

**JOIN US
THIS WEEKEND
AS WE
HELP
JOPLIN**

God is Mighty to Save!

Our hearts sank as we heard the news that a half mile wide tornado devastated a 6 mile path in Joplin, Missouri .

Our minds raced as we thought of the safety of those we know and love who live there and were visiting for Ozark Christian College's graduation ceremony.

We found out that most were safe but that homes, cars and jobs were lost in the wake of the storm. The emotional and physical damage became evident as reports on the destruction and death toll rose.



Sara & Ryan Ropp

We @FIRST have a fond affection for that small southwestern Missouri town. Joplin has been the temporary home to many of our FCC family as they have attended Ozark Christian College.

One family from First is Sara and Ryan Ropp. Sara (Driver) grew up at FCC and following their wedding made Joplin home while finishing school in preparation for the mission field.

Saturday they hosted family at their home in celebration of Sara's graduation from OCC. The next morning she posted on her Facebook "My God is mighty to save!!!!"

We will be taking a special offering...this Sunday, May 29th for relief efforts in Joplin.

Sunday Worship

9:00 am Traditional
Celebrative
Worship
10:30 am Contemporary
Worship
6:00 pm FUSION
Youth Ministry

Later that evening Sara and Ryan found themselves holding on for life in their bathroom as the EF5 tornado blasted through Joplin.

When the deadliest single tornado since 1950 was over they emerged from the debris to find their home off of its foundation, every window gone and the roof in shambles.

They have spent the week salvaging belongings placing them in storage and have moved in with friends in a neighboring town. Ryan's employer was one of the 8000 buildings destroyed in the storm. So, he is now looking for work.

Their story is just one of many coming from Joplin.

This weekend we are going to do our part to help Sara, Ryan and others who have experienced the traumatic events in Joplin.

Prayerfully consider bringing an offering of any amount to church on Sunday!