first christian church

Note from the Pastor

Psalm 116:15, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful servants." We indeed lost a faithful and true servant of Christ in Scott Wishard. A man with hands strong and calloused, hands that used in the wrong manner could inflict pain and harm. Yet these hands were utilized in acts of kindness and service. These hands were used to build up and encourage. These strong hands were hands of love. Scott made an impact!

James wrote these words: "How do you know what your life will be like tomorrow? Your life is like the morning fog it's here a little while, then it's gone." We are all dying. From the moment you cried in the delivery room, the clock started ticking. The question is, what will you do with your allotted time? If you truly believe tomorrow is not guaranteed, does it alter your today? Will your life make an impact? Will you lend a hand to make heaven crowded?

The apostle Paul penned his last words to Timothy: "The time for my departure is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." A year later, Paul lost his life at the hands of Nero for spreading the gospel of Jesus Christ. He kept the faith, the true faith: Christ crucified, Christ buried, Christ resurrected, and Christ returning.

Scott valiantly fought against all that ravaged against his body. He also fought to live for Jesus in a world where that is not popular, in a world where that is not highlighted, in a world where sadly that fight is not promoted. Are you up to the challenge? Are you up for a fight to be like Jesus?

Scott was not known as a runner. But Scott understood he was in a race, and God had marked out a lane specifically for him. In Christ you are given a lane to run in, a purpose in life to live out. God expects you to stay in your lane and run. But for whatever reason, some start the race, come to Jesus, and then they slow down, some even stopping on the track, some even taking detours. Not Scott. Do you know why Scott was able to run so well spiritually? He looked to the finish line, he kept his eyes on the prize and that prize is Jesus.

Some Christians will enter heaven slowly, no enthusiasm, no sprinting, no diving over the finish line in a heap of joy. Why? Because they have lost their focus on Christ, taken their eyes off of Jesus. Not Scott. Scott left his body on June 28th in a full on sprint, a sprint where no one could catch him, a sprint to

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Pastor Morgan



Meet with Don Green

This Sunday, July 11th we will worship at FCC at 8 am and 10 am. Following each worship service, Don Green and our FCC leadership team will hold an informational meeting in our sanctuary. All are welcome and encouraged to attend either or both meetings.

Missions of the Month

Our mission partners this month are the Mattoon Food Pantry and The Haven. As with most of our partners, there is always a need for supplies and volunteer help. Please pray for our partners this month! *Gary Cardinal*

Bible Journaling

Bible journaling will meet again on Wednesday, August 4th at 6 pm in Campbell Hall.

Coming Soon!

The Ball Brothers are coming to FCC on Saturday evening, September 4th at 6pm. This concert is being brought to you by FCC's Worship committee. Mark your calendars and invite your friends!

What can someone expect when they hear the Ball Brothers? A mix of musical styles, melted together by tight, four-part harmony. Each song is hand-picked to be message-driven, and theologically sound. Their goal is to spread the message of the Gospel and encourage believers.

One won't have to look very far on the internet to find out what the Ball Brothers are like "behind the scenes." The guys have a popular Facebook series called, "Rollin' with the Ball Brothers" that offers an inside look into their ministry and lives on the road. "Rollin' with the Ball Brothers" is our way of tearing down the divide that sometimes separates us from our audience. We're not interested in promoting ourselves as "rock stars." We're interested in showing everyone how God can use "normal" people for His honor and glory,"

Church Life

Saturday, July 10th 6:35 am Devo with Stevo on Facebook Sunday, July 11th 8 am and 10 am Unity Service at FCC 9 am Sunday School Monday, July 12th 6 pm Christian Ed. 6 pm Trustees 7 pm Board Mtg. 8:10 pm Men's Softball Games Tuesday, July 13th 6:35 am Devo with Stevo 7 am Prayer Meeting 8:10 pm Men's Softball Games Saturday, July 17th 6:35 am Devo with Stevo on Facebook Sunday, July 18th 8 am and 10 am Unity Service at CCC 9 am Sunday School Monday, July 19th 6 pm Ladies Study

Sunday School Classes

All Sunday School Classes will take place at 9 am on Sunday mornings. The Classes offered are:

UIC Discovery Jesus Helping Hands

Sympathy

We extend our deepest sympathy to the Dolo Wishard family on the passing of her husband, Scott, on June 28th. We also extend our sympathy to Kay White on the passing of her husband, Steve, on July 2nd.

> Phone: 234-2928 Email address: fcchurch@consolidated.net Website: www.mattoonfcc.com

> > Senior Pastor: Steve Morgan

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