

# January 2024

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

**SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE:**  
 \*Worship services are available online on Youtube.com via our Face-  
 book page. CD available upon request (audio only)  
**\*In-House worship services:**  
 9:00 AM Contemporary Service (multipurpose building)  
 10:00 AM Sunday School (all ages)  
 11:00 AM Traditional Service (sanctuary)



**BIRTHDAYS**  
 1 Sharon Morgan, Doris Whitticar  
 4 Guy Hudgins  
 6 Lee Anne Bray  
 8 Tristan Downs  
 10 Karl Braun, Debbie Harris  
 11 John Payne, Janice Vogel  
 12 Joe Allen, Sherin Stewart  
 16 Darlene Puman  
 18 Beverly Barefoot  
 21 Keven Hanscom  
 22 Marion Sutton  
 23 Marilyn Owens  
 24 Ron Mallon, Wallace Twigg, Jr.  
 26 Josie Schaitble  
 25 Isabella Dorrington  
 27 Kimberly Owens  
 29 Amy Ashberry, Austin Kemp,  
 Jonathan Lowe, Scott Stewart  
 30 Marlo Bales, Megan Waddell

**ANNIVERSARIES**  
 3 William Earl & Bri Sadler  
 15 Joe & Arleen Allen  
 27 David & Ingrid Condon  
 28 Keven & Holly Hanscom

If your name is not listed above & you had a birthday or anniversary this month, please call the church office (725-3707). Thanks!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Happy New Year! (church office closed)	2	3	4 6 PM Exercise	5	6
7 11 AM Personnel committee mtg.	8 6 PM Exercise 6 PM Deacons' mtg. 7 PM Outreach mtg.	9 6:30 PM Bible Study	10	11 6 PM Exercise	12	13
14	15 6 PM Exercise	16 1 PM WMU mtg 6:30 PM Bible Study	17 6 PM Family meals resume 6:30 PM Qtrly. Business meeting	18 6 PM Exercise	19	20
21	22 6 PM Exercise	23 6:30 PM Bible Study	24 6 PM Family meal 6:30 PM Activities	25 6 PM Exercise	26	27 11:30 AM WMU Luncheon
28	29 6 PM Exercise	30 6:30 PM Bible Study	31 6 PM Family meal/Activities —Deadline for Ever Bless Foundation Scholarship appl.			

**Counting committee for January:**  
—Bill & Cathy Nelson

**Counting committee for February:**  
—Linden & Mark Barrick

**9:00 Nursery Schedule (babies):**  
7 - Pam Harrington/Katie Grivens  
14 - Joy Lowe/Karen Hudgins  
21 - Katie Haywood/Stephanie Anthony  
28 - Delena Nelson/Bonnie Kramer

**9:00 Nursery Schedule (toddlers):**  
7 - Alice Stewart/Bev Barefoot  
14 - Stephanie Lowe/Sherin Stewart  
21 - Glenda Ramer/Elizabeth Moore  
28 - Nikki Spiers/Claire Kramer

# Mathews Baptist Church Org. 1776

## “The Lighthouse”



**JANUARY 2024**

**SPECIAL DATES**

- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> New Year's Day
- ◆ 9<sup>th</sup> “Signs & Symbols” Bible study resumes
- ◆ 15<sup>th</sup> Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- ◆ 17<sup>th</sup> Wed meals/act. resume & quarterly business mtg.
- ◆ 24<sup>th</sup> Wed night Bible study/act. resume
- ◆ 21<sup>st</sup> Sanctity of Human Life Sunday
- ◆ 31<sup>st</sup> Deadline for EverBless Foundation Scholarship appl.



Have you heard of the New Year's tradition of First-footing?

First-footing is a Scottish tradition referring to the first person to cross the threshold after midnight on New Year's Day. The first-footer brings gifts that are considered good luck for the coming year. Who would you like to be the “first-footer” to your house on New Year's Day? Might I suggest the Lord Jesus Christ. What if this new year we invited the Savior to be the first person to cross the threshold of our houses. In Revelation 3:20, Jesus says he is standing at our door and knocking. Let him be the first one invited into your home this year. He brings with Him not gifts of luck but the gift of life. Paul writes, “*The gift of God is eternal*

*life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”* (Romans 6:23) When you trust the Lord for your new year, you don't need luck. He brings abundant life. Jesus said, “*I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.*” (John 10:10) Make the Lord first this year; first across your threshold, first in your home and first in your heart. Have a Happy New Year!

Faithfully yours,  
Pastor Brian



**Mathews Baptist Church**  
 P.O. Box 8  
 Hudgins, VA 23076  
 Return Services Requested

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**Brian E. Kramer, Pastor** ♦ P.O. Box 8, 8284 Buckley Hall Rd., Hudgins, VA  
 mathews baptist@live.com ♦ www.mathews baptist church.com ♦ Office: 804-725-3707

### QUARTERLY Business Meeting

The next quarterly business meeting will be held on Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 6:30 PM following the family meal at 6.

Dear Church Family,  
Thank you so much for all the cards, gifts, treats and for thinking about us this Christmas season. We are blessed to have such a loving church family. We look forward to another wonderful year of serving at Mathews Baptist Church.

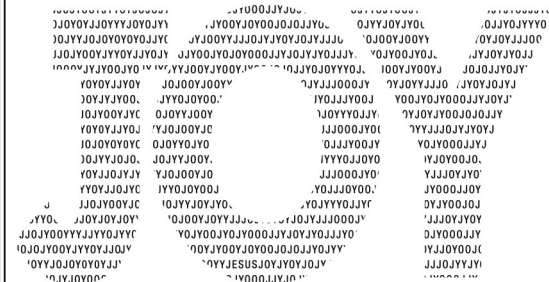
Have a happy and blessed new year!

Love,  
The Kramer's



In Luke 2:10, the angels share good news that continues to bring great joy today.

Directions: Circle all the complete small "joy" words — forward only. Count the total. Bonus: See if you can find "Jesus" amid all the joy!



TOTAL JOY= \_\_\_\_\_

Answer: 36 (10 in the J, 15 in the O, 11 in the Y); Jesus is at the bottom of the large O

### Church Attendance-Dec. 2023

Date	9:00	10:00	11:00	7:00
12/03/23	136	125	28	
12/10/23	123	113	16	
12/17/23	125	108	20	
12/24/23	137	82	15	97
12/31/23	113	91	18	

**Special Notice:** The personnel committee is accepting resumes for the position of secretary/treasurer for MBC, pending the retirement of Cathy Rowe in 2024. Resumes can be left in the church office addressed to the Personnel Committee. The deadline to submit your resume is 2/12/2024 and all applicants *must* be an MBC church member (as per our by-laws).

Direct questions to any member of the personnel committee: Stephanie Anthony, Lynn Braun, Mickey Ramer, Alice Stewart, or Darlene Putnam.



**Tues., 6:30 PM, resuming Jan. 9** — Bible study entitled, "Signs & Symbols," led by David Anthony in the Friends in Christ classroom. No study guide needed. All welcome!

**Wed., 6:30 PM, beginning Jan. 24** — Minor Prophets: "The twelve books of the Bible written by minor Old Testament prophets are anything but minor. Spanning 450 years, these writings offer a revealing look into the character, nature, and heart of God." (quote from Warren W. Wiersbe) Come join us on Wednesday nights as we explore the books of the minor prophets starting with the book of Hosea. No study guide needed but bring your Bible! Led by Pastor Brian Kramer in the multipurpose building immediately following the family meal at 6 PM.



Sun., Jan. 21



Family meals resume on Wednesday, January 17, 6 PM followed by our quarterly business meeting. On January 24th, our adult Bible study and children/youth activities will resume at 6:30 PM following the meal.

### Women's Missionary Union December Update...

**What we aim to do:** WMU's unwavering focus is **making disciples of Jesus who live on mission.**

November's project was to donate 114 bags of fruit for Meals on Wheels to deliver to their clients. In December, we purchased and delivered 13 fruit baskets to shut-ins who are members of Mathews Baptist. An important part of delivering the baskets was to spend time visiting with each person.

Our WMU ladies also know how to have fun and celebrate the Christmas season. We had our annual Christmas lunch and gift exchange in December. A good time was had by all!



From left: Jean Owens, Karen Hudgins, Donna Frantz, Christy Brown, Gerry Clark, Judy Lowe, Cathie Wahlers, Janet Bowman, Lily & Katie Givens, Gaylia Hudgins, Gloria Travenski, Joy Bowden, Tee Mallon, Joyce Downs, Linda German.

To ALL MBC Ladies:  
**YOU are invited to...  
"Women on a Mission"**

**Potluck luncheon**

**Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> beginning at 11:30 am**

Sign-ups & additional info. coming soon!

We continue to visit our local nursing home on Tuesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 am to sing for the residents. We are always looking for people to join us. You don't have to be a great singer, just have enthusiasm and a desire to give of yourself and your time to lift the spirits of some people living with challenging health issues. *If you decide to come, please let us know ahead of time, as sometimes our schedule changes due to health issues at the nursing home.*

For questions or comments, please contact Donna Frantz at 804-384-2309.

Donna Frantz

### Lottie Moon

Thank you to everyone who has given to our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering! Our 2023 goal was \$7,500.

As of 12/26/2023, we have received \$5,070.<sup>17</sup>!

Donations can still be made and remember that 100% of all donations go to help our international missionaries as they spread God's Word throughout the world!!

### NEEDED ASAP:

Sunday School teacher for the Friends in Christ Class. Contact Christy Brown or church office.

### Coming in Feb:

- 11<sup>th</sup>: Super Bowl
- 14<sup>th</sup>: Valentine's Day
- 18<sup>th</sup>: Focus on WMU Sunday
- 19<sup>th</sup>: President's Day



†Karen Wiant who is continuing her recovery from stem cell transplant.

† Praise God...

† Cathie Wahlers received a good report from her doctor regarding her recent procedure.

**Long term care...**

† Mildred Lockwood (Harmony on the Peninsula)

**Homebound...**

† Julie Harvell, Mildred Hudgins, Archie/Marilyn Owens, Jim/Gloria Travenski

**Long term illness/condition...**

- † William S. Smith
- † Pauline Barrick
- † Leonard Downs, Jr.
- † Don & Christy Talbott
- † Raymond Harris
- † Mathews High School
- † Ellen Parkin
- † Derek Zwiers
- † Bonnie Callis
- † Cathie Wahlers
- † Sherry Inabinet
- † Homer Smith
- † Daniel West
- † Taylor Jacobs

† Ron Mallon  
**Our Church Families' Missionaries...**

† Peyton Arthur

† Susan/Mike Mangerchine(Navigators); Abbie Kramer (Baptist Collegiate Ministry)

**Our love and sympathy go out to...**

† Joyce & William Callis and their family at the passing of Joyce's brother Harold Diggs of Richmond, VA,

† The family & friends of Ed Haufler who passed away on Fri., Dec. 15, 2023.

† Sue Garrett and her family at the passing of Floyd Ward of Deltaville (her brother-in-law thru her husband Wayne) on Dec. 17.

† Liam (Renee Neiman's cousin) who passed away in December.

† Mike & Karen Pittman at the passing of Mike's mother Barbara Whitmer Pittman in December.

† Lee Alto (Teresa Sanger's friend) whose mother Gloria Champine passed away on Christmas Day.