

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 & BJ Jackson
- Greeters..... Daniel & Christina Cross
- Ushers Joshua Montemayor & Cody Williamson
- Counters Robert & Melissa Sindlinger
- Acolyte..... Alex Vaz
- Altar Guild BJ & Rose Jackson

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.

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| Pastor..... Rev. Dr. Ronald Bogs | Assoc. Pastor of Hispanic Ministry |
| Organist..... Michael Held | Rev. Arturo Mendez |
| Board Chairpersons: | Parish Secretary ... Amanda Hobbs |
| Elders..... Jason Christy | Congregational Officers: |
| 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



April 3 – Lent V – The vineyard tenants parable issues a stern warning about using death as a solution like abortion or assisted suicide. Paul’s words – “for his sake I have suffered the loss of all things” (Philippians 3:8) – acknowledge the difficulties surprise pregnancy and terminal diagnosis bring. But Isaiah prophesies the sweet assurance of God’s salvation in these difficulties: “a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” (Isaiah 43:19).

Stewardship Every Sunday

Hebrews 9:12 – “He entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption.” What price could cover our sins? What could we pay God to forget our wickedness? The only price that could redeem us was the very Blood of the Christ. His sacrificial giving sets the pattern for our life. For how can we, who are redeemed by the self-giving of God, also not give of ourselves to His Kingdom?



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." Each light cost about \$100. Please consider "adopting" a light or two.



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 4/6 at 11:00 a.m. CT, study Luke 20-22 on Sharper Iron's "The Beloved Physician's Orderly Account" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), and study Matthew 35-36 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs live and on demand at kfu.org or on the KFUO Radio app!

Life Quotes

"You and I are God's workmanship as well. In and of ourselves we have nothing to offer God. But He gave us His Son, eternal life, forgiveness of sins, as well as the grace to serve Him. By God's tender mercies we are qualified to serve Him now and forevermore!" Daily Devotion, Redeemer Lutheran Church, Sister Lakes, Michigan – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Attendance for Last Week (03/3/23 & 3/27)

Adult Bible Class - 13 Galatians Class - 11

Sun. Divine Service - 101/\$3393.04

Wed. Morning Bible Class - 9 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.

Strength & Healing

- ✘ **Colin Brogan - Recovering from heart surgery (friend of Sonny French)**
- ✘ Stephanie Nixdorf - diagnosed with stage 4 melanoma (friend of the Held family)
- ✘ Craig Johnson - broken neck from a fall (father of Christina Cross)
- ✘ Jean Ogletree-receiving chemotherapy on her gall bladder (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Aileen Mercer-Failing Eye Sight (Marilyn Krons Sister)
- ✘ Jan Stayton-healing from back surgery
- ✘ Brandon Pate-diagnosed with partial scerosis of the liver (Friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Rosie Hildebrandt-shingles (sister of Curtis Gace)

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Erica Vogt-long term Covid complications (granddaughter of Michael & Jeanne Held)
- ✘ Carolina Villarreal-Cancer & surgery (friend of The Mendez Family)
- ✘ Sue Wright-Cancer Diagnosis (Elaina Albarez Aunt)
- ✘ Benny Albarez - Cancer (Elaina Albarez Brother)
- ✘ 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 - in the hospital (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 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); Steven & Robert Hailey - Marines (nephews of The Hailey Family)

Celebrations

Birthdays: 4/3 April Harvey, 4/7 Daniel Cross, 4/7 Scott Gentes, 4/7 Dalhardt Goebel & 4/9 Katie Clark

Baptism Anniversaries: 4/3 Carol Clark, 4/3 Rose Goebel, 4/3 Jake McIlhany, 4/3 Kate McIlhany, 4/8 Patricia LaShomb, 4/9 Marilyn Kron & 4/9 Aileen Mercer

Confirmation Anniversaries: 4/3 Mary Garrett, 4/5 Caleb Bogs, 4/5 Tiffany Cowger, 4/6 Eda Nitz, 4/7 Joyce French, 4/7 Janis Stayton, 4/9 Hannah Bogs, 4/9 Jordan Christy, 4/9 Nathan Cross, 4/9 William Gentes, 4/9 Aaron Lilley, 4/9 Rebecca Mendez, 4/9 Naatah Mollel & 4/9 Dillon Mosier

Wedding Anniversaries: Joe & Shirley Michka ~ 54 Years

Memory Bricks



ATTENTION MEMBERS WE WILL BE TAKING OUR LAST ORDERS FOR MEMORY BRICKS ON SUNDAY, APRIL 10TH. So if you would like to order please make sure that your order is in on the 10th. 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

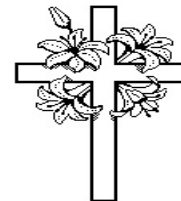
have been donated. The Memory Garden project was completed but some have requested new bricks of their loved ones who have gone to their eternal home. Once we have at least ten bricks ordered, we will make a church order. Bricks are now \$20 each and there is a \$5 extra charge to add a symbol to your 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.

Easter Breakfast

This year's breakfast will be by the S.M.A.R.T. Youth Group as they ask for your support for their Higher Things Youth Gathering trip this summer to Valparaiso, Indiana. We appreciate any donations you can make for them while enjoying great food and fellowship! Thank you! There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please make sure that you sign up so that we can get an accurate count of how many we need to prepare for.



Easter Lilies



The Easter Lily Sign-Up sheet is in the narthex. Lilies are \$9 a plant. Please make your checks payable to St. Matthew and state if you would like them in honor or in memory of someone. Thank you!

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 "Giving An Answer."



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 **Our Divine Service**.



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 **2nd 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 April 23rd at 10 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.



Lutheran Witness
Subscriptions

Lutheran Witness Subscription

There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex for subscription to the Lutheran Witness. If you already have a subscription and would like to cancel it simply mark a line through your information. If your address has changed please right the new one out to the right of your name. If you would like to sign-up for a new subscription please write in your name and address on the 2nd page. The cost for this year's subscription is \$14.25 and you can leave a check in the offering plate with "Lutheran Witness" in the memo line or use the envelope provided to you in your box of tithing envelopes.



JOYFUL APRIL

In his famous poem "The Waste Land", T.S. Eliot tells us "April is the cruelest month", but to Christians around the world it's often quite the opposite. As is often the case, in 2022 April contains Easter, the celebration of the cruel death and miraculous resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Join us each Sunday evening from 6:30 to 8 p.m. on KKHT-FM 100.7, The Word, for ELM's lineup of "The Lutheran Hour" at 6:30, "Engaging Truth" at 7, and "The Liberty Alert", a weekly wrap-up of news from Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty in Washington, D.C. at 7:30. All programs may also be live-streamed via the KKHT website at kkht.com.

Listed below is the schedule for April programming:

- April 3, 2022
7 p.m. - Kelvin Cochran "Facing the Fire"
7:30 p.m. - Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz - "Liberty Alert"
- April 10, 2022
7 p.m. - Rev. John Juedes - "Demonic Possession"
7:30 p.m. - Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz - "Liberty Alert"
- April 17, 2022
7 p.m. - Rev. Michael Newman - "Easter"
7:30 p.m. - Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz - "Liberty Alert"
- April 24, 2022
7 p.m. - Rev. Dan Potts - "Communication Crisis"
7:30 p.m. - Rev. Dr. Gregory Seltz - "Liberty Alert"