

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..... Jarod Christy & Jason Christy
Greeters..... Sonny & Joyce French
Ushers Luke Tusing & Jordan Christy
Counters Nancy Baeza
Acolyte..... AJ Parsalaw
Altar Guild..... Tiffany Cowger & Becky Reyes

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

November 12 – Pentecost XXIV (Proper 27A) – Like the parable's bridegroom, Jesus often meets us in unexpected moments (Matthew 25:10). He even sometimes hides in surprise pregnancies or terminal diagnoses in order to rescue and bless. So, we dare not ignore the poor and needy neighbors who cry out for deliverance (Psalm 70:1, 5) from abortion and assisted suicide. If we do indeed love the Lord's salvation, then let us say so (Psalm 70:4)!

Stewardship Every Sunday

Matthew 25:4 – “But the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.” Why did they take flasks of oil with them? Because they listened to the Bridegroom's words and believed what He said. Our actions always start with and flow from our beliefs. What do your actions in the realm of stewardship say about what you believe?

Attendance for Last Week ~ 11/05/2023
Adult Bible Class - N/A Galatians Class - 28
Sun. Divine Service - 78 Spanish Service - N/A
Offering - \$4999.00
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 11 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 6
For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

“What could be more joyful and rewarding than to share with everyone the best news they will ever hear: Jesus has saved you from sin and death and won eternal life for you as a free gift of His love. Let’s roll up our sleeves and begin today with the prayer, ‘Lord, help me be an eager worker in Your kingdom.’” Daily Devotions, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – 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.

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. ESL will be holding their Thanksgiving Potluck Thursday, November 16th. For more information please see Pastor Mendez.



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: Hear stories from Deaconess Kim Bueltmann (missionary to refugees in Germany), Benjamin Kolodziej (history of LCMS music), and Deaconess Dr. Tiffany Manor and Rev. Ken Krueger (church worker wellness) on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), begin studying 1 Corinthians on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Mark 10-11 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUE Radio app!



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

- ✘ For the Family of Bret Visage who passed away Monday, 10/30 (friend of Amanda Goss)

Strength & Healing

- ✘ Henry Brauchle - had a heart attack (Gayle Bogs Uncle)
- ✘ Barbara Newbould - has shingles
- ✘ Gladys Barton - had surgery to treat an infection
- ✘ Karren Radcliff - hospitalized for wound healing (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Patricia LaShomb - having radiation treatments
- ✘ Rose Ortiz - has been diagnosed with stage 2 pancreatic cancer (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Comfort & Protection for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Israel
- ✘ 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)
- ✘ Stephanie Nixdorf - stage 4 melanoma (friend of the Helds)
- ✘ 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)
- ✘ 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 December 2023 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, November 20th.



Celebrations

Birthdays: 11/13 Shawn Honerkamp, 11/13 Claire O'Garro & 11/15 Holly Williamson
 Baptism Anniversaries: 11/14 Michael Held, 11/15 Nadine Reed & 11/16 Kathleen Montemayor
 Wedding Anniversaries: 11/13 Don & Jennifer Cornman ~ 30 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. You can also communicate with the church office through email at office.smlcw@gmail.com. Thank you for your patience while we work to get the phones back up and running.





THE MONTH OF THANKFULNESS

We are taking the month of November to emphasize a heart of THANKFULNESS. So often our prayers are focused on the "asking" rather than the "thanking". We will speak to those in church and industry leadership who can help us to uncover the joys of THANKFULNESS in a culture that seems to emphasize greed over need.

November 12, 2023

7 p.m. - Gary Huddleston – "THANKFUL FOR OUR DAILY BREAD"

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – "LIBERTY ACTION ALERT"

November 19, 2023

7 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – "TRUE THANKFULNESS"

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – "LIBERTY ACTION ALERT"

November 26, 2023

7 p.m. - Rev. Michael Newman – "THANKFUL TO LEAD"

7:30 p.m. – Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz – "LIBERTY ACTION ALERT"

Engaging Truth is broadcast each Sunday evening at 7 p.m. on KKHT-100.7FM kkht.com with all of our programs available post-broadcast on our website at elmhouston.org and wherever you find your favorite podcast content. You can also find our content on Facebook and YouTube. Listen immediately following Engaging Truth for The Liberty Action Alert hosted by Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C.

Great Ideas to Practice "Thankfulness"

The practice of thankfulness helps us to focus on the positive parts of our lives. Thankfulness also helps us to see the great ways God blesses us every single day.

1. Be an active listener. Make eye contact. Put down your phone and be present.
2. Donate to charity. Too much stuff? Consider donating to a local women's shelter or food pantry.
3. Volunteer. Volunteering to help others is a great way to appreciate what you have.



Opportunities to Study God's Word

Sunday School for All Ages

SUNDAY Preschool - Elementary Classes begin at 8:45 am in Room #5. The children are learning Biblical accounts from the Growing in Christ series.



Sunday Adult Bible Classes

All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited for coffee and donuts every Sunday at



SCHOOL 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!

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 Luke 1&2 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 December 9th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

21434 East Hardy Rd., Houston, TX 77073
www.stmatthewlcms.com

281- 443-2304 or 281-443-8463
office.smlcw@gmail.com

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram@stmatthewwestfield