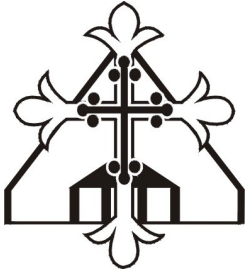


We Welcome You to St. Matthew!



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 & Scott Christy
 Greeters..... Shawn & Amanda Goss
 Ushers Robert Sindlinger & Aaron Montemayor
 Counters Becky Reyes
 Acolyte..... AJ Parsalaw
 Altar Guild..... Marie Fischer

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

October 8 – Pentecost XIX (Proper 22A) – The psalmist openly rejoices that Almighty God cherishes every human life He creates. “Let your hand be on ... the son of man whom you have made strong for yourself” (Psalm 80:17). The same Lord invites us to delight in receiving one another as gifts and privileges—no matter what size, skills, or circumstances. Why settle for bloodshed when we can have justice (Isaiah 5:7)?

Stewardship Every Sunday

Matthew 21:43 – “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people producing its fruits.” The Pharisees were not bearing fruit. Though they were faithful to the letter of the Law in keeping the Sabbath, tithing, and all the rest, they neglected the heart of God's will. The grace of God belongs at the center. Our giving and all our other good works flow forth from receiving God's grace and living in that grace on a daily basis.

Attendance for Last Week ~ <u>10/01/2023</u>	
Adult Bible Class - N/A	Galatians Class - 12
Sun. Divine Service - 78	Spanish Service - N/A
Offering - \$4749.00	
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 5	Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 9
<i>For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2</i>	

Life Quotes

“These two choices are vastly different: to give birth to a child or to abort it. But one thing is the same: to choose Jesus is to choose life. For Jesus holds every life—even the tiniest—in the nail-scarred palm of His hand.”
Rev. Gary Blobaum, St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, Oregon, Illinois
– A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Church Re-pipe Fund

At the August 27 Congregational meeting of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield, the voters voted to begin a fund to re-pipe all our facilities. The cost estimated at around \$40,000. This fund is to be funded by any member wishing to make a contribution above their normal tithe. At the same time we will pursue financing the amount over what is contributed. However, if the contributions amount to more than the cost all extra monies will then be put in the general fund.

WANTED: Conscience - Dead or Alive 4th Annual Conference
Saturday, October 14, 2023 - 10 AM - 5 PM
St. Paul Lutheran (LCMS) 3501 Red River St, Austin, TX 78705 -- Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller is the main teacher for college students and young adults ages 18 - 35ish. Teaching, preaching, singing, worship, games, food. Pre- and post conference social events for Friday and Saturday nights. The conference does not provide housing. The 2023 conference schedule will be emailed to you after the registration deadline.
Please register now, the conference registration deadline is Sunday, October 8, 2023. Thank you. Please contact Vera Sweet for questions: txlutheranya@gmail.com
Registration link: <https://forms.gle/aQXZb7taBnjLkxVH9>

ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm and began again on August 15th. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com.

4TH FRIDAYS!!!!

Our next 4th Friday will be held on October 27st 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.



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.

Comfort

✘ Prayers for the family of David Nahrwold - he passed away on Wednesday, 10/4 (Michael & Jeanne Held's daughter-in-law's father)

Strength & Healing

- ✘ Rose Ortiz - prayers for a speedy recovery from surgery (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Ronnie Dacus - fell and broke his back and is currently in ICU (former member)
- ✘ Healing, comfort & strength for Brett & his wife, Robyn who has been diagnosed with cancer (Amanda Goss co-worker of Robyn)
- ✘ Patricia LaShomb - recovering from a successful oral cancer surgery
- ✘ 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

- ✘ Eda Nitz - Comfort and peace as she deals with skin cancer, leukemia, and macular degeneration
- ✘ Justin Street - found a facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ 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)
- ✘ 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, Karen Mavus, Aileen Mercer, Bill Pali, Arlene Schultz & Eda Nitz

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)



November Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the November 2023 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, October 23rd.

Celebrations



Birthdays: 10/14 Becky Reyes
 Baptism Anniversaries: 10/12 Eugene Meyer, 10/12 Steve Nitz & 10/14 Virginia Lawrence
 Confirmation Anniversaries: 10/11 James Pierce, 10/11 Mary Pierce & 10/14 David Honerkamp
 Wedding Anniversaries: 10/13 Daniel & Christina Cross ~ 22 Yrs.

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.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

2024 Picnic Committee/Volunteers

Picnic Committee will be meeting on Sunday, October 22nd immediately following church service. Anyone interested in helping should attend. If you have any questions please contact Lester Sentesi, Phillip Williamson or Melissa Sindlinger. Thank you to everyone in advance for your help in making our 2024 picnic a wonderful success.



Church Telephone Information

Just a quick note that if you are trying to call the church during office hours (8am - 1pm) you will receive a message stating that "the person that you are trying to reach is unavailable to reach another extension press *8 or press 0 for the receptionist." If you press 0 it will direct you back to the secretary. The voicemail is currently not working so you are unable to leave a message outside of office hours. Thank you for your patience while we work to get the phones back up and running.



The Concordia Symphony Orchestra ~ Admission is free
 The Concordia Symphony Orchestra will be making appearances in Texas under the direction of Dr. Jeff Held (son of our organist, Michael Held). The CSO plays music of the professional orchestra repertoire, tailored for excellent church acoustics. Following the symphony pieces, the musicians will be supplemented by a local high school ensemble in a hymn setting of "Splendor and Honor" for 2 orchestras, organ, soprano, and congregation. Please join us live in Cypress, and Houston.
 Saturday, Oct. 14 4:00 PM - St. John Lutheran Church, Cypress

Trinity Lutheran Church, Downtown Houston
 Trinity's Oktoberfest is a fun event that features brats, beer, music, dominos, and Interactive games from 11:30am - 2:00pm on Sunday, October 15th. This will be followed by a concert by the Concordia Symphony Orchestra at 2:30pm. A prelude will be presented by the Lutheran South Academy Symphonic Winds. We would love to have you join us!

St. Matthew
 Lutheran Church
 of Westfield



Reformation Festival

Sunday, October 29, 2023 @ Noon

Chili Cookoff Craft Market Games
 Food Fun Fellowship

Sign up in the Narthex, bring a dish & a dessert,
 and BRING a FRIEND!

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!



WE ♥ WEDNESDAY 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 Baptism 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 2nd Saturday of every month at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is October 14th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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 office.smlcw@gmail.com

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 @stmatthewwestfield