



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 & Curtis Gace
Greeters..... Cathy Smith & Mary Davis
Ushers Will Gentes & James Pierce
Counters Carolyn McCorquodale
Acolyte..... Isabella Vaz
Altar Guild Sylvia Christy & Becky Reyes

At St. Matthew, we encourage families to worship God together – it is a part of His plan. 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, we invite you to take advantage of the **Nursery** located in the Sunday School wing north of the Sanctuary which is equipped with a speaker so mom and dad can attend to their child's needs and still participate in the service. Or you may visit 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.

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–2:00 pm
Appointments for counsel, home visits or hospital calls may be requested with Pastor by phone at any time.

Pastor. . . . Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs
Organist. Michael Held
Board Chairpersons:
Elders Jason Christy
Trustees. Eugene Meyer
Education. Vacant
Evangelism Vacant
Stewardship Vacant
Assoc. Pastor of Hispanic Ministry
. Rev. Arturo Mendez
Parish Secretary . Amanda Hobbs
Congregational Officers:
President Scott Christy
Vice Pres. David Honerkamp
Secretary Christina Cross
Treasurer Dan Cross

S t M a t t h e w N e w s & N o t e s

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 19 – Pentecost XVII (Proper 20B) – Life issues like surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis are not morally neutral situations (James 4:4). Intentionally ending life arises from sinful selfishness (James 4:2). But we don't have to let our neighbors be led like lambs to the slaughter. We can encourage and assist them in committing their cause instead to the Lord of hosts (Jeremiah 11:19-20). He has already given Jesus as guarantee that He will lift them up (James 4:10).

Stewardship Every Sunday

Ephesians 3:14-15 – “For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.” We don't call our heavenly Father by that name by analogy to our earthly fathers. It's the other way around – God sets the pattern and image for earthly fathers to follow. God is the real and true Father. He is kind, loving, strong, faithful, generous, righteous, and self-sacrificing. Knowing this Father is the basis for growing into His image, which is the goal of our sanctification.



Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.



Truth in a Post-Truth World

A HIGHER THINGS RETREAT

September 25, 2021

Zion Lutheran Church in Tomball, TX

About this topic . . .

We no longer live in a post-modern society in which everyone has their own truth. Truth is no longer a subjective reality. We live in a post-truth world. What does this mean? Let Dr. Adam Francisco of Concordia University Chicago tell you what it means to declare, define, and defend the absolute truth of the Gospel in a post-truth world so that we may give a reason for the hope that is within us.

Things to know . . .

When: September 25, 2021

Where: Zion Lutheran Church, Tomball, TX

Cost: \$30 per person

Contact: See *Gayle Bogs* if you want to go with the group from our church. Otherwise you may contact Lynea Sander, retreat coordinator, at (832) 722-3170 or lynealeia@gmail.com

RSVP: either tell Gayle or you may go online yourself and register at www.higherthings.org/events/retreats

About this retreat . . .

Picture the sanctuary filled with teenagers, eager for the organ to begin the opening lines of the liturgy or their favorite hymns, listening intently as they learn how their Lutheran faith applies to their lives and relationships, and laughing as they horse around playing games and getting to know other youth from the area. This retreat will give youth and adults a glimpse of a typical Higher Things youth conference. The \$30 cost covers three meals in addition to the retreat activities, running from 9am to 7pm.

Register for this retreat online at www.higherthings.org/retreats. Groups are encouraged to register online, however, you may bring your payment with you to Zion Lutheran Church when you arrive for the retreat. Please RSVP for this retreat by September 17.

About Higher Things...

Higher Things is a Recognized Service Organization of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. The mission of Higher Things is to support the church in passing on the Faith by teaching the next generation the Gospel of Jesus Christ: that they are saved by grace alone, through faith alone, as revealed in Scripture alone. For more information about Higher Things, please visit www.higherthings.org or email info@higherthings.org.

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. Most requests will be listed for *THREE* Sundays unless updated. **BOLD FONT** indicates request is new or has been updated this Sunday.

Comfort

✘ **Family of Blake Lindvig - passed away 9/11 (son-in-law of Mary Fischer)**

✘ **Family of Pastor Otto Brillinger - passed away 9/13**

Thanksgiving

✘ Loraine Lambert - Healing of cancer (Friend of Shirley Coyle)



Strength & Healing

✘ Larry Blanton - Having surgery (stepson of Shirley Coyle's daughter)

✘ Rusty - Severe covid complications in ICU (friend of Goss family)

✘ Curtis Gace - Future surgery for carotid arteries

✘ Richard Mavus - stroke

✘ Michael and Shaynee (friends of Christina Cross)

✘ Kerri Bogs Harvard - skin cancer (cousin of Pastor Bogs)

✘ Lindsey Busby - hospitalized with Covid (friend of Goss family)

✘ Carol Rubio - multiple health issues (cousin of Jane McElroy)

✘ Paula Southworth - Afib (friend of Arlene Schultz)

✘ Brothers and sisters in Christ in Afghanistan

✘ All of those, especially those in our congregation, suffering from Covid

Cancer/Long Term Healing

✘ Anne McIlhany - Systemic Sclerosis

✘ Deitra Johnson - Was in a major car accident (Daughter-in-law of Shirley Coyle)

✘ Debbie Blanton - Health complications (Daughter of Shirley Coyle)

✘ Joan Mikecz- recurrent lung infections (sister of Jeanne Held)

✘ Ceci - finished chemo & radiation, now on quarterly monitoring, still tired and having kidney issues (great niece of Jim Gibbs)

✘ Dave Nahrwold- beginning chemo for bladder cancer (father of Elisabeth Held)

✘ Jeanie Cowger- recently re-diagnosed with cancer (step-family of Cowger family)

✘ Clarence Meal- lung cancer diagnosis (friend of Bettye Carter)

✘ Sandra Randolph- chronic fatigue syndrome (cousin of Sharon Gace)

✘ Rev. David Oberdieck- diagnosed with kidney cancer (seminary classmate of Pastor Bogs)

✘ Christina Cross- multiple health issues (sister of Dan Cross)

✘ Andrue Barnwell- osteosarcoma now in lungs (cousin of Gayle Bogs)

✘ Isdell Birnbaum- stage 4 cancer, under hospice care

- ✘ Phyllis Smith- cancer (cousin of Bryce Koslan)
- ✘ Kevin Clark- broken neck & back (brother of Corey Clark)
- ✘ Eugene File- lung cancer (friend of B.J. & Rose Jackson)
- ✘ Clarence Bourgeois- plaque on the brain & heart problems (father of Sean Bourgeois-Shirley Coyle's great grandson)
- ✘ Marian Martens- cancer (mother of Nadine Reed)
- ✘ Brenda Pali- arthritis pain
- ✘ Marian Piracci- compromised neuro system (niece of Langleys' son-in-law)
- ✘ Lani Henderson- cancer treatment (friend of Marie Fischer)
- ✘ Vic Vaz- leukemia (husband of Sheila Vaz)
- ✘ Leon Lilley- Leukemia
- ✘ Chryssa Sharp-ovarian cancer (cousin of Karen Mavus)
- ✘ Paul Kron- cancer treatments (husband of Marilyn Kron)
- ✘ JoAnn Roberts- chronic Leukemia Stage 1 (wife of Steve Roberts)
- ✘ Miranda Rodriguez- bipolar disorder (friend of Shirley Coyle)
- ✘ Betty Carroll- cancer w/dementia (friend of Cathy Coyle's aunt)
- ✘ Mary Ellen Zwahr- seizures (cousin of Brenda Pali)
- ✘ Odet Mendez-possible breast cancer (sister of Arturo Mendez)
- ✘ Dan-immune disorder (neighbor of Steve Roberts)
- ✘ Aileen Mercer-macular degeneration, back pain, shingles
- ✘ Matthew Piserelle-no treatment (brother of Phillip Williamson)
- ✘ Charlie Garton-child w/ brain cancer (friend of Mark Johnson)
- ✘ David Saville-MS (nephew of Louie Pali)

Our Shut Ins

Louise Simmons, Richard & Karen Mavus, Bill Pali, Aileen Mercer, Olivia Getschmann, Arthur Bolinger, Mario Reyes, Marcia Carr

General Prayer

- ✘ Sean Bourgeois & Garrett Johnson – personal guidance
- ✘ The family of Ali Lowitzer -- strength & understanding during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✘ Georgiann & Ron Mallory & Barry Rosenberg – continued strength
- ✘ Michael & Guy Johnson – continued healing (sons of Shirley Coyle)
- ✘ For a safe and healthy pregnancy for Sisilie & Chris Lawrence, due in December
- ✘ For the safety of those serving in the military: Greggrie O'Garro (Navy) - Bahrain (son of Claire O'Garro); Anthony Valles (Army) - Ft. Hood (grandson of Nancy Baeza), Chris Crowley (Navy) - USS Roosevelt (son-in-law of Nicole Poppenhusen); Timothy & Benjamin Menz (sons of Paul Menz)

Celebrations

Birthdays: 9/20 Carol Gentes, 9/23 Virginia Lawrence, 9/24 Leon Lilley

Baptism Anniversaries: 9/19 Aaron Lilley, 9/20 John Tautenhahn,

9/21 Aaron Montemayor & Ruby Montemayor, 9/25 Daniel Pedersen

ESL Classes Postponed

ESL classes are currently postponed until October. Pray for this mission of St. Matthew that God will bless it to continue strongly in reaching out to our community not only teaching English but also sharing the Gospel of the Lord. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez.

A/C News

The trustees have designated the A/C fund to replace the South Meeting Room unit. We are currently getting several bids and will update the congregation as soon as all have been submitted. If you choose to give towards this fund please specify "St. Matthew Dedicated A/C Fund" on the donation.

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."

Life Quotes



"God has put us in our roles as life-affirming Lutherans in this place at this time. We must continue despite the world's resistance. We must lean on God because He will support us. We must remember He has the word's of eternal life!" Virginia Flo, Regional Director of Minnesota and National Conference Director, Lutherans for Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans for Life - lutheransforlife.org

Attendance for Last Week (9/12)

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 8 Wed. Evening Bible Class - 11

Sunday School - 13

Adult Bible Class - 18 Galatians Class - 10

Sun. Divine Service - 84

*For great is His steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.*

Praise the Lord! ~Psalm 117:2

KFUO Radio

KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUE.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. You can 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 KFUE.org: Study Ezekiel 5-9 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear about Mental Health with Deaconess Heidi Goehmann on The Coffee Hour (9/20 at 9:30 a.m. CT), study Leviticus 5-10 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and dig into our Lutheran Confessions on Concord Matters (9/25 at 10:00 a.m. CT). Find these programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUE Radio app!

Hurricane Ida Donations

There is a box in the Narthex to collect our donations to those who have been devastated by Hurricane Ida. Rose Schutt, DCE of Atonement Lutheran Church in Metairie, LA is the Disaster Relief Coordinator and has asked for the following items. Please only purchase/donate items on the wishlist below. You may also give online by choosing the "Hurricane Ida Relief" fund at her church's website at alcs.org. As our box is filled, our donations will be taken to Lamb of God, Humble, which is a pick up point for Atonement Lutheran. We join them in prayer for the affected areas.

- ✘ gift cards (Home Depot, Walmart, Lowes, Target, Sams Club, Costco)
- ✘ toilet paper/feminine products
- ✘ mold killer
- ✘ pump sprayers
- ✘ non-perishable food/snacks
- ✘ bleach
- ✘ Pine-Sol for mopping/bleach/mop buckets
- ✘ large plastic totes with lids
- ✘ brooms/rakes/shovels
- ✘ black, heavy duty garage bags
- ✘ work gloves
- ✘ bug spray/sunscreen
- ✘ beef jerky/canned meat/Spam
- ✘ dog food/cat food
- ✘ diapers size newborn-size 7/baby wipes
- ✘ formula/baby food/baby juice/baby bottles
- ✘ toiletries (shampoo, conditioner, body wash, razors, deodorant)
- ✘ blue tarps
- ✘ Gatorade/bottled water
- ✘ N95 masks/P100 masks

Opportunities to Study God's Word

Sunday School for All Ages

Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in **Room #2**. They 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**.



Sunday Adult Bible Classes

All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited to attend the Adult Bible Classes each Sunday at 8:45 am. **Answers in Genesis** led by Pastor Bogs meets in the Fellowship Hall (gym). And **Galatians** led by Larry Harvey meets in **Room #4**. Please join us. Bring a friend!

Wednesday Mornings



The Wednesday Morning Bible Study Group meets at **10:00 am** in **Room #2**. We invite everyone who is available to join us to study God's Word. We are studying **Romans**.

Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday evening Bible Class meets at **7 pm** in **Room #2**. We are studying the **Psalms**. Bring a friend for an enjoyable evening!

Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Join us for the Men's Breakfast and Bible study on the **2nd Saturday** of the month at **8:00 am** in the **Fellowship Hall**. **However our next class is rescheduled for October 2** where we will be studying **Nehemiah**.

The Board of Elders meet following study at 10:00am.



PRISM - Precious Rubies In St Matthew

Ladies' PRISM meetings *usually* take place the **4th Saturday** of the month where we begin with Breakfast and a Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00 am. However, since the Covid break we have not met. If you are interested in starting to meet again, please let Tiffany Cowger, Melissa Sindlinger or Gayle Bogs know and watch here for more information.