



Mathews Baptist Church's

GOOD NEWS GAZETTE

VOL. 1 ISSUE 8 · SEPTEMBER 2025

WHERE WILL YOU MEET JESUS?

BY PASTOR BRIAN KRAMER

Some feel, to meet Jesus, you have to go to a church. Church is a great place to start. But Jesus can be found in everyday life. Andrew and Peter met Jesus while fishing (Matthew 4:18). Matthew, also known as Levi, met Jesus at work (Mark 2:14). The Samaritan woman met Jesus at the well (John 4:7). Legion met Jesus in the cemetery (Mark 5:6). Bartimaeus, a blind man, met Jesus on the roadside (Mark 10:47). A lame man met Jesus at the pool (John 5:6-7). Zacchaeus met Jesus in a tree (Luke 19:5). All these people met Jesus in everyday places. We don't have to wait until Sunday to interact with Jesus. He is there wherever we go. Remember the old hymn "In the Garden." The chorus repeats, "And He walks with me, and He talks with me. And He tells me I am His own." We can meet with Jesus wherever we are. At the end of the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus reminds us, "I am with you always." (Matthew 28:20)

In Christ Love,

Pastor Brian

**JESUS
NEVER
ABANDONS**

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Women's Missionary Union August 2025 Update

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

making disciples of Jesus who live on mission.



Ritamary Bruce, Linda German & Tee Mallon wrapping shoe boxes last Fall.

September is here! Alma Hunt offering for Virginia Missions will be taking place September 7 through 14th. Since 1976, the annual Virginia Missions Offering—traditionally called the Alma Hunt Offering for Virginia Missions—is a joint venture of the HerMission (Formerly known as Woman's Missionary Union of Virginia) and the Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV). We invite you to give to the Alma Hunt Offering —joining your gifts with those of many other Virginia Baptists as we work to share the love of Christ across the Commonwealth of Virginia and with the whole world.

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. Thank you.

As Fall comes around, we will be beginning our support of Operation Christmas Child. Some of the ways you can help:

1. WMU has purchased official Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. We will let you know when you can pick one up, take it home and fill it.
2. When you buy shoes, save your shoeboxes – bring them to church!
3. Donate wrapping paper
4. Donate t-shirts for making jump ropes
5. Make jump ropes
6. Join us for a crafting, wrapping, building day and learn how to make jump ropes, pillowcase dresses, build shoeboxes. (to be scheduled soon)
7. Follow Amy's Mission Friends on Facebook for more ways to help.

We 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 for various reasons.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 9 at 1 pm in the Welcome Center. We welcome all ages. We will be planning future projects.

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



Polly Hayes wrapping OCC shoeboxes



Our local Operation Christmas Child hero, Amy Ashberry, who led the packing of 6,247 shoeboxes last year!

Let's help her beat that number this year!



Adventure › Character › Leadership

September 8th, 2025
First Troop Meeting @ 6:30PM



Overtime Volunteer Meeting will be Sunday, September 14th after Sunday School, 11AM. Please plan to attend if you can help with this ministry!



Tuesday, September 9th
Red Cross Blood Drive @
Piankatank Ruritan Club from
12:30-6PM. Sign up to donate
by using your phone's camera
to scan here



Pray for...

Please be in prayer...

- For Pastor Brian's mom, June Kramer, that she may heal quickly and be able to return home from the rehab center.

Praise God...

- For the seasons we can count on. As we enter autumn, draw us closer to you. Let us feel your warm and loving presence. Amen!

Congratulations to...

- Bill & Cathy Nelson on the arrival of their great-granddaughter, Everleigh Grace, born Tuesday, August 27th, 2025.

Wednesday Night Activities Resume

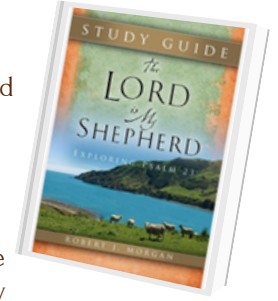
Our Wednesday night dinners will resume September 10th at 6pm followed by Bible Study & activities at 6:45pm. Please note that it was time to increase the prices slightly in order to continue covering the cost of meals.

Age 8-Adult: \$4
Age 3-7: \$3
2 and under: Free
Family Max: \$15

Our new Wednesday Night Meal Coordinator, Renee Neiman, is excited for the season to start again!

Are you ready to journey with the Good Shepherd, through green pastures and still waters, through the valley of the shadow of death, into His goodness and mercy? Whatever season of life you face, The Lord is My Shepherd Study by Robert J. Morgan will lead you, through Scripture and meditation, on a journey to restore your soul. Come join us on Wednesday Nights at 6:45 PM as we take this journey together. (The Lord is My Shepherd Study Guide will be provided for participants. For a more in-depth study you may want to purchase The Lord Is My Shepherd book by Robert J. Morgan on Amazon) Don't forget to bring your bible!

- Pastor Brian



9:30-11:30AM "New to Medicare" TRIAD
Presentation @ MBC, register by calling social services at 804-725-7192 for this free presentation.



The Men's Breakfast Ministry will be resuming this month as well. Plan for the 3rd Saturday of each month at 8am unless otherwise discussed. First breakfast is Sept. 20th!

hello
OCTOBER

Coming up...

- 4 - Grace Marriage Meeting
- 13 - Columbus Day
- 18 - Men's Breakfast
- 31 - Halloween

CHURCH ATTENDANCE - AUGUST 2025

Date	9:00	10:00	11:00
08/03/2025	131	127	35
08/10/2025	154	131	22
08/17/2025	170	144	28
08/24/2025	157	126	48
08/31/2025	118	108	31

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
Huddins, VA 23076

804-725-3707
mathews baptist@live.com

September 2025



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

1 Patsy Brooks
2 Kevin Hall, Channing Schurlnknight, Gene
Sears

3 Eric Fritzius
4 Tee Mallon, David Rowe
5 Mervin Goodrich, Jean Owens
6 Carole Bell Bisson, Ziryah Davis
7 Bekah Helbig, Bonnie Hodges
9 Elisa Goodwin, Katie Dresler
10 Melissa Cottee, Samuel Lunsford
11 Heather Calloway
12 Cassie Fritzius
14 Lynn Hall, Francis Morris
15 Tommy Eriksen, Brandon Goodrich
16 Caroline Emerson
17 Sharon Frye

18 Tim Inabinet, Chelsea McBurney
19 Addison L. Delucas, Mike Smedley
20 Dawne Hunter
21 Abby Givens
22 Kim Clark, Taylor Gall, Patrick Harrington,
Amber Zwiers, Brenda Hanhart
23 Eric Beckley
25 Charlie Crittenden
26 Derek Zwiers, Karen Pitman
27 Christy Brown
28 Brandon Hubbard, Delena Nelson
30 Austin Sadler

Anniversaries

4 Kevin & Susan Harris Hall
14 Bobby & Dee Diggs
15 Austin & Amanda Kemp
22 Wayne & Stacy Turner
23 Marion & Naomi Sutton
27 Bunny & Peggy Foster
28 Nick & Hannah Yarkey

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Alma Hunt Mission Offering Goal: \$1,500		2	3	4	5	6 9am Grace Marriage Meeting
7 11AM - Youth End of Summer Event	8  Trail Life 6:30PM - First Trail Life Meeting 6PM - Exercise Class	9 12:30-6PM Blood Drive @ Ruritan Club 1PM WMU Meeting	10 6PM Wednesday Dinner & Activities	11 6PM - Exercise Class	12	13
14	15 6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	16	17 6PM Wednesday Dinner & Activities	18 6PM - Exercise Class	19	20  8AM - Men's Breakfast
21 11AM Overtime Volunteer Meeting	22 6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	23 9:30 - 11:30 TRIAD "New to Medicare" Presentation	24 6PM Wednesday Dinner & Activities	25 6PM - Exercise Class	26	27
28	29 6PM - Exercise Class 6:30PM - Trail Life Meeting	30	9:00 Nursery Schedule (babies): (9/7) Delena Nelson, Megan Waddell, Elizabeth Moore (9/14) Hannah Yarkey, Becky Ethington, Hailey Denkinger (9/21) Melanie Miles, Teeny Hughes, Mary Beth Johnson (9/28) Nancy Paik, Glenda Ramer, Austin Sadler			

Counting Committee for September:

Pam & Pat Harrington
Counting Committee for October:
Mickey & Glenda Ramer

9:00 Nursery Schedule (toddlers):

(9/7) Tommy Waddell, Bonnie Kramer
(9/14) Steve Taylor, Cathy Rowe
(9/21) Bri Sadler, Pat Taylor
(9/28) Nikki Spiers, Amanda Kemp

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



Back to School Prayers

Here's what most kids will need when school starts...

Backpack: Lord, I realize we will use a bookbag everyday to carry things to and from our homes. I pray that our homes would be a place of comfort, encouragement and rest. May it be a great place to launch from each day as we go to school and a safe place to land when we get done.

Notebook Paper: Lord, just like paper starts out blank, then fills with shapes, letters, and lines, I realize we are very impressionable. Would You please protect us? Let us make wise decisions, and discern what is right, good, and acceptable.

Markers: Lord, would You live through us, so that we will leave a mark on our teachers, classmates, and schools that reflects what is important to You and to our families?

Crayons: Lord, we praise You for being a creative God. Daily, help us appreciate the fact that You make people in all shapes, colors, heights, weights, and walks-of-life.

Folders: Lord, I know that homework, notes, and grades will be sent home with us from teachers. I pray for our teacher's right now. Give them patience, rest, and joy in their work as they train up the next generation of leaders.

Scissors: Lord, I know that we will be exposed to things that may not be healthy, agreeable to our family beliefs, or pleasing to You. Would You help us "cut through" the nonsense?

Pencil: Lord, I pray that You will give us a desire to work hard. That we would want to apply ourselves even when it's difficult. Father, would You help us realize that school and hard work is one of the tools that You are using to write our role in Your story, called life?

Pencil-sharpener: Lord, I pray that our greatest desire is to be a tool that is used for your Kingdom. Help us value this time in our life to sharpen us to be used for your Kingdom's work.

Eraser: Lord, we know our kiddos are not perfect and will make plenty of mistakes this year. Would You teach them the meaning of grace? And as they understand this, may they be quick to forgive themselves, their teachers, and their classmates. And may we remind them that we, as parents, make mistakes too?

As our youth prepare to leave their homes to trek out into the world in the next few weeks for public & private school and for parents preparing for homeschooling, the greatest support and blessing we can give them are our intentional prayers.

Michelle Denfinger, July 2024