

# 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..... Jarod Christy & BJ Jackson  
 Greeters..... Patricia LaShomb & Shirley Kuhlman  
 Ushers ..... Robert Sindlinger & Aaron Montemayor  
 Counters ..... Becky Reyes  
 Acolyte..... Lily Williamson  
 Altar Guild..... Rose & BJ Jackson

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



May 7 – Easter V – The God of the Scriptures displays a decided preference for precisely the kind of lives our world despises. He devotes particular attention to infants and elderly persons (Psalm 146:9), with no thought for who might find them “unwanted” or “burdensome.” He would even have us emulate their dependency upon Him (1 Peter 2:2). And He invites us to know this – and make it known – as real life (John 14:6).

## Stewardship Every Sunday

1 Peter 2:9 – “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.” God has called us to be His own. He has chosen us out of love, out of mercy, out of sheer, divine joy. The apostle Peter says that God chose us so that we might share in His glory and “proclaim the excellencies of Him” who has made us His own. And truly, this is our delight! His joy brings joy to our hearts as well.



Attendance for Last Week ~ <u>04/30/2023</u>	
Adult Bible Class -19	Galatians Class - 10
Sun. Divine Service - 95	Spanish Service - N/A
Offering - \$4465.00	
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 8	Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 8
<i>For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord</i>	



### *Bible Study Schedule Change*

There will be no Wednesday morning, May 10<sup>th</sup> bible study. The evening classes will go on as normal.

### *Life Quotes*

“We were created by a loving God, redeemed by His self-sacrificial act of love, and called to love one another. God loves us; therefore, our life has value. God calls us to love; therefore, our life has purpose. And this, dear friend, is the greatest purpose.” Hannah Nissing, Bulldogs4Life, the Y4Life team at Concordia, Nebraska – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life  
• [lutheransforlife.org](http://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](mailto: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."



## *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.

### Comfort

✘ For the Family of Richard Mavus who passed away on Wednesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### Strength & Healing

- ✘ The McCarthy Family - prayers for strength & peace (Rachael Sentesi's In Laws)
- ✘ Justin Street - found a facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Susan Baumgartner - 3cm aneurysm in her artery - undergoing treatment (cousin of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Carolyn Nitche - Lymphoma has returned with no treatment plan (aunt of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Denise Berry - ongoing test for undiagnosed health issues, also took a fall and fractured her wrist (cousin of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ 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)

### 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)
- ✘ Sue Wright - cancer (aunt of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✘ Matthew Piserelle - no treatment (brother of Phillip Williamson)

Our Shut Ins

Gladys Barton, Marcia Carr, Dixie Garrett, 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: 5/8 Janis Stayton, 5/8 Phillip Williamson, 5/9 Caleb Bogs, 5/10 Christopher Lawrence & 5/13 Karen French  
 Baptism Anniversaries: 5/9 David Cowger  
 Confirmation Anniversaries: 5/7 Scott Gentes & 5/9 Mikaela Reese  
 Wedding Anniversaries: 5/9 Shawn & Amanda Goss ~ 9 Yrs., 5/11 David & Kathy Honerkamp ~ 31 Yrs. & 5/12 Jarrod & Maria Musgrove ~ 11 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.

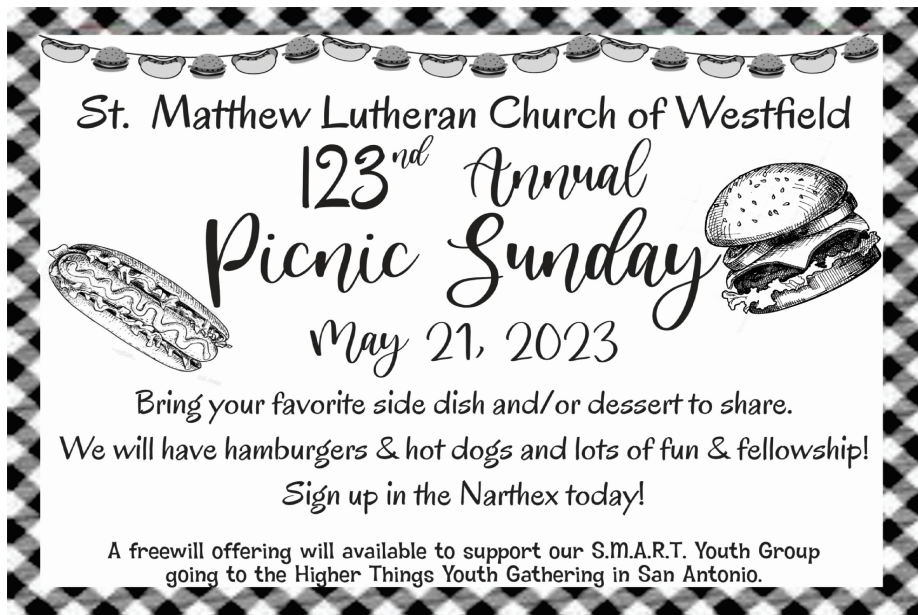


Update to the May Newsletter



This is a list of the May wedding anniversaries. The list that was put in the May 2023 newsletter was for April not May.

- ~ May 9 Shawn & Amanda Goss 9 Yrs.
- ~ May 11 David & Kathy Honerkamp 31 Yrs.
- ~ May 12 Jarrod & Maria Musgrove 11 Yrs.
- ~ May 27 Ronald & Gayle Bogs 34 Yrs.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield  
**123<sup>rd</sup> Annual Picnic Sunday**  
 May 21, 2023

Bring your favorite side dish and/or dessert to share.  
 We will have hamburgers & hot dogs and lots of fun & fellowship!  
 Sign up in the Narthex today!

A freewill offering will available to support our S.M.A.R.T. Youth Group going to the Higher Things Youth Gathering in San Antonio.

**Lifeline ~ Baby Bottle Boomerang**

It's Baby Bottle Boomerang Season Again!!! Lifeline is gearing up for our 3<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL BABY BOTTLE BOOMERANG. Mother's Day (May 14) is just around the corner, and we will have Bottle Banks available for you to pick up, take home and fill with your loose change and cash. Bottle Bank collection day will be on Father's Day (June 18). Want to know



more about Lifeline? Check out their webpage: <https://www.lifelinepcc.net/>

SUNDAY NIGHT, May 7<sup>th</sup> ON KKHT 100.7 FM "THE WORD"

The Lutheran Hour ~ 6:30pm to 7pm

Engaging Truth I ~ 7pm to 7:30pm  
 "BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM" What joys and struggles develop when the Gospel of Jesus meets missional networks?

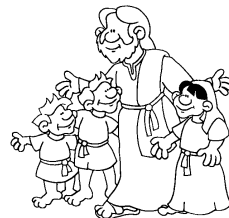


Engaging Truth II ~ 7:30pm to 8pm  
 "LIBERTY ACTION ALERT" - Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Executive Director, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty, offers his insight on the state of religion and government in the U.S.

**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 from the Growing in Christ series. The Sr. & Jr. High School class is led by Pastor Mendez in Room #3.



**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 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 meets at 7:00 pm in Room #2.

**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 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