

# 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..... Ruby Montemayor  
 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 23 – Pentecost VIII (Proper 11A) – The people of God dare not confuse weeds with wheat. His Word clearly distinguishes His gifts from counterfeits. For our neighbor's sake and our own, we must recognize the enemy's doings (Matthew 13:27-28). Abortion, embryocide, and euthanasia are the devil's deceptions. Jesus Christ alone decides life and death for us (Isaiah 44:6), and His timing never withholds any bounties or glories (Romans 8:18).

## Stewardship Every Sunday

Romans 8:18 – “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us.” It is very easy to get caught up in the present and lose track of our ultimate destiny in the kingdom of God. St. Paul encourages us to keep eternity in mind. This certainly has an application to our support for the Gospel — if we keep our focus on “the glory to be revealed” we will see our tithes and offerings in a new light.

Attendance for Last Week ~ 07/16/2023

|                              |                                 |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Adult Bible Class - 18       | Galatians Class - 12            |
| Sun. Divine Service - 100    | Spanish Service - N/A           |
| Offering - \$6642.00         |                                 |
| Wed. Morning Bible Class - 8 | Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 10 |

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

## Life Quotes

"Jesus, who is all Man and all God, becomes one of us in order that all of us might become one with Him. Finally, a sigh of relief, a cry of joy, even, a shout of thanksgiving! God is on the throne. Amen." Rev. Dr. John Nunes, Guest Speaker on "The Lutheran Hour" – 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.



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SUNDAY NIGHT ON KKHT 100.7 FM "THE WORD"  
JULY 23, 2023

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

7 - 7:30 p.m. ~ Engaging Truth I

"MEDICINE & FAITH"

Many people struggle with kidney problems. Wouldn't it be great to get an early diagnosis? Find out more from our special guest, Dr. Chau Vu. Dr. Vu shares a bit of his history regarding medicine and research in this exciting and important field, as well as his faith in Jesus Christ as Lord. God gives him the strength and passion to serve others in this important area of medicine. Tune in to hear of God's exciting work in Dr. Vu's life.

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.



## 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.

### Thanksgiving

✘ Linda Ristow - had a pacemaker put in and will not need open heart surgery (Lester Sentesi's sister-in-law)

### Strength & Healing

- ✘ Esther Miller - kidney cancer, surgery to remove tumor on 7/21 (friend of Gayle Bogs)
- ✘ Healing for JoAnn Roberts after her surgery (wife of Steve Roberts)
- ✘ 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
- ✘ 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-Adrion & 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)
- ✘ 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

- ✘ Susie Wells - seeking employment after 9 years with Microsoft
- ✘ 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/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: 7/24 Jordan Christy, 7/24 Mikaela Reese, 7/27 Randy Bogs, 7/27 Ean Cowger, 7/27 Austin Paulsel, 7/28 Addison Christie & 7/28 Dale Haude

Baptism Anniversaries: 7/25 Arrip Parsalaw



#### 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.



#### 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.



#### Matins & A Meal

Just a reminder that Matins and a Meal is Sunday, July 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

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.

Questions for reflection:

Read 1 Corinthians 1:22-25

- ✘ What human wisdom and strength may get in the way of the Gospel?
- ✘ What shows that you and your congregation are focused on Jesus the Savior?

Prayer starter: Pray Ps. 25:4-5 for you and your congregation.



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!



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.



**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 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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