



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..... Aaron Montemayor
Altar Guild Rose & BJ Jackson

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



July 24 – Pentecost VII (Proper 12) – Even surprise pregnancies involve a father. More than 60% of women who undergo abortion report pressure to do so from a man in their life. Jesus extends instead the joy of God Himself in a fatherhood that finds beautiful and blessed fulfillment by protecting and providing for the child (Luke 11:11-13). The sanctity of life isn't a women's issue—it's a Gospel gift!

Stewardship Every Sunday

Luke 11:11 – "What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent?" A generous, giving spirit comes from knowing that you have a generous, giving Father. He will care for our needs. We are therefore free to reflect His generosity in our lives. We can be generous in raising our children, supporting the Church, and serving our neighbor in the community. In these three areas – home, Church, and society – the Lord has called us to show His grace and generosity to those around us.



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.

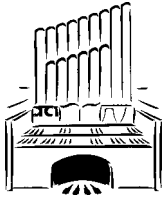
Attendance for Last Week (07/17/2022)
Adult Bible Class - 17 Galatians Class - 17
Sun. Divine Service - 101
Offerings - \$5436.38
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 8 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 8
*For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord! ~Psalm 117:2*

Life Quotes

“God has come down and given us His Son. But in times of doubt or struggle we can clearly see—through the eyes of faith—Christ the Savior, shining bright into our world. And so, we go down the mountain to the everyday and even the unknown. Like the disciples then, we go with Christ, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.” Rev. Cody Copper, guest speaker on The Lutheran Hour – 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.

Safety

✘ **Youth Group and adult chaperones traveling and attending Higher Things this week in Valparaiso University, Indiana**

Strength & Healing

- ✘ **Pastor Black - Hospitalized with Covid complications (Trinity downtown)**
- ✘ **Debbie Blanton - Had a stroke (Shirley Coyles daughter)**
- ✘ **Virginia Lawrence - Surgery for detached retina**
- ✘ **Stephanie Favreau - Breast Cancer (friend of Gace & Goss families)**
- ✘ **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**
- ✘ **John Reith—recovering from successful knee surgery (friend of Pastor & Gayle Bogs)**
- ✘ **Carol Gentes—shingles**
- ✘ **Carl Holmes—VA hospital (former member)**
- ✘ **Richard Mavus—hospitalized w/health complications**
- ✘ **Michael Held—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 Corey 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 (due is August)
- ✘ 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

Birthdays: 7/24 Jordan Christy, 7/24 Mikaela Reese, 7/27 Randy Bogs, 7/27 Ean Cowger, 7/28 Addison Christie, 7/28 Dale Haude, 7/30 William Gentes & 7/30 Aaron Lilley

Baptism Anniversaries: 7/25 Arrip Parsalaw & 7/30 Trey Hodges

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 and put the payment in the envelope provided.

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.

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: Join us for Daily Chapel from the LCMS International Center weekdays at 10:00 a.m. CT, study Genesis 22-25 on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT), and study Acts 23-27 on Sharper Iron's "To the End of the Earth" (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT). Find your favorite programs live and on demand at kfuo.org or the KFUO Radio app!

Join us for Matins & a Meal next Sunday, July 31st, where the SMART Youth Group will have a recap of their Higher Things Conference in Valparaiso, IN!!!



Amateur Filmmakers

Are you an aspiring filmmaker or know someone who is? Make plans now to participate in Concordia Seminary, St. Louis' new short film competition as part of its annual Faith and Film Festival being held Jan. 26-28, 2023.

Amateur filmmakers at least 18 years of age are invited to submit their films to the contest starting June 30. The submission deadline is Oct. 15 and finalists will be notified by Dec. 15. The submission fee is \$25 per entry.

Films should be based on the theme of "Faith" and run 10 minutes or less. Entries may be of any genre or style, such as narrative, experimental, animation or documentary. Full competition details are available online. Faithandfilm@csl.edu

Four films will be selected as finalists and will be screened during the festival. A jury of film critics, producers, scholars and professors will select the top films based on technique, storytelling and representation of the theme. One film festival pass will be awarded to each of the four finalists.

IMPORTANT DATES:

- Short Film Competition opening date: June 30, 2022
- Submission deadline: Oct. 15, 2022
- Notification date: Dec. 15, 2022
- Event date: Jan. 26-28, 2023

CPH Reads is live for 2022!

From May 31 through August 12, kids can report their reading and earn points to have a chance to win CPH Prizes. This summer, we don't want more screen time. Reading is a well-documented and studied way to benefit yourself and your children. It can help connect to one another and grow together.

Join CPH Reads, a program that will reward your family for reading together about the Good News of Jesus Christ. Register your readers at cph.org/reads and get started!



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.