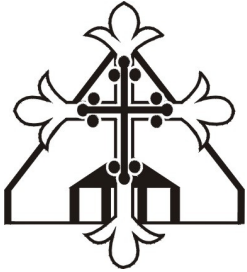


# We Welcome You to St. Matthew!



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..... Isabella Vaz  
 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 21 – Easter VII – The demise of Judas (Acts 1:18) confirms death is always the devil's work (1 Peter 5:8). We are not ashamed to resist its enticements, for the sake of both the Gospel and our neighbors. The work of God, on the other hand, always seeks to adopt even the ones the world discards and number every human life among His household (Psalm 68:5-6). Let us be about the Father's business!

## Stewardship Every Sunday

1 Peter 5:7 – “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.” We have a Father in heaven who really cares for us and loves us. That is the basis of generosity, because such knowledge spells the end of worry, which is the source of all tightfisted greed.



Attendance for Last Week ~ <u>05/14/2023</u>	
Adult Bible Class - 21	Galatians Class - 9
Sun. Divine Service - 102	Spanish Service - N/A
Offering - \$12344.00	
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 9	Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 12
<i>For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord</i>	

### Life Quotes

“God has chosen each one of us from the beginning of creation. God has also chosen our body to be a temple. He gave us the beautiful gift of a body, and we are called to be stewards of that body, to take care of it and be aware of what we do with it. God also chooses each one of us to belong. We all have a spot and purpose in God’s family—and not one of us is useless or random. God chose us with a purpose. Nothing He does is random.” Kambria Steinhaus, Knights 4 Life – 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](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."



Chancel Flowers are  
Given to the Glory of God  
by the French Family  
in honor of Sonny's Birthday



## 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

✘ Prayers for the Family of Gayle Berry - who passed away on Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> (niece of Nicole Poppenhusen)

### Strength & Healing

- ✘ Dixie Garrett - prayers for healing
- ✘ Eddie Cross - having test for possible lymphoma (cousin of Dan Cross)
- ✘ 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

- ✘ 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)
- ✘ 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 - 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

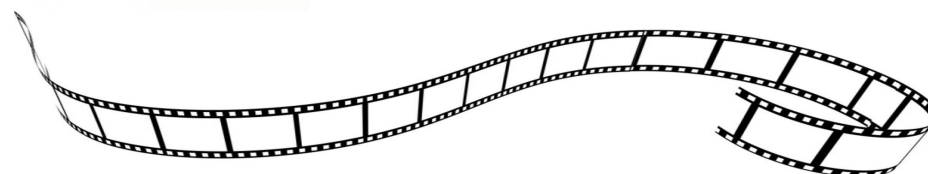
Birthdays: 5/22 Arturo Mendez, 5/25 Kenneth French & 5/26 Eugene Meyer  
 Baptism Anniversaries: 5/21 Conner Lilley, 5/21 Justin Parsalaw, 5/24 Barbara Ellis, 5/24 Dwayne Lilley & 5/25 Scott Gentes  
 Confirmation Anniversaries: 5/21 Kristyn Christie, 5/21 Brent Harvey, 5/21 John Lisius, 5/21 Eugene Meyer, 5/22 Rose Goebel, 5/23 Rachel Paulsel, 5/23 Rebecca Paulsel & 5/25 Carolyn McCorquodale  
 Wedding Anniversaries: 5/27 Ronald & Gayle Bogs ~ 34 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.



Movie Nights at St. Matthew

The Board of Evangelism & Education will begin sponsoring movie nights here at St. Matthew beginning in June. The board would love to have the congregations feedback and input on what movies you would like to see and whether Friday or Saturday night works best for you. There is a sheet placed in the Narthex were you can submit your vote/opinion.





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/>

**Questions of Reflection**

Read 2 Kings 6:8

What was Elisha's servant taught about walking by faith versus walking by sight?

How does Jesus' resurrection affect what you see in the world?

Prayer starter: Ask Jesus to teach you and your congregation how to approach others with faith and love.



**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 June 10th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



**St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield**

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 www.stmatthewlcms.com

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 office.smlcw@gmail.com