



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  
Greeters..... Lester Sentesi & Shirley Coyle  
Ushers ..... Dillon Mosier & Cody Williamson  
Counters ..... Nancy Baeza  
Acolyte..... Ruby Montemayor  
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

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

Senior Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs  
Associate Pastor of Hispanic Ministry..... Rev. Arturo Mendez  
Organist..... Michael Held  
Parish Secretary..... Amanda Hobbs

### Board Chairpersons:

Elders..... Jason Christy  
Trustees..... Eugene Meyer  
Education ..... Vacant  
Evangelism..... Vacant  
Stewardship..... Vacant

### Congregational Officers:

President..... Scott Christy  
Vice Pres ..... David Honerkamp  
Secretary..... Christina Cross  
Treasurer..... Dan Cross

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

December 25 – Nativity of Our Lord – The Lord bared His holy arm (Isaiah 52:10) not just by appearing in the form of a full-grown man. The Word became flesh (John 1:14) first as an embryo and a fetus. The clearest revelation of God's glory (Hebrews 1:2-3) also designates every human life precious, no matter what age, appearance, or ability. We can no more keep quiet about the sanctity of life than we can leave out Christmas or Jesus from the Gospel!

### Stewardship Every Sunday

John 1:5 – “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” Through all of our hardships, all of our sorrows, all of our pains and loneliness, Jesus' light shines in the darkness, and we are not overcome. In the face of our sin, in the midst of our pettiness, against all our pride, Jesus' light shines and illuminates our hearts and changes us, day by day, into a greater reflection of His likeness.



### Attendance for Last Week ~ 12/18/2022

Adult Bible Class - 13      Galatians Class - 9

Sun. Divine Service - 93

Offering - \$3602.00

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 9      Wed. Evening Bible Class - 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

"There is no more clear-pointed, rest-giving demonstration of the love of God for you than the gift of His Son." Paul Tripp, pastor, author, and conference speaker • [lutheransforlife.org](http://lutheransforlife.org)

### Helping Hands Fund



Our Helping Hands Fund is designated to help members of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield and from time to time we do have members who have a need for some financial assistance. Because God reminds us that we help those in need when we are able so that others might help us when we are in need (2 Cor. 8:13-15), if you are so moved, the Helping Hands fund could use any donations you wish to give. Please mark your offering as "Helping Hands Fund."

### ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. Pray for this mission of St. Matthew that God will bless it to continue strongly. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at [pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com](mailto:pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com).



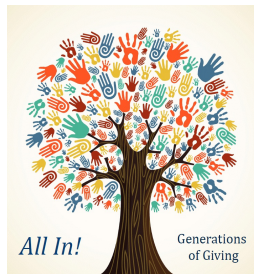
### New Board and Committee Training

All those elected to serve beginning in January of 2023, we will have our installation in the Divine Service on Sunday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>. Also, mark your calendar and plan to attend an informative and instructive training workshop on Saturday, Jan. 21<sup>st</sup> from 9 am to noon. We will learn about electing a chair for the board, planning and carrying out meetings including preparing agendas, and setting goals for 2023. Coffee and refreshments will be provided and ready by 8:30 am.



### Board of Evangelism

The Board of Evangelism will once again be meeting starting in January 2023. We have some things planned and want to do more but we can't do it without your help. We aren't asking anyone to serve on the Committee, just help out. Anyone interested in helping out or if you have a Fellowship Activity you would like us to do see Lester Sentesi. We are looking forward to a year full of Fun & Fellowship.



### 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.

### Strength & Healing

- ✠ Peggy Berry - diagnosed w/Covid & has Afib (Nicole Poppenhusen Aunt)
- ✠ Gayle Berry - has pneumonia, bilateral pleural effusions, severe DSD, spinal stenosis & some spondylosisthesis (Nicole Poppenhusen Uncle)
- ✠ Oakley Rose Simmons - Born 2 months premature on Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> weighing 2lbs. 11oz. (Randy & Kathy Bogs)
- ✠ Mariela Guerra - pray for healing (friend of Pastor Mendez)
- ✠ Dave Nahrwold - recovery from complications of cancer surgery (father of Elisabeth Held)
- ✠ Eda Nitz - prayers for new leukemia treatment she is undergoing
- ✠ Carol Ainsworth - Under hospice care with alzheimers (neighbor of Arlene Schultz)
- ✠ Debbie Blanton - suffered a stroke (daughter of Shirley Coyle)
- ✠ Carol Gentes - has shingles
- ✠ Richard Mavus - In rehabilitation

### Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✠ Michael Held - pancreatic cancer
- ✠ Gladys Banewski - Diagnosed with Cancer (friend of Curtis & Sharon Gace)
- ✠ Jake Fodderie - brain tumor has returned (nephew of Christina Cross)
- ✠ Samantha Brown - being treated for cancer (daughter of Eda Nitz niece)
- ✠ Stephanie Favreau - Breast cancer (friend of the Gace and Goss families)
- ✠ Colin Brogan - recovering from heart surgery (friend of Sonny French)
- ✠ Stephanie Nixdorf - stage 4 melanoma (friend of The Helds)
- ✠ Craig Johnson - in rehabilitation and will hopefully be moved to skilled nursing soon (father of Christina Cross)
- ✠ Brandon Pate - scerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✠ Aileen Mercer - failing eye sight
- ✠ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery
- ✠ Erica Vogt - Covid complications (granddaughter of The Helds)
- ✠ Carolina Villarreal - cancer & surgery (friend of Mendez Family)

- ✠ Benny Alvarez - cancer (brother of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✠ Leon Lilley - Leukemia
- ✠ Chris Pirk - receiving cancer treatment (friend of The Reese Family)
- ✠ Paul Kron - receiving cancer treatment
- ✠ Carmen Arnold - cancer returned (friend of Jarod Christy)
- ✠ Bill Pali - Alzheimers
- ✠ Anne McIlhany - heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✠ Jeanie Cowger - cancer (step-family of The Cowger Family)
- ✠ Kevin Clark - broken neck & back (brother of Korey Clark)
- ✠ Marian Piracci - undergoing neurological treatment (niece of Langley's son-in-law)
- ✠ Vic Vaz - Leukemia (husband of Shelia Vaz)
- ✠ Chryssa Sharp - ovarian cancer (cousin of Karen Mavus)
- ✠ 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)
- ✠ Sue Wright - cancer (aunt of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✠ 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)
- ✠ Christina Cross - multiple health issues (sister of Dan Cross)

#### Our Shut Ins

Gladys Barton, Marcia Carr, Dixie Garrett, Richard & Karen Mavus, Aileen Mercer, Bill Pali, & Arlene Schultz

#### General Prayer

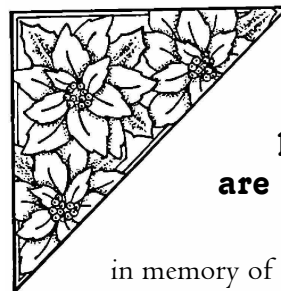
- ✠ The family of Ali Lowitzer - strength during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✠ Julie Saunders - for a healthy pregnancy & baby (friend of Gayle Bogs)
- ✠ For the safety of those serving in the military: Bradley Shipes (US Airforce) (former member), Greggrie 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 (sons of Paul Menz, Steven & Robert Hailey (Marines) - (nephews of The Haileys)

**Birthdays:** 12/25 Joel Musgrove, 12/26 Luke Tusing Jr., 12/26 Cadence Wells, 12/27 Diann Newbould-Hawkins, 12/29 Jim Gibbs & 12/30 Kaleb Young

**Baptism Anniversaries:** 12/25 Ronald Bogs, 12/25 Rebecca Mendez, 12/25 Lester Sentesi, 12/28 Sharol Aikman, 12/28 Justin LaShomb & 12/30 Scott Christy

**Confirmation Anniversaries:** 12/30 Phillip Williamson

**Wedding Anniversaries:** 12/29 Jim & Mary Gibbs ~ 32 Yrs. & 12/31 Arturo & Angelica Mendez ~ 15 Years



## The Poinsettias beautifying the sanctuary are given to the glory of God by:

Pastor & Gayle Bogs  
in memory of their Goddaughter and niece, Alicia Nicole Bogs

Daniel Cross  
in memory of his grandparents, Shelby & Marie Cole

Christina Cross  
in memory of her grandparents, Ronald & Doris Sylvester

Edna Ehrhardt  
in memory of her husband Clarence Ehrhardt & other loved ones

Rose & BJ Jackson  
in memory of Milton Baumgartner, Sr.

Gary & Virginia Lawrence  
in memory of her parents, Henry & Evelyn Haude  
and their grandson, Henry Lawrence

Joe & Shirley Michka  
in memory of their parents,  
Ervin & Erna Kalich and Ray & Slivena Michka

The Munson Family  
in memory of their parents, daughter, & son-in-law

Eda & Steve Nitz  
in memory of her husband and his father, Robert Nitz

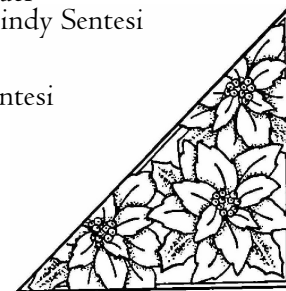
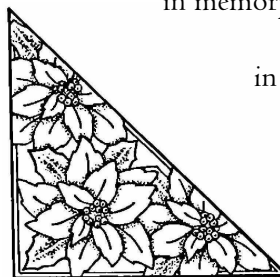
Nicole Poppenhusen  
in memory of her Baumgartner and Berry Grandparents

Becky Reyes  
in memory of her husband, Mario Reyes

Lester Sentesi  
in memory his father, Alex Sentesi,  
and his father-in-law, Leonard Ristow

Lester Sentesi & Sandy and Rachael  
in memory of his wife and their mother, Cindy Sentesi

Lorna Sentesi  
in memory of her husband Alex Sentesi





## Opportunities to Study God's Word



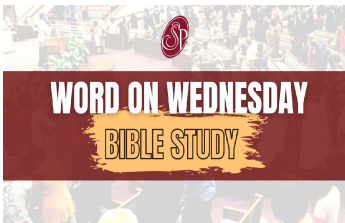
### Sunday School for All Ages

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



### 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 "What about" series. They can be downloaded at

<https://resources.lcms.org/reading-study/what-about-pamphlets/>

### Wednesday Evenings

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on Word & Sacrament led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study on Psalms 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is January 14<sup>th</sup>. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.



## Christmas Quiz



1. What's the name of the period leading up to Christmas?
2. How many Wise Men brought gifts to Jesus?
3. How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?
4. What was the name of John the Baptist's Mother?
5. Who brings presents to children in The Netherlands on the 5th/6th December?
6. How many letters are in the angelic alphabet?
7. In what town was Jesus born?
8. How many presents were given in total in the 12 Days of Christmas?
9. In what decade was the first Christmas Card sent in the UK?
10. What country did the family escape to?
11. How many of Rudolph's eight companions names start with 'D'?
12. What country did Christmas Trees originate from?
13. Who was the 'King of the Jews' who ordered the babies to be killed?
14. What's the second line of "I'm dreaming of a white christmas"?
15. What was Joseph's job?
16. Who started the custom of Wassailing?
17. Who were first people to visit the baby Jesus?
18. What's lucky to find in your Christmas Pudding?
19. What Angel visited Mary?
20. Where did the baby Jesus sleep?

### Answer Key

1. Advent
2. More than one, the Bible doesn't say how many!
3. Deep pan, crisp & even!
4. Elizabeth
5. St. Nicholas
6. 25; 'no el'!!!
7. Bethlehem
8. 364
9. 1840's-1843 by Sir Henry Cole
10. Egypt
11. 3 - Dasher, Dancer & Donner
12. Germany
13. King Herod
14. Just like the ones I used to know
15. Carpenter
16. The Anglo Saxons - it means 'good health'
17. Shepherds
18. A six pence
19. Gabriel
20. In a manger