Good News From New Road St. Matthew Lutheran Church, God's Family in Service

March 2025

Pastor Austin Nickel as Contract Pastor

Pastor Austin has officially become our contract pastor and will be performing pastoral duties here at Saint Matthew. If you need to reach out to Pastor Austin, please contact the church office to leave a message for him or email him at pastoraustin@stmattwaco.org. Pastor Austin will also be at the church on Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. and Wednesdays from 10 a.m.-12p.m. if you wish to speak with him in person.

ASH WEDNESDAY First Day of Lent

Ash Wednesday



Our Ash Wednesday service will Be on Wednesday, March 5th, at 7:00 p.m.

Finance Update

The balance in the checking account at the end of January was \$185,867.31.



W-ELCA NEWS

Circle Reminder

Mary Martha Circle

March 5th at 5:00 p.m.

Grace Circle

March 10th at 10:00 a.m.

Katherine Luther Circle March 10th at 4:30 p.m.

Check with your Circle to see if there has been a change in the dates for the meetings. Please remember to bring a canned good item to donate to Caritas to help those in in need in Waco.

Helping The Community

Our WELCA Mission statement encourages each of us to proclaim our "boldness" and to act with kindness. As opportunities occur, please advocate on behalf of those in need. Show caring and mercy to those in need through sacrifice, kindness and stewardship. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God in Christ has forgiven you. (Ephesians 4:32). St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Our **Blessing Box** helps many of the people in our area who are in need. The St Matthew's children's

Sunday school class places items in the Blessing Box the first Sunday of every



month. Please add a few items to your grocery basket to add to the food for the



Blessing Box. Also, during the cooler times, gloves and socks are greatly appreciated.

As part of your Circle offering, please bring a food item to donate to **Caritas**. A total of 58 pounds of food was donated by our Congregation in the month of January. Please continue to donate what you are able and help prevent hunger in Waco. Place your donations in the box marked for Caritas and it will be delivered to Caritas once a month.

Meals On Wheels is a charity that WELCA supports with a \$50 donation each year. In addition to delivering meals, pet food is delivered to over 300 cats and dogs each month. The Pet Program is dependent on community donations. Items that are needed include cat food, cat litter, small dog food, and regular-size dog food. Dry pet food is preferred but canned food and treats are welcome. If you would like to donate pet food, please place your donations in the unmarked box next to the Caritas box and it will be delivered to Meals on Wheels once a month.

Altar Flowers

The Church has decided to have one bouquet instead of two. A donation to provide an altar bouquet is a great way to celebrate a birthday, an anniversary or to recognize a great friendship. Pick a Sunday on the sign up sheet and then please put the \$35 in one of the envelopes available at your pew. You may either take the flowers with you after our worship service or donate them to be taken to a shut-in.

February General Meeting Update

Thank you to all who came to the meeting and especially to those who brought the food for our luncheon, those who set up and those who helped clean up after the event. We had a great turn out visitors from First Lutheran. including presentation by Matthew Hogan, the battalion chief with the Harker Heights Fire Department, was extremely informative. We are all reminded that operational smoke alarms are the best way to survive a fire. Remember to change the batteries once a year (the Fire Department will come and do this for you if you are not able to change the batteries) and check to make sure that your smoke alarm is still functioning because they do not last forever! We discussed our upcoming fall fundraiser which will probably be soup. If you have a suggestion for the kind of soup, please let Linda Heyde know. We know that taco soup is always a hit but are open to all suggestions. The funds we make with our fundraisers are donated back to the Church. Diane Jones suggested we all consider donating to Friends For Life. They perform a needed function for our community and always welcome donations of small trinkets for bingo prizes, greeting cards, etc.

Bold Women 2025

Bold Woman Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, March 2nd.



Beer & Hymns with First Presbyterian

St. Matthew will be sharing a Beer and Hymns event with First Presbyterian on **March 23** at noon at Brotherwell Brewery. All are welcome to attend!

Art as Worship

This year's theme is ANCESTORS, and our opening gala is scheduled for **Saturday**, **November 15 at 6:30 p.m.** (mark your calendars!). This means you have *just under 9 months to respond creatively* to the theme — but don't worry! History is rich with inspiration. Please share with all of your artist friends and family.



Hear the Bells Ringing

St. Matthew's handbells have been silent for a little while, but we're launching a new chapter and looking for people interested in joining a new handbell adventure! Previous experience is not necessary. We're exploring smaller commitments of preparing pieces several times a year with a few rehearsals prior to ringing in the worship service (read: not an every week or never-ending commitment!) If you're interested or have questions, please contact Bradley Linda or Sha Towers.



Adult & Children's Sunday Learning Classes

Who are the Lutherans? In this colorful volume, over two dozen gifted writers tell a story of Lutheran faith and mission that

goes back 500 years while pointing to the future.

Come join us after worship as Meridith Sellers and Eric Brewer lead **adult learning** in "Together in Grace: Introducing the Lutherans by Kathryn Kleinhans".

The **children's learning class** also continues this Sunday with classes about the Book of John, please come join us after worship.



Praver Room

Our prayer room is now available to use! The original altar, baptismal font, and shelf from our founding church have been

restored and moved into the Prayer Room, which is located beside the double door going out to the parking lot. This room is available to anyone wanting to pray, meditate or reflect in privacy. It will be available during church office hours and all church-related events.



Stephen Ministry Meetings

The Stephen Ministry meeting times have changed, we will meet on the third Thursday every January, April, July, and

October. Our **next meeting** will be on **April 17th** at **6:00 p.m.** If you have any questions or want more information, please ask Bill Abright, Peggy Tooker, or Carol Linda.

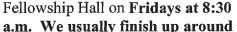


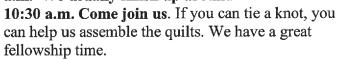
Fellowship for Single Women

Fellowship for Single Women will be meeting on March 25 at 10:00 a.m. at Cafe Cappuccino. We meet the fourth Tuesday of every month. All singles are invited. For any questions, please contact Rosemary Fielder (fielderatwaco@aol.com)

Friday Quilters Meetings

Friday Quilters meet in the







Prayer Requests and Concerns

We continue to pray for one another and those close to us. If you have an update or a concern, please call the office and leave a message.



Members with Prayer Concerns:



Rita Bruer, Cora Gillespie, Bill Gillespie Ty Henrichs, Jean Moeller, John C. Linda, Stephanie Partin, Tammy Vickrey, Sharon Peterson,

Farrel Bolte, Florence Anderson, and Denise Self



Those for whom prayer is requested:

Melanie, Elizabeth Dale, Michael Puig, Rob Aho (Beth Pristash) Rodney Roller, James Hurst 11 (1984)

Carolyn Hurst, Janice Byrd, Rich Buckner, Tony Knoss, the family of Ralph Sparks (Terry Roller) Jimmy Moore, Alleyson Stanley, Harold Strand (Ross & Kim Browne)

Brigit Cescean, Kimberly Terrell, Jackie Brantly (Mary Herring)

Ty Croford, Wanda Stanford, Cory Stanford (Linda Stanford)

Vicki Terry, Vikki Dzamba (Carol Linda) Jeff Ford, Devin Jackson, John C. Linda, Angie Lowe (Bradley Linda)

Curtis Forrester (Bill & Diane Jones)

Frank Simons, Ruthie Simons, Kris Braswell, (Colleen Early)

Octaviano Estrada Jr., Abby Peters, Ann Mitchell (Meridith Sellers)

Janell and Rose Janke (Arlene Schwarz)

Renlee Montgomery, the Montgomery family (Marcyl Howell)

Bryan, and Zoe Cruse (Lee & Marilyn Cruse) "Red" Tiner, Gina Grisham, (Del & Sue Hensel)

Kristen & Caleb Mably, Sarah Castillo, Albert & his family (Tammy Bush)

Diana & Saul Guajardo (Ashley Jenson)

Wendell Mosley (Paula Jenson)

Susan Aptell (Denise Self)

Christopher Brown

Wolfgang, Michelle & Gert Gstattenbauer (Roger & Betty Fornelius)

Those in California affected by wildfires

New Vision on New Road		March 2025	Page 4
March Birthdays			
Teresa Hengst	3/04		
Carolyn Van Auken	3/06		
Hans Sellers	3/09		
Pat Dietrich	3/11		
Rachel Cotner	3/12		
Eva Woods	3/14		
Rosemary Fielder	3/15		
Donna Zimmerman	3/22		
Robert Cotner	3/25		
Beth Pristash	3/26		in the contract of the contrac
Kyra White Del Hensel	3/26	LILLY 2 Respectively.	A service of the serv
Del Hensel	3/28		
Helen Henrichs	3/29		
March Anniversaries			



Bill & Diane Jones

The monthly newsletter deadline is the 3rd Sunday of each month. Please send submissions to

3/05

cvanauken@grandecom.net or

you may place your handwritten information and thank you notes in the wooden box near the entrance of the workroom. Thank you!

► Feb 2025			March 2025		.1.	Apr 2025 ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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2 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday Learning	6	4 11:00am Deanery	5 5:30pm Mary Martha Circle 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service	G	7 9:00am Quilters	8 9:00am Calligraphy Guild
9 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday Learning	10 10:00am Grace Circle 4:30pm Katherine Luther Circle	11 11:00am Domino (42) Group	12	13	9:00am Quilters	15
16 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday Learning	17	18	19	20	2.1 9:00am Quilters	22
23 9:30am Worship Service 10:45am Sunday Learning	24	25 10:00am Fellowship for Single Women	26	27	28 9:00am Quilters	29
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