



Mathews Baptist Church's

GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

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GOD'S LOVE

BY PASTOR BRIAN KRAMER

Do you remember as a child picking up a flower and pulling off the petals one at a time and saying with each petal, "He/she loves me. He/she loves me not?" We just hoped by the last petal that, "He/she loves me." Sometimes in this world love can be so fleeting. Someone can tell you they love you, but in a few years, months or even days they may say they don't love you anymore. How hurtful that is. I've had a few heart breaks in my lifetime. But God's love is not like that. His love for us doesn't waver. Forty-three times in the Bible it says, "His love endures forever." (New International Version) Twenty-six times in Psalm 136 alone. Think about that, "God's love endures forever." His love is faithful, constant, unending, persistent, eternal. His love is not dependent on our feelings, our behavior, our circumstances or our response to Him. At times it may be hard to depend on love in this world. It comes and goes. But not God's love. His love is forever because "God is love!" (1 John 4:8) Do you know His love? Happy Valentine's Day! And by the way God loves you!

HIS
LOVE
ENDURES
forever
PSALM 118:1

In Christ,

Pastor Brian Kramer

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WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION JANUARY UPDATE

What we aim to do: WMU's unwavering focus is

making disciples of Jesus who live on mission.

Our annual Christmas WMU lunch was held in January this year at the Frantz home. Pastor Brian and Bonnie attended. We held our monthly meeting after the potluck brunch. Lots of food, fun and fellowship was enjoyed by all.

Due to the inclement weather in January we were forced to reschedule our Women on a Mission Brunch which will now be held on Saturday, February 21st at 10 am at the church. Abbie Kramer Hefner will be speaking about her Baptist Collegiate Mission. We are inviting you to join us to hear about her mission and to support her work.

We continue to sing at the Nursing Home the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 10:30 am. It is a blessing to us who sing as much as it is for the residents of the home. We would love to have you join us! Please let us know if you plan to join us, as occasionally, we are unable to visit for various reasons.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11th at 1 pm in the Welcome Center. On Friday, February 13th at 10 am we will gather at the church to make our yearly Soup for Shut-ins. We will be making a couple of large kettles of soup, and will be delivering them to our local shut-ins along with crackers and a Valentine treat for them all. If you would like to join us, we would welcome your help.

Please mark your calendars for our annual April Shower for CareNet, which will be held on April 11th this year. More information will be shared soon.

Be sure and check out our bulletin board across the hall from the kitchen for more information. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me, Donna Frantz or our director, Judy Lowe.

In Christ,
Donna Frantz



WMU lunch attendees:
Christy Brown, Patti McDonald,
Karen Hudgins, Ritamary Bruce,
Linda German, Beth Lewis, Bonnie
and Brian Kramer



Additional lunch attendees, Polly
Hayes, Judy Lowe and Dan Frantz



Abbie Hefner, our brunch speaker

LOOKING BACK...

A Glimpse into the past from the 1/1/26 issue of the Gazette Journal.



1906

120 Years Ago, Thurs., Jan. 4, 1906

The Mathews Baptist Church will be dedicated on the second Sunday in January, that will be January 14, 1906. We invite the people of Mathews to be present at our dedication. We will have three or four able preachers with us. We think that we have a very handsome church and that it is ahead of any church in the five adjoining counties.

We especially invite the Baptists of Mathews County. Brethren, come home and see mother, she has remodeled and put on a new dress and we want you to see how she looks. Come one, come all, we'll give you a good day. Services will begin at 11 a.m.

—M. Atherton, Committee

Interior of sanctuary in 1905.
Rev. W. A. Snyder in pulpit. Notice the curved pews, woodstove and stained glass window behind pulpit (prior to installation of baptistry and new stained glass window).



Mathews Baptist Church's One Day Men's Retreat

MBC men, plan on attending the Noble Warriors One Day Retreat at Grove Church (8701 Ridge Rd, Richmond, VA 23229) from 8:30AM to 4PM on Saturday March 21, 2026

Hear from two nationally recognized speakers and choose from over sixteen optional breakout equipping workshops.

SCHEDULE

6:30 AM Leave from the Church on the Church bus
8:15 AM Auditorium Doors Open
8:30 AM Morning Main Session: Auditorium
4:00 PM Conference Ends: Head for Home
5:45 PM Back to Church

Register today by contacting **Mike Pittman at 804-725-6073**, he will be registering us as a group.

Cost is \$64.00 per person which includes a box lunch. Please don't let cost deter you from joining us, financial aid is available upon request.



**NOBLE
WARRIORS®**

**2026 MEN'S CONFERENCE
RICHMOND**

Keynote Speakers



Dr. Chris Harper

(aka Harp) is passionate about biblical manhood and often speaks on topics such as a man's identity in Christ, the trouble and trials that threaten men, and the importance of being a gospel-centered husband and father. With a fiery and magnetic teaching style, Chris is sure to motivate and move his listeners. Chris and his wife, Ally, live with their four children – Scarlett, Malachi, Calvin, and Oliver – in Arlington, Texas. In addition to his family, Chris loves music, a good cheeseburger, and believes Jordan is better than Lebron.



Marcus Hayes

Marcus serves as the Lead Pastor of Crossroads Baptist Church in The Woodlands, Texas. Marcus received his undergraduate degree from Moody Bible Institute and his Masters from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. He is pursuing his Doctorate of Ministry in 21st Century Leadership from Anderson University. Marcus has a passion for expository preaching, reaching the lost, making disciples, and mobilization. Marcus and his wife Mandy have three daughters, Sarai, Amaya, and Naomi.

REMINDERS...



The Valentines Challenge:

The MBC Outreach Team is issuing a challenge to the whole congregation.

On Sunday February 8, we will be handing out 5 "Jesus Loves You" Valentines cards to everyone in the congregation. We challenge you to give all five of them out to friends, family, coworkers or acquaintances outside of our church family. We challenge you this Valentines season to share the love of Jesus!



Mathews Men will meet for breakfast again on Saturday, February 21st at 8am, come join them if you can.

Pray for...

Praise God...

- For the gift of new life. Chris & Mallory Reed welcomed Luke Wesley Reed on January 16th, 2026 at 1:28pm weighing 8 lbs. and measuring 21.5 inches long.

Please be in prayer...

- Continued prayers for Stephanie Anthony as she undergoes chemotherapy treatments.

We welcome the following members to our fellowship...

- Ron Pemberton, Gracie Wynberry, Brayden Jurgenson, Robby Miles, Melanie Miles, Shelby Kellar, Erik Graulich, & August Haywood.



The Grace Marriage program is completing it's first year in March and will begin the next series in April. If you are interested in joining the group for the second series please reach out to Heather Condon at 270-925-4363 or hsmith3885@gmail.com



Our Women's Missionary Union Group will meet on Tuesday, February 10th at 1PM. All ages are welcome!



Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Goal—\$5,000.
Total Collected was \$5,718.17
Thank you to everyone who contributed to this Mission!



Coming up...

1-8 Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

8 - Daylight Savings Time

17 - St. Patrick's Day

21 - Noble Warriors Men's Conference

CHURCH ATTENDANCE - JANUARY 2026

Date	9:00	10:00	11:00
01/04/2026	141	111	28
01/11/2026	173	133	28
01/18/2026	163	129	19
01/25/2026	0	0	0

Sunday Service Schedule

9:00 AM Contemporary Service (multipurpose building)

also available on Youtube via our Facebook page.

10:00 AM Sunday School (all ages)

11:00 AM Traditional Service (sanctuary)

MATHEWS BAPTIST CHURCH

P.O. BOX 8

8284 Buckley Hall Rd

Hudgins, VA 23076

804-725-3707

mathews baptist@live.com

February 2026



February

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

2 Rusty Royals
3 Claire Kramer
4 Whitney Henry
5 Hayden Downs, Meg White
7 Maryellen Pine
9 Tessie Smedley
10 Mark Hall
11 Brent Barefoot
13 Julie Andrews, Rebekah Bower, Peggy Foster, Linda Lawrence, Ella Mae Yarkey
14 Robbie Miles, Ron Pemberton
15 Bill Milby, Early Otey Jr.
17 Ellen Parkin, Frances Young
18 Julie Harvell, Cathy Nelson
19 Joyce Callis, Michelle Shields
20 Tammy Henry
21 Calvin Kramer
23 Raymond Ewell, Cathie Wahlers
24 Phil Putnam
25 Wendy Brown
26 Billy Bower, Amy Downs
27 Colton Barrick, Teddy Pait, Alan Scott, Ryan Smith
28 David Condon Jr., Debbie Hancock, Karen Hudgins

Anniversaries

11 William & Joyce Callis, Glenn & Jennifer Smith
14 Dickie & Patsy Brooks
28 Bob & Gerry Clark
29 Brian & Bonnie Kramer, David & Heather Condon

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2  GROUND HOG DAY 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	3	4 6PM Family Meal & Bible Study Activities	5 6PM - Exercise Class	6	7 9am Grace Marriage Meeting
8	9 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	10 1PM WMU Meeting	11 6PM Family Meal & Bible Study Activities	12	13	14 <i>happy Valentine's Day</i>
15 Focus on WMU Sunday	16  PRESIDENT'S DAY 6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	17	18 6PM Family Meal & Bible Study Activities	19 6PM - Exercise Class	20	21 8AM - Men's Breakfast 10AM WMU Brunch
22	23 6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	24	25 6PM Family Meal & Bible Study Activities	26 6PM - Exercise Class	27	28

9:00 Nursery Schedule (babies):

(2/1) Delena Nelson, Megan Waddell, Austin Sadler
(2/8) Cathy Rowe, Becky Ethington
(2/15) Melanie Miles, Teeny Hughes, Pat Taylor
(2/22) Amanda Kemp, Glenda Ramer, Elizabeth Moore

9:00 Nursery Schedule (toddlers):

(2/1) Nikki Spiers, Bonnie Kramer
(2/8) Mickey Ramer
(2/15) James Moore, LuAnn Smith
(2/22) Nancy Pait, Tommy Waddell

Counting Committee for February:

Mark & Linden Barrick

Counting Committee for March:

Pat & Pam Harrington

If your name is not listed above & you had a birthday or anniversary this month, please call the church office.