

Ways to Help The Matthew 25 Center:

- 1) **Link up your MVP card from Food Lion to the Center:** Send us your name, MVP card number (all 12 digits), area code and phone number. We will do the rest. Food Lion will contribute to the Center a percentage of what you spend.
- 2) **Receive your newsletter by email.** Just let us know and we will send it to you electronically. It's cheaper for us and faster for you!
- 3) **Use Goodsearch as your internet search engine.** They will contribute a penny to us for every search you do if you specify The Matthew 25 Center as your charity. (www.goodsearch.com)
- 4) **Gifts - Give a monetary gift in honor of, or in memory of, someone special in your life.**
- 5) **Fund Raiser Volunteers—Help with our fund raising projects.**
- 6) **Donate needed supplies for the Center.**
- 7) **Include The Matthew 25 Center in your church budget.**

***“Remember those in prison
as if you were their fellow
prisoners, and those who are
mistreated as if you
yourselves were suffering.”***

Hebrews 13:3

Directors:
Jimmy & Anita Joseph

Board of Directors:
Sharon Baucum, Mary Margaret Brooks, Pete Cowan, James Davis, W. C. English, Garry Freeman, Donna Grinbergs, Melvin Hall, Marian James, Leland Kerr, Ray Mendenhall, Katrina Midgett, Judy Siko, Nathan Teachey, Priscilla Tyree

Trustees:
Debi Creech, Eugene Floyd, Sr., Nathan Teachey

**The Matthew 25 Center
1196 Penderlea Highway
Burgaw, NC 28425**

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The Matthew 25 Center



1196 Penderlea Highway, Burgaw, NC 28425

Phone/Fax (910) 259-7133

e-mail:matthew25@bizec.rr.com

www.matthew25center.org



“A home away from home for families who visit their loved ones in prison”

Volume IV, Number I

March, 2008

Long Awaited Outdoor Playground Begun

The Matthew 25 Center has been awarded a \$5,000.00 grant from the RYE Foundation of Winston-Salem, NC to begin an outdoor playground for the children of our guests. Projected to cost \$12,000.00 when it is complete, the playground will have a large play structure with swings, a slide and a tower for climbing. Additionally, there will be other equipment which will include active play equipment for younger age children.



New Playground Takes Shape at The Matthew 25 Center

The initial stage of installing a protective fence has been completed and one small play structure is in place. The second stage, the installation of rubber mulch to create a safe play surface, will cost approximately \$4,500.00. After the mulch is installed, we will be able to construct the large play structure which will be the centerpiece of the playground.

Many of our young guests travel several hours by automobile to reach the Center. The playground will allow them space to safely burn their excess energy and to build positive memories of their visit to their loved one. The outside playground complements the children's play room inside and completes the last piece of the original plan for the Center.

Matthew 25 Happenings

- ✦ The Rock of Ages Prison Ministry used the Center on January 15 - 17, 2007 while they held a revival at the New Hanover Correctional Center in Wilmington.
- ✦ The Directors spoke about the ministry of The Matthew 25 Center to Clement Baptist Church near Autryville on Feb. 10.
- ✦ The Directors spoke about the ministry of The Matthew 25 Center to First Baptist Church in Maysville on Feb. 17.
- ✦ The Matthew 25 Center had an informational booth at the NC Baptist Men's Missions Conference in Winston Salem, Feb. 29—March 1.
- ✦ The KAIROS Prison Ministry used the Center March 5- 9 as a base of operations for their four day retreat for inmates at Pender Correctional Institution.
- ✦ The WMU of First Baptist Church of Wallace visited the center on March 10 and brought paper products and cleaning supplies.
- ✦ The Burgaw Book Club of Burgaw visited the Center on March 13 to learn about the ministry of the Center.

Upcoming Events:

April 5 - Hot Dog Sale at Sam's Club, Wilmington

May 3 - One Day with God Camp

American Skin, LLC. Honors Its Employees

The American Skin, LLC. of Burgaw honored its employees in March by making a sizable donation to the work of The Matthew 25 Center.

Board Elects New Member and a New President

The Matthew 25 Center Board of Directors elected Priscilla Tyree to serve as president for 2008. She replaces Sharon Baucom, who rotated off the Board after many years of service. The Board also elected Mr. Bryant Crosson to a five year term on the Board.

In Memoriam

Mr. Nelson Squires

1924—2008

Mr. Nelson Squires made major contributions to the founding and early development of The Matthew 25 Center. He was instrumental in the acquisition of the property where the Center now stands. We mourn his passing and honor his

One Day with God Camp Scheduled for May 3

The Matthew 25 Center is again partnering with Forgiven Ministries of Taylorsville, NC to sponsor the One Day with God Camp on May 3 at Pender Correctional Institution in Burgaw. This will be the third year that we have sponsored this camp. The first two have been tremendous successes and this year's camp promises to be great as well.

The One Day with God Camp is the creation of Scottie Barnes, who grew up missing a relationship with her father who was in prison for most of her childhood. Scottie knows first hand the problems incarceration brings to families as a whole, but especially to the children. The Camp brings children of inmates into the prison to spend a day with their dads doing the kinds of things other children get to do with their dads. The program includes active games, crafts, a cook-out, Christmas presents, birthday cake, a movie with popcorn and sodas, clowns, a visit by a celebrity to share a Christian testimony and, most importantly, quiet time to talk about important issues in their lives. Everything about the Camp is designed to create a relationship between the father and his children within a loving, Christian environment.



Inmate Children Enjoy a Day with Their Dad

The Matthew 25 Center is in need of sponsors for the children and volunteers who will give a day of their lives to create a lasting memory for an inmate child. It costs approximately \$150.00 to sponsor a child for the Camp. We are asking Sunday School classes, mission organizations and/or churches to sponsor a child as a mission project. For more information, contact The Matthew 25 Center (259-7133) or the Chaplain's Office at the Pender Correctional Institution (663-3077).

Hot Dog/Bake Sale at Sam's Club - April 5, 2008

Support the Matthew 25 Center at our annual hot dog/bake sale on Saturday, April 5, 2008 at Sam's Club on South College Road in Wilmington. We will be selling hot dogs, chips, soft drinks and a variety of baked goods just outside Sam's Club from 10:00am until 2:00 pm