

The Jury Is In

During our trip this last couple of weeks, Michael and I had several interesting encounters along the journey. Having a child with you when traveling opens doors, especially when he is so willing to engage people in conversation. On one evening, we spent 2 hours talking with locals outside our hotel while Michael and I played catch. Baseball must have seemed so out of place in some of those locations. However, that provided an opportunity to share the gospel with an American lady living abroad for the last three decades. She is fluent in multiple languages and functions as a translator and writer for a local newspaper. Michael and I played catch with one another and with her dog. "Where are you from and why are you traveling?" Her question provided a great segue into the purpose of going to Nagaland, the students there, the ongoing teaching ministry, the history of Nagaland, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ that so transformed that culture. She was very gracious and encouraging. It is my hope that she was encouraged by our encounter.

Another conversation occurred in a train station while waiting for our connection. The train station ownership had placed some old, upright pianos throughout the concourse. Travelers with time to kill and a gift for music then fill the waiting area along the shops and vendors with music. Michael and I had grabbed a bag of chips and salsa for lunch and found ourselves seated right next to one of the pianos. Two older gentlemen, probably in their 80s, were having a great time taking turns playing their favorite show tunes. The piano sounded awful as it was obviously in need of a major tuning, but it was also obvious that these two gentlemen could play the piano. One man’s name is Stew (short for Stewart) and he frequents the train station near his home along

with his friend. He spends his days playing and listening to others play.

One young lady in her early teens came by and played Beethoven with seeming ease and perfection though it was tough to tell given the piano's poor sound quality and tuning issues. She eventually got up frustrated and walked away even though a crowd of 30 people had gathered to admire her abilities. Others would stop by and Stew would give them a go at a bad version of chop sticks or some simple piece that they had practiced in years past whose melody still lingered in their minds. Stew would encourage them and even give them a few tips.

As Michael and I finished the bag of chips, we listened to the two older gentlemen talk animatedly. All of the sudden, the gentleman sitting at the piano, Stew, turned to Michael and said, *"Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys, and where thieves do not break in or steal; for where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."* I responded by saying, "Jesus Christ in the Sermon on the Mount, Matthew chapter 6." He looked stunned that the random travelers knew his quoted source. He then says, "I am no Christian. I think the jury is still out." He obviously admired the person of Jesus Christ. He also held His words as significant. He even quoted another section of the words of Jesus at one point. We talked for awhile about this. He shared a bit of his life and some about his son. We exchanged email addresses and I am hoping to continue this discussion.

As we prepared to proceed to our check in for the train, I asked Stew if I could share with him one of my favorite passages from the

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Bible. He agreed and I said, *"In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through Him, and apart from Him nothing came into being that has come into being. In Him was life, and the life was the Light of men. The Light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There came a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to testify about the Light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the Light, but he came to testify about the Light. There was the true Light which, coming into the world, enlightens every man. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."*

I told Stew that I think the jury is in and that Jesus Christ is more than a great teacher or a great religious leader. He is God's own Son, the Creator of all things and the Savior of the world. I was struck by the divine providence of these encounters. Michael and I were simply taking a pre-mission trip stop for a few days before meeting our team on the way to Nagaland. However, God had other plans for us. He will use us whether we are on the mission field in Nagaland or Sudan or a train station or talking with our next door neighbor.

~ Daniel

Ride to Rescue



SUNDAY, APRIL 27TH

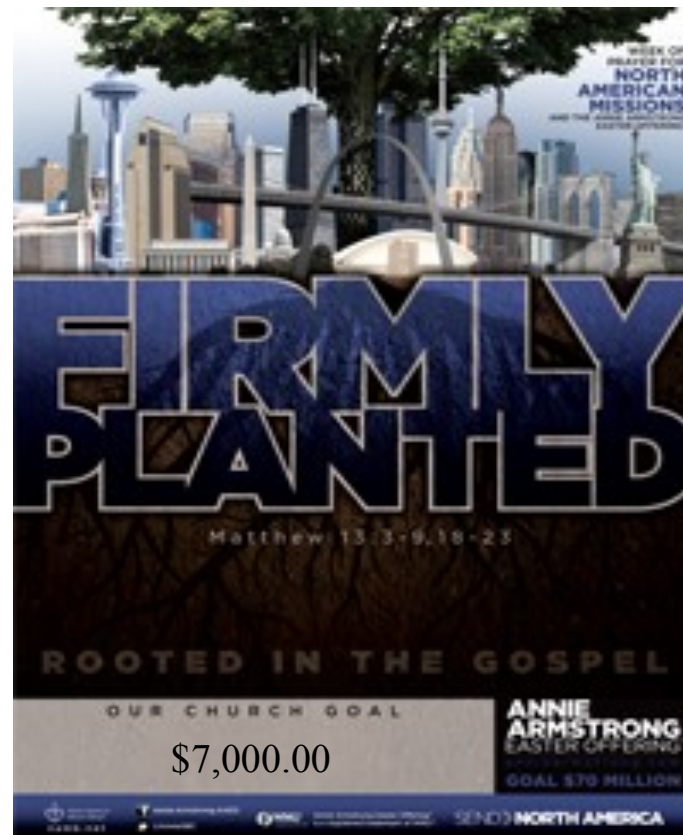
MORE INFO TO COME...

Family Ministry



Annie Armstrong

Though their stories and methods vary, our missionaries are doing whatever it takes to share the gospel with North America. Whether it is starting a new church, meeting the needs of the homeless, or leading Back Yard Bible clubs, missionaries depend on the faithful prayers and generosity of Southern Baptists. Please pray for our missionaries and give generously to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering®. Our church goal for the Annie Armstrong Offering is \$7,000. Prayer guides are available at the Welcome Desk.



Matthew Road Academy



It is my pleasure to give MRBC an update on the growth of Matthew Road Academy, and since we are in the midst of registering for the 2014-2015 school year, I thought now would be the perfect time.

As many of you know, MRBC has reached out to the homeschooling community for many years. With the blessing of the church, Pastor Daniel Sweet launched MRA in the Fall of 2012 as a partnership between the Academy and interested families. 32 students attended the 2012-2013 school year; attending courses like Systematic Theology, Ancient History and Algebra

on Tu/Th, then completing their homework at home under the supervision of their parents on M/W/F.

The University Model of Education is not new to the education world; UME schools have been flourishing in the DFW area for the last 15 years. A UME school strives towards high academic standards and accountability, emphasizes the importance of family values and parental mentoring, equips students with a strong independent work ethic and prepares them with college readiness skills.

MRA is self funded through tuition payments from attending families, but is thankful that MRBC is gracious enough to allow us to use the campus facilities on Tu/Th. We have seen many students reached with Christ's love and have been able to minister to the families who attend each week.

To our surprise, MRA is not just meeting a need in the homeschooling community, but we have many students from public, private and charter schools. We are thankful that Texas has many education options and that the UME model meets a need in so many families' lives.

Currently, we have 126 students on campus, ranging from elementary to highschool. 85% of these families have already registered for the 2014-2015 school year. In addition, we have already had 20 new families that are excited to be a part of MRA next year.

Would you like to support MRA? We would love for you to uplift the school in prayer:

- *Pray for the staff to show the students and their parents the love of Christ.
- *Pray for the students, especially the 6th-12th graders who are at a crucial time of deciding their own faith.
- *Pray for May 5th, we will have a drama based gospel presentation during our end of the year performance.
- *Pray that God would open a door to family members and friends who might not otherwise come into a church.
- *Pray for us as we continue to grow, that God will give us wisdom and grace in the task of educating His children.

If you or someone you know might be interested in more details about Matthew Road Academy, please visit our website at www.MRAcademy.net or give me a call, I'd be happy to give you a tour or answer any questions.

Candice McClellin MRA Administrator 469-261-3779

mra@matthewroad.org

Women's Ministry



Be a Sister of Strength! Take the time to strengthen a sister!

Make a phone call!

Send a card! Pray!

Let us walk this life together!!!

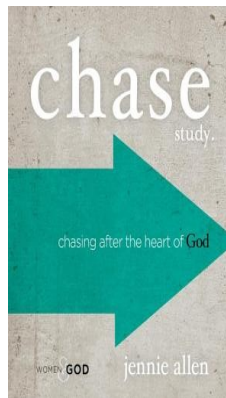
Have a prayer request? Need more information about our Women's Ministry classes or events? Need to get in touch with our Women's Ministry Coordinator? Contact us at our email address: womensministryofmatthewroad@gmail.com.



**Wednesday Night
Ladies Bible Study
6:45pm, Conference Room**



Here and Now...There and Then by Beth Moore is a lecture series on the book of Revelation. Led by Kim Sweet.



Join us Mondays from 7:00pm - 8:30pm in the Church Library for "Chase →", by Jennie Allen.

David was reckless, sinful, passionate and humble. What can women learn from his broken life? Jennie Allen's interactive study highlights seven events in David's life to help you move beyond the appearance of godliness and open up your deepest self to God's love. Cost: \$10, childcare included.



**MAY 10TH
SPRING EVENT!
MORE INFO TO COME!**

PAW FALL



Preschool Academy of Westchester (PAW) is a quality preschool program for children ages 9 months-5 years old. Your children will enjoy their classroom activities planned around our curriculum, "Wee Learn" (published by LifeWay). At our program, your child will learn about sharing, healthy living, academics, music, American sign-language, the Bible, manners, cooperation and giving. It is a time for both you and your children to enjoy.

Schedule: We are a Monday & Wednesday preschool. Our hours are 9am - 2pm.

Tuition and Fees: Tuition is \$130.00 per month. There is an annual supply fee of \$75.00 (prorated if enrolling during the school year) and a registration fee of \$35.00 (non-refundable). Supply and registration fees are due upon enrollment. (*Sibling discounts are available.*)

Pease call Cyndi King, at 972-641-7380, for more information.

**Enrollment for Fall Semester
has begun!!!**

Children's Ministry



Join us each Wednesday evening as we memorize God's Word, hear Bible stories, play games and have a lot of fun!

Cubbies - 3 & 4 year olds (by September 1st)

Sparks - Kindergarten through 2nd grade

T&T - 3rd through 6th grade

Wednesdays from 6:30-8:00pm



**Preteen Ranch Camp
Family Worship Rally at MRBC,
Wednesday, July 16th;
Camp At Sabine Creek Ranch
July 17th - 20th**

**Early Bird Discount Price of \$210 available
for those who register before May 15th!**



**Sunday Nights, 6:00pm
Education Building, 2nd Floor**

**Sunday, April 13th, 12:00pm
Children's Sunday School
teacher & family lunch meeting
in the Fellowship Hall**



Teachers' Meeting

**Wednesday, April 23
Inside Out VBS
Coming June 23-27!
If you are interested in
serving in VBS this
summer, please attend
this information meeting
at 6pm in the Sanctuary.**



**New Christian's Class: Sundays, April 6-May 4
Family Worship Night: Friday, April 4, 6:30-8pm (see page 3 for info)
Inside Out VBS: June 23-27, 6:00-8pm**

Facebook - facebook.com/mrbccchildrens

Blog - mrbccchildrensministry.blogspot.com

Twitter - MRBCmrbc



20Somethings

Who are we?

We are... sinners in need of God's Grace

We are... part of God's plan for the future

We are... going to make an impact on the world for Christ

We aren't... children any more

We are... making the decisions that will affect the rest of our lives.

We matter to God.



I SEE A GENERATION RISING UP TO TAKE THEIR PLACE - HILLSONG

Night of Praise

May 3, 6:00 pm

We will join together in worship. Join us at 6:00pm for snacks & at 6:30pm we will begin worship. Plan to attend, and bring a friend!

Drive-in Movie



When: April 18th
Where: MRBC
When: After the Good Friday Service
What: Potluck food and watching Frozen under the stars
Cost: Potluck food - what we bring, we eat
?s call Rachel 972.965.9970

Questions or need more info?
Contact Rachel at rachel@matthewroad.org or 972-641-2717.

20 SOMETHING'S MISSION TRIP / SERVICE PROJECT

SERVE MOORE

Who: You!
Sign-Up today, email Amber, amber0316@gmail.com
Deadline: May 7th

When: May 20-21
So ask off work NOW!!

What: Service projects to help renew Moore, OK after last May's tornadoes.

Where: Moore, Oklahoma
We will be staying in host homes provided by friends and family of the Meeks.

Why: To minister to those affected by the tornadoes. To grow together as we serve next to each other and study the Word together.

How: The cost is practically free, we just ask you pay a \$10 deposit when you sign-up

April 6th NO BIBLESTUDY @ 5:30

We will be in-between RELAY and CROSS. So... we are going to play volleyball at DBU AFTER 7:17. We will be able to put into practice some of our techniques and have fun. Join us for the study of I Corinthians at 9:45AM that morning.

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Bible Study:
Sunday
9:45am - I Corinthians; location Ed Bldg
5:30pm- Snack/Evangelism; location FH (except 4/6/14)

Discipleship
Wednesday:
8:30pm - True Spirituality location CG

April 2014 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, www.matthewroad.org, or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

- April 3rd: Y@H Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am
- April 4th: Family Worship Night, see ad on pg 3 for more info
- April 6th: NewComer's Class & Dinner, sign up at christy@matthewroad.org or the Welcome Desk
20Somethings Teacher/Intern Meeting, 6:00pm, see Rachel
20Somethings Volleyball after 7:17 Service
- April 11th: MRA Field Day, see Candace for more info
Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center, see Cyndi to RSVP
- April 13th: Deacon Meeting, 5:00pm, Conference Room
- April 18th: Good Friday Service, 7:00pm, Sanctuary (childcare for 3 & under)
20Somethings Drive-In Movie Night (Frozen), see pg 7 for more info
- April 20th: Sonrise Service, 7:30am, front lawn of Worship Center (no childcare)
B&G Meeting, 5:00pm, Conference Room
All evening activities and events still scheduled
- April 27th: Ride to Rescue

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ♦ Trek Journey - CommonGrounds, 4:30pm
- ♦ 20Somethings - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm (ongoing)
- ♦ The Study of Acts - Sanctuary, 6:00pm
- ♦ Ladies Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 6:00pm
- ♦ Men's Bible Study - ManCave, 6:00pm
- ♦ Adult Bible Study - Library, 6:00pm (ongoing)
- ♦ Adult Bible Study, Experiencing God - Red Room, 6:00pm
- ♦ Guy Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:00pm (ongoing), see Zach for exact location
- ♦ Girl Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:00pm (ongoing), see Zach for exact location
- ♦ MD² for children - Education Building, 6:00pm (ongoing)

Wednesday Nights:

- ♦ AWANA for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ♦ Collide for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:30pm (ongoing)
- ♦ Adult Bible Studies - Library & Conference Rm, 6:45pm
- ♦ 20Somethings Bible Study - CommonGrounds, 8:30pm

Regular Scheduled Activities

Sundays	
Morning Worship	8:30 & 11:00am
Morning Bible Study (all ages)	9:45am
Trek/Journey (Jr. & Sr. High)	4:30pm
20Somethings Bible Study, FH	5:30pm
Evening Bible Study (all ages)	6:00pm
7:17 Service	7:17pm
Mondays	
PAW Kinder Program	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Ladies Bible Study	7:00pm
Tuesdays	
MRA Program	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
Wednesdays	
PAW Kinder Program	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Wednesday Night Dinner	5:15pm
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
AWANA Club	6:30pm
Adult Bible Study	6:45pm
20Somethings	8:30pm
Thursdays	
MRA Program	8:30am
Fridays	
Chic time at Chic-Fil-A	9:30am
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group	7:30am

Average Morning Attendance for March: 480
Average 7:17 Service Attendance for March: 175

Easter Sonrise Service
Sunday, April 20th
7:30am
On the front lawn of the Worship Center
Breakfast to follow