

# 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 . . . . . Scott Christy & Sonny French  
 Greeters . . . . . Dave & Tiffany Cowger  
 Ushers . . . . . Joshua Montemayor & Noah Montemayor  
 Counters . . . . . Robert & Melissa Sindlinger  
 Altar Guild . . . . . Robert & Melissa Sindlinger

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

September 8 – Pentecost XVI (Proper 18B) – Almighty God makes the Prophet Isaiah solemnly proclaim, “Behold, your God will come . . . He will come and save” (Isaiah 35:4). Jesus demonstrates its fulfillment when He does not cast aside but cares for the burdened body of a neighbor with impairments (Mark 7:32-35). So why should we hold our tongues any longer when we could be dispensing the same hope to those facing surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis?

## Stewardship Every Sunday

James 2:2 – “For if a man wearing a gold ring and fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in . . .” God shows no partiality: rich and poor alike are called into the kingdom. And both rich and poor alike have something to contribute to the kingdom in accordance with the callings God has given them in their lives. This is why both the Old and New Testaments talk about proportional giving — that is, giving a proportion of our income to the Lord’s work. This makes it possible for rich and poor alike to have the honor of supporting God’s work.



## October Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the October 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to [office.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:office.smlcw@gmail.com) by Monday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Attendance for Last Week ~ 09/01/2024  
Adult Bible Class - 17 Galatians Class - 15  
Sun. Divine Service - 74  
Offering - \$4762.00

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 7 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 14

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

### Life Quotes

“Let us never forget and continue to trust in God as our only resource when we face difficult life issues. Continue to pray for our country as some leaders continue to pursue making laws that jeopardize precious lives and challenge God’s plan for life. Let us put our trust in God, not man.” Virginia Flo, Director of Volunteer Relations, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

### 125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee will be meeting immediately following Divine Service. 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"

### Board of Evangelism Monthly Meeting

The Board of Evangelism & Fellowship will be meeting every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month after church service. The next meeting will be, Sunday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. 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.

**MONTHLY MEETING**

Be Connected. Be Heard. Be Informed.

## 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.

### Prayers of Comfort

- ✘ For the Family of Art Mowad - who passed away this past week (acquaintance of the Langleys)

### Strength & Healing

- ✘ Holly Bettingfield & her fiancé Matthew - they lost all of their belongings including their vehicle in a fire (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Bill Pali - has a Kennedy Ulcer
- ✘ Enrique Flores - broken foot - surgery in 2 weeks (friend of Pastor & Gayle)
- ✘ Brad Ratliff - has an inoperable brain tumor (friend of Lester Sentesi)
- ✘ 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

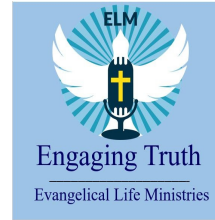
### General Prayer

- ✘ 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/USS Roosevelt (son-in-law of Nicole Poppenhusen), Timothy & Benjamin Menz - Marines (sons of Paul Menz), Robert Hailey - Marines (nephew of the Haileys)

### Celebrations

Birthdays: 9/10 Edna Ehrhardt & 9/13 David Honerkamp  
 Baptism Anniversaries: 9/9 Joshua Bogs  
 Confirmed Anniversaries: 9/12 Christine Cross & 9/12 Daniel Cross

## CHRIST-CENTERED EDUCATION IN TODAY'S "WOKE" CULTURE



The month of September is when most of the nation turns its focus to the process of educating our adults as well as our children, and we here at Evangelical Life Ministries are no exception. This month the focus of our Engaging Truth programming is education, and specifically Christian education in our continually "woke" culture. We'll be featuring folks from across the spectrum, from early childhood education in a preschool setting all the way to continuing education for adults via multimedia.

On September 1st, host Pastor Jeff Doria welcomes Dr. Kristi Kirk of Concordia University Texas to discuss the challenges of carrying God's truth to a diverse student body. Then on September 8th, Kate Thoeke, Principal of Our Savior Lutheran School in Houston, joins host Bill Prewitt to discuss the basics of a classical Christian education. Then on September 15th, host Pastor David Schultz discusses the multimedia ministry of Pastor Dan Molyneux, and on September 22nd, Tiffany Bunker, Director of the St. John Lutheran Early Childhood Center in Cypress, TX, joins host Rev. Dr. Doug Krengel to discuss Christian preschool education. Host Pastor John Cain will wrap up the month on September 29th with an interview of Scott Fogo, Director of the Lutheran Education Association of Houston (LEAH).

September 8, 2024

7 p.m. – Principal Kate Thoeke – “Delivering a Classical Christian Education”

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – “Liberty Action Alert”

September 15, 2024

7 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Dan Molyneux – “Multimedia Ministry”

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – “Liberty Action Alert”

September 22, 2024

7 p.m. – Tiffany Bunker – “Early Childhood Christian Education”

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – “Liberty Action Alert”

September, 29, 2024

7 p.m. – Scott Fogo – “Lutheran Education Association of Houston”

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – “Liberty Action Alert”

## 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 Steeples, 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/>

### ATTENTION St. Matthew Members

The Anniversary Committee is asking for anyone that was married and/or has friends or family that were married at St. Matthew to please submit photos with names and dates to a member of the Anniversary Committee by November 1<sup>st</sup>. They will be creating a display for the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration and would love your help. So please dig through all those photo boxes/albums and help everyone take a walk down memory lane.



### St. Matthew Lutheran Church

Congregational Assembly Meeting Agenda September 15, 2024

Call to Order

Opening Prayer

Approve minutes from June 23, 2024 CAM

Pastor's Reports

Treasurer's Report

Board Reports

Old Business:

- Constitution Review Committee update

New Business:

- Nomination Committee/Procedures (2025-2026 terms)

Closing Prayer

Motion to Adjourn

## 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. "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."

#### 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 September 14<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.

