

Notes from the Pastor

Do you know your dad's favorite Bible verse? If you do not, be sure to ask him before Father's Day! I do know my dad's favorite Bible verse: **Matthew 18:2-5, "He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. And he said: "I tell you the truth, unless you turn from your sins and become like little children, you will never get into the Kingdom of Heaven. So anyone who becomes as humble as this little child is the greatest in the Kingdom of Heaven. And anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf is welcoming me."**

The disciples had just asked Jesus a repeated question, one they ask often: who will be the greatest? Peter had walked on water, had seen Moses and Elijah on the mountaintop, even had his taxes paid by Jesus! Is it Peter? Jesus' response in all likelihood baffles the disciples. He bypasses the disciples completely and physically places a child right smack dab in the middle of them. Here is the greatest!

What makes the child great? 2 key characteristics that we all as adult Christians can glean from: obedience and humility. When the child was called, the child not only came to Jesus, but allowed Jesus to place him where Jesus wanted the child to be. No if's, ands, or but's, just simple child-like obedience. Jesus spoke and the child obeyed. Will you allow Jesus to place you where He wants you to be?

The child had been standing in the background, not drawing attention to himself, not exclaiming, "Look at me! Look at me!" The humility of this child involved trust, dependence, and unselfishness. Humility at times is a hard lesson to learn, even for the 12 disciples. Jesus had to physically illustrate it for them. Today, we live in a culture where many aspire to the title of celebrity over the title of servant. This child humbly stood in the presence of Jesus. Are you standing in humility?

Two prerequisites for eternal life are found in this passage: repentance and child-like faith. Have you repented, performed a 180 in your life, and decided to follow Jesus? Have you entrusted your life to Him, confessing your faith in Him, received Him in your heart as Lord and Savior? If so, you will enter Paradise! If not, consider the course of action that can lead you to Paradise: repentance and child-like faith.

This Sunday, May 23rd, at 10 am, you have the opportunity to see the "greatest" take over our Sunday morning worship service! The youth at FCC, along with the youth from CCC, will be leading our Sunday morning worship; in music, in prayer, and in the Word. That old adage, "the youth is our future", will

be on full display on Sunday. May we pack the house of the Lord for Youth Sunday!

Psalm 78:5,6, "He established a testimony in Jacob and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers to teach to their children, that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and they in turn would tell them to their children."

Pastor Morgan

Worship Times and Places

May 23rd

10 am at FCC — Youth Sunday

May 30th

8:30 and 10 am at Central Community

June 6th

10 am at FCC (Informational Meeting to follow)

June 13th

8:30 and 10 am at FCC

June 20th

10 am at FCC

June 27th

8:30 and 10 am at Central Community

Graduation Party!

Pastor Morgan graduated with his Master's in Ministry specializing in Preaching from Lincoln Christian University. The church is hosting a cook-out to honor him at the church land on Friday, June 18th. You can start arriving at 4:30 pm and the meal will begin at 5:30 pm. More information to follow.

All ladies are invited to an Acrylic Pour Craft Day on



Saturday, June 5th from 9-11:30 am in Campbell Hall. If you plan to attend please sign-up at the Welcome Center and the class costs \$10 per person.

8 Calvin Carter
 9 Mike Bays
 10 Annetta Kerans
 11 Laurie Olson
 12 David Gergeni
 13 Sharolyn Kirby
 14 Gordon Smith
 16 Mona Bays, Rhett Maninfior
 17 Rae Christensen
 18 Kayla Grissom
 23 Bryce Wofford
 24 Norma Himes, Rob Newlin
 25 Eva Maninfior
 28 Shirley Tomlinson



2 Jared and Kelly Armer
 5 Richard and Joyce Eident
 6 Larry and Tracy Beason
 7 Daryn and Lisa Clapp
 12 Ed and Helen Dowling
 15 Randy and Dawn Albin, Rod and Linda Fleming,
 John and Carol Armstrong
 19 Jack and Barbara Browning
 23 Michael and Trish Tomlinson
 27 Steve and Cheryl Ballinger
 29 Todd and Julie Allen



Building Fund balance:
 \$575,234.74

Church Life

Saturday, May 22nd

6:35 am Devo with Stevo on Facebook
 1 pm Student Ministry at the Food Pantry

Sunday, May 23rd — Youth Sunday

10 am Worship at FCC
 1 pm Students at Fox Ridge
 6 pm Men's Small Group at Truth & Grace

Monday, May 24th

10 am Staff Meeting
 6 pm Ladies Small Group at FCC

Tuesday, May 25th

6:35 am Devo with Stevo on Facebook
 7 am Prayer Meeting
 9 am Men's Small Group at the Crossover Church

Wednesday, May 26th

5:30 pm Praise Team at CCC

Thursday, May 27th

6:35 am Devo with Stevo on Facebook
 6 pm Men's Small Group at CCC

Saturday, May 29th

6:35 am Devo with Stevo on Facebook

Sunday, May 30th

8:30 and 10 am Worship Service at CCC
 6 pm Men's Small Group at Truth and Grace

Monday, May 31st

Office Closed—Memorial Day

The Laura Catherine Young Van Gundy Scholarship was awarded to Beau Scott to further his education in Youth Ministry at Lincoln Christian University.



Church Attendance

May 9th: 260 (Unity Service)
 May 16th: 124

VBS

Vacation Bible School will be held at the Central Community Church on Sunday, June 27th—Thursday, July 1st from 6-8 pm. VBS will be for those children entering Kindergarten and who have completed the 5th grade.



Board Splinters 5/10

Elders: hopes to hold merger small group meetings on Thursdays at 9 am.

Deaconesses: served a funeral dinner for Julie Allen's mom; took desserts for the dinner of Doris Webb's son, Van; will have another Acrylic Pour on Saturday, June 5th from 9-11:30 am; will host a Graduation Party for Pastor Morgan on June 18th at the Old State Rd Land.

Senior Minister: reported the vision of both churches: "A unified body of believers whose visible love for Christ and one another draws our community and our world to a relationship with Jesus." Celebrated Easter Sunday with three services, including a sunrise service at the church land. Started a new sermon series: *7 Holy Habits Every Christian Should Practice*.

Worship Leader: the choir sang on May 9th and are done for summer break. Special music and drama have been planned through May and June. During the month of April, Skyler and myself organized the worship service for May 9th and combined both praise band and vocals for the services.

Worship: started back bulletins in May; chalkboard with monthly events in the narthex; plans for Mother's Day and Father's Day gifts; and approved the purchase of a dual cordless mic.

Outreach: sent a \$960 donation to Camp New Hope and \$500 to the Choices Pregnancy Center.

Evangelism: they will meet April 15th and 22nd as a group with CCC.

Christian Ed: VBS will be June 27-July 1 at CCC with the FUMC joining; meeting with CCC on April 16th and 20th; Roger Freeman is starting a discipleship class; and working on Sunday morning children's curriculum.

Stewardship: meetings with CCC on April 21st on updating their financials.

Trustees: met with Craig Cunningham and Chris Considine to go over our investments.

World Outreach: Pastor Morgan showed a card made of banana leaves from Sammy from Share International.

New Business: accepted Jan Booker's resignation as a deaconess and Teresa Stuttle's resignation as an Elder.

Mission of the Month

Our Mission Partner for the month of May is the Salvation Army. They support two summer programs for kids starting June 1st.

Day Camp is for ages 4-12 where children are fed breakfast and lunch but also spend classroom time learning Bible lessons and singing Christian music and participating in group activities and field trips.

The second program is *Food On The Move*, which also starts June 1st in which food is cooked on site at the Richmond Ave facility and then taken out to 7 locations in the community. Fridays are promoted as "Grab Bag" days, and extra snacks and treats are provided for weekends!

Volunteers are always welcome to assist with any of these activities, plus churches are more than welcome to help supply treats for one of the Friday "Grab Bag" days!

Be in prayer to see how God might use you for volunteering with these good folks at Salvation Army!



Congratulations to Hudson and Genna Day on the birth of their daughter, Phaedre Alidia, born on May 13th. Congratulations to grandparents, Mike

and Donica Brand.

Congratulations to Matt and Stephanie Anderson on the birth of their son, Grady Stephen born May 13th. Congratulations to grandparents, Roger and Angela Freeman.

Prayer Group



All women are invited to a Women's Prayer Group each Thursday at 6 pm at Central Christian Church.

Men's Breakfast Group will meet on Saturday, June 5th at 7 am for breakfast, study and fellowship. All men are invited to attend!

