

St. Matthew News Bulletin



Jan. 27-28, 2024 + The Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
St. Matthew Lutheran Church + The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

Welcome in Jesus' name to all visitors, guests and members

❖ PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH _____

Prayers of the congregation

- . . . pray for the family of Susy Schelp at the death of her mother, Helen Pragman on Jan. 22nd.
- . . . thank the Lord for all His mercies to us and keep us mindful of the needs of others.

Prayers for members

- . . . for Pat Hanssen, Becky Otto, Janet Winkles, Jill Koenig, Glenda Schmidt, Max Timms, Jeanette Hedberg, Lloyd Hill, Stephen Canaday, Richard Freeouf, Dennis & Christine Cromley, Dan Miller, Mark Jones, Joyce Paulsen, Larry & Debbie Riebesell, Vanessa Buhrmester, Lori Koepsel.

Prayers for family and friends

- . . . Dewey McCommon, Alaina Keel, Erv Daugherty, Betty McKeage.
- If anyone needs to be added please contact the church office at secretary@gracefaithlove.org*

Worship & Christian Education – Weekend Jan. 20-21, 2024

Attendance: 62, 91 & 137 (Total 290) Communion: 58, 64 & 111 (Total 233) Visitors: 6, 14
Sun. School Attendance: 35 High School: 0
AM Bible Study: 5 Midweek: 56 John Knox Bible Study: 18

Our Gifts to the Lord

Last Weekend Offering: \$ 8,440 Needed Weekly: \$ 19,111
YTD Offering: \$ 61,549 YTD Expenses: \$ 73,544 YTD Budget: \$ 100,470

Thank You

Our family would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity with gifts, meals, prayers and advice throughout the months before and continuing after the birth of Javier. It means a lot to all of us and especially to Luz and Harly. We are grateful for such a caring Church family and appreciate all of you so much! God's continued blessings, *Annie, Darin, Luz, Harly and Javi*

Thank You

Thank you for your Gospel-motivated voice For Life. And thank you so much for your recent offering to make our ongoing activities possible! In January we hosted over three hundred youth (and their adult chaperones) for a conference about life issues. Not only have your contributions preserved the sanctity of life by proclaiming it to future generations, you've profoundly affected the present by making immediate differences in the hearts of young people and the lives of their neighbors. You have our sincerest gratitude, and God continue to bless our work and witness together! In truth and love,
Pastor Michael Salemink, Executive Director, Lutherans For Life

Help needed

We have a few members that are unable to drive and require a ride to church every week. If you are able to occasionally help give a ride, your assistance is needed. Any level of availability is helpful so we can fill in gaps when others are not able to drive. If you have questions or are able to assist, contact John Herkamp at jfherkamp@gmail.com or 826-835-4352.

Classics

We paused our *Classics* gathering for January. And then came the cold and snow! Here's to a bit less eventful weather for February. We'll get together on **Thursday, February 1 at 11:30 in the Family Life Center**. We're very excited to have Keith Wagner as our speaker. He'll be speaking about his mission trips. For lunch, our main menu item will be soups and chili. At our December gathering, several folks volunteered to bring a soup or chili in February. If any of you who planned to do that won't be able to, please arrange with another *Classics* person to take that on. For others, please bring a favorite dish as you are able. Whether it's soup, chili, salad, side dish or dessert, that's fine. See you then!

St. Matthew LWML

St. Matthew LWML Society will meet on Sunday, Feb. 4th at 2 p.m. in the Family Life Center. Our speakers will be Jason and Emily Stuhrenberg. They will share about their mission ministry in Ukraine, the need to leave there before the current conflict, and their work here in the Kansas City area now that they're back home. The congregation is invited to come hear their message before our brief meeting.

Collection for nursing homes

Collecting new and gently used stuffed animals (companions) for the elderly in nursing homes. The used stuffed animals must be freshly washed. All animals any size up to 16 inches. Donations will be accepted on weekends of Jan. 20-21, Jan. 27-28 and Feb. 3-4 in the narthex. Delivery will be made the week of Valentines. Please donate a stuffed animal or make a cash donation. The envelopes for cash donations are on the table display. Thank you for considering this worthy project. Any additional questions please contact lfpatterns@gmail.com. *The Community Engagement Committee.*

Interested in playing Pickeball?

The floor in the FLC has been striped for Pickleball. The nets will be set up for open play every Monday evening from 6-8 for all levels of play. If you have any questions, contact Lisa Keel at 816-588-4111.

Sunday School – 9:30 a.m.

Grades 3-5, Grades K-2 and Babies through Preschool age meet in the Education wing.
Middle School, high school, and adults meet in the Family Life Center.

Birthdays This Week

Today: Charlee Warren, Claire Kuddes, Michael Helton Monday: Carol Johnson, Pamela Buckley Tuesday: Braeden Schramm, Brayden Price Wednesday: Sarah Stock Thursday: Ashley Malone, Jennifer Vaughan, Jordan Malone Friday: Pat Hanssen, Ron Avery Saturday: Marilyn McBee

Anniversaries This Week

Friday: Kyle & Lori Carson

SERVING OTHERS _____

Hope House Collection for January

They have a need for over the counter medications due to cold and flu season. Items suggested are: Tylenol, Ibuprofen, children/adult fever and cough reducers, cough drops, etc. Donation box is in the narthex.

Lee's Summit Social Services

During January we will be collecting canned fruit. Donations may be put inside the wooden cupboard next to the Sanctuary doors.

LWML Grants

The LWML MITE box is out in the narthex this weekend along with a poster featuring Lutheran Braille Workers. LBW supplies large print and braille materials for the blind and visually impaired around the world. John 8:12 Again Jesus spoke to them saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."