

In 2001 the Christian band Mercy Me, released the song "I Can Only Imagine". It became the top selling single of all time in Christian music. Bart Millard, lead singer for Mercy Me, wrote that song in 10 minutes. He was inspired to write this song in memory of his father, a father who was abusive for most of Bart's childhood. Bart lived in fear of his dad for most of his childhood.

During his freshmen year in high school, Bart's dad was diagnosed with cancer. It was during this time of trial that Bart's dad came to know Jesus. For the next 4 years, Bart had a front row seat, watching his dad change from a monster, to a man who had fallen in love with Jesus. They became best friends. They spent countless hours in the hospital together. The radical change Bart had witnessed in the life of his dad convinced him that the Gospel of Jesus had life changing power. He believed!

At his father's funeral, Bart overheard his grandmother whisper softly, "I can only imagine what your dad is seeing now." That phrase, "I can only imagine", had been seared upon his heart. He became obsessed with those 4 words. He came up with these iconic lyrics:

*Surrounded by Your glory; What will my heart feel
Will I dance for you Jesus; Or in awe of You be still
Will I stand in your presence; Or to my knees will I fall
Will I sing hallelujah; Will I be able to speak at all
I can only imagine*

For the next 3 weeks we will peer into the windows of the Bible in search of what this place called Heaven will be like. And we will attempt to understand what we might be like as we dwell with God face to face! Heaven is a place of glory and beauty. It will be spiritual and physical. It will be a place of unimaginable splendor and awe. John describes Heaven in this manner:

"Then I saw "a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Look! God's dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. 'He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.'" He who was seated on the throne said, "I am making everything new!" Then he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." Revelation 21:1-5. *I can only imagine!* *Pastor Morgan*

Church Services

We will continue to have one service at 9:30 am at least through the month of August. You can attend church (bring your own mask), watch the service on *Facebook* or go to our website: www.mattoonfcc.com and click on *Live Stream*.



Sunday, August 30th will be Mission Sunday. Jason and Michelle Mathews will share their stories from Honduras.

Thank You Note

A big thank you to Randy Pierce for the repair work he did on the wheel of the church trailer.

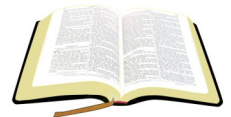
The Trustees



There will be a Memorial Service to honor Jim Whetsell on Saturday, August 1st at 11 am at the church. Everyone is invited to come celebrate Jim's life.

Bible Journaling

The Bible Journaling Small Group will resume weekly meetings Tuesday, August 4th at 6 pm.



Volunteer Opportunities

- The plants have been planted at the church land. If anyone wants to help weed, water, and help with harvest please call the church at 234-2928
- Looking for a Lead Guitar Player
- Looking for someone to run the camcorder for the service
- Looking for someone to help with the Live Streaming

Email Michael at michaelfcc@mycci.net if interested in the last three listed opportunities.

Congratulations to Steve and Nancy Huckaba on the birth of their new grandbaby, Felicity Ann Barber, born on July 10th to parents Scott and Megan.



Board Splinters 7/13

Elders: met on June 29th and worked on sectioning off the sanctuary for church.

Deaconesses: serving communion to the people as they walk in. If someone is not comfortable doing this, please contact Nancy. We did shut-ins and took a meal to Keith Summers with thanks to Marilyn Purcell, Raelyne Lane, Candy Tate and Cheryl Ballinger. A funeral dinner is scheduled in September and no one is signed up to chair it, Nancy is looking for a volunteer.

Senior Minister: he went to the Mattoon PD to pray for both morning and evening shifts. Saylor got to pray with Chris Kepley! Helped with the planting of the Soil and Soul Garden on June 7th and has helped weed, water, and harvest! Meeting with the Ger-geni twins on discipleship and their upcoming baptism. Church attendance the first 3 Sundays back were 101, 107, and 90. Starting a new sermon series: Triple H. Hades, Hell, and Heaven.

Elementary Minister: prepared bags of goodies, candy, a craft and a children's bulletin to pass out to children as they enter the sanctuary on Sunday mornings. Helped with the Back Pack Program and visited some kids.

Worship Leader: is organizing special music for the services; the praise band is starting a Devotional on the importance of their role as a worship team member; Cindy Temple and Kamdyn Dunn joined the band; got the TV in the narthex and Campbell Hall to show the service; working on improving the sound for the Facebook page; purchased cables to connect to the sound board to the iPhone; and we need a software program to switch angles while waiting on the new cameras.

Worship: will continue one service for August; getting new video equipment and upgrading new items weekly to improve the live streaming and future streaming and will have Mission Sunday on August 30th.

Outreach: sent \$300 to Camp New Hope from Easter Offering.

Evangelism: will pay for a YouTube Channel so the service can be streamed.

Christian Ed: Cassi Maninfor has been added to the committee and they are discussing when to re-open the nursery.

Personnel: they met with Michael Tomlinson.

Trustees: the masonry work might start sooner than September; Chris Overton will fill 3 sinkholes at the land for no more than \$500; our Payroll Protection Program loan (\$27,300) has been received and the SBA is still finishing the forgiveness application rules; and purchased a HDMI extender kit to send a camera signal to the narthex and Campbell Hall.

New Business: new AC/Heat split units in the offices, library, office across from the library and the UIC room was approved. New flooring in the nursery and Bride's room was approved.

Church Life

Sunday, July 26th

9:30 am Worship Service

Monday, July 27th

10 am Staff Meeting

7 pm Elders' Meeting

Tuesday, July 28th

7 am Prayer Meeting

Thursday, July 30th

6 pm Praise Team Practice

Sunday, August 2nd

9:30 am Worship Service

Monday, August 3rd

10 am Staff Meeting

5:30 pm Worship Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 4th

7 am Prayer Meeting

6 pm Bible Journaling

Thursday, August 6th

6 pm Praise Team Practice

Sunday, August 9th

9:30 am Worship Service

THIS WEEK AT GLANCE



Church Attendance

July 12th: 90

July 19th: 120