

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..... BJ Jackson & Scott Christy
Greeters..... Patricia LaShomb & Shirley Kuhlman
Ushers Robert Sindlinger & Aaron Montemayor
Counters
Acolyte..... Ruby Montemayor
Altar Guild..... Hannah Bogs & Becky Mendez

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 Ministry... Rev. Arturo Mendez ~ 832-883-1705
Organist.....
Parish Secretary..... Amanda Hobbs

Board Chairpersons:

Elders.....
Trustees..... Eugene Meyer
Education... Kathleen Montemayor
Evangelism..... Lester Sentesi
Stewardship... Nicole Poppenhusen

Congregational Officers:

President..... Scott Christy
Vice Pres..... David Honerkamp
Secretary..... Becky Reyes
Treasurer.....
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 Thoughts

May 5 – Easter VI – Surprise pregnancy does involve difficulties too great for our abilities. Terminal diagnosis indeed comes with insurmountable obstacles. Taking life-and-death matters into one's own hands only compounds the problems. Instead, trust the Son of God to overcome and deliver out of every threat (1 John 5:4). Cry out to Jesus in repentance and prayer, for the Father above will not fail to supply immediate and eternal salvation (John 15:16).

Stewardship Every Sunday

1 John 5:3 – “For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome.” God's commandments are not burdensome, but that's only true for Christians precisely because we know that we are not saved by our keeping of the Law. We are saved by grace. Therefore, we are set free by grace to walk in newness of life, to grow in faithfulness, and rejoice in the Law of the Lord, loving God and our neighbor by keeping His commandments.

Attendance for Last Week ~ 04/28/2024
Adult Bible Class - 17 Galatians Class - 11
Sun. Divine Service - 82
Offering - \$N/A
Wed. Morning Bible Class - 7 Wed. Evening Bible Classes - 12
For great is His steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the Lord endures forever. Praise the Lord ~ Psalm 117:2

Life Quotes

“The Ascension assures us that Jesus has finished His work of salvation and now rules ALL things in this world for the good of His Kingdom and His Church: that is, you and me! What is Christ’s goal that the song highlights? Jesus wants His Body, us, to be with Him where He is in paradise, in heaven.” Rev. Darren Green, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life

• lutheransforlife.org

Board of Evangelism Monthly Meeting



The Board of Evangelism & Fellowship will be meeting every 3rd Sunday of each month after church service. The next meeting will be Sunday, May 26th. So mark your calendars and plan to attend. If you have an activity you would like to see

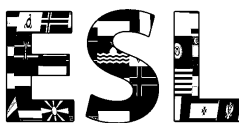
us do, please see Lester Sentesi or any board member.

Church Re-pipe Fund

At the August 27 Congregational meeting of St. Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield, the voters voted to begin a fund to re-pipe all our facilities. The cost estimated at around \$40,000. This fund is to be funded by any member wishing to make a contribution above their normal tithe. At the same time we will pursue financing the amount over what is contributed. However, if the contributions amount to more than the cost all extra monies will then be put in the general fund.

ESL Classes

ESL classes are every Tuesday and Thursday at 7pm. If you need more information, please see Pastor Mendez or contact him at pastormendez.smlcw@gmail.com.



Lutheran Witness Subscription

If you have requested and been receiving a subscription to the Lutheran Witness and have not submitted payment for your subscription. Please bring your envelope with the subscription cost of \$22.50 as soon as possible. Thank you

June Newsletter Deadline

If you have anything that you would like to see and/or add to the June 2024 newsletter. Please submit them to office.smlcw@gmail.com by Monday, May 20th.



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

- ✘ Miles Ermine - born 4/27 and is in NICU (great-grandson of April & Larry Harvey)
- ✘ Erica Vogt - has whooping cough & pneumonia and is scheduled for surgery on 5/8 (Jeanne Held granddaughter)
- ✘ Frances Casper - recovering from open heart surgery (friend of Dave Cowger)
- ✘ Sylvia Christy - for recovery after surgery
- ✘ Rick Hamitt - has been diagnosed with ALS (son-in-law of The Staytons)
- ✘ Don Cornman - healing from sciatica
- ✘ Vita Malloy - recovering from surgery
- ✘ Patsy Hodges - recovering at home from cataract surgery
- ✘ Ruben Alvarez - health challenges (father of Elaina Alvarez Christy)
- ✘ Jean Hinz - recovering from hernia surgery
- ✘ Jose Galvaz - recovery from 3rd degree burns
- ✘ Werner Hartl - fell and broke his hand among many other injuries

Cancer/Long Term Healing

- ✘ Patricia LaShomb - prayers during her continued treatment and healing from cancer
- ✘ Hunter Baty - Fhar’s disease (friend of Marie Fischer)
- ✘ Denise Berry - diagnosed with ALS (cousin of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Helena Goss - prayer for healing as she goes through cancer treatments (Aunt of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Rose Ortiz - stage 2 pancreatic cancer (friend of Nancy Baeza)
- ✘ Justin Street - facial tumor (friend of Shawn Goss)
- ✘ Toby Turley - cancer (niece of Gaces)
- ✘ Carolyn Nitche - lymphoma, no treatment plan (aunt of Nicole Poppenhusen)
- ✘ Jan Stayton - healing from back surgery
- ✘ Leon Lilley - leukemia
- ✘ Paul Kron - cancer

- ✠ 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)
- ✠ Carolina Villarreal - cancer & surgery (friend of the Mendez Family)
- ✠ Jeanie Cowger - cancer (step-family of the Cowger family)
- ✠ 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 & Betty Carter

General Prayer

- ✠ Comfort & Protection for our brothers and sisters in Christ in Israel
- ✠ Jason & Kim Christy - healthy pregnancy & baby
- ✠ Sisilie and Chris Lawrence - healthy pregnancy & baby due May 2024 (son & daughter-in-law of Gary & Virginia Lawrence)
- ✠ The family of Ali Lowitzer - strength during difficult times & 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/Japan (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: 5/8 Janis Stayton, 5/8 Phillip Williamson & 5/9 Caleb Bogs

Confirmed Anniversaries: 5/6 Jess Clark, 5/6 Clay Lilley, 5/6 Kathleen Montemayor, 5/7 Scott Gentes & 5/9 Mikaela Reese

Baptism Anniversaries: 5/9 David Cowger

Wedding Anniversaries: 5/9 Shawn & Amanda Goss ~ 10 Yrs. & 5/11 David & Kathy Honerkamp ~ 32 Yrs.



125th Anniversary of St. Matthew Lutheran Church

The Anniversary Committee had their 1st meeting and we are excited. The Grand Celebration will be held on May 18, 2025. We have invited Dr. Harrison to be our guest Preacher that day as we celebrate not only 125 years as a congregation, but also our 125th Annual Picnic. We have a lot to do and time is going to fly by. We need your help. If you want to be part of the planning for this awesome year of celebration please see Lester Sentesi. "Growing Together In Christ for 125 Years!"



St. Matthew Lutheran Church

2024 Picnic Committee/Volunteers

The Picnic Committee met this past Sunday and we are excited. There are sign up sheets in the Narthex for side dishes, desserts & for people to sign up to work. We need potato salad, coleslaw, pies & cakes. As well as lots of people to help out. If you have any questions please contact Lester Sentesi, Phillip Williamson or Melissa Sindlinger. Thank you to everyone in advance for your help in making our 2024 picnic a wonderful success.



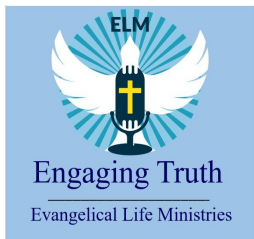
~ A Message from the Family of Eda Nitz ~



The Nitz Family would like to thank everyone who attended the service of celebration of the life of our loved one, Eda Nitz. She loved her church family and friends and it was apparent that she was loved as well. We will all miss her, but we also have many special memories to hold on to. Your efforts shine brightly as a beacon of selfless service for all of you who worked behind the scenes. You bring to life the words of Christ, serving others with a joyful heart and willing hands. Your dedication, love, and support to make Eda's strong request and desire that her memorial service be a celebration of life, was truly a blessing to our family. We know she would have been very pleased and would be so thankful. The Nitz Family (Steve, Paul and Jane)

KFUO Radio

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on KFUO.org via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @KFUOradio on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUO.org: Study Daniel 4-8 on Sharper Iron (weekdays at 8:00 a.m. CT), hear stories from around the Synod on The Coffee Hour (weekdays at 9:00 a.m. CT), and continue studying the book of Proverbs on Thy Strong Word (weekdays at 11:00 a.m. CT).



Engaging Truth

It's become a tradition here at Evangelical Life Ministries to make the month of May a salute to women in ministry. This month, Engaging Truth has lined up a number of guests whose stories exemplify the solid contribution made by the women of the church in spreading the Good News of Salvation through Jesus the Christ.

On May 5, host Rev. Dr. Doug Kregel welcomes Linda Kurtz of Hope and Care Outreach, a ministry aimed at aiding children in Liberia. On Mother's Day, May 12, host Rev. John Cain welcomes Renee Gibbs, nationally-known speaker, teacher, and encourager.

Then on May 19, host Bill Prewitt interviews Leslie Sullivan, Celebrate Director at St. John Lutheran Church in Cypress, TX. We cap off the month on May 26 as guest interviewer Jonathan Schultz welcomes author Donna Snow of Artesian Ministries.

As always, Engaging Truth is followed at 7:30 p.m. by the Liberty Action Alert hosted by Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty.

Please join us each Sunday night on KKHT 100.7 FM The Word (kkht.com). Our programs are also available via our website at elmhouston.org, our podcast channels, and social media.

The May Engaging Truth lineup:

- May 5 7 p.m. - Linda Kurtz, Executive Director of Hope and Care Outreach
7:30 p.m. – Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
- May 12 7 p.m. - Renee Gibbs, Speaker and Teacher
7:30 p.m. – Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
- May 19 7 p.m. - Leslie Sullivan, Celebrate Director at St. John Lutheran Church, Cypress, TX
7:30 p.m. – Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty
- May 26 7 p.m. - Author Donna Snow of Artesian Ministries
7:30 p.m. – Liberty Action Alert with Rev. Dr. Greg Seltz of the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty

Opportunities to Study God's Word

SUNDAY



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.

SCHOOL

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 John led by Pastor Bogs meets in Room #2 and Galatians 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 Augsburg Confession.

Wednesday Evenings

There are two Wednesday evening Bible classes. The study on Baptism led by Larry Harvey meets at 6:30 pm in Room #4. The study of Acts led by Pastor Bogs meets at 7pm in Room #2.

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 11th. The Board of Elders will meet immediately after at 10:00am.

