



## Welcome Matt and Ann-Elise Brown

### Daniel's Article

*"<sup>16</sup>For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup>For God did not send the Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him." John 3:16-17*

#### The Greatest Statement Ever Written

The Bible contains massively important statements throughout its pages. However, there are a few statements which so transcend time and space, that so capture the divine heart and mind, that so communicate the weighty, exalting work of God in His Son Jesus Christ that life itself stops in the wake of it. Is this the greatest statement ever written? Clearly such a claim would be challenged by many. Some may even respond with an immediate, "what about the verse that says..." To claim one statement by God is greater than another is problematic. The Bible does not claim that this verse is greater than any other verse, but its significance comes from the impact that this one verse has made in the history of the church. This verse, more than any other verse in the scripture has driven evangelism and missions. Often in translation work, as the Bible penetrates a new culture and language, the first verse selected for translation is John 3:16. It dominates the Gospel Tract industry, where many of those booklets contain some or even much of the Roman Road. All Gospel tracts contain John 3:16. All Scripture memory programs for children contain this verse. It is often the first verse a child ever memorizes. It is prominent in our AWANA Program. For me, I remember the day I could quote it. This day stands out more than the day I learned to ride a bike or memorized the multiplication tables. Memorizing this one verse was hugely important within my home and within my childhood church. Even in childhood, I knew there was something about this statement. Somehow this verse captures the essence of the story of God. In such a few words, this message seems to summarize the whole force of divine history.

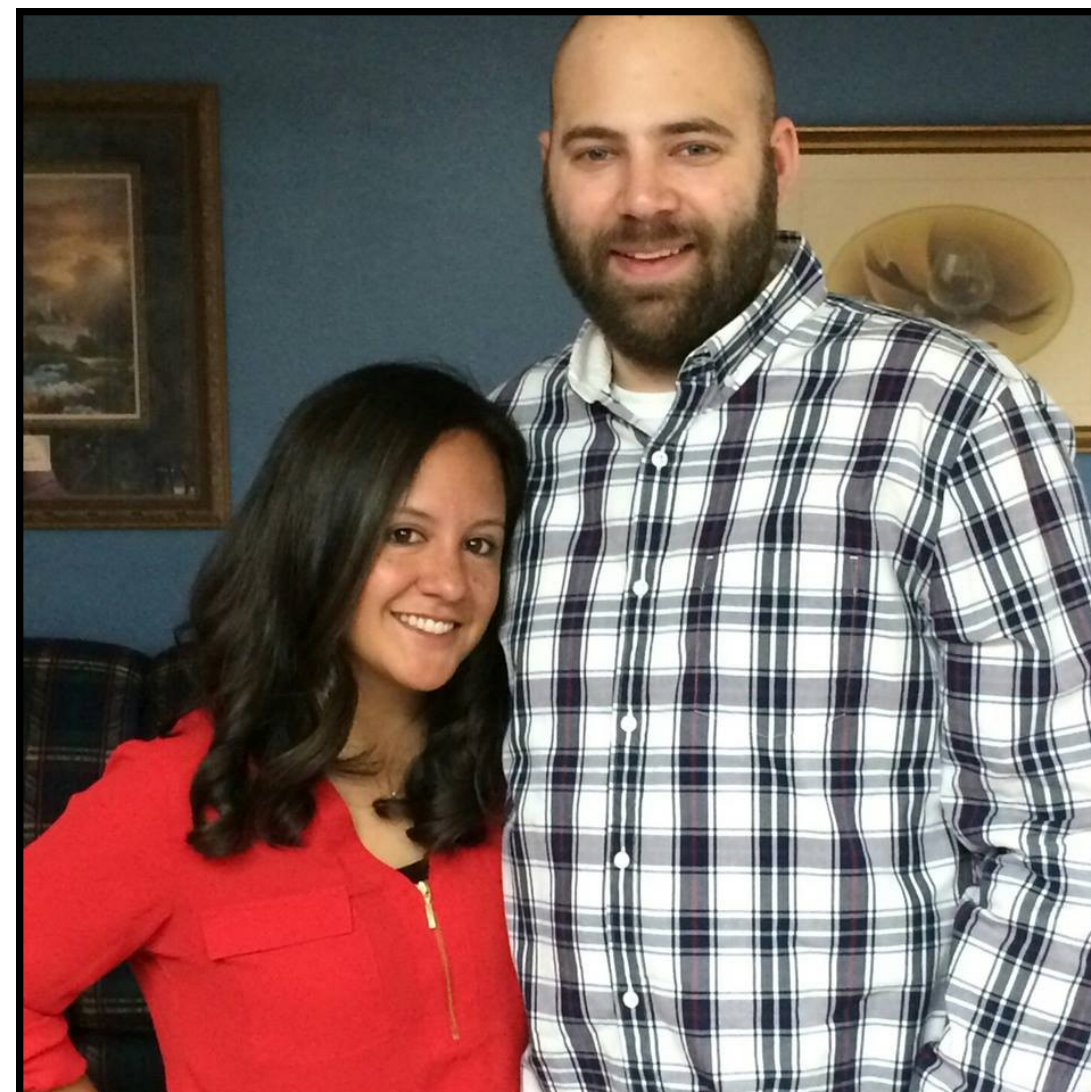
Here is how Max Lucado describes this verse. "A twenty-six-word parade of hope: beginning with God, ending with life, and urging us to do the same. Brief enough to write on a napkin or memorize in a moment, yet solid enough to weather two thousand years of storms and questions. If you know nothing of the Bible, start here. If you know everything in the Bible, return here. We all need the reminder. The heart of the human problem is the heart of the human. And God's treatment is prescribed in John 3:16

He loves. He gave. We believe. We live.

The words are to Scripture what the Mississippi River is to America – an entryway into the heartland. Believe or dismiss them, embrace or reject them, any serious consideration of Christ must include them...Could you ponder the words of Christ and never immerse yourself into John 3:16? The verse is an alphabet of grace, a table of contents to the Christian hope, each word a safe-deposit box of jewels. Read it again, slowly and aloud, and note the word that catches your attention. *'For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.'*" (From Max Lucado, 3:16, *The Numbers of Hope*, Thomas Nelson Publishers, 2007, page 8-9)

We begin a new year with an ancient message. We start 2017 with a reminder of the very essence of our life. God's love mediated through His Son gives us everlasting hope. May this message sustain us all year long.

~ Daniel



Matt will be our new Minister to Students.

Join us as we welcome him into ministry at Matthew Road.



**JOIN US THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 8TH,  
AFTER THE 717 SERVICE AS WE  
WELCOME OUR NEW MINISTER TO  
YOUTH, MATT BROWN AND HIS WIFE  
ANN-ELISE, TO OUR MRBC FAMILY.**



## 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](mailto: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.



## MRA Registration for Fall, 2017



Matthew Road Academy is now accepting applications for the 2017/2018 school year.

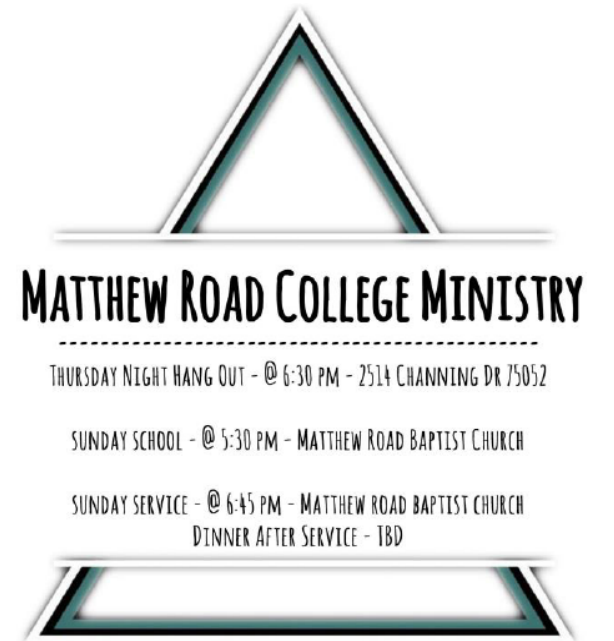
Please see our website,  
<http://matthewroadacademy.org>.

## College Ministry

**January 24th -**  
 Small Groups start up

**January 26th -**  
 College Group meeting kick off @Van Veldhuizens  
 2514 Channing Dr., Grand Prairie TX 75052  
 6:30pm - 11:00pm

**January 27th-28th -**  
 Weekend Retreat Kick Off



QUESTIONS? TEXT ZACH (210)818-8002



Guys, Tuesday Nights, 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
 @ MRBC, CommonGrounds,  
 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, CommonGrounds led by Kevin Marek

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

Also Sundays, 9:45am & 5:30pm @ MRBC, see Welcome Desk for info

## Missions



**LOTTIE  
 MOON  
 CHRISTMAS  
 OFFERING®  
 2016**

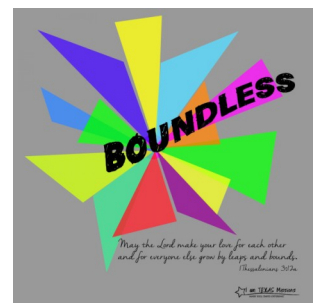
**Church Goal:**  
**\$12,500**  
**It's not to late  
 to give!**

Mary Hill Davis  
 Goal Exceeded!

Thank you to all  
 who gave to the  
 Mary Hill Davis  
 Missions Offering.

Our church goal was \$5,000, and we  
 have received \$8,226!

Thank you again for contributing to  
 this vital ministry.

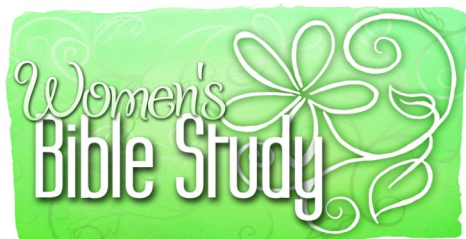




## Women's Ministry

### She Teaches

Women's Ministry on MRBC's campus uses Psalm 1 as a guide.  
 "A Psalm 1 woman is rooted in the Word of God, allowing the Word to be a stream of truth that will bear fruit in her life.  
 As she goes, she will teach that the Lord is good... to her family, her friends, and everyone she encounters."



### Weekly Bible Studies:

#### Sunday mornings

Rachel Sullenger & Tiffany Marich  
 - the book of Acts  
 Joy Richards & Chris Anderson  
 - 1st, 2nd & 3rd John

#### Sunday nights

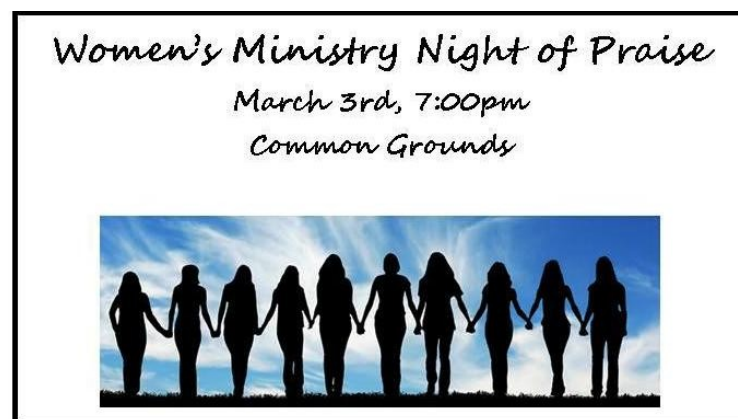
Meg Trihus - the Epistles

#### 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



## Youth Ministry

### Small Group Bible Studies return January 9th!

#### 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

February 17th - 19th -

Heartbeat

Cost:

\$50 bring a friend rate

or

\$50 if signed up by Feb.2nd

or

\$70 if signed up after Feb. 2nd

Join us as we welcome

Matt Brown as

our new student pastor!

See his article on pg 2

See Matt or Zach for more info

about events & activities

### Return to Our Regular Schedule January 1st

We will return to our regular weekly schedule beginning Sunday, January 1st.  
 See below for details.

#### Sundays

- Morning Worship, 8:30am - 11:00am
- Morning Bible Study (all ages), 9:45am
- Evening Bible Study (all ages), 5:30pm
- 7:17 Service, 6:45pm

#### Wednesdays

- Wednesday Night Dinner (for info or to RSVP, please contact [mrbcinfo@matthewrod.org](mailto:mrbcinfo@matthewrod.org)), 5:15pm
- Collide (Jr High & High School), 6:30pm
- AWANA (during school year), 6:30pm
- 20Somethings/College Bible Study, 6:30pm
- Adult Bible Studies, 6:45pm



## 20Somethings

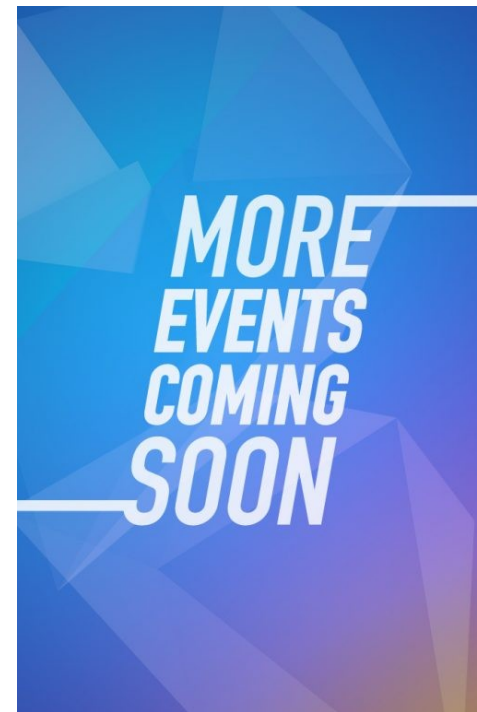
# 20some things

Contact Rachel at [rachel@matthewroad.org](mailto:rachel@matthewroad.org)  
to find out the latest events & activities!



### Classes:

- ~ Sunday Morning 9:45 am: Jeff Morris leading
- ~ Wednesday Night 6:30pm: Food and Discussion



## Men's Retreat



See Josh Lemmon for more info

Friday & Saturday  
Feb. 24th & 25th  
Mt. Lebanon  
Cost: \$45

## January 2017 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.

- January 1st:** Return to our normal schedule, please see page 6 for more info
- January 3rd:** Church Office reopens, 8:30am
- January 5th:** Young@Heart Breakfast at Outlaws, 8:30am
- January 8th:** Finance Committee Meeting, 12:15pm, Church Office
- January 20th:** Parents Night Out, must RSVP to [cyndikking@msn.com](mailto:cyndikking@msn.com)
- January 22nd:** Teller Committee Meeting, 12:15pm, Teller Room  
Teller Training, 12:30pm, Teller Room
- January 29th:** Teller Training, 12:30pm, Teller Room

# 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
- ◇ MD<sup>2</sup> 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

<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	6:47pm
<b>Mondays</b>	
K2 Primary Academy (during the school year)	8:45am
PAW Program	9:00am
<b>Tuesdays</b>	
MRA (during the school year)	8:30am
Young @ Heart Activities	9:45am
<b>Wednesdays</b>	
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
<b>Thursdays</b>	
MRA (during school year)	8:30am
<b>Fridays</b>	
Chick time at Chick-Fil-A (Camp Wisdom)	9:00am
<b>Saturdays</b>	
Men's Coffee Group (Good Day Café, GP)	7:30am



Average Morning Attendance for December: 375

Average 7:17 Service Attendance for December: 166