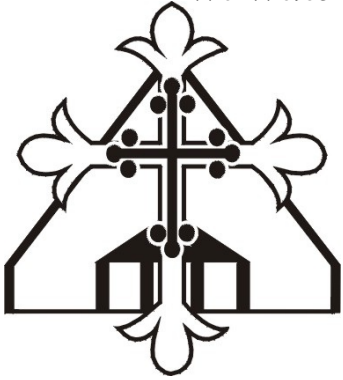


*We Welcome You to St. Matthew!*



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 ..... David Honerkamp & Jarod Christy
- Greeters..... Dave & Tiffany Cowger
- Ushers ..... Dillon Mosier & Noah Montemayor
- Counters ..... Nancy Baeza
- Acolyte..... Kaitlyn Christie
- Altar Guild ..... Marie Fischer & Nancy Baeza

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-1:00 pm  
 Appointments for counsel, home visits or hospital calls may be requested with Pastor by phone at any time.

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

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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**



March 13 – Lent II – The Savior who would “gather your children together” into His embrace (Luke 13:34) is the same Lord who “hears when I call to him” (Psalm 4:3). Can abortion really serve anyone better than this? Who needs to make a god of her own body (Philippians 3:19) when she may rest securely in the peace our Heavenly Father promises (Psalm 4:8)? Surely the Lord has sent us to speak these words (Jeremiah 26:15)!

**Stewardship Every Sunday**

Matthew 15:27 – “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Faith receives what God gives, because faith knows that God only gives good things. Indeed, God has given us so much more than just the crumbs that fall from the table - He has given us life, salvation, body and soul, eyes and ears, possessions and income. That’s where our stewardship starts - with faith in the God who is the greatest Giver.



**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.**

### 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 in reaching out to our community not only teaching English but also sharing the Gospel of the Lord. Of you need more info, please see Pastor Mendez.

### 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."

### KFUO Radio



KFUO Radio, a media ministry extension of LCMS congregations, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music.

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Hear Midweek Lenten Recital and Worship Service from Peace Lutheran in St. Louis on 3/16 at 11:00 a.m. CT, study Luke 16-17 on Sharper Iron's "The Beloved Physician's Orderly Account" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Matthew 22-23 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs live and on demand at kfuo.org or on the KFUO Radio app!

### Life Quotes

"Paul kept his eyes on Christ who came and faced all the same heartaches, burdens, and sadness we do, and came through victorious. He shouldered our guilt and punishment on the cross and died that we might have life to the full." Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

#### Attendance for Last Week (03/02 & 03/06)

Adult Bible Class - 24 Galatians Class - 13

Sun. Divine Service - 82/\$5723.25

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 7 Wed. Evening Bible Class - n/a

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

*Praise the Lord! ~Psalm 117:2*

### 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 Javier Castillo-passed away from Covid (friend of Lester Sentesi)**
- ✘ **Family of Rosemary McElroy-passed away on March 6<sup>th</sup> (sister-in-law of Janie McElroy)**
- ✘ **Family of Chris Vassilico-passed away on March 4<sup>th</sup>(nephew of Edna Ehrhardt)**

#### Strength & Healing

- ✘ **Mauro Gonzalez-praying for a quick recovery from a collapsed lung(boyfriend of Hannah Bogs)**
- ✘ Aileen Mercer-Failing Eye Sight(Marilyn Krons Sister)
- ✘ Susan-Being Treated for Cancer(co-worker of Amanda Goss)
- ✘ Erica Vogt-long term Covid complications (granddaughter of Michael & Jeanne Held)
- ✘ Carolina Villarreal-Cancer and surgery (friend of The Mendez Family)
- ✘ Jan Stayton-healing from back surgery
- ✘ Sue Wright-Cancer Diagnosis (Elaina Albarez Aunt)
- ✘ Benny Albarez - Cancer (Elaina's Brother)
- ✘ Brandon Pate-diagnosed with partial sclerosis of the liver(Friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Dale Cowger-Recovering from Covid (father of Dave Cowger)
- ✘ Rosie Hildebrandt-shingles (sister of Curtis Gace)
- ✘ Karren Radcliff-paraplegic needing prayers for healing of wounds (college friend of Nancy Baeza)

#### Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Leon Lilley-Leukemia (father of Troy Lilley)
- ✘ Chris Pirk-receiving cancer treatment (friend of David & Mikaela Reese)
- ✘ Sherry Adams-radiation for cancer (co-worker of Lester Sentesi)
- ✘ Paul Kron-receiving cancer treatment
- ✘ Carmen Arnold-cancer returned (friend of Jarod Christy)
- ✘ Bill Pali-Alzheimers

- ✘ Anne McIlhany–heart failure, myasthenia gravis, systemic sclerosis
- ✘ Debbie Blanton - Health complications (Daughter of Shirley Coyle)
- ✘ Ceci–kidney issues (great niece of Jim Gibbs)
- ✘ Dave Nahrwold–bladder cancer (father of Elisabeth Held)
- ✘ Jeanie Cowger–cancer (step-family of Cowger family)
- ✘ Clarence Meal–lung cancer (friend of Bettye Carter)
- ✘ Phyllis Smith–cancer (cousin of Bryce Koslan)
- ✘ Kevin Clark–broken neck & back (brother of Korey Clark)
- ✘ Marian Piracci–compromised neuro system (niece of Langleys' son-in-law)
- ✘ Vic Vaz–Lukemia (husband of Sheila 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)
- ✘ Odet Mendez–possible breast cancer (sister of Arturo Mendez)
- ✘ 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

Louise Simmons, Richard & Karen Mavus, Bill Pali, Aileen Mercer, Mario Reyes, Marcia Carr, Dixie Garrett, Arlene Schultz & Gladys Brandt

### General Prayer

- ✘ The family of Ali Lowitzer–strength & understanding during difficult times & for her safe return home (granddaughter of Mary Davis)
- ✘ For a safe and healthy pregnancy for Mikaela & David Reese (due in May)
- ✘ 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 (sons of Paul Menz)

### Celebrations

**Birthdays:** 3/15 Marie Fischer, 3/17 Noah Montemayor, 3/18 Marilyn Kron & 3/19 Jeanne Langley

**Baptism Anniversaries:** 3/14 Dillon Mosier

**Confirmation Anniversaries:** 3/14 Jessica Nelson & 3/17 Michael Nelson

## Memory Bricks



We are taking orders for new Memory Garden bricks in the Narthex now. The Memory Garden is outside of the sanctuary leading to the bell tower. Engraved bricks with names of loved ones who have gone to see Christ in heaven have been donated. The Memory Garden project was completed but some have requested new bricks of their loved ones who have gone to their eternal home. Once we have at least ten bricks ordered, we will make a church order. Bricks are now \$20 each and there is a \$5 extra charge to add a symbol to your brick. The symbols available are next to the order form in the Narthex. 21 characters (including spaces) are allowed per line. Only 18 characters per line for those bricks with symbols. Please fill out a separate form for each brick in the Narthex. You may combine your payment if ordering multiple bricks. Make checks payable to St. Matthew. If paying by credit card, go to <https://www.stmatthewlcms.com/giving.html> and click on the “donate” button. If using a credit card, please add \$1 per brick to cover Paypal fees. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

### Journey through John: 2022 Lenten Devotions

In this introduction, the Apostle John invites us to enter the pages of Scripture and hear the testimony of those who encountered Jesus Christ. He invites us to hear his own witness, the witness of John the Baptist, and the witness of many others who desire to introduce us to the one who came into the world as the true Light shining in the midst of our darkness. The words written in these pages tell us about the Word who was with God at the beginning of creation and in fact, was himself God. We are embarking on an adventure to encounter God who took on human flesh and dwelt among these witnesses in order to accomplish all things needed to give us the right to become children of God. When confronted by the actual presence, actions, and teaching of Jesus, some received Him in faith while others rejected Him. Over the next couple of months as we make our journey through John we will be shown Jesus, the Son of God, full of grace and truth, who gives life and salvation. We receive him by faith.



**Prayer:** Almighty God, you sent your Son into the world in order that all might believe and become your children. As I read the testimony of John, open my eyes to see with new clarity things I may not have known or realized before that bear witness to the salvation Christ has accomplished and how he imparts that gift to me. Amen.

## 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** which is now studying "Revelation."



### 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. **Revelation** 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 will be meeting at **10:00 am** in **Room #2**. We invite everyone who is available to join us to study God's Word. We are studying **Corinthians**.



### Wednesday Evenings

Wednesday evening Bible Class will **resume meeting on April 20th**. Bring a friend for an enjoyable evening!

### Men's Breakfast Bible Study

Join us for the Men's Breakfast and Bible study on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday** of the month at **8:00 am** in the Fellowship Hall. Our next class is April 9th. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



### PRISM - Precious Rubies In St Matthew

PRISM is going to meet on March 26 at 9 a.m. Ladies of all ages are invited to enjoy breakfast, fellowship, and Bible study. We will be diving into "Living a Chocolate Life" by Deb Burma. "Living a Chocolate Life" invites women to savor God's rich and endless supply of grace in Christ. This study reminds readers that the Holy Spirit fills them with sweet faith in the Savior and it is only He who can truly satisfy. Please let Tiffany Cowger (call or text 815-719-1435) if you will be in attendance, so she can order enough books and food!

## Join us for a Laudamus concert this spring!



Laudamus is a select choir of seminarians preparing for full-time service as pastors in The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS). Under the direction of Dr. James Marriott, the Seminary's director of musical arts, the choir delights in proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ through music. Each year, the choir schedules tours throughout the country, one in the fall and another in the spring. Concordia Seminary's choir of seminarians, Laudamus, will tour Oklahoma and Texas before holding a homecoming performance in St. Louis. Please join us at a performance close to you!

- Saturday, March 19, 7 p.m. Immanuel Lutheran Church, Broken Arrow, Okla.
  - Sunday, March 20, 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Grace Lutheran Church, Tulsa, Okla.
  - Sunday, March 20, 3 p.m. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Edmond, Okla.
  - Monday, March 21, 7 p.m. Lamb of God Lutheran Church, Flower Mound, Texas
  - Wednesday, March 23, 7 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church, Klein, Texas
  - Sunday, April 3, 4 p.m. Hope Lutheran Church, St. Louis, Mo.
- All of the concerts are free and open to the public.

**SUNDAY NIGHT ON  
KKHT 100.7 FM "THE WORD" March 13th  
lcrifreedom.org**



- 6:30 to 7 p.m. - The Lutheran Hour
- 7 - 7:30 p.m. - Engaging Truth I  
"FORGIVENESS IS A PROCESS & A CHOICE"  
We all hear that practicing forgiveness is the right thing to do. But why? Dr. Marie Yvette Seltz will join host Pastor Dave Schultz to speak of what forgiveness is and what it isn't.
- 7:30 - 8 p.m. - Engaging Truth II  
"LIBERTY ALERT"  
Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz, Executive Director, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C., offers his insight on the state of religion and government in the US.