

SOUPer BOWL OF CARING SOUP & CHILI COOK OFF

Annual Soup Cook Off Info.

Feb 2, 11:30 Bring a crockpot of your favorite soup and join in the fellowship. This year we are trying a NEW time. Bring your soup with you to church/Sunday School and right after worship the fun begins. Electric plug-ins will be available. Please sign-up, so we will have an estimate of how many tables and plug-ins we need to set up. But, if you decide to bring a soup at the last minute, feel free to do so. We always have room for more.

If you would like to decorate or have a theme for your soup feel free to set-up during Sunday School and/or right after church. Just make your way right to the gym after church and you should have about 25 minutes to set up. Questions - contact Angie Lindley or Greg Mueller

ST. MATTHEW OFFICERS 2025

President: Tom Parchert

1st Vice President: Alex Barrows

2nd Vice President: Kelly Stevens

Treasurer: Mary Donegan

Financial Secretary: Vicki Lude

Recording Secretary: Karen Britton

Property Committee: Norm Mandle (Chairman),
Joel Chapman, Solomon Stroup

Call Committee: Nick Bull,

Nominating Committee: Amy Hunt, Tom Krahl, Joyce Eberhart

Financial Review Committee: MaryAnn Meyers, Sharon Heinze,
Tom Mueller

Mission & Ministry

Congregation Life/Outreach

Angi Lindley, Jennifer Crawford, Jodi Kurtenbach,
Cassie Miller, Danielle Holdsworth, Rexann Garmoe

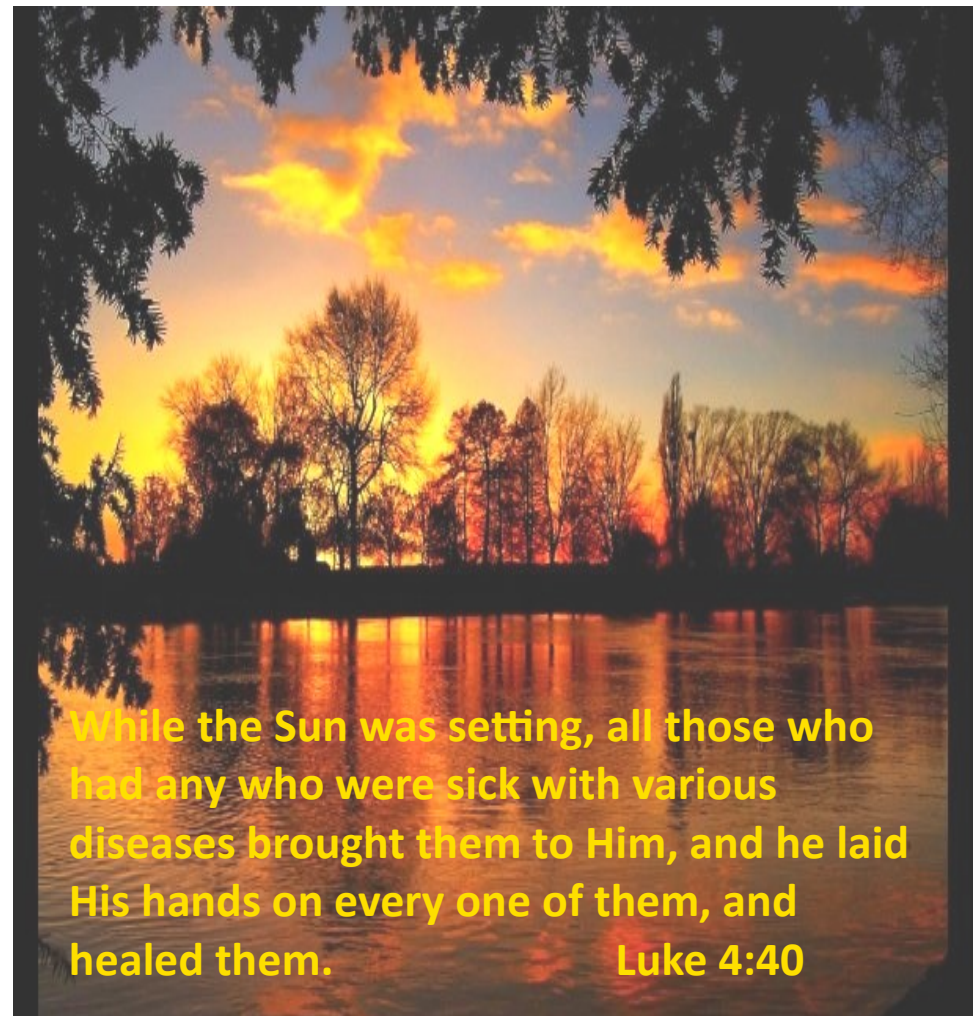
Youth & Education

Gil Linderburger, Summer Lindley, Susan Witmer,
Mikayla Holdsworth, Rob VanSeveren

St. Matthew Lutheran church
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Email: stmatthewmilan@gmail.com
Web: www.stmatthewmilan.org

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

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany February 1 & 2, 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.

Our Place After School Care Providing Dignity to Special Needs Teenagers

Isaiah 43:4a "Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you."

Our Place After School Care is a caring, Christian community for special needs students ages 13-20 who are unable to be safe when home alone and have aged out of the Hastings, Nebraska, area's daycares.

Grounded in a Christ-like love for their neighbors, Our Place provides programming designed to promote academic, social, and life skills appropriate to each student's needs. It also provides opportunities to grow spiritually through community service and enrichment activities.

Caring for these students after school enables many parents to maintain regular employment. Any family in the south-central region surrounding Hastings, Nebraska, may enroll a student in Our Place.

With increasing numbers of students, a new facility was needed, and the \$20,000 LWML Mission Grant will help with increased rent and utility costs, expansion of programming, and provide scholarship aid to those in need.

The Our Place After School program is Christian-centered, and is a recognized service organization of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod.

If you would like to support this and other LWML mission grants, pick up a mite box at church and drop coins or bills inside, returning it to the church's offering plate, or simply designate a Mite Box donation with your regular envelope offering.

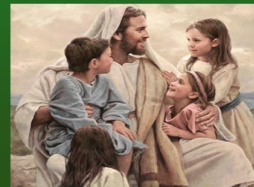


NEEDED VOLUNTEER / OVERSEER

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.

SERMON SERIES FOR FEBRUARY

**WHAT A
FRIEND WE
HAVE IN JESUS**



FEB. 1-2 **FRIEND OF THE HURTING**
LUKE 4

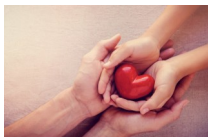
FEB. 8-9 **FRIEND OF THE FRIENDLESS**
LUKE 5

FEB. 15-16 **FRIEND OF SINNERS**
LUKE 5

FEB. 22-23 **FRIEND OF CHILDREN**
LUKE 18

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

February 2 **SOUPer of caring Soup & Chili Cookoff after church**
February 22 **6:00pm** **Trivia Night**

CRAFTS & CONVERSATION

Ladies, let's get together for Crafts and Conversation on **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.



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**, February 4, 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 **February 8, 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 **February 15, 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.

These Boots Were Made for Walking....

Do you have new or gently used women's winter boots taking up space in the back of your closet that need a new home?

Please bring them to church next weekend. Residents at Martha's House are in immediate need of "any average size" ladies winter boots. It would be lovely to deliver the boots before the next snowflake flies! In order to get the boots to the women for the most benefit, we will collect the boots through next weekend, Feb 9th for delivery on the next day. So go home today and check your closets or your favorite store's sales rack. Boots can be dropped off on the table in the **narthex any time through Sunday, Feb 9th**. Martha's House is part of Christian Care which provides safe shelter for men, women, and children who find themselves experiencing homelessness. At Martha's House, the women's shelter, they have a 20-bed capacity for women and children.

Flowers	Lee Tobin	
Lay Assistant	5:30 p.m. Ken Brown	10:00 a.m. Dean Young
Altar	The Lindley & The Holdsworth Families	

ATTENDANCE			
Last Weeks Attendance	5:30 p.m.	46	Outside
Last Weeks Attendance	10:00 a.m.	133	Outside
Bible Study	28	Sunday School	18 Children

THIS WEEK THE LORD WILLING

Office Hours

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

Saturday, February 1	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday, February 2	8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:30 a.m.	Soup & Chili cook off
Monday, February 3	5:30 p.m.	Future Planning Committee
	6:30 p.m.	Senior Youth
Tuesday, February 4	10:30 a.m.	Grief Support Group
	6:15 p.m.	Choir
Wednesday, February 5	5:30 p.m.	Confirmation
Thursday, February 6	9:30 a.m.	LWML
Friday February 7	9:00 a.m.	Bulletin Assembled
Saturday, February 8	5:30 p.m.	Worship
Sunday, February 9	8:45 a.m.	Sunday School
	8:45 a.m.	Adult Bible Study
	10:00 a.m.	Worship



ST. MATTHEW AT PRAYER



NEW/UPDATED REQUESTS THIS WEEK

John Tingle (recovering)
 Lisa Marten (recovering)
 Kurt Voights, father of Heather Snyder (hospitalized)
 Wendy Gurnwald, daughter of Janet Meeks (hospice)
 Carolyn Seawright, friend of Vicki Lude (health problems)

Those Who Mourn

Family & Friends of Kelly Bennett, sister-in-law of Jim Bennett
 Family & Friends of Linda Rogers, friend of the Larson's

Those Hospitalized

Don Timmermann, friend of Angi Lindley
 Lincoln Wright, great nephew of Carole Hartley

Those Who Have Cancer

Adam Kershaw, brother of Travis Kershaw
 Reggie Larson, boss & friend of Anni Stevens
 Hiedi Schultz, friend of Kelly & Sandy Stevens
 Kate Snyder, daughter-in-law of Deb Snyder
 Pam Whittington

THOSE RECOVERING

Jerry De Loose
 Jordan Dodd
 Lisa Martens
 Steve Morford, brother of Pam Whittington
 Greg Mueller
 Walter Wermuth, friend of James Fowler

CONTINUING REQUESTS

Ashley Shaffer & unborn baby friends of the Lindley's (pregnancy complications)

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES—THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

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