

## A Note from Michael

By the time you read this article Valentine's Day will have already come and gone, but I thought it would be worthwhile to share this with you. Although romantic love is important to dating and marriage relationships, the everlasting love that God has shown us through His Son is far more significant.

**Here's a love letter from Jesus** that I found that I would like to share with you. In fact, it is written to you...

Dear Loved One,

How are you? I just had to send you this letter to tell you how much I love and care about you. I saw you yesterday as you were walking with your friends. I waited all day hoping you would walk and talk with me also. As evening drew near, I gave you a sunset to close your day and a cool breeze to help you rest. Then I waited, but you never came. Oh yes, it hurt me, but I still love you because I am your friend.

I saw you fall asleep last night, and I beamed moonlight upon your pillow and your face. Again, I waited, wanting to rush down so we could talk. I have so many gifts for you. You awakened late this morning and rushed off for the day. My tears were in the rain.

Today, you looked so sad, so alone. It makes my heart ache because I understand. My friends have let me down and hurt me many times. I try to tell you that I love you in blue skies and quiet green grass. I whisper it in the leaves on the trees and breathe it in the color of your flowers. I shout it to you in the mountain streams and give the birds songs to sing. I clothe you with warm sunshine and perfume the air. My love for you is deeper than the oceans and bigger than the biggest want or need you could every fathom.

We will spend eternity together in heaven. I know how hard it is on earth. I really know, because I was there, and I want to help you. Just call on Me, ask Me, talk to Me. I have chosen you, but because it's your decision and I love you, I will wait.

Still Waiting,

*Your Friend Jesus*

We extend our sympathy to the family and friends of Doris Ferguson who passed away on February 10th.



We will have a Soup and Chili Cook-Off on Saturday, February 29th at 4 pm. Individuals who wish to enter should have their crock-pot of chili or soup in Campbell Hall by 3:45 pm. Prizes will be awarded for 1st and 2nd place. Everyone will have an opportunity to eat a bowl of chili or soup of their choice. Crackers, celery, carrots, dessert, hot dogs, peanut butter sandwiches and drinks will be provided. We will also be auctioning off cakes and pies so please bring your best baked item to auction. All proceeds will go to the Deaconess to help with expenses.

## Personnel Meeting

There will be a Personnel Meeting on Tuesday, February 25th at 6 pm in the church library.



The Laura Catherine Van Gundy Young Memorial Scholarship is now open for the 2020-2021 school year. At the request of the donor the scholarship will be awarded to members of FCC who are pursuing higher education in Christian Ministry only. If you would like to apply for this scholarship please contact the church office by March 15th.

## Thank You Notes

With grateful hearts we thank Pastor Steve, Pastor Richard, The Old Preacher, Dolo Wishard and Michael Tomlinson for the wonderful service. Thank you to everyone who sent cards and flowers. A big thank you to the kitchen crew who made us a delicious meal.

*The Family of Maxine Arthur*

Thank you Pastor Steve for being with us right before my surgery. Also thank you all of the prayers, cards and thoughts from the congregation.

*Gene and Jeanie Swearingen*



All men are invited to the Men's Breakfast on Saturday, March 7th at the Pleasant Grove Baptist Church. Please meet at FCC at 7 am to car pool.

## Church Life

### Saturday, February 22nd

9 am Drama Practice

### Sunday, February 23rd

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

2 pm Pre-Pack at the Food Center

4 pm Outlet Program

5:30 pm F/R Meeting

### Monday, February 24th

10 am Staff Meeting

6 pm Evangelism Meeting

7 pm Elders' Meeting

### Tuesday, February 25th

7 am Prayer Meeting

6 pm Bible Journaling

6 pm Personnel Meeting

### Wednesday, February 26th

9 am Crafts R Us Group

5 pm Bell Choir Practice

6 pm Choir Practice

### Thursday, February 27th

6 pm Praise Team Practice

### Saturday, February 29th

9 am Drama Practice

4 pm Chili/Soup Cook-Off

### Sunday, March 1st

8:30 am Traditional Worship

9:30 am Sunday School

10:30 am Contemporary Worship

4 pm Outlet Program

5:30 pm F/R Meeting

### Monday, March 2nd

10 am Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting

### Tuesday, March 3rd

7 am Prayer Meeting

6 pm Bible Journaling



## Board Splinters 2/10

**Elders:** Kathy Newlin will start as an Elder in March.

**Senior Minister:** Started a spring class on Church History, started a new sermon series: Letters from Prison, focusing on 3 letters Paul wrote from house arrest in Rome, Attendance: 1st service up 17% from last year, 2nd service down 6% from last year and overall up 7% over last year.

**Elementary Minister:** had a Valentine's Party and going to have VBS with the FUMC again and already purchased the kit.

**Worship Leader:** the choir is working on month-to-month numbers and the Palm Sunday Easter Musical, they did a really good job on Feb. 9th, the Worship Band and Vocals are going strong, trying different ways to work with the communion microphone so that everyone can be heard without feedback, training continues on the soundboard and will have "That's My Story" on February 16th and March 1st.

**Worship:** having a 5th Sunday Service on March 29 with a mission theme and potluck afterwards.

**Evangelism:** planning community events which will be offered at FCC with 3-4 events through-out the year and met with Michael regarding visitors to FCC and shared some really good information.

**Christian Ed:** need Sunday School teachers for the youth.

**Trustees:** approved the purchase of a Knox Box (key box) to be added to the outside of the building so the Fire Department and have quick access, getting quotes for rewiring of the fire alarm and approved the purchase of pew cushions at \$8,147.75.

**World Outreach:** Extra mission money going to Hearts Over Honduras (\$2,500 Dolo and Angela are going there in June) and an extra \$500 to Troy Lane.

**New Business:** A motion was made by Daryn Clapp to sell the anonymously donated building at 1413 Wabash, seconded by Denny Booker and approved by all.

### Church Attendance

Feb. 9th — Traditional: 103, Contemporary: 73 = 176

Feb. 16th — Traditional: 102, Contemporary: 95 = 197

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Mattoon IL 61938  
Permit No. 23



1600 WABASH AVE  
MATTUON IL 61938

Return Service Requested

Senior Pastor: Steve Morgan

Phone: 234-2928

Email address: fchchurch@consolidated.net  
Website: www.mattoonfcc.com