

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..... Jason Christy & David Honerkamp
 Greeters..... Sylvia Christy
 Ushers..... Jordan Christy & Jarod Christy
 Counters..... Becky Reyes
 Acolyte..... Heston Reed
 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.....
 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..... Becky Reyes
 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

July 21 – Pentecost IX (Proper 11B) – The world wants to discriminate between lives it finds worthy and ones it regards as undeserving. The coming of Christ Jesus has brought about something better – reconciliation that has dissolved all division and abolished hostility in God's forgiveness and fellowship (Ephesians 2:14-17). His kingdom leaves neither need nor room for discounting anyone because of shade, shape, sex, age, income, education, or residence.

Stewardship Every Sunday

Ephesians 2:13 – “But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.” What all of mankind's efforts, works and scheming could not do, the blood of Christ did: We have peace with God, and we are brought near to the Father. This life-giving sacrifice of Christ sets the pattern for the sacrifices we are called to make for others in our vocations in home, church and society.

August Newsletter Deadline



If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the August 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by **Monday, July 22nd**

Attendance for Last Week ~ 07/14/2024
Adult Bible Class - 21 Galatians Class - 14
Sun. Divine Service - 91
Offering - \$N/A

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 4 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 9

For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

“We have the grace and truth of the Gospel to share—not only with women and men in crisis pregnancies but also with those so adamantly advocating for abortion. Why would we not share Christ with a lost and hurting people?” Diane Albers, President of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Board of Evangelism Monthly Meeting



The Board of Evangelism & Fellowship will be meeting every 3rd Sunday of each month after church service. The next meeting will be, Sunday, July 21st. 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. The church re-pipe began on Friday, May 10th and is expected to continue for 6 weeks or less.

Lutheran Witness Subscription

If you have requested and been receiving a subscription to the Lutheran Witness and have not submitted payment for your subscription. Please bring your envelope with the subscription cost of \$22.50 as soon as possible. Thank you



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.

Comfort

✠ For the Family of Rose Ortiz who passed away (friend of Nancy Baeza)

Thanksgiving

✠ Ray Reed - successful ablation surgery (wife Nadine Reed)

Strength & Healing

✠ Art Mowad - undergoing cancer treatments (acquaintance of the Langleys)

✠ Miles Lindenberg - newborn baby diagnosed with aggressive blood disease (son of Chrissy & Donnie Lindenberg, friends of Pastor & Gayle)

✠ Paul Kron - prayers for recovery from kidney failure & cancer treatments.

✠ Cindy Dewbre McClure: Complications with her third knee replacement surgery on the same knee. (Friend of Elaina Alvarez Christy)

✠ Robbie Barton - diagnosed with cancer (Jennifer Haileys brother)

✠ Jim Musgrove - fell at home. He has been released from the hospital and is recovering at home

✠ Erica Vogt - recovering from surgery (Jeanne Held granddaughter)

✠ Patsy Hodges - recovering at home from cataract surgery

✠ Jean Hinz - recovering from hernia surgery

✠ Werner Hartl - fell and broke his hand among many other injuries

Cancer/Long Term Healing

✠ Ruben Alvarez - health challenges (father of Elaina Alvarez Christy)

✠ Jose Galvaz - recovering from 3rd degree burns

✠ Rick Hamitt - has been diagnosed with ALS (son-in-law of The Staytons)

✠ 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)

- ✘ Justin Street - facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Toby Turley - cancer (niece of Gaces)
- ✘ Carolyn Nitche - lymphoma, no treatment plan (aunt of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery
- ✘ Leon Lilley - leukemia
- ✘ Bill Pali - Alzheimers
- ✘ Anne McIlhany - heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✘ Gladys Banewski - cancer (friend of Gaces)
- ✘ Brandon Pate - sclerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ 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)

Our Shut Ins

Gladys Brandt, Karen Mavus, Aileen Mercer, Bill Pali, Arlene Schultz & Sherry Betz

General Prayer

- ✘ Bella Kirk - High risk pregnancy with twins ~ Update she lost one of the twins but the other seems healthy at this time (friend of Lester Sentesi)
- ✘ Comfort & Protection for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Israel
- ✘ 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: Daemon Metcalf - Navy (friend of Hanah Hailey), Victor & Andrew Guinn - Airforce (Sons of Paul Guinn), 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), Robert Hailey - Marines (nephew of the Haileys)

Celebrations

Birthdays: 7/15 Jason Christy, 7/15 Jennifer Cornman
 7/16 Carolyn McCorquodale, 7/24 Jordan Christy, 7/24 Mikaela Reese,
 7/27 Randy Bogs & 7/27 Ean Cowger
 Baptism Anniversaries: 7/14 Clay Lilley & 7/25 Arrip Parsalaw
 Wedding Anniversaries: 7/21 Scott & Sylvia Christy ~ 45 Yrs.

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, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. 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: Hear stories from around the Synod (including our history series on the Puritan Movement) on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), study Luke 12-16 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study Zechariah 9-13 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The 125th Anniversary Committee is well underway for next year and we need your help. We have 6 subcommittees that need help.



1. Kick Off Celebration - 1/19/25
2. Banner Committee
3. Collectible or Memento Committee (work on a collectible souvenir)
4. Entertainment
5. School/Alumni Sunday
6. Reformation Celebration

Sign up sheets are in the Narthex. Please sign up. Also think and pray about a monetary donation to the Anniversary Account to help take care of the cost. "Growing Together in Christ for 125 years"

Texas Confessional Lutherans

I'm inviting you to the quarterly gathering of Texas Confessional Lutherans at Grace Lutheran Church 1212 W Jefferson in Brenham, Texas, Thursday July 25, 2024. Opening devotion will be at 10:30 am. Among other business, we will review and discuss the transcript of a lecture given by Rev. Rolf Preus given back in 2001. Although that lecture took place over 20 years ago, the topic is still pertinent as the flaws of pietistic thought and practice continue to creep into our worship and teaching.

We continue to solicit ideas for overtures to be presented at the 2025 District Convention. We'd be glad to give you feedback and help develop support for confessional Lutheran approaches to parish ministry and outreach. Let me take this opportunity to also remind you of the August 30-31 Free Conference, also hosted by Grace Lutheran in Brenham. Information was recently sent out via a sperate email. Please let me know if you didn't receive that information and would like to receive it.

Evangelism ~ Why Me?

Last month we discussed what Evangelism is. This month let's take a look at why Evangelism is the privilege of every Christian. Most people run for the hills whenever a Pastor teaches or preaches about Evangelism. After all, that's not 1 of my gifts. That is someone else's job. WRONG In the Great Promise Jesus instructs His Disciples to "as you are going make disciples (those who desire to learn) of all nations" Matthew 28:19. Was that just directed at the 12 Disciples? No. Like everything else Christ taught and said these words were meant for us as well as the 12. Does that mean that we give up our chosen vocations, sell our worldly possessions and dedicate our lives to the teaching and witnessing of the Gospel to the world? Also no. While there are those men and women who God calls into Ministry as Pastors, Teachers, Deacons, Deaconesses, DECs or other areas of full time church work these words were spoken by Christ to all believers You may ask yourself, "What can I do? I am no good at talking to people, especially people I don't know?" No problem. There are many ways to "evangelize" and most of them have nothing to do with knocking on doors.

Most importantly is our "lifestyle Evangelism" that we exhibit on a daily basis. Visiting a shut in. Helping our neighbors even when they don't ask. Being in Sunday School and Bible Class and bringing our kids with us (what an awesome example to set.) Whenever we reach out in Christian love to help, aid, assist and/or correct or admonish we are exhibiting our faith in and our love for Christ and all he has done for us. We must remember however, that the reverse is also true. When we step outside our faith and do something that is contrary to God's word we are also witnessing. Getting frustrated and yelling at people in traffic especially when there are friends and/or family members in the car with us. Getting mad at the person ahead of us in the grocery line because they have 22 items in the 15 item or less aisle, the music we listen to and the shows and movies we watch all give testimony to the Witness we put forth to the world. How do you want to be perceived by those you come into contact with? Remember what Saint Paul tells us: "we are in the world, not of the world." We are chosen redeemed children of God. Does our daily witness show that? To that end Pastor Bogs will be leading us in a Witnessing Workshop on Saturday August 24th from 9 till Noon. Make plans to be there and find out what Witnessing is all about

Lester Sentesi
Board of Evangelism

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 The Augsburg Confession.

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 Acts led by Pastor Bogs meets at 7pm in Room #2.

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

