

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... Jason Christy & Curtis Gace
Greeters... Curtis & Sharon Gace
Ushers... Dillon Mosier & Robert Sindlinger
Counters... Marie Fischer
Acolyte... Isabella Vaz
Altar Guild... Tiffany Cowger & Becky Reyes

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-Thursdays - 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



August 28 - Pentecost XII (Proper 17) - "It is the glory of God to conceal things" (Proverbs 25:2), like the sanctity of life hidden behind surprise pregnancy or terminal diagnosis. "The glory of kings is to search things out," like the sanctity of life beheld in embryos and elderly ones. Our own souls embody little children (Psalm 131:2), and angels inhabit the needs of strangers (Hebrews 13:2). If rescuing pets brings relief (Luke 14:5), what rejoicing will be ours in defending our endangered neighbors?

Stewardship Every Sunday

Luke 14:11 - "For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: that's called humility. The Lord is God and we are not. With that in mind, how could we not seek to follow His Word in all aspects of life? He knows what He is talking about and we don't. If you believe that, then striking out on a path of faithfulness in the realm of stewardship is a lot easier: it just makes sense.



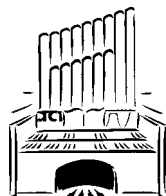
Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.

Attendance for Last Week (08/21/2022)
Adult Bible Class - 18 Galatians Class - 13
Sun. Divine Service - 72
Offerings - \$3988.00
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 9 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 6
For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever.
Praise the Lord! ~Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

“So, pray, dear army of God, for the courage to seize opportunities to speak of God’s saving glory and the peace it brings! So, pray, dear army of God, for those God has sent, in His name and ours, to herald that message where we cannot go! So, pray, dear army of God, that God would ... equip the next generation of faithful witnesses to add their voices to the chorus.” Rev. Dr. Rich Gurgel, president of Martin Luther College – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org

Organ Music Operators Needed



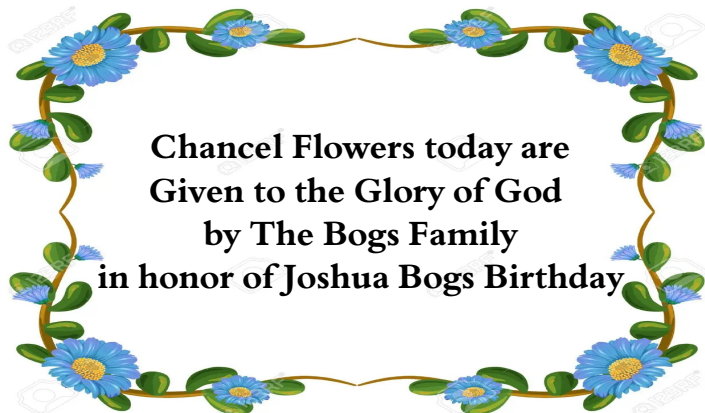
Due to the extended absence of Michael Held we are in need of volunteers to play the computerized program which is playing our organ during Divine Service. No special skills are needed, just plug and play. If you are interested, please see Dave Cowger or Gayle Bogs for further information.

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.”

ESL Classes Resume

ESL classes are resuming 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. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez.



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

- † Gladys Banewski - Diagnosed with Cancer (friend of Curtis & Sharon Gace)
- † Anna Hildebrandt - is in hospice care pray for her family
- † Michael Held - began chemotherapy on Monday, Aug 15th for pancreatic cancer
- † William Haynes - was severely burned (friends of the McCorquodale Family)
- † Pastor Don Black - hospitalized with Covid complications (Trinity downtown)
- † Debbie Blanton - Had a stroke (Shirley Coyle's daughter)
- † Virginia Lawrence - Surgery for detached retina
- † Mario Reyes - suffered an aortic aneurysm
- † Carol Gentes–shingles
- † Richard Mavus–In rehabilitation
- † Mary Davis–fell and broke her wrist

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- † Jake Fodderie - brain tumor has returned (nephew of Christina Cross)
- † Samantha Brown -being treated for cancer (daughter of Eda Nitz niece)
- † Stephanie Favreau - Breast Cancer (friend of Gace & Goss families)
- † 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)
- † 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 Albarez)
- † Benny Albarez–cancer (brother of Elaina Albarez)
- † 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)
- † Dave Nahrwold—bladder cancer (father of Elisabeth Held)
- † Jeanie Cowger—cancer (step-family of Cowger family)
- † Clarence Meal—lung cancer (friend of Bettye Carter)
- † 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 Kim & Jason Christy (due October)
- † 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: 8/31 Joshua Bogs & 9/2 Steve Nitz
 Baptism Anniversaries: 8/30 Gayle Bogs, 8/31 William Gentes, 9/1 Mikaela Reese & 9/3 Lorna Sentesi

Texas Confessional Lutherans Conference



You are invited to attend the Texas Confessional Lutherans annual FREE CONFERENCE that will be held on Friday, September 9th and Saturday, September 10th at Grace Lutheran Church, located at 1212 Jefferson Street in Brenham, Texas. Pastor Klaus Detlev Schulz, Ph. D., of the Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne (CTSFW), will be the speaker.

He will speak on the theme of "How do we plant confessional Lutheran churches?" A catered barbeque meal will be available at noon on Saturday for \$14 per plate. Please make a meal ticket reservation by September 2nd. To reserve a meal ticket, get a copy of the Agenda, or for more information, call or text 979-421-3740 or email robertlangeinc@msn.com.



LifeLine Screening will be here at St. Matthew on Tuesday, September 6th. They will be performing advanced ultrasound to detect vascular conditions. You can find information provided by Lifeline in the Narthex. Pre-registration is required so please call 1-800-772-8260 or register online at www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle.



Just a reminder that Confirmation classes have resumed on Wednesdays at 5:30pm .



One Loaf

How Christ Keeps Us Together
When Everything is Falling Apart

September 23-24, 2022
Zion Lutheran Church
Tomball, TX

See Gayle if you're
attending

About this topic:

We are more connected today than ever before, and yet loneliness, isolation, and division define everything around us. The devil, the world, and our own sinful nature all work to separate us from God and from each other. How does Christ draw us back together when everything is splitting into a million pieces? Through the Scriptures and the story of Christ's Church,

Dr. Todd Peperkorn, a CTSFW professor and one of the founders of Higher Things, will lead us to understand who we are as the people of God, and why we are one loaf, not just a bunch of cracked kernels.

What is a Higher Things Retreat?

Picture the sanctuary filled with teenagers, eager for the organ to begin the opening lines of the liturgy or their favorite hymns, listening intently as they learn how their Lutheran faith applies to their lives and relationships, and laughing as they horse around playing games and getting to know other youth from the area. This Retreat will give youth and adults a glimpse of what happens at a Higher Things youth conference and what a typical conference day looks like!

\$50

Register Today!

www.higherthings.org

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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.



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/wh-at-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. There is a schedule change for September. The class will be held on the 3rd Saturday, which is September 17. The Board of Elders will meet following study at 10:00am.



PRISM – Precious Rubies In St Matthew

PRISM is going to meet on Saturday, September 24th 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.