



The Contrite Heart and the Joy of the Nations

“All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will worship before You. For the kingdom is the Lord’s and He rules over the nations. All the prosperous of the earth will eat and worship, all those who go down to the dust will bow before Him, even he who cannot keep his soul alive. Posterity will serve Him; It will be told of the Lord to the coming generation. They will come and will declare His righteousness to a people who will be born, that He has performed it.” Psalm 22:27-31

God is a God of relationships. This is primarily expressed in God’s relationship with individuals. However, the Bible also describes God’s relationship to families, nations and people groups. From the beginning, the Book of Genesis presents the interactions between God and individuals. However, God’s redemptive plan involves not just individuals but also His chosen people, the nation of Israel. When Abraham appears on the scene in Genesis 12, it comes on the heels of the Tower of Babel when God scatters the peoples and confuses their languages. Unified as a single language and a single people, the people at Babel created an environment of arrogant rebellion against God. God’s merciful solution was to separate people and languages in order to reduce the organized sin that took place at Babel. Despite this divine judgment at Babel, a few chapters later as God revealed to Abraham the unfolding of His great plan of redemption God said this, *“...Abraham will surely become a great and mighty nation, and in him all the nations of the earth will be blessed.”* Genesis 18:18 Within a few chapters of the Tower of Babel, God now speaks of His blessing on all the nations. God reiterates this promise in Genesis 22 and repeats the blessing again later in the book of Genesis to Abraham’s offspring. The promise of blessing to the nations was a promise of the coming Messiah. Through Abraham and His offspring God would bring forth One in whom the blessings of God would be granted to the nations. When Jesus had risen from the dead, He gathered His disciples for a final commissioning, saying to them, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”* Matthew 28:18-20 What Abraham was promised, Christ fulfilled. The resurrection of Jesus Christ provided the way for the nations to experience the blessing promised to Abraham. Four thousand years later we are the benefactors of that Abrahamic promise. Two thousand years after the resurrection of Jesus we are the benefactors of that commissioning of Christ’s disciples.

The completion of the work of God in the nations of the world is still yet future. One day, before the throne of God, all nations and all peoples will be represented as we worship Him. Consider the joyful fulfillment of the Great Commission of Matthew’s Gospel as presented in the Book of Revelation. *“And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are You...for You were slain, and purchased for God with Your blood men from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God; and they will reign upon the earth.”* Revelation 5:9-10 And *“On either side of the river was the tree of life, bearing twelve kinds of fruit, yielding its fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. There will no longer be any curse; and the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and His bond-servants will serve Him.”* Revelation 22:2-3 This hopeful conclusion comes at the beginning of the newly formed the eternal kingdom. This scene depicts the healing and restoration of the nations, with people from every tribe, language and nation at the throne of Christ, worshiping Him together.

In Psalm 22, which has so many Messianic themes, we see this worldwide vision of God’s deliverance. *“All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord, and all the families of the nations will worship before You. For the kingdom is the Lord’s and He rules over the nations.”* Psalm 22:27-28 This psalm began with a cry for help from someone who felt completely abandoned. *“My God why have you forsaken me?”* Now, we see the contrast between the suffering and abandoned one with that of the corporate, joyful worship of God. This worship of God because of His work in salvation goes beyond the individual and even beyond the nation of Israel. Consider this paragraph from the New International Commentary on the Old Testament on this text. *“These verses remind us that even God’s act to save the afflicted one has world-wide impact... the nations come to the Lord, not because of sheer power or force, but they stream to God because of God’s justice and equity among the peoples. God is the God of the universe because God is the God of this one abandoned, left alone and shamed...What is clear here is that all will praise God because of this, and all of God’s acts go even beyond the nations that we can see in the present. Both the healthy ones will praise along with those nearing the grave, and even beyond all of them, the story will grow and go on to the new generations, to those not even yet born. Given the scope of Psalm 22, it is no surprise that it was seen by the New Testament writers as applicable to the death of Jesus. The cry of the one who loves the Lord, who is afflicted and shamed and surrounded by enemies, is still heard by God, and God’s act of deliverance of this one has world-wide, earth-shattering consequences.”* Those with a contrite heart love God. Those with a contrite heart also love God’s plan for the nations. There is coming a day when the brokenhearted will gather before their forgiving and gracious God where we will worship Him in joyful song. They will worship Him because of His saving grace offered freely through this Abandoned One on our behalf. On that day, we will look around to see the gathering of the nations, people from every nation, language and tribe. This is what God promised Abraham. This is what is presented in Psalm 22. This is what God provided in Christ Jesus. This is what Christ commissioned the initial followers. This is what Christ still calls on us today. His message of grace to the nations of the world. May our hearts be moved for the nations, that they may know Him, the One Abandoned by God on their behalf. May they know Him, the One Abandoned by God but now resurrected for their salvation.

Prayer Focus

God, thank You for this sustaining promise. I believe You are coming again. I believe we will get to be in Your presence forever. I believe Your joy will fill my soul forever. Thank You for banishing all this misery that our own hands have made. Thank You for bringing the message of Christ to the nations. Move within me to seek the good of others by taking this word to every people, nation, tribe and language group. I love You! Thank You for loving me and bringing me into such an amazing, everlasting family. Amen.

Bob Fu

Sunday Evening, November 13th, at 6:45pm, in the Sanctuary, Bob Fu will share his amazing story of being God’s double agent. Tens of millions of Christians live in China today, many of them leading double lives or in hiding from a government that relentlessly persecutes them. Bob Fu, whom the Wall Street Journal called “The pastor of China’s underground railroad,” is fighting to protect his fellow believers from persecution, imprisonment, and even death. God’s Double Agent is his fascinating and riveting story. Come join us as we hear how God is working in and through Bob’s life.

Children's Ministry



AWANA HAS BEGUN!

Wednesday Nights, for kids ages 3* - 6th grade
6:30pm - 8:00pm

*3 year olds in Cubbies must be potty trained, and have turned 3 by Sept. 1st. 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.

Would you pray about joining the Awana team this year?
Or do you know anyone who might be a good fit
for this ministry opportunity?

Contact Brittany at brittanymrbc@gmail.com if you would like to participate in the amazing ministry!



Sunday Nights 5:30pm
Education Building
2nd floor



For kids in kindergarten through 6th grade - Join us for games on the front lawn (weather permitting) followed by girls and boys Bible studies focused on becoming disciples who go into the world to make disciples. This fall we will finish our study on the book of Matthew.



Sunday School

Join us every Sunday morning from 9:45-10:45am as we journey through the Gospel Project.

PRE-TEEN RETREAT 2016
FOR 3RD-6TH GRADERS - NOVEMBER 11-12
MT. LEBANON CAMP - \$40



Join us for worship, teaching, food, games, and small groups. Reserve your spot today by emailing brittanymrbc@gmail.com. Information & Registration packets available now and due by Nov. 1.



Fall Festival is coming!
Monday, October 31st
6:00pm - 8:00pm
Setup Sunday, October 30th, please see Brittany

We need CANDY CANDY CANDY and GENTLY USED STUFFED ANIMALS! Bring your donation and sign up to volunteer. We will be collecting Sunday mornings & evenings in the Worship Center foyer. Email Brittany@matthewroad.org to sign up as a volunteer or for questions.

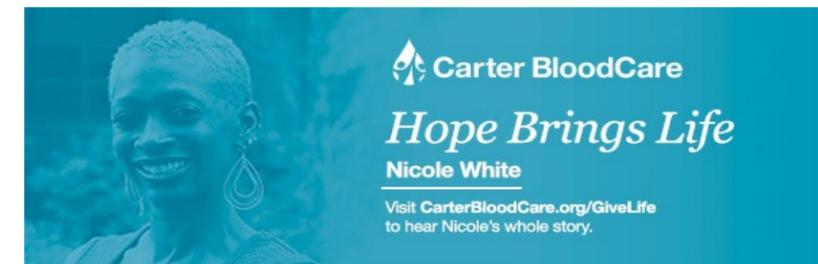


Want to stay up to date with us on facebook? Like our page at [facebook.com/mrbcchildrens](https://www.facebook.com/mrbcchildrens)

Questions regarding the children's ministry or how you can join the leadership team? Email brittanymrbc@gmail.com.

Carter Blood Drive

Thank you



Thank you for your personal time and effort to make our blood drive successful! With each unit drawn, we brought hope to those needing blood donations, as well as helping one of ours that is in need.

What an amazing turn out we had! We had a total of 47 Donors seen, 37 who donated whole blood and 2 who donated red blood cells (double reds), with 8 that were unable to give but still provided credit to the account we were collecting for.

Thank you again for your support!

*For those that donated, be sure to get on the website and use the information on the card they received Sunday to check their cholesterol and general info about their donation

College Ministry



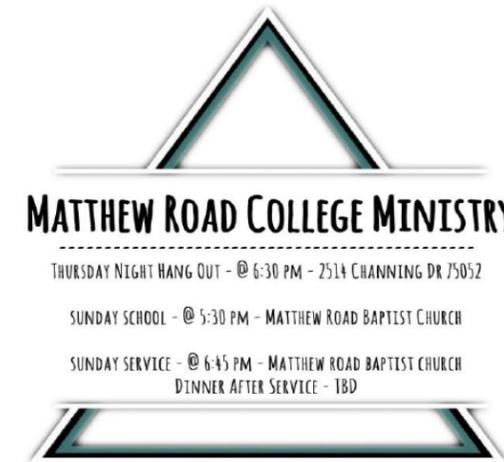
change happens in circles, not rows

Guys, Tuesday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ MRBC, lead by Zach Van Veldhuizen

Ladies, Tuesday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:30pm @ 2514 Channing Drive, GP TX 75052, led by Caroline Van Veldhuizen

Guys, Saturday Mornings, 9:00am - 11:00am @ MRBC, led by Kevin Marek

Ladies, Saturday Mornings, 9:00am - 11:00am @ 1310 N. Cockrell Hill Rd #1028, Dallas TX, 75211, led by Caitlin Marek



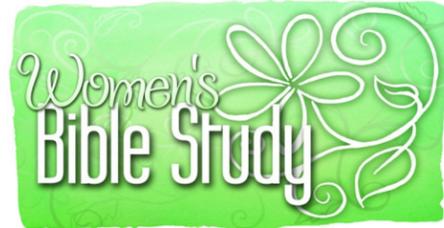
QUESTIONS? TEXT ZACH (210)818-8002

Get Connected

Missed a sermon?
Want to share our sermon series with a friend or family member?
Check out our website and listen to or download our sermons:
www.matthewroad.org



Women's Ministry



Weekly Bible Studies:

Sunday mornings

Rachel Sullenger & Tiffany Marich - the book of Acts
Joy Richards & Chris Anderson - the book of Acts

Sunday nights

Meg Trihus - the Epistles

Monday Nights

Nina Wilhite - OT Survey, 6:30pm, Conf. Rm.
Diana Hines - Precept Leviticus Study 7:00pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday Nights

Cyndi King - the book of Luke

Friday Mornings, Chick Fil A (Camp Wisdom Location)

Cyndi King - 9:00 am
The book of Luke

CHRISTMAS mission PROJECT

Mission Opportunity coming this November or December!

More info to come...

RIVERBEND WOMEN'S RETREAT

FEBRUARY 10TH

COST: \$60

MORE INFO TO COME

October 15th
Painting with Ellen
cost \$20.00 pp
due upon registration
Last day to register
Monday, October 3rd

Youth Ministry

Small Group Bible Studies have begun!

High School Girls - 6:30pm-7:30pm on Thursdays

Shannon Prater- (214-536-8751), Greg Prater- (214-536-9051)
Address - 4405 Browning Ln Grand Prairie, TX 75052
Leader: Christine Wehrli - (682) 551-9831

High School Guys - Geisendorffs - 6:30pm-8:00pm on Mondays

Ed Geisendorff - (469-236-6052), Angela Geisendorff - (972-602-3866)
Address - 4646 Betts Dr. Grand Prairie, TX
Nick Breedlove (Student Helper) (214-605-3629)
Garrett Halsell (Student Helper) - (972-824-3929)

High School Guys - Kings - 6:30pm-8:00pm on Mondays

Doug King - (214-557-5437), Cyndi King - (214-762-9437)
Address - 4106 Devon Ct. Grand Prairie, TX
Daniel King (Student Helper) - (214-304-0190)

Middle School Girls - 7:00-8:00pm on Tuesdays

Glen McGregor - (318-469-7132), Kim McGregor - (318-469-2186)
Address - 2820 Plume Ct. Cedar Hill, TX
Leader: Chelsea Galbraith- (214-729-8278)
Annabelle McClellin (Student Helper) - (469-503-8449)

Middle School Guys - 6:30pm - 8:00pm on Mondays

Eli Moreno (817-727-9576), Ana Moreno (817-727-9517)
Address - 2235 Tawny Owl Rd Grand Prairie, TX
Leader: Dante James (Intern) - (972) 834-0336



October 12th:

Fields of Faith
Free event!
Place TBD

October 31st:

Fall Festival
6:00pm - 8:00pm

November 11th - 12th:

Fall Retreat @ Mt. Lebanon
See Zach for more info

November 13th:

Guest Speaker Bob Fu,
at our 6:45pm service

Coming Events

Come Join Us

WORK DAY AT THE CHURCH

Saturday, October 8th
8:30-11:00

MEN'S CAMPOUT
NOVEMBER 4-5

BEAUTIFUL EAST TEXAS
TWO HOURS FROM DALLAS

FOOD PROVIDED
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED

LEAVE FRIDAY AFTER WORK
RETURN SATURDAY AFTER LUNCH

phil@matthewroad.org for details or reservations

Fall Festival

Fall Festival is coming!
Monday, October 31st
6:00pm - 8:00pm

Setup Sunday, October 30th, please see Zach or email zach@matthewroad.org & tover1998@gmail.com

Grace Groups

Do you or someone you know struggle with a mental health difficulty? Grace groups focus on the positive with each meeting hopefully ending in greater understanding and vision concerning mental health difficulties. Our Grace Group does allow time to share pressing needs and pray for one another; however, our focus each week is on learning how to filter difficulties through God's grace and implementing the many practical skills and tools presented during the meetings.

Family Grace group (for someone supporting a loved one with a mental health difficulty) meets on Monday evenings at 6:30 in the Teller room. Contact Greg or Meg Trihus (greg_trihus@sil.org, or meg_trihus@wycliffe.org) for more information.

Living Grace group (for someone struggling with a mental illness) meets on Thursday evenings at 6:30 in the Teller room. Contact George Fritts (gfrittslpcintern@gmail.com) for more info.

20Somethings & College Ministry



Classes:
 ~ Sunday Morning 9:45 am: Jeff Morris leading
 ~ Wednesday Night 7:15pm: Dinner and Discussion

Contact Rachel at rachel@matthewroad.org
 to find out the latest events & activities!



Don Pablo's
 10.9.16
 After 7:17
 Appetizer, beverage and
 Conversation!

Men's Campout
 Nov. 4th - 5th
 See William Sullenger



Updated October 2016 Events & Activities

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

- October 5th:** Finance Committee Meeting, 5:45pm, Teller Room
- October 6th:** Young @ Heart Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am
- October 8th:** Churchwide Workday
- October 9th:** Deacon Meeting, 4:00pm, Conference Room
Deacon Ordination, 4:30pm, Sanctuary
- October 12th:** Fields of Faith, please see Zach
- October 15th:** Women's Ministry "Painting with Ellen", 10:00am, Fellowship Hall
- October 16th:** NewComer's Class & Lunch, 12:15pm, Worship Center
- October 19th:** Finance Committee Meeting, 5:30pm, Teller Room
- October 21st:** Parents Night Out, 6:30pm, Worship Center
*must rsvp to cyndikking@msn.com
- October 30th:** Fall Festival Set Up, please see Brittany
- October 31st:** Fall Festival, 6:00pm - 8:00pm, MRBC Campus

Discipleship

Sunday Nights:

- ◇ College - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Discipleship - Choir Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Ladies Bible Study - Conference Room, 5:30pm
- ◇ Young Marrieds Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm
- ◇ Adult Couples Class - Library, 5:30pm
- ◇ Guy Talk for youth - Common Grounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ Girl Talk for youth - Common Grounds, 5:30pm, see Zach for exact location
- ◇ MD² for children - Education Building, 5:30pm

Wednesday Nights:

- ◇ Awana Club for children - Ed. Building, 6:30pm
- ◇ Collide for youth - Common Grounds, 6:30pm
- ◇ 20Somethings/College Bible Study - Fellowship Hall, 6:30pm
- ◇ Adult Bible Study - Library, 6:45pm
- ◇ Women's Bible Study - Conference Room, 6:45pm

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	6:47pm
Mondays	
K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Women's Bible Study (during the school year)	6:30pm & 7:00pm
Tuesdays	
MRA (during the school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
Wednesdays	
K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
Collide (youth)	6:30pm
Adult Choir (during the school year)	6:30pm
Wacky Wednesdays (children)	6:30pm
20Somethings/College	6:30pm
Adult Bible Studies	6:45pm
Thursdays	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
Fridays	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A (Camp Wisdom)	9:00am
Saturdays	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am

Average Morning Attendance for September: 373

Average 7:17 Service Attendance for September: 164

Financials as of September 16, 2016

Budget Income	\$ 759,034
Budget Expense	\$ (743,321)
Net Budget	\$ 15,713