

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 & BJ Jackson
Greeters Sylvia Christy & Marie Fischer
Ushers. Jordan Christy & Cody Williamson
Counters Robert & Melissa Sindlinger
Acolyte Isabella Vaz
Altar Guild. Rose & BJ 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 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.

- 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 News & Notes

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



July 17 - Pentecost VI (Proper 11) - Abortion means abandonment. Parents desert their little ones to death because they themselves feel forsaken. Today's appointed Psalm describes how God wants all those whom others disregard: "Though father and mother have forsaken me, the Lord will take me in" (Psalm 27:10). In the Body of Christ, no one goes unwanted, even during surprise pregnancy. We share Father Abraham's delight (Genesis 18:10) in abundance!

Stewardship Every Sunday

Luke 10:40b - "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone?" Martha is doing the right thing but in the wrong order. Her service to the Lord is good, but she has let it get ahead of hearing His Word. Mary has placed the Word first, which is good. Is there any doubt that she will rise once she has heard the Word and get to serving as well? Isn't that what hearing the Word always leads us to do? We listen, then respond. We believe, and thus we act!



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.

Attendance for Last Week (07/10/2022)
Adult Bible Class - 18 Galatians Class - 12
Sun. Divine Service - 90
Offerings - \$6709.00
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 7 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 5
For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord! ~Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

“Abortion advocates have no fear asserting what they imagine the Scriptures say or don’t say about the sanctity of life. Why shouldn’t our enthusiasm overshadow theirs? If Satan’s grown comfortable convoluting our truth, doesn’t the certainty and sensitivity our Savior has given welcome and even compel us eagerly to call out the devil’s lies?” Pastor Michael Salemink – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Organ Music Operators Needed

Due to the extended absence of Michael Held we are in need of volunteers to play the computerized program which is playing our organ during Divine Service. No special skills are needed, just plug and play. If you are interested, please see Dave Cowger or Gayle Bogs for further information.



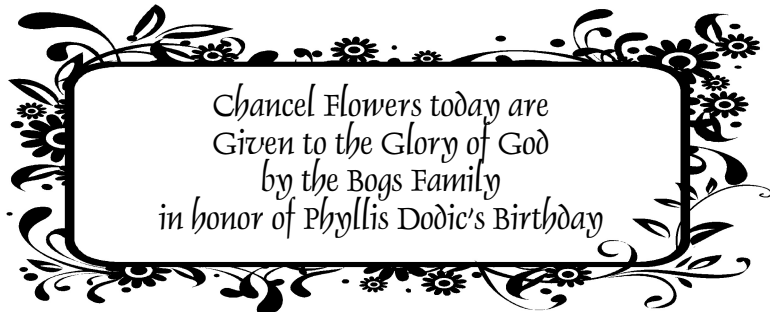
Youth Group Thanks You for Continued Support

Thank you so much to those who continue to support and encourage our Youth Group in their Higher Things endeavors. We have 11 youth and 4 adults attending at the end of July. This year the closest conference and the one we’re going to is at Valparaiso University in Indiana which is 1091 miles one way. Due to the increase in gas, our transportation budget has increased even though we have dropped down to using one vehicle. If you are inclined to do so, we’d appreciate any extra financial support you can give at this time. Please mark donations “Higher Things” and place in the offering plate. Please remember, this is above and beyond the Penny Wars bucket donations which are our church’s donations for the Higher Things organization. Again, thank you for your prayers and encouragement for the youth!



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."



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

- ✘ For the family of Karen Sindlinger - Robert Sindlingers sister-in-law
- Strength & Healing**
- ✘ Samantha Brown -being treated for cancer (daughter of Eda Nitz niece)
- ✘ Jake Fodderie - brain tumor has returned (nephew of Christina Cross)
- ✘ Mario Reyes - suffered an aortic aneurysm
- ✘ Jane McElroy - tested positive for Covid
- ✘ John Reith–recovering from successful knee surgery (friend of Pastor & Gayle Bogs)
- ✘ Carol Gentes–shingles
- ✘ Carl Holmes–VA hospital (former member)
- ✘ Betty Carol–having surgery (aunt of Shirley Coyle’s daughter-in-law)
- ✘ Richard Mavus–hospitalized w/health complications
- ✘ Michael Held–healing from a dislocated elbow & pancreatic cancer
- ✘ Mary Davis–fell and broke her wrist

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Marilyn Holland–cancer (former member)
- ✘ Ernie Bernet–bladder cancer (seminary friend of Pastor Bogs)
- ✘ Colin Brogan–recovering from heart surgery (friend of Sonny French)
- ✘ Stephanie Nixdorf–stage 4 melanoma (friend of the Helds)
- ✘ Craig Johnson–broken neck from a fall (father of Christina Cross)
- ✘ Jean Ogletree–chemotherapy on gall bladder (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Brandon Pate–scerosis of the liver (friend of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Aileen Mercer–failing eye sight
- ✘ Jan Stayton–healing from back surgery
- ✘ Erica Vogt–long term Covid complications (granddaughter of the Helds)
- ✘ Carolina Villarreal–cancer & surgery (friend of the Mendez family)
- ✘ Sue Wright–cancer (aunt of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✘ Benny Alvarez–cancer (brother of Elaina Alvarez)
- ✘ Leon Lilley–leukemia
- ✘ Chris Pirk–cancer treatment (friend of David & Mikaela Reese)

- ✠ Sherry Adams—radiation for cancer (co-worker of Lester Sentesi)
- ✠ Paul Kron—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—improving (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

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

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 Jason & Kim Christy (due October) & Rebecca
- ✠ 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 Haileys)

Celebrations

Baptism Anniversaries: 7/19 Jessica Nelson

Wedding Anniversaries: 7/21 Scott & Sylvia Christy ~ 43 Yrs.

Adult Bible Class Change for July 17

Today during Bible Class, Rev. Arthur Rickman from our Synod, who was here with us four years ago before heading to China, talked about the Latin American mission field. A lot has changed in our Synod in the area of missions; the how, the where and the funding. This presentation was an informative way of getting to understand our national church body's mission incentives. Thank you, Rev. Rickman for sharing with us.

Pictorial Directory

The Pictorial Directories are now available. If you ordered one and paid for it, please pick it up in the narthex. If you did not order one, but would like one, you may pick up one as well. Because we have somehow misplaced the order pages, and because we are not sure who ordered one, if you ordered one and would like your cost refunded, let me know. If you did not order one and would like one, simply pick one up.

Lifeline

We received the following e-mail from the LifeLine Pregnancy Center: We wanted to extend a profound "THANK YOU" to St. Matthew Lutheran Church. We counted \$1,185.00 donated from your bottle banks. That amount is nearly DOUBLE of what you all gave last year. What a tremendous blessing you all have been to our LifeLine families!!! God is using your body of believers in such a significant way through this gift. We know that with the overturn of Roe v. Wade that more is going to be required of us. We are seeking God's wisdom and direction in understanding what "more" actually means for us. We can see God is preparing us for "more" in so many ways. We covet your prayers for the Holy Spirit's leadership of us as we discern what He is doing here at LifeLine. God is GOOD & FAITHFUL, and we are humbled and honored that He has chosen us for such a time as this! Thank you, St. Matthew Lutheran Church, for partnering with us in this ministry of the Gospel of Christ to mothers and their children.

Texas Confession Lutherans

The Quarterly meeting of the Texas Confessional Lutherans will meet at Grace Lutheran Church in Brenham this Thursday, July 21 to hear Rev. Jerome Teichmiller speak on the topic "What is Unionism and Syncretism and Why Does It Matter?" The meeting begins at 10:30 am and concludes no later than 2 pm. If you want to go and need a ride, talk to Pastor Bogs.

Pastor Bogs'

20 - 30 - 40

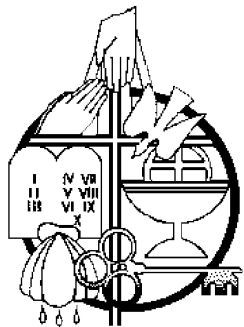
Anniversary Celebration

This year, Pastor Bogs is celebrating 20 years here as Pastor of St. Matthew, 30 years of Ordination in the Holy Ministry, and 40 years as a church worker in the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod. This monumental event is cause for our congregation to celebrate so we are planning to do so two days before his actual Ordination Anniversary.

****LAST DAY TO SIGN UP FOR THE LUNCHEON**

Date: July 24, 2022
Time: Immediately after Divine Service

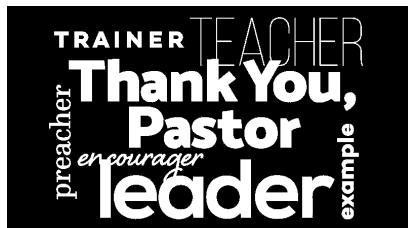
The Planning Committee had its first meeting on May 22, 2022 and meets today after church. Below are tentative plans for the celebration luncheon with catered meal (fajitas). Don't forget to RSVP in the Narthex.



- guest pastor The Rev. Robert LeBlanc from Winnie, TX (grade school classmate of Pastor Bogs) to preach
- we will have an Anniversary cake, but congregation members are encouraged to bring your favorite desserts as well.
- testimonials from past and current members, friends and pastors
- slideshow of Pastors' life in the ministry
- special program by the committee

The committee has set a budget of \$2,500 to cover all costs, including meal, decorations, gift from congregation, etc. If you would like to contribute, please contact one of the committee members listed below:

- Scott Christy
- David Honerkamp
- Lester Sentesi
- Rose & B.J. Jackson
- Nadine Reed
- Karen French



Individual gifts for Pastor are encouraged as well. A sign-up sheet for the dinner will be posted in the narthex. If you are attending, please list the number of people and share with your family and friends.

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 which is now studying "For You" to prepare for their trip to Higher Things Youth Gathering.



Sunday Adult Bible Classes
All members and friends of St. Matthew Lutheran Church are invited for coffee and donuts at 8:30 am each Sunday at 8:30 am. Then our Bible Classes begin at 8:45 am. The Pentetuch led by Pastor Bogs meets in the Room #2. 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 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 meets at 7:00 pm in Room #2.

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 August 13. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



PRISM – Precious Rubies In St Matthew
Due to set up for Pastor's Anniversary celebration, we will not be meeting in July. The next meeting for PRISM will be Saturday, August 27 at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Ladies of all ages are invited to enjoy breakfast, fellowship, and Bible study. We hope to see you there and as always all ladies are welcome.