

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 Steve Roberts & BJ Jackson
 Greeters Curtis & Sharon Gace
 Ushers Dillon Mosier & Luke Tusing
 Counters Carolyn McCorquodale
 Altar Guild Tiffany Cowger & Carol Clark

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

August 25 – Pentecost XIV (Proper 16B) – The Gospel of Jesus Christ liberates us from living for ourselves alone. We reside in the hands of Almighty God like clay and potter (Isaiah 29:16). So we don't have to settle for “my body, my choice.” Instead, we get to benefit from Him deciding life and death on our behalf. May our marriages and parenting replicate the magnificent way Christ and Church abandon themselves to one another (Ephesians 5:22-23).

Stewardship Every Sunday

Mark 7:11 – “But you say, ‘if a man tells his father or his mother, “Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban” (that is, given to God).’ Each one of our vocations, in the home, in the church and in society, has a claim on our resources. The Pharisees thought that they could use the kingdom of God as an excuse to shirk their duty to their parents. But they were wrong. Of course, doing it the other way around would also be wrong. God has called us to be supportive of our families, our churches and our communities each in the proper proportion.



September Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the September 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, August 26.

Attendance for Last Week ~ 08/18/2024
Adult Bible Class - 20 Galatians Class - 14
Sun. Divine Service - 84
Offering - \$4295.00

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 6 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 12

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 live in the presence of evil. Some of it is twisted to sound good. We hear of ‘the compassionate relief of suffering’ or ‘death with dignity’ or ‘right to health care’ or ‘simple medical procedure.’ You know many more. God calls us to confront these with His truth, to reveal the evil behind them. God calls us to educate fellow Christians in His truth so they do not end up ‘possessed’ by this way of thinking. God calls us to call evil what it is, but also to share the truth of what God has done about evil. For that we fix our gaze upon Jesus (Hebrews 12:2). He speaks to us through His Word of truth and grace.” Rev. Dr. James I. Lamb, former Executive Director of Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

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"

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.

Strength & Healing

- ✠ Curtis Gace - Recovering from heart valve repair
- ✠ Brad Ratliff - has an inoperable brain tumor (friend of Lester Sentesi)
- ✠ 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 (brother of Jennifer Hailey)
- ✠ Patsy Hodges - recovering at home from cataract surgery
- ✠ Jean Hinz - recovering from hernia surgery

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 the 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, Jim Musgrove, Shirley Coyle & Marilyn Kron

General Prayer

- ✠ Prayers for a healthy baby for Jarod & Elaina Christy
- ✠ 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: 8/31 Joshua Bogs
 Baptism Anniversaries: 8/27 Andy Montemayor, 8/30 Gayle Bogs & 8/31 William Gentes
 Confirmed Anniversaries: 8/25 Don Cornman
 Wedding Anniversaries: 8/25 Curtis & Sharon Gace ~ 51 Yrs.

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, September 22nd. 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.



The Witness Workshop originally scheduled for Saturday, August 24th has been postponed due to lack of response. We will reach out to other churches and reschedule for a later date. Please keep on eye out in the bulletin and/or newsletter.



Free conference August 30 and 31 in Brenham

Brothers and sisters, I assume you are busy with summer activities. I thought it good to send out a friendly reminder of the upcoming Free Conference hosted by Texas Confessional Lutherans at Grace Lutheran Church in Brenham, Texas on Friday evening and Saturday morning, August 30-31, 2024. Our presenter will be historian and theologian, Rev. Dr. Schurb. His presentation will review and analyze several of the chief theological and political issues and events that led to divisions in the Synod including the "Walk-out" at Concordia Seminary in St. Louis fifty years ago. Dr. Schurb's presentation will provide additional perspective to treat some of the conflicts still evident in our Synod. Dr. Schurb's presentation is designed for both rostered workers and laymen. Please share this notice with your friends and others in your congregation and circuit.



Rev. Schurb currently serves as Administrative Assistant to the President for Missions, Evangelism, Stewardship, and Human Care in the Central Illinois District of the LCMS. He has degrees from Concordia Teachers College, Seward (B.A., B.S.Ed.), Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft. Wayne (M.Div., S.T.M.), and The Ohio State University (M.A., Ph.D.). For 19 years he served as a parish pastor in two congregations: Peace Lutheran Church, Berne, Indiana and Zion Lutheran Church, Moberly, Missouri. He also served as a theology professor at Concordia College, Ann Arbor and has occasionally taught on an adjunct basis for Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne. Presently, he is Book Review Editor of the Concordia Historical Institute Quarterly.

On a more national Synod level he has served as a member of the Board for Youth Ministry, the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, the Committee for Convention Nominations, and the Board of Governors of Concordia Historical Institute. He is now chairman of the Synod's Commission on Handbook. During the 1990s he worked for seven years as an assistant in the office of synodical President A. L. Barry. While a parish pastor in Missouri, he also served as a Vice-President of that District. He is a frequent guest and occasional host of the radio and podcast program, Issues, Etc.

More conference information will be forthcoming early in July. Please mark the dates August 30-31 on your calendars. God bless you. Pastor Kory Boster Christ Lutheran Church in Pattison, Texas phone 918-208-9425

Higher Things 2025

Are you or someone you know going to be 18-24 in June of 2025? Do you love Higher Things conferences?



Want to spend a week with like-minded young adults, taking the next step into HT beyond, checking out art and architecture and how it confesses Christ and Him crucified?

Join Pastor David Kind, Pastor Harrison Goodman, and Crysten Sanchez for a week of exploring, worshipping, developing friendships, and digging into the beauty that the historic Church has to offer in the City of Steeple, Milwaukee, WI.

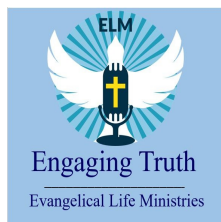
Interested in joining our early access list for perks once registration opens in early 2025? Click the button below!

<https://higherthings.org/events/eyes-to-see-early-access/>

ENGAGING TRUTH BROADCAST - AUGUST 2024

To close out the month on August 25th, host Rev. Dr. Doug Kregel interviews Pastor Frank Hart, who started his ministry as a Christian rock performer and now leads a congregation in Katy, Texas.

All our Engaging Truth programs are broadcast at 7 p.m. Sunday on KKHT-FM, (101.7 The Word - kkht.com) and are also available on our website at <http://www.elmhouston.org> and as podcasts on most podcast platforms.



And our Engaging Truth programs are followed each Sunday evening by the Liberty Action Alert hosted by the Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.

August 25, 2024

7 p.m. - Pastor Frank Hart of NewChurch

7:30 p.m. - LCRL "Liberty Action Alert" hosted by Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz

Please contact us however you choose to offer prayer, to seek prayer for healing or well-being, or to offer financial support. Our mailing address is ELM, P.O. Box 568, Cypress, TX 77410.



Wednesday Bible Study

"PLEASE NOTE: A new study on How We Got the Bible is beginning Wednesday evening, August 21, at 6:30 P.M. in Room # 4. Consider joining this study."

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 Ephesians 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 How We Got the Bible 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 September 14th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.

