



The Presence, Knowledge and Power of God

*“<sup>1</sup>O LORD, You have searched me and known me. <sup>2</sup>You know when I sit down and when I rise up; You understand my thought from afar. <sup>3</sup>You scrutinize my path and my lying down, And are intimately acquainted with all my ways. <sup>4</sup>Even before there is a word on my tongue, Behold, O LORD, You know it all. <sup>5</sup>You have enclosed me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. <sup>6</sup>Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it. <sup>7</sup>Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence? <sup>8</sup>If I ascend to heaven, You are there; If I make my bed in Sheol, behold, You are there. <sup>9</sup>If I take the wings of the dawn, If I dwell in the remotest part of the sea, <sup>10</sup>Even there Your hand will lead me, And Your right hand will lay hold of me. <sup>11</sup>If I say, “Surely the darkness will overwhelm me, And the light around me will be night,” <sup>12</sup>Even the darkness is not dark to You, And the night is as bright as the day. Darkness and light are alike to You.” Psalm 139:1-12*

Spurgeon describes this Psalm as “One of the most notable of the sacred hymns. It sings the omniscience and omnipresence of God, inferring from these the overthrow of the powers of wickedness, since he who sees and hears the abominable deeds and words of the rebellious will surely deal with them according to his justice. The brightness of this psalm is like unto a sapphire stone...it flames out with such flashes of light as to turn night into day...this holy song casts a clear light even to the uttermost parts of the sea, and warns us against that practical atheism which ignores the presence of God, and so makes shipwreck of the soul.” By “practical atheism” Spurgeon means when we profess that God exists and the He is all-powerful, all-knowing, and everywhere present, and yet live like He doesn't exists or if He does He is either without knowledge of our sin or without power to do anything about it. All sin, for that matter, is a moment of practical atheism. Knowing and contemplating these incredible truths about God overwhelmed David. “Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is too high, I cannot attain to it.” It is overwhelming. Just think about this for a

moment. Even before you read this sentence God knew in eternity past that at this very moment you would be doing this. Think about His presence. Even as you read this, God-almighty is everywhere around you. He is not contained in any one place, but every place is subsumed in His presence. Think about His power. We are overcome by an illness, a flat tire, bad weather, a bad hair day or a lack of hair day. God has absolute power over every electron that spins around every single atom at every single point in the universe. He tells them where to go and when to go there. He could, at His very whim, crush every galaxy and grind them into dust. His knowledge, presence, and power are more glorious than the psalmist can tolerate or even comprehend. It seems this would be terrifying. I suspect there is an element of fear in the words of the writer. However, hope stirs far more prominently in this ancient hymn. “Even the darkness is not dark to You” and “Your hand will lead me” express ideas of trust and hope. The psalmist clings to the greatness of God. Hope, joy, peace, security, and compassion are found in God because He has the knowledge, presence, and power behind His incredible love for us. *“<sup>13</sup>For You formed my inward parts; You wove me in my mother’s womb. <sup>14</sup>I will give thanks to You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Wonderful are Your works, And my soul knows it very well. <sup>15</sup>My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the depths of the earth; <sup>16</sup>Your eyes have seen my unformed substance; And in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me, When as yet there was not one of them. <sup>17</sup>How precious also are Your thoughts to me, O God! How vast is the sum of them! <sup>18</sup>If I should count them, they would outnumber the sand. When I awake, I am still with You.” Psalm 139:13-18* **You Formed Me!** God's power, knowledge and presence goes all the way back to the beginning of time. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." For more personal a realization strikes us here. God's power, knowledge and presence goes all the way

back to the beginning of time. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." For more personal a realization strikes us here. God's power, knowledge and presence goes all the way back to the beginning of your time. God made you. He made you just the way He intended. He gave you your smile, your laugh, your eye color, your hair color, and all your other features. The complexity of the ability to hear, see, taste, smell, and feel comes from Him. The complexity of child development in the womb along with the intricate details that make life even possible prompts the psalmist to say, “I am fearfully and wonderfully made.” This is a helpful truth. The standard for beauty comes from God and not from the culture. He gets to determine worth, value, and beauty. The magazine covers at the checkout counter declare all types of tips for making yourself more beautiful. In the process, often times the opposite occurs. We feel more inadequate as the guy with the perfect hair, teeth, and muscles stands next to the perfect girl. The greatest aspect of beauty within the human experience goes well beyond some airbrushed cover story. The scientifically baffling complexity of the average, not so cover girl, person points to the incredible work of our Creator. God is not concerned with what sells magazines. His creative work sufficiently identifies each and every person as divine artwork and beauty. You are fearfully and wonderfully made. Contemplation of the miraculous work of God in creating each and every person generates both fear and wonder. “Fearfully” because of the timidity the psalmist feels when he realizes the power and authority God possesses in order to create a human being. “Wonderfully” because of the beauty of God’s work in making people. From Spurgeon...”Take notice of the curious frame of the body...the Latin Vulgate renders it, “painted as with a needle,” like a garment of needlework, of diverse colors, richly embroidered with nerves and veins.” This wonderful work of God does not end with the birth of the child. God’s sovereignty covers the entire span of life. “And in Your book were all written the days that were ordained for me.” God creates my life. God directs my life. God takes my life. It is in His hands and according to His will. Is His sovereignty terrifying? Does His ability to, at His mere will, give and take life scare the psalmist? “When I awake, I am still with You.” What a comforting thought! If God made us then He can take care of us, especially when we consider the spectacular nature of His craftsmanship in putting us together. If every facet of my life resides in the hands of God then I can go to sleep with no fear. ~ Daniel

Missions Ministry Dinners



Join us this summer as we support our Missions Ministry with special Dinners!

Sunday, July 12th, 12:15pm  
For Rwanda Missions

Wednesday, July 15th , 5:15pm  
for school supplies for mission trip

Watch for more information in the Weekly Email!

## Children's Ministry

# SPORTS CAMP

**FREE Camp 3:17 Sports Camps!**  
Every Monday & Wednesday in July from 9am-1pm. Invite your friends and register online from our summer webpage ([www.matthewroad.org/ministries/summer](http://www.matthewroad.org/ministries/summer)). See Brittany if you are interested in volunteering or if you would like to donate sports equipment.

July 6 & 8 – Basketball  
July 13 & 15 – Soccer  
July 20 & 22 – Football & Cheerleading  
July 27 & 29 – Baseball & Softball



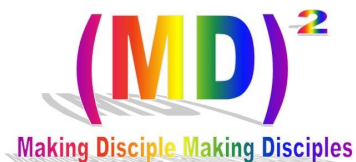
**We are currently recruiting for Awana 2015-2016 leadership!**  
See Brittany if you are interested in learning more.

**Save the dates:**

**Wednesday, August 12 -**  
All Children's Ministry (including Awana) Dinner & Training 6:30-8pm Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, August 19 -**  
Awana Leader Training 6:30-8pm Fellowship Hall

**Wednesday, August 26 -**  
Awana Registration & Lawn Party 6:30-8pm Education Bldg & Front Lawn



**Kids of Courage Bible Study**  
**Don't miss out!**  
**5:30pm, Sunday Evenings**



**Wacky Wednesdays**  
All Kids are invited each Wednesday night through August 19 from 6:30-8pm.  
This summer we will study the Bible to answer the questions, "Who is Jesus and what has He done?" and play wet and messy games at the end of each night. Kids begin in the Children's Worship Room upstairs in the education building and can be picked up from the back lawn.

## Student Ministry



# Youth Ministry Summer of Fun

**For any questions  
about anything @ anytime,  
contact Zach (210-8181-8002)  
or Jonathan (214-796-9181)**



Pool Party @ the GP Airhogs' game on  
July 17th, Meet in CG @ 6pm



**Bible studies:**  
Student Bible studies will not meet this summer, unless otherwise notified by your small group leaders (in other words, you're more than welcome to meet unofficially if you would still like!)

## Music Ministry

All of our choirs are taking a break for a couple of months. This will give us a beneficial time of rest as we begin planning for the fall. Over the summer you can expect to see a variety of small groups and special offerings from the music ministry. Watch this space in coming months for announcements about choirs and ensembles that resume in the Fall!

## PAW



**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.

**Fall Tuition and Fees:** Tuition is \$135.00 per month. There is an annual supply fee of \$100.00 and a registration fee of \$50.00 (non-refundable). Supply and registration fees are due upon enrollment.

**Please call Cyndi King, at 972-641-7380, for more information about this and our Summer Programs.**

**Enroll now for fall semester!**



## Women's Ministry



### Women's Ministry - Psalm 1

Ellen Van Treuren is offering a painting class to the Women of MRBC. Come join us for this time of fellowship - you will come away with a beautiful painting.

Since space is limited you must reserve your spot.

Make your reservation to [rachel@matthewroad.org](mailto:rachel@matthewroad.org) by July 2nd.

**Who:** Women of MRBC

**When:** July 11, from 10am - 1pm

**Where:** Fellowship Hall

**Cost:** \$17.00

**What to bring:** Your Special Salad to share

No childcare is provided

Since space is limited you must re-serve your spot.  
Make your reservation to [rachel@matthewroad.org](mailto:rachel@matthewroad.org) by July 2nd.

### Come join us for High Tea at the Tin Tulip Tea Room

4905 South Cooper St, Arlington, TX 76017

**Who:** Women of MRBC and friends

**When:** August 8th

**Time:** 2:00PM

**Cost:** 10.95 + tip

**What:** Tea and conversation

Space is limited, so you must RSVP to [rachel@matthewroad.org](mailto:rachel@matthewroad.org) by August 3rd.

#### Menu

Assorted Tea Sandwiches, freshly baked scones and clotted cream topped off with Cheesecake, all served with the beverage of your choice & mini devotional - you are a china cup!



### Mark your calendars:

✧ July 11th - Paint with a Master, see ad above

✧ September 12th - Women's Conference, more info to come!



### Weekly Bible Studies:

Sunday mornings:

Kim Sweet – the book of Philippians

Joy Richards – the book of Acts

Sunday night – the book of Acts

Tuesday Afternoons, Glazed, 4:30 PM

Wednesday Nights, Library – the book of Luke, Cyndi King

Friday Mornings, Chick Fil A – the book of Luke, Cyndi King

## Matthew Road Academy

Did you know that MRA supported MRBC this year with over \$7000 in building upgrades?

Security system upgrade, lighting, new whiteboards and chairs for classrooms - the Academy loves giving back to MRBC!! Did you know that you can support MRBC through MRA's Building Upgrade Fund?

There are two ways everyone can help with no cost to you: Collect Box Tops and register your Kroger card!



Collect box tops and drop them in collection jars located in the church office and education building entrance.



Add MRA to your Kroger card and we receive a percentage of your purchase every time you use your Kroger card/phone number!

#### Kroger Community Rewards – Customer Instructions

A Digital Account is needed in order to participate in Kroger Community Rewards. If you already have a Digital Account, then please skip to the section named 'Selecting an Organization'.

#### How to Register a Digital Account

Creating a digital account is as simple as 1,2,3! Simply visit [www.kroger.com](http://www.kroger.com) or download the Kroger mobile application from the appropriate app store for your device and follow these directions.

1. Select the 'Register' button.
2. Enter your information.
3. Select 'Create Account'.

Please make sure that you add your card number or create a virtual card number while registering your Digital Account. This is required for the Community Rewards program so that your transactions apply towards the program.

#### Selecting an Organization

Selecting the organization that you wish to support is as simple updating the Community Rewards selection on your Digital Account.

- Sign into your Digital Account (if you haven't already).
- Select 'My Account'.
- Scroll down to the 'Community Rewards' section of your account page.
- Select 'Enroll Now' or 'Edit'.
- Enter the name or NPO number of the organization that you wish to support. **(72789)**
- Select the appropriate organization from the list and click on 'Save'.

Your selected organization will now display in the Community Rewards section of your account page.

Any transactions moving forward using the card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program.

It takes approximately 10 days for the Community Rewards total to begin displaying on your receipt.

**Thank you so much for your support of MRA, please keep praying for the 185 students and 23 teachers who will be spending the 2015-2016 school year with us. We are blessed to instill a love for Christ in every subject, from teaching the ancient biblical times in history to creation in science, these students are being disciplined every week to make decisions for a life with Christ.**





Mexico Mission Trip  
July 19th - 25th  
Cost - \$250  
More info to come...

Greetings from Stephen...

I am so humbled by the Lord's calling on my life to be a part of the ministry and people at Matthew Road and am incredibly excited to get going in my role as college minister! Here's a little bit about me. Though I moved several times growing up, I spent the biggest part of my childhood in San Antonio and claim it as my hometown (Go Spurs!). In May, I graduated from Dallas Baptist University with a degree in Communication and married my best friend, Kristen. Some of my favorite hobbies include playing guitar, hiking, and watching movies. My desire for the college ministry at Matthew Road is to see students come to know Christ, fear God, and mature in holiness, as they become faithful and effective agents in God's work of reconciling the world to himself. College is such a pivotal developmental season in a person's life, and they can really flourish through discipleship and experiencing true community in a local church. There are also a great number of lost college students in our community that need to know Jesus and treasure him. Join with me in praying for our Lord to save these young adults as our church reaches out to them.

I can't wait to get to know you! ~ Stephen Clardy

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Bible Studies

Sunday:

9:45AM - Topical;  
Various & Acts  
Ed Bldg

5:30PM - Snack  
7 Churches of Revelations  
Fellowship Hall

Discipleship Wednesday:

8:30PM - Common Grounds  
Various



July 2015 Events & Activities

For more information, please see our website, [www.matthewroad.org](http://www.matthewroad.org), or call the church office at 972-641-2717.

- July 5th: Sports Camp Leader Meeting, 4:30pm, CrossSeekers Room
- July 6th: Children's Basketball Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
- July 8th: Children's Basketball Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
- July 11th: Women's Ministry Painting Class, 10:00am, Fellowship Hall
- July 12th: Mission Luncheon for Rwanda, 12:15pm, Fellowship Hall
- July 13th: Children's Soccer Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
- July 15th: Children's Soccer Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus  
Mission Dinner for Mexico VBS, 5:15pm, Fellowship Hall
- July 17th: Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center
- July 19th - 24th: Harlingen & Mexico Mission Trip
- July 20th: Children's Football/Cheerleader Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
- July 22nd: Children's Football/Cheerleader Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
- July 26th: Deacon Conference Call Meeting, 4:30pm
- July 27th: Children's Baseball Sports Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus
- July 29th: Children's Baseball Sports Camp, 9:00am, MRBC Campus  
Quarterly Business Meeting, 5:30pm, Fellowship Hall
- July 31st: Children's End of Summer Bash, 4:00pm, CommonGrounds

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ◇ 20Somethings - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Discipleship - Sanctuary, 5:30pm
- ◇ Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Library, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Couples Class - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Guy Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm , see Zach for exact location
- ◇ Girl Talk for youth - CommonGrounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ MD<sup>2</sup> for children - Education Building, 5:30pm

Wednesday Nights:

- ◇ Wacky Wednesdays for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ◇ Collide for youth - CommonGrounds, 6:30pm
- ◇ Adult Bible Studies - Library, 6:45pm
- ◇ Women's Bible Study - Conference Room, 6:45pm
- ◇ 20Somethings Bible Study - CommonGrounds, 8:30pm

Regular Scheduled Activities

<b>Sundays</b>	
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
<b>Mondays</b>	
PAW Program	9:00am
<b>Tuesdays</b>	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
<b>Wednesdays</b>	
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
Wacky Wednesdays (children)	6:30pm
Adult Bible Study	6:45pm
20Somethings	8:30pm
<b>Thursdays</b>	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
<b>Fridays</b>	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A	9:00am
<b>Saturdays</b>	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Caf�, Grand Prairie)	7:30am

Financials as of May 30, 2015 (without PAW)

Budget Income	\$ 351,133
Budget Expense	\$ (348,649)
Net Budget	\$ 2,484

Average Morning Attendance for June: 261

Average 7:17 Service Attendance for June: 120