's Word**

**SUNDAY**



**Sunday School for All Ages**

Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in Room #5. The children are learning Biblical accounts to go with Sunday's Readings from "God's Hand in Our Lives" series from the Church of the Lutheran Confessions.

**SCHOOL**

**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 study of John 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 Luther's Large Catechism.

**Wednesday Evenings**

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on Baptism led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study of End Times led by Pastor Bogs will resume meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Men's Breakfast Bible Study**

Join us for the Men's Breakfast & Bible Study on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is April 13<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.

