

# Mathews Baptist Church's GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

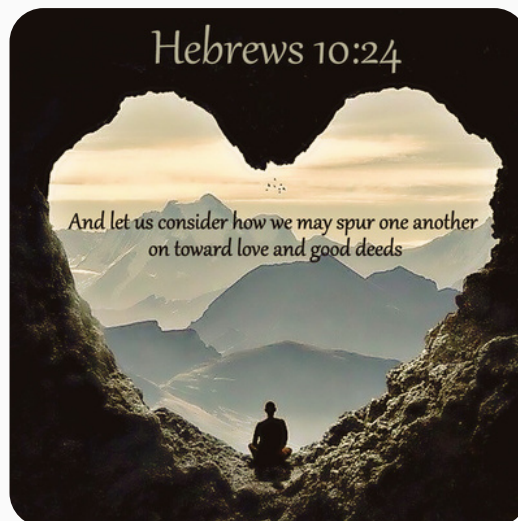
VOL. 1 ISSUE 1 · FEBRUARY 2025

## DID CUPID HAVE IT RIGHT?

BY PASTOR BRIAN KRAMER

On Valentines Day, pictures of Cupid are everywhere. Cupid is the Roman god of love. He is often pictured as a chubby little baby boy wearing a diaper. He has wings on his back and carries a bow and arrow. Cupid flies around shooting arrows into people causing them to fall in love. It's ironic that it takes a shot with an arrow to cause one to love another, but the writer of Hebrews had the same concept. The writer tells Christians, "And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deed." (Hebrews 10:24 NIV) He writes encouraging Christians to "spur" one another to love. To spur means to prick, to poke or to prod. Like Cupid, we Christians are to prod each other to love each other. As Christians, let's make sure we are loving one another, don't wait to be pricked, poked or prodded. Jesus said, "By this all will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:35 NKJV)

Faithfully Yours,  
Pastor Brian



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# WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION - JANUARY 2025 UPDATE

BY DONNA FRANTZ

What we aim to do:

WMU's unwavering focus is making disciples of Jesus who live on mission.

I hope you took the opportunity to attend our 2nd annual Women on a Mission Brunch – “Make your light shine”. Forty ladies attended and heard talks from Polly Hayes and Katie Givens, Beth Lewis and Nancy Gustafson. All very inspirational and heart-warming. They all reminded us, as Polly and Katie stated, that the world's greatest problem is lostness! Beth shared about her work with [searchforjesus.net](http://searchforjesus.net) which any Christian can volunteer for from home. Nancy has received several requests for time to share more about her experiences on the mission field.

Attendees were welcomed by Tee Mallon and Linda German. We enjoyed an abundance of delicious food prepared by WMU members (several people requested recipes for Christy Brown's oatmeal casserole and Karen Hudgins' french toast casserole) and served by our wonderful volunteers– Arnie Gustafson, Mickey Ramer, Eric Fritzius and David Anthony. Childcare was taken care of by our youth, Mary Beth and Stella Johnson and Faith and Grace McCurry and Colten Sadler. Beautiful decorations were designed and created by our own Ritamary Bruce, who also gave us the bright idea of mini flashlights as favors for our attendees. Music was supplied by our own Janet Bowman, who at the end of the program accompanied us on the piano as we sang “This Little Light of Mine” while we waved our little lights. I'm at the top of the mountain right now after the wonderful turnout and the enthusiastic response to our day. Thanks to all who helped put on this wonderful event! Special thanks to Mark Givens for setting up a microphone and sound system so our speakers could be heard too!

There was a questionnaire available for you to complete to let us know if you are interested in joining WMU and if there is another day of the week that might work better for you to meet on. We didn't receive too many responses. If you are interested, please let me know by texting me at 804-384-2309 or email: [ddfrazntz60@hotmail.com](mailto:ddfrazntz60@hotmail.com). We are considering our options.

We hope everyone will check out our new WMU Bulletin Board in the hallway across from the door to the kitchen.

Currently, there are “stars” and “flashes” available to write on about how we can shine our light in the world today.

We are continuing to collect items for Hands Across Mathews. Remember to put HAM (Hands Across Mathews) on your grocery list.

We also continue to sing at the Nursing Home on Tuesday mornings 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 the Home because of health issues among the residents.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 11th at 1 pm in the Welcome Center. We welcome all ages. We will be planning future projects, including preparing soup for our February project, praying for missionaries and planning our next brunch to be held in April (tentatively) to benefit CareNet and the work they do with expecting moms.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me, Donna Frantz or our director, Judy Lowe.

In Christ's Love,  
Donna Frantz



Speakers: Beth Lewis (above) and Nancy Gustafson (left)

# MEET OUR NEW WORSHIP LEADER

BY MEGAN WADDELL

At January's quarterly business meeting Brett Pollard announced that he would be resigning as Worship Leader after serving in this position for 5 years and 3 months. He said that it had been a wonderful experience and that he had seen many changes and much growth in our fellowship over this period, but he was ready to hand the reins to someone else.

Brett was excited to announce that David Condon II was willing to take on the Worship Leader position. Many of you already know David and have seen him up on stage performing with the band over the last several months. David has a Bachelor of Science in Worship & Music Studies with a minor in Global Studies. He did an internship at Bellevue Baptist Church in Owensboro, KY and continued to serve on staff as an associate for two and a half years. David then served as worship leader at Clarkson Baptist Church in Kentucky for three and a half years from June 2019 to January 2023 before David, his wife Heather and their girls Ellie and Evelyn moved to this area to be closer to the grandparents.

David already has big plans and ideas for upgrading and improving our worship experience and I for one am excited to see how God will use David to reach the lost and encourage those who have already accepted the Lord!



We are excited to be bringing CentriKid Camp back for our younger children to participate in! A deposit of \$75 is due by 2/12 to secure children/chaperone spots! For more information on what camp will be like you can visit <https://centrikid.lifeway.com/5-day-camp-schedule/> OR ask Pastor Brian as he has chaperoned previously!



Pray for Healing

Please pray for...

- Cathie Wahlers as she recovers from a heart attack and surgery to place a stent.
- Polly Hayes' sister, Mary Fuller, who recently received a kidney transplant.

Our love and sympathy go out to...

- The family and friends of Marilyn Owens who went to be with her savior on January 29th, 2025.

Praise God for...

- His unconditional love!

HELLO March

Coming up...

- 1st Grace Marriage begins/ MTBA Hope for Appalachia Box Packing
- 2-9th Week of Prayer (N. Amer. Missions)
- 15th Men's Breakfast/Women's Conference @ Essex HS
- 22nd Family Skate Party @ Dare Elementary School
- 26th Last Family Meal until Sept.

## CHURCH ATTENDANCE - JAN. 2025

Date	9:00	10:00	11:00
01/05/2025	133	135	29
01/12/2025	146	131	21
01/19/2025	133	123	25
01/26/2025	135	120	29

## 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)

# February 2025

MATHEWS BAPTIST CHURCH  
P.O BOX 8  
8284 Buckley Hall Rd  
Hudgins, VA 23076  
804-725-3707  
mathews baptist@live.com



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 2 PM - Cathy's Retirement Celebration	3	4	5 6PM - Family Meal 6:45 - Bible Study & Activities	6 6PM - Exercise Class	7	8 Fuge Deposit 1 due \$75
9 6PM - Exercise Class	10 6PM - Exercise Class	11	12 6PM - Family Meal 6:45 - Bible Study & Activities	13 6PM - Exercise Class	14 	15 8AM - Men's Breakfast
16 Focus on WMU Sunday	17 President's Day 6PM - Exercise Class	18	19 6PM - Family Meal 6:45 - Bible Study & Activities CentriKid Deposit Due (\$75)	20 6PM - Exercise Class	21	22
23	24 6PM - Exercise Class	25	26 6PM - Family Meal 6:45 - Bible Study & Activities	27 6PM - Exercise Class	28	

### 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
- 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, 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

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

### Counting Committee for February:

Linden & Mark Barrick

### Counting Committee for March:

Pam & Pat Harrington

### 9:00 Nursery Schedule (babies):

- 2 - Katie Givens, Fallon Diggs, Stephanie Lowe
- 9- Joy Lowe, Stephanie Lowe, Elizabeth Moore
- 16 - Katie Haywood, Beverly Barefoot, Hailey Denkinger
- 23 - Delena Nelson, Megan Waddell, Mary Beth Johnson

### 9:00 Nursery Schedule (toddlers):

- 2 - James Moor, LuAnn Smith
- 9- Tommy Waddell, Sherin Stewart
- 16 - Jade Monastyly or Steve Taylor, Pam Harrington
- 23 - Bri Sadler, Bonnie Kramer