

Mathews Baptist Church's

GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

VOL. 1 ISSUE 9 · OCTOBER 2025

DRY BONES COME TO LIFE

BY PASTOR BRIAN KRAMER

As a child one of my favorite movies was the Disney movie “Bedknobs and Broomsticks.” It takes place during World War II. Three orphans are sent to live with Miss Price (Angela Lansbury), who is learning magic through a correspondence school. In my favorite scene the Nazi army invades their town. So, Miss Price uses the “Substitiary Locomotion” spell to bring the knights armor and the military uniforms in a local museum to life. As a vast army they fight the Nazi soldiers. Although this scene is imaginary there is a time in the Bible where bones were brought back to life. The Lord placed the prophet Ezekiel in a valley of dry bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14). The Lord told Ezekiel to preach to the bones, and they came to life. Ezekiel shares, “So I prophesied as I was commanded; and as I prophesied, there was a noise, and suddenly a rattling; and the bones came together, bone to bone. Indeed, as I looked, the sinews and the flesh came upon them, and the skin covered them over; but there was no breath in them.” (Ezekiel 37:7-8) Ezekiel continues, “So I prophesied as He commanded me, and breath came into them, and they lived, and stood upon their feet, an exceedingly great army.” (Ezekiel 37:10) Can you imagine seeing a bunch of bones rattling as they came together to become a great army? Not only that but there will be a day when all the bodies of the deceased “soldiers” of Christ will come back to life. At Christ’s return the Bible says, “For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first.” (1 Thessalonians 4:16) Can you imagine the day the graves are opened, and the bodies of Christians rise to be with the Lord? Hallelujah, death is no match for our Living Lord!

In Christ Love,

Pastor Brian

hear the word of the *Lord*



dry bones come to *Life*

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WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION SEPTEMBER UPDATE



Ritamary Bruce, Tee Mallon and Christy Brown building boxes



Polly Hayes making a jump-rope.



Melanie Miles and Katie Givens wrapping boxes



Polly Hayes, Beth, Lewis, Ritamary Bruce and Nikki Pollard wrapping boxes

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

making disciples of Jesus who live on mission.

September went by fast! Alma Hunt offering for Virginia Missions took place September 7 through 14th but there is still time to get your donations in!

Operation Christmas Child is in full swing. At the beginning of September we gathered to put together our Official OCC shoeboxes. There is a table in the Fellowship Hall loaded with shoeboxes for you to take home and buy gifts to fill them before returning them to the table. They are due back the week of November 17 thru the 24th. On Saturday September 27th a group of volunteers gathered to wrap donated shoeboxes and learn how to make jump-ropes for inclusion in some of the gift boxes. We had a fun time working together. There are more shoeboxes needing wrapping available in the Fellowship Hall along with wrapping paper and tape for use by anyone so moved to wrap a few.

1. WMU has purchased Official Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Pick one up, take it home and fill it.
2. Every Saturday in October Amy Ashberry will be hosting a time to fill shoeboxes at her mom's home, 6820 Buckley Hall Road, anytime between 8am-8pm. Amy says, "As soon as we pack 416 more boxes, which we will easily do by Saturday, we will have packed 20,000 boxes from Mathews since 2020!" She hopes to accomplish this this Saturday, October 4th. Wouldn't it be great to be a witness to this accomplishment!!! Hope to see you there!

Another project we are supporting is an opportunity to serve our local home-bound citizens. If you drive, have a flexible schedule and want to serve by driving those in need of a ride to the doctor or the store, please contact Beth Lewis at 804-725-6102 or the church office. We are compiling a list to be able to help in times of need. A special Thank you to those who have already signed up.

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, October 14 at 1 pm in the Welcome Center. We welcome all ages. We will be planning future projects. One of our upcoming projects will be to host a Christmas gift store for the residents of our local nursing home. Join us to find out more!

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

**Alma Hunt Offering Update as of 9/30/25:
Goal: \$1,500 Collected: \$1,458.25**

CHURCH NEWS

Homecoming Celebration in 2026

2026 is not only an important milestone for our nation but for Mathews Baptist Church as well. On October 25, 2026, we will celebrate the 250th anniversary of the organization of our church. Our theme for this event will be, "Serving the Savior Yesterday, Today and Forever," with a scripture focus on Hebrews 13:8, "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever". The core planning group for this homecoming event includes Pastor Brian, Pam Harrington, Dawn Miller, Cathy Rowe, Alice Stewart, and Megan Waddell. If anyone has any questions or suggestions, feel free to contact anyone in this group. A signup sheet is on the welcome center for the various groups needed to help with this event. Look for a "Save the Date" reminder early next year and be sure to call or email the church office with the names and addresses of friends and family you would like to receive an invite. We will begin planning in earnest next year but wanted to get a head start on getting organized and letting everyone know about this exciting time in the life of our church.



Troopmaster Terry Johnson & parents
Mark Givens and Ron Pemberton



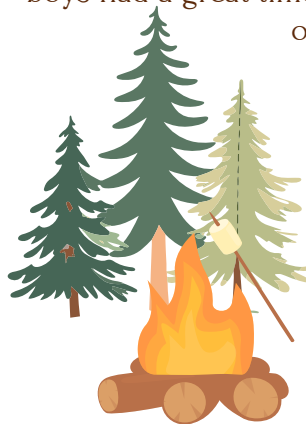
Boys and men enjoying a good game of
volleyball



Everyone enjoyed hot dogs and smores !

TRAIL LIFE UPDATE

September also marked the official start of our Trail Life Troop at Mathews Baptist Church. Troop VA-1791 has been meeting Monday evenings from 6:30-8pm since the 2nd Monday in September. On Friday, September 26th the Troop held it's first official camp-out and not even the threat of rainy weather stopped these boys from getting together! They moved the location of their camp out to MBC and used the multi-purpose building to sleep in. There were 15 boys and 7 men present for the first camp-out. The pictures speak for themselves; these boys had a great time playing games, eating dinner fireside and of course smores, yum!



Judah Pollard after a
muddy game of Gaga Ball!





Wings of Mathews Homeschool Co-Op Group

Our church is supporting so many worthy causes this Fall! The Wings of Mathews Homeschool Co-Op also started this September and is calling Mathews Baptist Church it's home base. Ingrid Condon and Carmen Cuciniello (both MBC members) founded the group and there are several homeschool families from our church enrolled as well. Overall there are 65 homeschooled children enrolled who will be meeting here twice a month to learn, socialize and have FUN! They are currently working through an ornithology unit study and have several field trips planned for the upcoming months! If any individual would like to support the co-op financially you can make a donation on your regular tithing envelope and write in Wings of Mathews on the "Other" line and help to make MBC a place "where learning soars".



"WOM" kids:
Addison Waddell,
Ava Pollard,
Anastasia
Benitez (left to
right)



Check out the Wings of
Mathews bulletin board in the
fellowship hallway to see what
they are up to!

Coming soon...

Several of you have already noticed that I have been testing adhesives on the multi-purpose building chairs (just one chair, so if you haven't noticed don't feel bad!) I am searching for the most durable adhesive in order to upgrade our ability to connect! The goal is to purchase stickers for each chair back that will have a QR code to scan and will take new and veteran church-goers alike to a page with ALL THE INFO! You can scan the QR code to the left to see exactly what it will look like (note that I am still working on things so it may not be totally up to date). The landing page will include links to things like: the church website, an email subscription link, the church calendar, online giving options, volunteer opportunities, announcements, prayer requests and more!



MEETING

Quarterly Business Meeting coming up on Wednesday, October 15th at 6:45pm following the weekly meal. Please plan to attend!



Mathews Men will meet for breakfast again on Saturday, October 18th at 8am, come join them if you can!

Come and Join us for

An Autumn Afternoon

October

Sunday

12

12:00 PM

Chili/Soup Cook-Off Contest
 Bring your favorite Autumn Desserts
 Caramel Apple Bar
 Games & Fellowship to follow

Come Join Us For An

EAT & TREAT

31st October, 5:30-7:30PM

Mathews Baptist Church

8284 BUCKLEY HALL RD, HUDGINS, VA 23076

DINNER • CAKE WALK • GAMES
 "CANDY PUMPKIN PATCH" & MORE

WMU

Our Women's Missionary Union Group will meet on Tuesday, October 14th at 1PM. All ages are welcome!

MATHEWS BAPTIST YOUTH GROUP PRESENTS:

OVERTIME

FRIDAY, OCT. 3RD

WHO:

6TH- 12TH GRADE YOUTH

WHEN:

7:00 PM UNTIL 10:00 PM

hello November

- Coming up...
- 2 Daylight Savings Time
 - 4 Election Day
 - 11 Veteran's Day
 - 15 Final Shoebox Packing
 - 27 Thanksgiving Day

Pray for...

- Please be in prayer...
- Dan & Cathie Wahlers as they navigate a cancer diagnosis for Dan.
 - In this time of profound sorrow following Charlie Kirk's passing, let us unite in prayer for his family, friends, and community; seeking comfort and strength for all affected.
- Praise God...
- For Fall, the promise of cooler temperatures and the reminder that change can be beautiful!

CHURCH ATTENDANCE - SEPTEMBER 2025

Date	9:00	10:00	11:00
09/07/2025	174	136	28
09/14/2025	153	125	29
09/21/2025	161	110	28
09/28/2025	174	132	22

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
mathewsbaptist@live.com

October 2025



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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Counting Committee for October:
Pam & Pat Harrington
Counting Committee for November:
Judy, Joy & Stephanie Lowe

5	6	7	8	9	10	11
6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting		6PM Wednesday Dinner & Activities	6PM - Exercise Class			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
12 PM Autumn Afternoon 6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting Columbus Day		1PM WMU Meeting	6PM Wednesday Dinner & Quarterly Business Meeting	6PM - Exercise Class		8AM - Men's Breakfast
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting		6PM Wednesday Dinner & Activities	6PM - Exercise Class		KAIROS Fall Gathering - Young Adult Retreat	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting		6PM Wednesday Dinner & Activities	6PM - Exercise Class		5:30-7:30PM Eat & Treat	

9:00 Nursery Schedule (toddlers):

(10/5) Katie Givens, Fallon Diggs, Stella Johnson
(10/12) Katie Haywood, Pam Harrington, Beverly Barefoot
(10/19) Joy Lowe, Stephanie Lowe, Elizabeth Moore
(10/26) Delena Nelson, Megan Waddell, Hailey Denkinger

9:00 Nursery Schedule (babies):

(10/5) Mickey Ramer, Nikki Pollard
(10/12) James Moore, LuAnn Smith
(10/19) Tommy Waddell, Sherin Stewart
(10/26) Steve Taylor, Bonnie Kramer

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

October

- Birthdays**
- 1 Frannie Hubbard
 - 2 Carson Brown, Bobby Callis, Jennifer Morgan, Christy Poteet
 - 3 Barbara Crockett, Casey Elliott
 - 5 Brian Keith Rowe, Whitney Stewart
 - 6 Sue Smedley
 - 8 Tammy Johnson
 - 9 Chris Miller, Debra White, Cathy Williams
 - 10 Erika Brown, Josh Velez
 - 11 Cole Delucas
 - 12 Bruce Owens
 - 13 Taylor Netherland
 - 15 Linden Barrick, Jackie Goodrich, Sherri Sparks
 - 16 David Crittenden
 - 17 John Green, Madisson Weyrich, Tyler Moore, Brooke Collins
 - 18 Ellie Condon
 - 19 Colten Sadler
 - 20 Tony Deagle, Judi Gayle
 - 21 Clay Harrington
 - 22 Makayla Calloway, Jade Monastriy & Sierra Davis
 - 23 Joseph Rowe
 - 25 Angela Blake, Tod Doane
 - 29 Dianne Hudgins, Lori Shull, Robin Thompson
 - 30 Jody Forrest
 - 31 Alice Stewart
- Anniversaries**
- 4 Joey & Heather Calloway, Tommy & Megan Waddell
 - 6 Tod & Leandra Doane
 - 8 Taylor & Michael Netherland
 - 15 Austin & Amanda Kemp
 - 18 Ed & Lori Shull
 - 19 Larry & Alice Stewart
 - 25 Michael & Lisa Brown

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