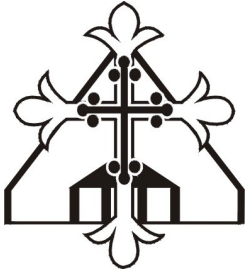


# We Welcome You to St. Matthew!



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 & Steve Roberts  
 Greeters..... Sylvia Christy  
 Ushers..... Jordan Christy & Aaron Bogs  
 Counters..... Nancy Baeza  
 Acolyte..... Alex 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

July 9 – Pentecost VI (Proper 9A) – Neighbors struggling with surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis long for hope and rest. The Lord God Almighty promises His gifts of life come with relief (Matthew 11:28) and rejoicing (Zechariah 9:9). How can we remain silent and deny them the very blessings we've received? Let us take up the privilege of commending life's goodness and God's greatness one generation to another (Psalm 145:4).

## Stewardship Every Sunday

Matthew 11:28 – “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” Jesus has come to do the work so that we might have rest from burdens and labors we are not capable of bearing. He frees us from sin, death and the demands of the Law. In that peace and rest of Jesus we find a new purpose — His light yoke is not a burden to bear, but a joy!



Attendance for Last Week ~ 07/02/2023	
Adult Bible Class - 15	Galatians Class - 10
Sun. Divine Service - 90	Spanish Service - N/A
Offering - \$5038.00	
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 5	Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 11
<i>For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord</i>	

## Life Quotes

“Announcing a pregnancy, feeling a fetus kick, cradling a newborn, attending a Baptism, what happens and what we experience defy description. Grieving and believing over a terminal diagnosis, listening to an aged neighbor’s wisdom and reminiscences, holding a loved one’s hand at a hospital bedside, singing hymns and reciting Scriptures as a relative enters eternity, the encounter exceeds even the beauty and power of words.” Pastor Michael Salemkink, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

## ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm beginning 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).



## 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.



## 4<sup>TH</sup> FRIDAYS!!!!

We had a great time at our first 4<sup>th</sup> Friday Family Movie Night. There were 10 people in attendance and we had a blast. Our next 4<sup>th</sup> Friday will be held on July 28<sup>th</sup> at 7pm. We are looking forward to seeing you and that friend you invited.



If you have a suggestion for a movie that you would like to see let Lester know. Just keep in mind that they need to be family friendly so all of us can enjoy.



## 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

- ✘ On the birth of Jane on June 26<sup>th</sup> to Ashlyn & Damion Brodie (friends of Hannah Bogs)
- ✘ For Chris Pirk he has completed cancer treatment and is doing well (friend of the Reese Family)

## Strength & Healing

- ✘ Arlene & Victor Schultz - God’s provision when a tree fell on their house
- ✘ Patricia LaShomb - diagnosed with stage 2 Oral Squamous Cell Carcinoma she will be undergoing more testing before surgery
- ✘ Eda Nitz - is in rehabilitation at Encompass Rehab
- ✘ Linda Ristow - heart surgery is scheduled for July 7th (Lester Sentesi’s sister-in-law)
- ✘ Eddie Cross - having test for possible lymphoma (cousin of Dan Cross)
- ✘ Justin Street - found a facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Denise Berry - ongoing test for undiagnosed health issues, also took a fall and fractured her wrist (cousin of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Joshua Montemayor - prayers for good medical test results
- ✘ Martha Paz - recovery from health complications (Mother of Pastor Mendez)

## Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Tonya Michka-Adrión & her daughter Cadi - Cadi’s cancer has returned (Daughter & Granddaughter of Joe & Shirley Michka)
- ✘ Toby Turley - Cancer (Curtis & Sharon Gace’s Niece)
- ✘ Carolyn Nitche - Lymphoma has returned with no treatment plan (aunt of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Sharon Anderson - metastatic colon cancer & is undergoing chemotherapy (twin sister of Karen Hartl)
- ✘ Angela Wilkins - undergoing treatment for breast cancer (Gayle Bell’s daughter)
- ✘ 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
- ✘ Gladys Banewski - cancer (friend of Curtis & Sharon Gace)
- ✘ Jake Fodderie - brain tumor (nephew of Christina Cross)
- ✘ 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)
- ✘ 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: Amanda McCarthy due in October ( Rachel Sentesi's sister-in-law)
- ✘ 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)

Celebrations



Birthdays: 7/9 Caroline Christy, 7/11 Andy Montemayor, 7/15 Jason Christy & 7/15 Jennifer Cornman  
 Baptism Anniversaries: 7/14 Clay Lilley & 7/15 Rebecca Paulsel  
 Wedding Anniversaries: 7/12 Sandra & Aaron Pedersen ~ 12 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. 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.



SUNDAY NIGHT ON KKHT 100.7 FM "THE WORD"  
 JULY 9, 2023

6:30 to 7 p.m. ~ The Lutheran Hour



7 - 7:30 p.m. ~ Engaging Truth I  
 "COMPASSION AND DIGNITY" Based on a life of strong faith, Danielle Talent believes that two keys to patient care as a nurse are compassion and dignity. "Everyone, no matter how ill, deserves to be treated with dignity and compassion, but they also need to be held to some level of accountability," she told host Pastor David Schultz.

7:30 - 8 p.m. ~ Engaging Truth II  
 "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.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church  
2024 Picnic Committee/Volunteers

We at St. Matthew are looking forward to our 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in 2025. We want to re-launch our Annual May BBQ starting in May 2024 to ensure that it is up & running smoothly for that big celebration we would like to start planning now.



With that in mind we will be needing lots of volunteers. What we are needing right now is a volunteer to be "Kitchen Chairperson." This person will be available to supervise both on Saturday and Sunday of Picnic Weekend for setup, supervision of all aspects of the serving on that Sunday, to just generally make sure everything runs smoothly and clean-up.

We are also getting our Picnic Planning Committee together to plan, set-up & get everything ready to go. If you would like to serve as we plan for the re-launch of this iconic event see Lester Sentesi.

HELP WANTED for Eda Nitz

Looking for one or more persons to occasionally clean my mother's house (near Houston NW Medical Center) and/or drive her to doctor appointments. \$20/hour. Please contact Paul Nitz (281) 250-9509 if interested.



Prayer Request Updates

If you have submitted a prayer request for the church bulletin please update the church secretary on the condition and/or whether the prayer recipient has recovered and may be removed from the list. Thank you!



Board of Evangelism

The Board of Evangelism will be meeting on Sunday, July 16th immediately after church service.



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!



**WE ♥ WEDNESDAY** 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 The Minor Prophets.

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 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 August 12th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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