

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 22 – Pentecost XVIII (Proper 20B) – In Mark 9:36-37, Jesus explicitly instructs us to receive children as His own precious treasures. Sometimes this does indeed involve difficulty, but our God enlists both the Prophet Jeremiah (11:20) and the apostle James (4:7) to encourage us in resisting selfish ambition and committing this cause to the Lord. He will sustain the Gospel-motivated voice For Life until it succeeds!

Stewardship Every Sunday

Mark 9:32 – “But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.” The disciples really do hold up a mirror to our faces and force us to see ourselves: misunderstanding, afraid, confused. But the Word of God is clear if only we will listen with open ears. What was blocking the disciples’ ears? The Gospels tell us time and again: they did not expect a suffering Christ, and so when Jesus spoke of suffering, they plugged their ears and didn’t listen, so they ended up confused and scared. What about us? What’s in the Word of God that we find hard to hear and contrary to our desires and expectations? That might just be exactly what we need to hear!

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 by Monday, September 23rd.



Attendance for Last Week ~ 09/15/2024
Adult Bible Class - 16 Galatians Class - 10
Sun. Divine Service - 84
Offering - \$6483.00

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 5 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 13

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

Life Quotes

"All of us who die in Christ are going to come up like cherry tomatoes in July—a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb' (Revelation 7:9b). I'll be there, and so will you, all of us celebrating the Lord who loved us and gave Himself for us—He who died like a single seed falling into the earth, and now 'bears much fruit' (John 12:24b)." Dr. Kari Vo – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The 125th 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 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.



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

- ✘ Joyce Bolinger - in the hospital recovering from a broken femur
- ✘ John Aikman - has been diagnosed with small cell lung cancer (husband of Sharol Aikman)
- ✘ Ronnie Ethridge hospitalized with unknown health problems (co worker of Yair Mendez)
- ✘ Donald Thompson - for a successful open heart surgery (Pamela Lilley's father)
- ✘ Holly Bettingfield & her fiancé Matthew - they lost all of their belongings including their vehicle in a fire (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ 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)
- ✘ 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)
- ✘ 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)

- ✠ 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)
- ✠ 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: 9/23 Virginia Lawrence & 9/24 Leon Lilley
Baptism Anniversaries: 9/25 Daniel Pedersen

Picnic Chairman Needed

The Anniversary Committee is in need of someone to fill the role of "Picnic Chairman". If you are interested in this position and/or know somebody that would be please see Lester Sentesi.

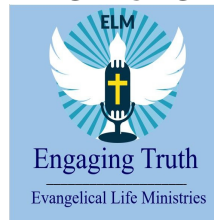


Wednesday Bible Study

"PLEASE NOTE: A new study on "The Lord's Prayer" is beginning Wednesday evening, September 25th, at 6:30 P.M. in Room #4. Consider joining this study."



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 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 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"

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: We will be wrapping up our study of Psalm 119 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), after which we will take a dive into the book of Numbers. Thy Strong Word will conclude its study of Hosea (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and then we'll be turning to the end of the Bible to begin a study of the book of Revelation. Finally, don't forget to tune into Concord Matters this Saturday (9/28 at 11:00 a.m. CT) for a discussion on the cause of sin. Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

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 1st. They will be creating a display for the 125th 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.



Life Line Screening

Life Line Screening will be here at St. Matthew on Monday, September 30th. They will be performing advanced ultrasound to detect peripheral arterial disease and other vascular conditions. Pre-registration is required so please call 1-800-772-8260 or register online at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.



Acolyte Schedule for October 2024

- Oct. 6th ~ Aurora Franks
- Oct. 13th ~ Isabel Vaz
- Oct. 20th ~ Dalton Reed
- Oct. 27th ~ Alex Vaz

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, please ask someone to fill in for you and/or tell Gayle Bogs.



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 Philippians 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 The Lord's Prayer 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 "The Lord's Prayer" is beginning Wednesday evening, September 25th, 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 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is October 12th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.

