

St. Matthew Lutheran church
115 West 12th Avenue, Milan IL 61264
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Web: www.stmatthewmilan.org

The Rev. Kurt Larson Mr. Gregory Mueller, DCE
Mr. Joel Chapman, RN, Parish Nurse

Second Sunday after Christmas
January 4 & 5, 2025



ST. MATTHEW NEWS

A NOTE TO OUR GUESTS AND VISITORS: Greetings in Christ!

Thank you for visiting with us today. We encourage you to continue to come back in the weeks to come! If there's anything we can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out to us. If you would like to join the St. Matthew Family please contact Pastor Larson or the Church Office. Our church website is at www.stmatthewmilan.org and our phone number at the church is (309) 787-4295. Thanks for joining us for worship!

PLEASE SPREAD THE WORD

To those who are unable to listen to services online, we now offer the option to listen via a new toll free telephone number. St. Matthew's toll free number is (844) 700-9449. Give us a listen! The worship service will be recorded and available via this phone by late Sunday afternoon.

PASTOR IS AVAILABLE to bring you communion in your homes or in small groups at the church. Please call (309-787-4295) if you'd like to arrange a visit or wish to come to the church to receive.

If you need a large print bulletin or would like to use a hearing impaired device, please speak with an Usher or Lay Assistant.

BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN CHRIST

Wearing a mask is optional for church activities at this present time. The chairs will remain set up on each side of the sanctuary. We will continue to broadcast the service to the parking lot on FM 89.7 for those of you who prefer to not enter the sanctuary at this time. We will continue to bring communion to all in the parking lot. In addition, the worship service will be available as a livestream on our Facebook page. As always, if you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact one of the members of our Board of Lay Assistants.

UPCOMING DISTRICT EVENTS

Redeemer Lutheran, Peoria is hosting a concert called "An Evening of Poetry and Music" on January 17, 2025. The performing artists will be Tanner Olson and Blake Flattley. Tickets are \$10/person or \$25/family (3 or more) with food serving 6-6:30 p.m. All ticket proceeds will help fund Redeemer for the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering and help our mission partner at Pelican Lutheran in Naples, Florida. More information can be found at <https://www.redeemerlutheran.com//epm>.

Poster on Bulletin B

CAMP CILCA WOMEN'S RETREAT

Calling all ladies to join us for the Camp CILCA Women's Retreat on March 28-29, 2025. The retreat theme is **Lean and Learn**. Join us as we **lean** into God's Word, digging into what God says to us, and **learn** how we live it out in our daily vocation as women. Our speaker is Rehema Kavugha. Rehema is currently the Director of Synod Relations at the Lutheran Church Extension Fund, where she has served since May 2019, She also has been the Director of Student Development at Concordia University Nebraska and a Lutheran music teacher.

Two retreat options are available: 1) Join us overnight for \$100.00 and share a room with two other ladies in camp CILCA's Christian Growth Center. 2) Select the day-only option for \$75.00. Registration opens December 27, 2024. Register online at www.cilca.org/womens-retreat. If you have questions or need help registering, contact Lauren at program@cilca.org.

Poster on Bulletin B



The stations that air the Lutheran Hour in your area are as follows:

<u>Station</u>	<u>City, State</u>	<u>F</u> <u>r</u> <u>e</u> <u>q</u>	<u>Band</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Time</u>	
WMT	Cedar Rapids, IA	600	AM	Sun	6:30 AM	
WGN	Chicago, IL	720	AM	Sun	6:00 AM	
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	104.3	FM	Sun	9:00 AM	Al-
WKEI	Kewanee, IL	1450	AM	Sun	9:00 AM	

ADULT BIBLE STUDY

You can attend our weekly Bible study in two ways:

- ◆ Sunday mornings—8:45am in the Gathering Room
- ◆ We are recording the Sunday Adult Bible Study and you can watch it on Face book live , or go to the webpage stmatthewmilan.org. to get the link.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

The Grief support Group will be meeting **Tuesday**, January 7, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. in the Gathering Room. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Larson.

THE MEN'S NETWORK

Our next Men's Bible Breakfast will be **January 11, 2025** at 8:00am.

SATURDAY WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Join us for a women's Bible study on the 3rd Saturday of every month. Our next Study will be on **January 18, 2025**. We are watching The Chosen. ALL LADIES, ALL AGES ARE WELCOME. We meet from 9-11am in the Fellowship Room. Childcare and snacks will be provided. Any questions or concerns, please contact Angi Lindley.

INK CARTRIDGES AND TONER

We no longer collect ink cartridges or toner to recycle. Please do not bring them to church to be recycled.

Flowers	Janet Meeks	
Lay Assistant	5:30 p.m. Doug Teggatz	10:00 a.m. Nick Bull
Altar	Deb DeGrauwe, Vicki Lude and Sue Witmer	

ATTENDANCE			
Christmas Eve	242	Christmas Day	71 1 outside
Last Weeks Attendance	5:30 p.m.	40	Outside
Last Weeks Attendance	10:00 a.m.	89	2 Outside
New Years Eve	19		
Adult Bible Study	29	Sunday School	17 Children

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING

Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 7:00am — 2:00pm, Friday 7:00am—11:00pm

Saturday, January 4	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday, January 5 <i>2nd Sunday After Christmas</i>	8:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m.	Sunday School Adult Bible Study Worship
Monday, January 6 Epiphany	6:30 p.m.	Sr. Youth
Tuesday, January 7	10:30 a.m..	Grief Support Group
<i>Wednesday, January 8</i>	5:30 p.m.	Confirmation
Thursday, January 9		
Friday January 10	9:00 a.m. 7:10 p.m.	Bulletin Assembles Storm Game
Saturday, January 11	8:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	Men’s Network Worship
Sunday, January 12 <i>The Baptism of Our Lord</i>	8:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:15 a.m.	Sunday School Adult Bible Study Worship Un-hanging of the Greens

CURRENT DFM PROJECT

Water heater for Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline

Dollar for Missions (DFM) contributions in late 2024 will help to pay for a new water heater at Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline. The church’s previous water heater is almost 20 years old.

“This is another ‘non-glamor’ item,” said CID Mission Executive Ken Schurb. “Yet to proclaim the Gospel in Spanish at Cristo Rey, especially in winter time, a reliable hot water heater is a helpful piece of equipment to have.” Plumbing as well as painting and many other such things have their place in a mission.

Cristo Rey is CID’s only congregation in which the ministry is conducted almost entirely in Spanish. It serves, particularly, Spanish-speaking people in the Quad Cities.

Pastor Pablo Dominguez has served in East Moline for over 20 years. First he was a CID missionary-at-large, then subsequently pastor of Cristo Rey. The congregation formally joined the Synod in 2018.

Amount to be funded: \$1,000

Project: Replace water heater at Cristo Rey Lutheran Church, East Moline.

REPORTS AVAILABLE

Copies of the monthly Congregational Financial reports as well as the recorded minutes from the Church Council meetings are available by request and may be obtained by contacting Karen in the church office (787-4295, or e-mail stmatkarenb@gmail.com).

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to help beautify the altar with flowers, the sign up sheets are on bulletin board A. **Because of the increase in flower cost, the cost this year is \$20.00.**

Please put your payment with your name on it in the offering plate and note that it is for flowers on your envelope. Contact Vicki Lude if you have any questions.



Christ-Centered Mental Health Counseling for LCMS Church Workers.

Therefore, encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing. We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work (1 Thessalonians 5:11–13a).

For years, Lutheran Family Service counselors have been quietly ministering across Iowa to church workers who are slowly collapsing under the weight of faithfully doing ministry in a world where such work is not valued as it once was. Not only must the church worker uphold difficult biblical teachings in the face of a world that no longer understands such teachings as useful or even relevant, but they also face congregations that are shrinking.

The *Healthy Workers-Healthy Church* campaign funds raised through this \$106,000 LWML mission grant provides an expanded network of professional, Christ-centered, mental health and marriage & family counselors dedicated to supporting LCMS church workers. The vision for expanded services reaches throughout Iowa, Nebraska, South Dakota, North Dakota, Minnesota, Missouri, Kansas, and other Greater Midwestern states — reaching nearly half of the Missouri Synod's rostered workers.

By establishing their unique brand of care through a growing team of Christian therapists in the Greater Midwest — all passionate about the Lord's work and supporting His workers — Lutheran Family Service will make sure that crushed spirits receive the spiritual, emotional, and psychological support they need as they navigate the challenges of church work in the 21st century.

As our congregations and schools face serious shortfalls of rostered, theologically trained candidates to fill available roles, we do not want to lose any of the workers we already have. Healthy pastors remain in the pulpit and continue to proclaim the Gospel. Healthy teachers staff Lutheran schools, sharing the Gospel and Christ's love inside and outside of the church.

This and other LWML mission grants are funded through monies received in LWML's mite boxes. You can help by dropping coins into a mite box and return to a service collection plate, or designate a Mite Box donation with your regular envelope offering.



ST. MATTHEW AT PRAYER



NEW/UPDATED REQUESTS THIS WEEK

Tom Krahl recovering from surgery
Lisa Martens, broken arm
Jean Miles

Those Who Mourn

Family & Friends of Gary Hilton, brother of Mark Hilton

Those Hospitalized

Don Timmermann, friend of Angi Lindley

Those Who Have Cancer

Jana K, friend of Susan De Loose
Jim, friend of Eileen Leonard
Adam Kershaw, brother of Travis Kershaw (stage 4 cancer)
Bev Kluever, sister of Jan Siebke
Sharon Knipe sister of Mary Newswander
Reggie Larson, boss & friend of Anni Stevens (cancer)
Judy Liles, sister-in-law of Janet Meeks
Nancy Mayer, co-worker of Susan De Loose (cancer)
Hiedi Schultz, friend of Kelly & Sandy Stevens
Kate Snyder, daughter-in-law of Deb Snyder
Fred Spencer, brother of Sandy Dutler
Shirley Teggatz, mother of Doug Teggatz
Jeff Thompson, brother-in-law of the Van Severen's
Pam Whittington

THOSE RECOVERING

Carol Appelquist
Carol Greenwood
Jojo Laureano, friend of Al & Kerry
Mary Newswander
Cindy Terrill
Fern Tucker
Vern Winters (recovering)

CONTINUING REQUESTS

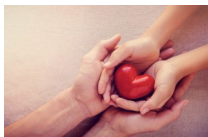
Jan Benson, sister-in-law of Rexann Garmoe (preparing for surgery)
Wendy Gurnwald, daughter of Janet Meeks (ALS)
Rebecca Heck, cousin to De Loose, Lude & Leonard Family (health issues)
Roxanne Knauss, daughter of Carole Hartley (pneumonia)
Patricia Moore (memory care)

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

Lieutenant Zach Chapman (Deployed to Djibouti)
Kyle Mandle (Stationed in Norfolk, VA)
Lieutenant Adam Witmer (Iowa National Guard)

BUDDY BAGS

When children go into foster care they are removed from a home that has been deemed a risk. They often leave the home with no belongings. A blanket or stuffed animal can provide comfort for a child going to an unfamiliar home. It is something they can call their own. These children also often do not have the basic necessities such as a toothbrush, comb or basic hygiene items. Babies often have few or no diapers. A buddy Bag can help assist a child transition to a sometimes unfamiliar living arrangement.



NEEDS:

Sippy Cups and Baby Bottles (high need) Blanket, Stuffed Animal, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Soap, Deodorant, Diapers (all sizes), Baby Wipes, feminine products

Any questions, contact Greg Mueller, DCE or someone in Mission and Ministry. **Please put items in the shopping cart North Hallway.**

MARK YOUR CALENDARS..

Plan on joining us for upcoming opportunities for food, fun, fellowship and service. Have a suggestion for future activity, contact Greg Mueller or Angie Lindley.

2025 Upcoming Events

January 10	7:10pm	Storm Game
February 2	SOUPer of caring Soup & Chili Cookoff after church	
February 22	6:00pm	Trivia Night

UN-HANGING OF THE GREENS

On Sunday, January 12th after the 10:00 service the taking down of the Christmas decorations will take place.

CRAFTS & CONVERSATION



Ladies, let's get together for Crafts and Conversation on **January 16, 2025 at 9:30 a.m. and February 13, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** We'll be working on quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Quilts not your thing? Bring your own project!. Or just come to chat. Join us for fellowship and fun while we Serve The Lord with Gladness. For more information contact Rhonda Krahl at 309-235-2293 or Janet Meeks at 309-787-8336.

NEEDED VOLUNTEER / OVERSEER

We are in need of someone who will oversee the nurse room. We need someone who will make sure toys are appropriately clean, books are good, furniture is not broken. You will be responsible for seeing that the nurse is clean and safe. Questions, Contact Norm Mandle.

2025 ENVELOPES

The 2025 Offering envelopes are on the table in the hallway. If you are a member and did not find envelopes for you and would like to receive envelopes please sign the sheet on the table and we will get you envelopes. Any questions, contact Vicki Lude or Karen Walters.