

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 & BJ Jackson
 Greeters
 Ushers Joshua Montemayor & Yair Mendez
 Counters Jarod & Elaina Christy
 Acolyte Alex Vaz
 Altar Guild Carol Clark

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 MinistryRev. Arturo Mendez ~ 832-883-1705
 Music John Lisius & Gayle Bogs
 Parish Secretary Amanda Hobbs

Board Chairpersons:

Elders Luke Tusing, Jr.
 Trustees Craig Hooper
 Education
 Evangelism Lester Sentesi
 Stewardship Nicole Poppenhusen

Congregational Officers:

President Larry Harvey
 Vice Pres Scott Christy
 Secretary Becky Reyes
 Treasurer Oscar & Anna Hernandez
 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 Quotes

“Perhaps as our culture seems to be increasingly more challenging, it may help to think of hope as the complete opposite of despair. Hope is not optional for the believer. Our hope is secure because, as we all say again, ‘Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!’” John Stonestreet – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Life Thoughts

April 20 – Resurrection of Our Lord – Lethal measures like abortion and assisted suicide claim to express autonomy, but they really embody surrenders to death. Jesus Christ, sacrificed and arising again, liberates from submission to this ultimate enemy (1 Corinthians 15:26). Neither we nor our neighbors need equate human worth with length of days or lack thereof (Isaiah 65:20). Who will tell them? Why not us?

Attendance for Last Week ~ 04/13/2025
 Adult Bible Class - 8 Thessalonians Class - 15
 Sun. Divine Service - 85
 Offering - \$N/A
 Wed. Morning Bible Class - 11 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

St. Matthew Senior Group "Saved Silvers" RESCHEDULED

Last Sunday the Saved Seniors had their 1st monthly lunch and get together. We had 18 people there and PLENTY food. This will now be a monthly event, the 3rd Sunday each month so all those 50 and up mark your calendars. And remember your cards or dominoes. We are also looking for someone or a couple who would like to coordinate the group. Our next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 27th. If you would like to step up and serve see Lester.



Church Choir

We are wanting to put together a choir and/or a handbell choir for Easter, Pastors retirement service & the rest of the Anniversary celebrations. YOU DO NOT NEED TO READ MUSIC! If you are interested there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. We will need to practice either on Sunday after church or another week night so figure that into your decisions. See Lester with any questions.



Adopt A Brisket

The 125th Picnic is coming up in May. Plus Pastor Bogs will be preaching his last sermon as Sr. Pastor here at St. Matthew. With the budget situation we are initiating an Adopt A Brisket campaign.

Brisket

There is a sign up sheet in the Narthex. Please write your name, phone number and number of briskets you will provide. You can either purchase a brisket and donate it or you can donate money for the church to purchase the briskets. If you write a check or give cash you can put it in the offering plate in an envelope marked Anniversary Brisket. Let's "Make our Picnic Great Again!" Thanks so much!!

125th Anniversary T-Shirts

Another order will be made for special t-shirts designed celebrating St. Matthew's 125th Anniversary. A sample shirt is in the narthex along with a signup sheet. Please write your name, phone number, and what size(s) you would like and place your payment made to "St. Matthew Lutheran Church" in the envelope provided. Shirts are now \$12 each. Please add \$1 for every "X" in size. (XL=\$13, 2XL=\$14, etc. up to 5XL.) The last day to be a part of this order and to get yours by the week before the picnic will be the last Sunday in April, 4/27.



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

- ✘ Update- Patricia LaShomb had jaw surgery February 2025. She is now going through extensive radiation treatments.
- ✘ Karen Mavus - recovering from a broken hip
- ✘ Shirley Kuhlman - moved to 230 Cofer Rd. Leonard, TX 75452
- ✘ Aurora Acevedo - unborn baby whose brain is not developing (the mother is a co-worker of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Dan Ealson - speedy recovery from open heart surgery (father of Katie Ealson-Clark)
- ✘ Larry Harvey - cancer diagnosis
- ✘ Jo Marie Miller - recovering from knee surgery (daughter of Vita Malloy)
- ✘ Harold Hough - recovering from a stroke (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Angela Wilkins - ulcerative colitis (daughter of Frances Bell)

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Cindy Henderson - diagnosed with lymphoma (friend of Sharon Gace)
- ✘ Werner Hartl - diagnosed with cancer
- ✘ Shawn Mena - treatment for breast cancer (friend of David Honerkamp)
- ✘ Carolina Villareal - diagnosed with cancer (friend of Mendez Family)
- ✘ Renee Joyce - breast cancer diagnosis (family friend of Shawn & Amanda Goss)
- ✘ Aileen Mercer - failing eye sight
- ✘ Erica Caballero - breast cancer (friend of Elizabeth & Yair Mendez)
- ✘ Wanda Wood - recovering from heart attack (friend of McCorquodales)
- ✘ Ronnie Ethridge - chronic lymphocytic leukemia (co-worker of Yair Mendez)
- ✘ Brad Ratliff - inoperable brain tumor (friend of Lester Sentesi)
- ✘ Paul Kron - prayers for recovery from kidney failure & cancer treatments
- ✘ Robbie Barton - cancer (brother of Jennifer Hailey)
- ✘ Ruben Alvarez - health challenges (father of Elaina Christy)
- ✘ Rick Hamitt - diagnosed with ALS (son-in-law of the Staytons)

- ✠ 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)
- ✠ 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)
- ✠ 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, Jean Hinz, Shirley Coyle & Marilyn Kron

General Prayer

- ✠ The family of Ali Lowitzer - 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/Poland (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: 4/23 David Christie & 4/27 Dwayne Lilley
 Confirmation Anniversaries: 4/25 Cathy Smith
 Baptism Anniversaries: 4/21 Bryce Koslan, 4/22 Aurora Franks, 4/23 Megan Williamson & 4/25 Jennifer Cornman
 Wedding Anniversaries: 4/24 Randy & Kathy Bogs ~ 37 Yrs. & 4/24 Kenneth & Joyce French 71 Yrs.

Opportunities to Study God's Word

SUNDAY



SCHOOL

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.

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 Epistles of Paul led by Pastor Bogs meets in Room #2 and First Thessalonians 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 Formula of Concord.

Wednesday Evenings

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on The Lord's Supper led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study of How We Got the Bible led by Pastor Bogs meets at 7pm in Room #2. Pastor Bogs will not be having his Wednesday evening class during Lent and will resume the Wednesday after Easter, 4/23.

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 May 10th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.





Communion Element Disposal Practice

Our common practice of handling the unused communion elements following the Divine Service for years has been to save the unused elements in separate containers, and this practice has been a historic practice by the church. After some study, the pastors and elders have agreed to change our practice according to the following from: Dr. Lee Maxwell on page 89 of *The Altar Guild Manual: Lutheran Service book*

Edition which says: "If any of the Lord's body and blood remains, they can be disposed of in a number of ways. The best way is to consume the remaining elements, since the Lord said, 'Take and eat . . . Take and drink,' and did not provide for anything that was left over." (The complete article will be included in the May Newsletter.) Thus, going forward following the service the pastors and elders will now be consuming the remainder of the elements following the service. Good stewardship of the elements will continue to be made as to not have much remaining after the Lord's Supper. If you have any questions, please ask the pastor.

Texas Confessional Lutherans Meeting

Brothers and sisters, my name is Kory Boster. I am this year's chairman of a group of LCMS pastors and laymen called Texas Confessional Lutherans (TCL). I invite you to attend our next meeting scheduled for 10 am on Thursday April 24 at Grace Lutheran Church 1212 W Jefferson in Brenham. Meetings include opening devotion, study of a topic, and discussion of current concerns within congregations, the District, or the Church at large. We move to a local restaurant for lunch at 12:30, and continue any other necessary business. We are usually done before 2 pm.



May Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the May 2025 newsletter. Please submit it to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, April 21st.



VBS 2025

Plans are being discussed for bringing back Vacation Bible School this July. Volunteers will definitely be needed so if you would like to help in any way, please see Rose Jackson.



*The Easter Lilies
beautifying the sanctuary
are given to the glory of God by:*



Randy Bogs & Family in memory of their daughter Alicia Bogs & their granddaughter Maisie Faith Bogs.

Sylvia Christy in memory of her parents Louis & Eva Montemayor

Dan Cross in memory of his grandparents Shelby & Marie Cole

Christina Cross in memory of her grandparents Ron & Doris Sylvester

Jeanne Held in loving memory of her husband Michael Held

BJ & Rose Jackson to the Glory of God

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

Carolyn McCorquodale & Family in memory of all who have joined the Church Triumphant

Joe & Shirley Michka in memory of their parents

Gordon & Peg Munson in honor of our Risen Lord

Claire O'Garro in Memory of Grace & Ruth

Nicole Poppenhusen in memory of her Baumgartner & Berry Grandparents

The Reyes Family to the Glory of God

Victor Schultz to the Glory of God

Lorna Sentesi in memory of her husband Alex Sentesi

Lester Sentesi in memory of his wife Cindy Sentesi, his father Alex Sentesi, & his father-in-law Rev. Leonard Ristow

