

***Memorial and Honorary Giving  
to The Matthew 25 Center***

*In Memory of Edwin Bullock:*

Peggy T. Jones

*In Honor of  
W. C. & Helen English:*

Elizabeth Batson

*In Honor of the 64th  
Wedding Anniversary of  
Admah & Maebell Lanier:*

Edward & Kay Rochelle

We are very grateful for the support received from those who make a donation to The Matthew 25 Center in honor of or in memory of a loved one.

Memorial and honorary gifts to The Matthew 25 Center are tax deductible.

*“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

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# The Matthew 25 Center



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

Volume V, Number II

June, 2009

## Join Us For the Blueberry Festival!

*Excitement is in the air! On Saturday, June 20, thousands of people will come to Burgaw to join the festivities of the 6th annual NC Blueberry Festival.*



*The Matthew 25 Center is caught up in the excitement as it will give us an opportunity to share with many the mission of the Center. We will have a tent set up and will be selling blueberry plants, thanks to the generosity of “Jackie’s Nursery.”*

*Please look us up and help us continue this ministry to those burdened down with the heartache of having an incarcerated loved one.*

*We hope to see you at the NC Blueberry Festival!*

*Jimmy & Anita Joseph  
Directors*

## “Elizabeth’s Playground” Dedicated



The long awaited playground for The Matthew 25 Center was dedicated on Sunday, May 17, 2009. Dubbed “Elizabeth’s Playground”, it is dedicated to all children who have an incarcerated family member. It is a fun place for them to burn off some energy before visiting their dad or other family member at the prison.

### Our Guests Write ...

*“Thank you so much—not only for providing such a beautiful place for me to stay while I’m visiting Mike, but for the prayer and care. That’s absolutely priceless and so much appreciated.”*

*“You have truly been a blessing in this time of need...”*

*“Thanks Again. I am so thankful that The Matthew 25 Center is here. You are so wonderful!”*

*“As always it was a pleasure staying here ... The kids love it here and so do I.”*

## Matthew 25 Happenings

- March 15 - Long Creek Baptist Church brought paper supplies for the Center
- March 20 - 21– Display at NC Baptist Men’s Missions Conference, Charlotte, NC
- March 26 - 29 - Center used as base of operations for KAIROS #17 Retreat at Pender
- April 3 - Mr. Warren Steen of the RYE Foundation visited the Center and presented a check for \$15,200 for the playground and other projects.
- April 16 - Woodmen of the World presented a flag set (US, NC and Christian) to the Center.
- April 21 - 23 - Training for the One Day with God Camp
- April 25 - One Day with God Camp at Pender CI.
- May 4 - Dunn WMU toured the Center and made a financial donation
- May 17 - Dedication of playground
- May 26 - 29 - Rock of Ages Prison Ministry stayed at the Center while conducting an evangelistic campaign at the New Hanover CC in Wilmington.
- May 30 - Hot Dog Fundraiser at Sam’s Club in Wilmington, NC

### Upcoming Events:

- June 20 - The Matthew 25 Center booth at the Blueberry Festival in Burgaw
- June 28 - Morning worship service at the Crossroads Baptist Church in Wilmington

## One Day with God Camp

On April 25, The Matthew 25 Center partnered with Forgiven Ministry of Taylorsville, NC to hold the fourth annual One Day with God Camp at Pender CI. Fifty four children of inmate fathers had the opportunity to spend a day with their fathers at the prison. They played games, had a cookout, decorated a birdhouse, were entertained by a clown troupe, but most of all had time to spend getting to know each other. Some of the fathers had never seen their children except across a visitation room table. Some of the fathers had never even seen their children. “This is one of the very best things that we do at the prison all year,” said Jim Spiritosanto, Chaplain at Pender CI.

