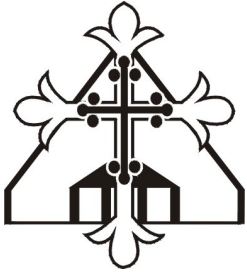


We Welcome You to St. Matthew!



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 & Jason Christy
 Greeters..... Daniel & Christina Cross
 Ushers Joshua Montemayor & Aaron Bogs
 Counters Carolyn McCorquodale
 Acolyte..... Heston Reed
 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
 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..... Michael Held
 Parish Secretary..... Amanda Hobbs

Board Chairpersons:

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

Congregational Officers:

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



April 23 – Easter III – The resurrected and compassionate Jesus made Himself present in His loved ones' sadnesses (Luke 24:16-17). Our Lord is not absent but all the more active in difficulties like surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis. He redeems us and our sufferings to usher us into His exceeding glory (Luke 24:26).

Not only do His words and ways deliver souls from death, but He also undertakes to relieve all tears from their eyes (Psalm 116:8).

Stewardship Every Sunday

1 Peter 1:18-19 – “You were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.” Christ ransomed us and bought us back from the slavery into which we were born. We do not belong to ourselves, to the devil or to the world. We belong to Jesus. Therefore, we live our lives not in accordance with our own wisdom, but in line with God's Word.



Attendance for Last Week ~ <u>04/16/2023</u>	
Adult Bible Class - 15	Galatians Class - 10
Sun. Divine Service - 90	Spanish Service - 14
Offering - \$4443.00	
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 8	Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 5
<i>For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord</i>	

Life Quotes

"I encourage everyone that I meet with to check my words and teaching against God's Word. Ask questions, challenge everything by that Word. I want them to know Jesus and to have that faith which says, 'This is what Jesus says, I am forgiven! I am set free! I am serving and living as a disciple of Jesus! I will go into heaven because of Jesus! ... I am part of God's family!'" Pastor Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com.



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." Each light cost about \$80. Please consider "adopting" a light or two. We are also in need of volunteers to install lights. So if you would like to donate your time to help install lights please contact the trustees.



Helping Hands Fund

Our Helping Hands Fund is designated to help members of St. Matthew 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. Please mark your offering as "Helping Hands Fund."



Board of Evangelism

There will be a Board of Evangelism meeting held on Sunday, April 23rd right after church services.



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.

Thanksgiving

- ✘ Sonny French - Thanks for a successful surgery
- ✘ Birth of Elias Julian born 4/19 - son of Julie & Doug Saunders (friends of the Bogs Family)

Comfort

- ✘ Family of Laverne McWilliams - who passed away this past week (cousin of Lester Sentesi)

Strength & Healing

- ✘ Tonya Michka-Adrion & her daughter Cadi - Cadi's cancer has returned (Daughter & Granddaughter of Joe & Shirley Michka)
- ✘ Kathy Lee - hospitalized after a serious car accident (Lester Sentesi's son-in-laws grandmother)
- ✘ Toby Turley - Cancer (Curtis & Sharon Gace's Niece)
- ✘ Joshua Montemayor - prayers for good medical test results
- ✘ Martha Paz - recovery from health complications (Mother of Pastor Mendez)
- ✘ Cora Berry - recovering from eye surgery (mother of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Karen Radcliff - is home after being in the hospital for 5 months (college friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Mariela Guerra - pray for healing (friend of Pastor Mendez)

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Gayle Berry - blood clot in his lungs & cancer throughout his entire body (uncle of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Dave Nahrwold - recovery from complications of cancer surgery (father of Elisabeth Held)
- ✘ Eda Nitz - new leukemia treatment
- ✘ Michael Held - pancreatic cancer
- ✘ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery

- ✠ Leon Lilley - leukemia
- ✠ Paul Kron - cancer treatment
- ✠ Bill Pali - Alzheimers
- ✠ Anne McIlhany - heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✠ Rev. Bruce Nathan - in town for cancer treatment@MD Anderson
- ✠ Gladys Banewski - cancer (friend of Curtis & Sharon Gace)
- ✠ Jake Fodderie - brain tumor (nephew of Christina Cross)
- ✠ Stephanie Favreau - Breast cancer (friend of the Gace & Goss families)
- ✠ Colin Brogan - recovering from heart surgery (friend of Sonny French)
- ✠ Stephanie Nixdorf - stage 4 melanoma (friend of the Helds)
- ✠ Craig Johnson - rehab/skilled nursing soon (father of Christina Cross)
- ✠ Brandon Pate - sclerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✠ Aileen Mercer - failing eye sight
- ✠ Erica Vogt - Covid complications (granddaughter of the Helds)
- ✠ Carolina Villarreal - cancer & surgery (friend of the Mendez Family)
- ✠ Benny Alvarez - cancer (brother of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✠ Chris Pirk - cancer treatment (friend of the Reese family)
- ✠ Carmen Arnold - cancer returned (friend of Jarod Christy)
- ✠ Jeanie Cowger - cancer (step-family of the Cowger family)
- ✠ Kevin Clark - broken neck & back (brother of Corey Clark)
- ✠ Marian Piracci - neurological treatment (niece of the Langleys' 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)
- ✠ Sue Wright - cancer (aunt of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✠ Matthew Piserelle - no treatment (brother of Phillip Williamson)

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)
- ✠ Healthy pregnancies & babies for: Ashlyn Frizzel due in June & Amanda McCarthy due in October (Rachel Sentesi's sister-in-law)
- ✠ For the safety of those serving in the military: Bradley Shipes - Airforce/Washington DC (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 - Marines (sons of Paul Menz), Steven & Robert Hailey - Marines (nephews of the Haileys)



Celebrations

Birthdays: 4/23 David Christie, 4/23 Robert Sindlinger, 4/27 George Gentes, 4/27 Dwayne Lilley & 4/28 Arrip Parsalaw
 Baptism Anniversaries: 4/25 Jennifer Cornman, 4/27 Tess Clark & 4/27 Trent Clark
 Confirmation Anniversaries: 4/25 Cathy Smith & 4/28 Robert Sindlinger
 Wedding Anniversaries: 4/23 Robert & Melissa Sindlinger ~ 17 Yrs., 4/24 Randy Kathy Bogs ~ 35 Yrs., 4/24 Kenneth & Joyce French ~ 69 Yrs. & David & Mikaela Reese ~ 3 Yrs.

125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Four years ago an attempt was started to get ready to celebrate our congregation's 120th anniversary. That attempt was thwarted by COVID. In one year an eight months we will be celebrating the 125th anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield. In order to assure a proper celebration the congregation has authorized an Anniversary Celebration fund with the understanding that following the celebration any funds remaining will be put into the general fund. Because a committee has not yet been set for this celebration there is not yet a goal as for how much we would like to collect, but please do not let that stop you from beginning the giving so that we might indeed have a grand celebration.



**Chancel Flowers are
 Given to the Glory of God
 by the Reese Family
 in honor of Palmers 1st Birthday**





Matins & A Meal

Just a reminder that Matins and a Meal is Sunday, April 30th after Divine Service and our Sunday School kids will be singing. We invite you to stay for fellowship and food. Please don't forget to bring something to share with everyone. The Sunday School children will be singing on Matins Sunday.

ESL Family Life Workshop

St. Matthew Lutheran Church will be hosting an ESL Family Life Workshop on Saturday, April 29th from 5-8pm, with Trinity Klein Hispanic church. We will come together to participate in this great opportunity to study about the family, the rolls of the parents, the roll of the children, the family unit as a whole and how to integrate as one family of God. The workshop will be given in Spanish, but this topic does not have barriers. Mr. Mark Kempff, one of our Professors from Concordia Seminary in St. Louis Missouri will be our speaker. He is a retired assistant director to Concordia Seminary CHS (Center of Hispanic Studies).



Rev. Kempff also studied Family Life Ministry at Concordia University in Nebraska. We would love to have you and your whole family join us on Saturday, April 29th for our workshop centered around everything family. Please let Pastor Mendez know how many members of your family will be attending and we look forward to seeing you all there.



KFUO Radio

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study 1 John 1-2 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), study Judges 14-18 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and hear about the Table of Duties on Concord Matters (4/22 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

Opportunities to Study God's Word

SUNDAY



SCHOOL

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 James.

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 of Jonah and Matthew led by Pastor Bogs which normally meets at 7:00 pm in Room #2 will resume meeting the Wednesday after Easter.

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

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



St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

21434 East Hardy Rd., Houston, TX 77073
www.stmatthewlcms.com

281-443-2304 or 281-443-8463
office.smlcw@gmail.com