



Our Joys and Our Challenges

One of the joys of serving as the pastor of Matthew Road Baptist Church is watching a committed group of believers work together for the glory of God. I am now near my 14th year as the pastor of this church. I have been a member for 18 years. During that time, much has changed. The world has changed. Our region and surrounding neighborhoods have changed. The church has changed. In 1997, when Kim and I moved to Grand Prairie, much of the area around the church was open fields. Now, several new neighborhoods and businesses have flooded the area. In 2001, Matthew Road was averaging around 150 a week in worship. We were a smaller group but the fellowship was sweet and the commitment to teaching God's Word and taking His Word to the nations was there. Since that time we have grown in numbers, but the underlying commitment has not changed. We live to exalt Christ for the glory of God the Father, in the power of the Spirit. Our mission is to live this passion in such a way as to know Christ and to make Him known. Our church is not perfect, but I believe we have good priorities, ones that are consistent with the heart of God as revealed in His Word. Our attendance now runs in the 500 a week range. By God's grace, we have been able to participate with God in His reach all over the world. Some of that reach has been through the Cooperative Program where we share our resources along with other churches to support the International Mission Board, North American Mission Board, Baptist General Convention of Texas and our local Association. In addition to those partnerships, we have formed several individual partnerships with church planters in India, Asia and Mexico and Bible translators in Asia, India, Africa and Papua New Guinea. We continue to support orphanages in Mexico, South Sudan and

Sudan, along with sending teams and supplies on short term trips to various locations around the globe. We get to participate in the missional heart of God through going, sending, praying and giving toward His mission to introduce the world to the Lord Jesus Christ. We want our neighbors, our state, our nation and our world to know the joy of worshiping the God who made them, through faith in the Son of God who saved them. This week I did a quick look at our growth, ministry and giving of over the last four years. Since January 1, 2011, our average attendance has increased by about 100 people. Since that time we have given almost \$4,000,000 to the church budget and various projects. Of that \$4,000,000, almost \$900,000 has gone to missions, which is nearly 25% of our giving. This is a huge aspect of joy for our church. During the four years, we have seen a substantial increase in sending, praying, going and giving toward missions. All of this provides us a real cause for celebration. As with any church, there are a few challenges. One challenge has been the need for new small group Bible studies on Sunday mornings at 9:45 and on Sunday evenings, at 5:30. On Sunday evenings we have a new "young couples" class that has really grown and is averaging nearly 30 people each week. This is a positive sign, but quickly began to point to the need for additional Bible study groups at that same time. In addition, we need to add new groups and grow our existing Sunday morning classes. Please pray for workers and for opportunities to minister to those from our congregation and community that need a place to engage in small group Bible study. If you have an interest in helping in some aspect of the ministry of the church, please let us know so we can connect your gifts with the congregational needs.



Another challenge has been our financial numbers for the budget. It is not uncommon for us to come out of the summer months a bit behind. Usually we run about \$30,000 in the red by the end of August, but tend to get back to even by the end of the year. This year has been a bit more pronounced in that area. We came out of the summer down over \$70,000. We have made up some ground and that is very positive. Right now, we are down \$59,000 on the budget giving versus budget expenses, or about 8 percent. The finance committee has been working with staff to cut costs where possible. In addition, the finance committee has two proposals that will help with about \$20,000 of the 2014 deficit. In total, we need to take in enough giving toward the budget the remaining 10 weeks of 2014 to cover our real costs and to make up about \$35,000. In looking at the deficit for 2014, the \$59,000 works out to about \$2 per person attending Matthew Road per week. With that said, every little bit helps. If you are not in the habit of giving regularly to Matthew Road, for the sake of participating in what God is doing here and around the world through our church, begin a habit of giving every week or every other week or monthly. Plan to give joyfully and prayerfully. For those who are giving faithfully, thank you for sharing in what God is doing. If possible, for the remaining 10 weeks of the year, please consider doing just a little extra to help us close the gap on our 2014 books. Kim and I are personally going to do more than our normal monthly giving to participate in this endeavor. I know several staff members and other church members who are also making a commitment over the remaining 10 weeks to help us finish in the positive. Considering we have collected almost \$4,000,000 with almost \$900,000 going to missions in the last four years, I think we can do this together. One remaining challenge, please pray more fervently than ever. We need to pray for one another. We need to pray for the church. We need the prayer support of one another for the sake of His joy and for the sake of the kingdom. Remember those who serve Christ in missions around the world. Remember to lift up our leaders. Pray for the military personnel, especially those serving away from country and family. Pray for our police and firefighters and teachers and all the others that serve our communities. God honors the prayers of His people. God bless you as we joyfully struggle together for the sake of His kingdom.

~ Daniel

| Financials as of October 22, 2014 (without PAW) | |
|---|------------|
| Budget Income | \$ 711,000 |
| Budget Expense | (770,000) |
| Net Budget | (59,000) |



Curious about the difference between tithes and offerings? Please see our youtube video, <http://youtu.be/wlnF1AcGn54>, where Daniel answers this question!

Children's Ministry

Wednesday Nights, for kids ages 3* - 6th grade.

*3 year olds in Cubbies must be potty trained and a parent must stay on campus through the duration of the program. See our website to see what Adult Bible Study classes we have for you.



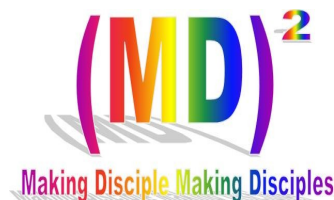
Sunday Afternoon, for kids ages 7th - 12th grade.

TREK/Journey is for students in Jr. High and High School to continue AWANA. See our website to see what Adult Bible Study classes we have for you. 7th - 12th grade AWANA meets on Sundays from 4:00pm—5:30pm,



We will continue through the Gospel Project on Sunday mornings at 9:45am throughout the fall! Don't miss a Sunday hearing the Gospel presented throughout the entirety of the Bible.

Children's Church - We welcome new 3 year olds (by 9.1.14) to join us for Children's Church during the 11am worship service! Listen for your cue to send your child to Children's Church after singing and Scripture reading. Children's Church is for 3 and 4 year olds and children in kindergarten. (Children's Church serves to help prepare kids to attend worship with their parents as they get older).



**Sunday Nights
5:30pm
Front Lawn of
Worship Center**

MD² is for kids in kindergarten through 6th grade. Join us for games on the lawn (weather permitting) followed by small group boys and girls Bible study groups. This Fall, we are studying the book of Hebrews!



The Children's Choir is working on a project called Children's Worship Series. Your elementary school kids won't want to miss this! We meet Wednesdays at 6:00pm on the second floor of the Education Building.

Lottie Moon Offering



**WEEK OF PRAYER FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS AND
THE LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

November 30 - December 7

IMB's vision is for "a multitude from every language, tribe and nation knowing and worshipping our Lord Jesus Christ." For that to happen, we must pray diligently for the thousands of unreached people groups – billions of individuals – who don't know their Savior. Paul tells us in Romans 10:1, "Brothers, my heart's desire and prayer to God concerning them is for their salvation" (HCSB). We can commit to pray for specific people groups named at imb.org/one. We can pray for our Southern Baptist missionaries who are sharing the Good News with the lost and being a light in the world. And we can pray for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, that we Southern Baptists will continue supporting our missionaries sent from our churches – and give even more to send others waiting to answer God's call. Let's join in one sacred effort by giving to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

~ Paul Ware

Wednesday Night Dinner Ministry



Special Wednesday Night Dinner in November:

November 12th -

Breakfast - We'll enjoy an egg bar, pancake bar, biscuits and gravy!

Proceeds to benefit PAW.

To RSVP, please email the church office at christy@matthewroad.org.

Student Ministry

Check out the Student Ministry Events & Activities coming soon!

November 7th

~ TGIF @Stovers - 4206 Iron Ln Mansfield 76063

November 21st-22nd

~ Mt. Lebanon Fall Retreat -Cost \$40

Bible studies:

- * High School Guys @ Geisendorffs [Mondays 6:30pm](#) - Seniors
- * High School Girls @ Christine Wehrli & Maggie Dean's [Tuesdays 6:30pm](#) - Christine & Maggie
- * Middle School Guys @ Kings [Mondays 6:30pm](#) -Andrew Snyder
- * Middle School Girls @ Wests [Mondays 6:00pm-7:00pm](#) -Maddie Snowden

Sign Up for **Fall Retreat** for only \$40! We will be going to Mt . Lebanon for food, games, quiet times, and a campfire at night for some worship! Invite your friends and come hang with us as we kickoff the Thanksgiving break! See the MBC Student Ministry Page on Facebook for details, or pick up a What to Bring List at the Announcement Board outside Zach's Office!

Thanksgiving Feast



Santa Cop

Mark your calendar - Santa Cop is coming!



This is an amazing opportunity to help those in need and hang out with incredible people - just like you! We will begin packing toy boxes on Monday, December 1st, at the warehouse located at 2000 E Main St (National Auto Parts). We begin at 6:00pm and work til approx 9:00 pm. Even if someone only has 30 min to hour, we still can use your help.

If you have any questions, or wish to sign up, please email Debra Willis at dwillis@gptx.org or text 972 743-6700.

**We are a GPISD/MISD/AISD authorized charity for any student needing community service hours.*

Music Ministry

Be sure to mark your calendar for this year's Christmas Musical!

"The Music of Christmas" will be presented during our morning worship services on Sunday, December 7th. Our children's choir & drama team will join our adult choir and praise band as we present a fresh look at the Christmas story. In addition to the favorite Christmas songs, we will feature songs by Keith & Kristyn Getty, John Rutter and Chris Tomlin. You won't want to miss this special time of worship as we kickoff the Christmas Season at Matthew Road!

-Jeff



Come join one of our choirs!

- ♫ Adult choir rehearsals meet Wednesday nights at 6:30pm, in the sanctuary.
- ♫ Proclamation Youth Choir meets Wednesday nights, at 5:45pm in the choir room.
- ♫ The Children's Choir meets Wednesday nights, at 6:00pm, on the 2nd floor of the education building.

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.

Enroll now for the Spring Semester!!!

20Somethings

20

some things

Winter Retreat!

Where:
Riverbend in Glen Rose
(www.riverbendretreat.org)

When:
11.14.14 - 11.15.14

Time:
meet there at 5:30

What:
meals, worship, hayride, and skeet shooting

Bring:
bedding for twin bed, snacks, \$50.00, a bible and a friend

Back about 5:00PM
To sign up, please see Rachel!

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Bible Study

Sunday:

9:45AM - II Corinthians;
Ed Bldg
The Book of Acts

5:30PM - Snack/Prophets as
Preachers
Fellowship Hall

Discipleship Wednesday:

8:30PM - Common Grounds
Attributes of God and
why do they matter

I Timothy 1:5 "The aim of our
charge is love that issues from
a pure heart and a good
conscience and a sincere
faith." ~Abraham Salinas'
life verse.

MATTHEW ROAD
ACADEMY

Matthew Road Academy is now accepting resumes for the 2015-2016 school year. MRA is a growing Christian two day a week university model school for 3rd-12th grade on Tuesday/Thursday.

Teachers work in their field of subject for 1-6 class hours per school day.

The Academy supplies the curriculum, the teacher prepares their syllabus. This is a perfect position for a retired teacher or someone who has left the field, but would love working part time. Pay is competitive. Interested teachers must have classroom experience, preferred certification present/past and/or a degree in their field of study, and be active in their church. Please contact Candice McClellin at mracademy@att.net or 469-261-3779.

WANTED
TEACHERS

Living Grace Groups – Thursday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

| **Support** | to bear all or part of the weight of; hold up: give assistance to; enable to function or act.

Living Grace Groups heart and vision is to *reveal Christ, relieve suffering, and restore lives* (John 9:1-3). Grace Groups are designed to provide an ongoing **support structure** to help those living with **mental health difficulties**, giving each person practical skills and tools in order to regain their lives and rebuild their families. All of this is done in a **Christ-centered** environment with a clear focus on the necessity of **God’s grace** for life transformation. Grace Groups focus on the positive, where the goal of each meeting is to end with a greater understanding and vision concerning mental health difficulties. For more information and registration: Contact **Keith Dibble** 469.278.5901 Keith@matthewroad.org. Thursday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:00pm.

November 2014 Events & Activities

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

- November 2nd: Daylight Savings Time Ends (Fall Back One Hour!)
- November 5th: Quarterly Business Meeting, 6:00pm, Fellowship Hall
- November 6th: Young @ Heart Breakfast Outlaws, 8:30am
- November 9th: Deacon Meeting, 4:30pm, Conference Room
- November 14th - 15th: 20Somethings Retreat (see ad)
- November 16th: Veteran’s Day Luncheon, 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall
B&G Meeting, 5:00pm, Conference Room
- November 21st - 22nd: Youth Fall Retreat (see ad)
- November 21st: Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center
- November 22nd: Thanksgiving Feast, 5:00pm, Sanctuary
- November 23rd: NewComer’s Class & Luncheon, 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall
- November 27th - 28th: Thanksgiving Holiday, Church Office Closed

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

◇ 20Somethings - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm (ongoing)

◇ Adult Discipleship - Sanctuary, 5:30pm

◇ Ladies Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm

◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Library, 5:30pm (ongoing)

◇ Guy Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm (ongoing), see Zach for exact location

◇ Girl Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm (ongoing), see Zach for exact location

◇ MD² for children - Education Building, 5:30pm (ongoing)

Wednesday Nights:

◇ AWANA Club for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm

◇ Collide for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:30pm (ongoing)

◇ Adult Bible Studies - Library, 6:45pm

◇ Women’s Bible Study - Conference Room, 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

Evening Bible Study (all ages) 5:30pm

7:17 Service 6:45pm

Mondays

PAW Program 9:00am

Tuesdays

MRA 8:30am

Young @ Heart Activities 9:45am

Wednesdays

PAW Program 9:00am

Wednesday Night Dinner 5:15pm

Proclamation (youth choir) 5:45pm

Children’s Choir 6:00pm

Collide (youth) 6:30pm

Adult Choir 6:30pm

AWANA Club 6:30pm

Adult Bible Study 6:45pm

20Somethings 8:30pm

Thursdays

MRA 8:30am

Fridays

Chick time at Chick-Fil-A 9:00am

Saturdays

Men’s Coffee Group 7:30am

(Good Day Café, Grand Prairie)

Average Morning Attendance for October: 470
Average 7:17 Service Attendance for September: 245

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