

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 52

March 14, 2021

Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

This past week, as I have done once every month for the past six, I spent 24-hours as the on-call chaplain at Carle BroMenn Hospital. It is not an easy way to spend a day, as you can imagine, but once you have done it enough times a routine begins to develop. Much of the day is spent visiting people who come to the hospital for same day surgery. Otherwise, I wait to be paged, or wait for a medical alert to respond to. There is paperwork and other procedural things to attend to, and before you know it, several hours have passed. Sometimes visits with patients can begin to feel routine as well. Some people just don't really want to discuss their situation with a chaplain, and so the conversation can fall back on pleasantries, and before I know I've had five or six visits. It becomes all too easy to lose track of where you are and why you are there. Then, there are times I am called to visit someone who has gone through some profound experience, and things get put in perspective. My attention is grabbed, and I remember that I do this work in the presence of God.

I suppose we all fall into this trap from time to time. I'm sure we can all recall a time when we drove to work and arrive there with no memory of the trip, as if we had been on autopilot. Of course, in some ways we had been. The things we do day to day to participate in this world, to survive, even, become routine. We could do them in autopilot. It takes something dramatic (sometimes tragic) for us to remember that we live our life in the presence of God and to then act accordingly.

During Lent we remember that "we are dust, and to dust we will return," and that for Christ, and for us, the path to Jerusalem goes through suffering and death. We are asked to make sacrifices. As we walk this journey together, let these realities serve as the dramatic reminders that we walk in the presence of God, and whether we are on autopilot or not, God is there with us. In my devotional time this week, reading *Go to Jerusalem* by Mary Alice Mulligan, I was reminded that "God yearns for our attention, for our hearts to be reaching to God in worship." As we continue this journey together, let us reflect on ways in which we can use the time of worship as a time to bring our attention to God, because too often we say the words, hear the songs and the sermons, take communion, and before we know it, an hour has passed. Let us remember that we do this in the presence of God, a God who wants our attention.

Let us attend to God together,

Zach

Time Change!

Remember, tonight we "Spring Forward" for Daylights Saving Time meaning we 'lose' an hour. Make sure to set your clocks ahead one hour so you're prepared for the week ahead.

Rev. Zach Martin
(217)-358-6593
zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com

Clayton Summers
(618)-262-3065
clayton.wwjd@gmail.com

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 52

March 14, 2021

Sunday Worship

This week's worship will be in-person following our standard social distancing protocols. On Sunday afternoon the worship recording will be put out virtually for access via the church's [Facebook page](#) and the [church website's worship page](#). In addition, Sunday morning the church service can be listened to live on the radio around Carlock by tuning your radio to 105.9FM at 10:00AM.

Crew and Cohort Format Survey

This week we are asking all of our families with children and youth in our K-12 programs to fill out [this survey](#). With Covid-19 vaccinations continuing to pick up and our regional Covid-19 statistics continuing to stay far below our regional thresholds (<http://dph.illinois.gov/regionmetrics?regionID=2>), we would like to include your families in conversations about Crew & Cohort formats which are not exclusively virtual. Please fill out the following questionnaire so we can gauge what practices your families would be comfortable with. Please note, all of these questions assume we stay at or below our regional Covid-19 safety thresholds and we follow the evolving guidance of the CDC.

Crew and Cohort

Crew and Cohort will continue this Wednesday, Mar. 17th, 2021 with Crew (K-5th) at 6-7PM and Cohort (6th-12th) at 7:30-8:30PM. We will spend our time together learning how to tell the story of Christ with how we live our lives. Please note that we will be taking next week off (March 24th) as it is Spring Break for the school districts. To join, please use this [link](#). Feel free to reach out with any questions to Clayton Summers. **Meeting ID: 882 2616 0610 Passcode: 233001**

Potential Regional Church Partnership

As you may have read in the past week, the Michigan Disciples Region and the Christian Church in Illinois/Wisconsin Region (CCIW), have begun conversations toward possibly forming a Partner Region relationship in which both Regions would share the services of a Regional Minister, beginning in January 2022. During this time, we have been asked to keep in prayer the exploration of this potential partnership. For more information, including sign-ups for Listening Conferences to hear more about this partnership this upcoming week, please see the [Regional Website's Announcement](#).

Children and Youth Summer Camp Update

The regional camping program is still waiting for guidance and recommendations from the state about how to operate our in-person camping programs this upcoming summer. As such, registration is not open quite yet. They are hoping to have further information to offer by the end of March, but at the moment still are planning for 2021 Summer Camps to go ahead at their scheduled dates. The full statement and dates for this summer's camping program can be found [here on the Regional Website](#).

Rev. Zach Martin
(217)-358-6593
zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com

Clayton Summers
(618)-262-3065
clayton.wwjd@gmail.com

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 52

March 14, 2021

Partners in Healing: Acute Rehab Unit

In 2021, Carlock Christian Church will be taking part in the Partners in Healing initiative with Carle BroMenn Hospital. As part of this program different faith communities in the area are assigned a hospital medical unit to lift up in prayer. These are prayers of support, healing, and well-being. In return the Chaplains and staff of the Spiritual Care department at BroMenn will lift up our church in prayer as well. This year we have been assigned the Acute Rehab Unit. This is a department in the hospital that provides care for patients needing extensive rehabilitation from head, spine, and other traumatic injuries and illnesses. Please keep these people, and the staff that cares for them, in your prayers.

Church Phones

An update concerning phone service at Carlock Christian Church: We are currently using an answering service for the phone in the church office. So, if you call the church at (309)-376-2081 you will be prompted to leave a message. Pastor Zach will then be notified by text message on his cell phone. If you need to speak to Pastor Zach the most direct way is to call him on his cell phone. The number is (217)-358-6593. Also, if Pastor Zach is attempting to call you this is the number you will see on caller i.d. Thank you.

Communion

If you would like to receive communion from the church at this time, please contact Sue Larkin or Pastor Zach Martin.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Mar. 16th – Katelynn Clement
Mar. 17th – Deb Clement
Mar. 22nd – Lacie Walk

Mar. 27th – Jennifer Reece
Mar. 28th – Marjorie Scott
Mar. 31st – Marshal & Lil Elkin's Anniv.

Food Pantry

For the month of February, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting meat for the food pantry. Please bring your meat (or other food donations) to the church building and place them in the tubs in the lower narthex or take them directly to the food pantry in Danvers. The Carlock-Danvers Food Pantry provides essential food for anyone in the community who is needs a meal. Whether you are looking to help out or are in need of food, for the most recent updates, please check their [Facebook](#) page. To give a monetary donate to the Carlock-Danvers Food Pantry, a check can be sent to the following address:

First Presbyterian Church of Danvers
201 E. Main St., Danvers, IL 61732
Memo: Food Pantry

Rev. Zach Martin
(217)-358-6593
zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com

Clayton Summers
(618)-262-3065
clayton.wwjd@gmail.com

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 52

March 14, 2021

Joys and Concerns

As a community of Christians, we find meaning in prayer and praying for our community. Below is our current list of prayer concerns and joys. Each concern will be kept on the list for four weeks unless requested again. If you have a joy or concern you would like to share with our community of faith, we ask you to email Pastor Zach so it can be added to the next week's Weekly Update.

- Please keep in prayer those standing up against racism and other interlocking injustices
- Please keep in prayer all those suffering from Covid19 and its effects: health, mental, emotional, spiritual, and economic
- Please keep in prayer all teachers, faculty, staff, students, and parents facilitating school during the pandemic
- Please keep in prayer Acute Rehabilitation Unit, Carle BroMenn Medical Center
- We keep in prayer Todd, a member of Dorothy L.'s family who is going through treatment for cancer
- We keep in prayer Mary Ellen Miller's daughter-in-law Cindy (Sam) as she plans for a stem cell transplant in March
- We keep in prayer Aiden who broke both his feet recently
- We keep in prayer Betty H. as she deals with cancer
- We keep in prayer Richard H. as his dementia worsens
- We keep in prayer Lou Daniel's brother Jim
- We keep in prayer Jeanette K.'s friend Karen Walters
- We keep in prayer Marshall Elkin's friend Rick
- We keep in prayer Crystal Larkin's father and his family after the death of his mother-in-law
- We keep in prayer Dorothy L. who is facing some health concerns
- We keep in prayer Linda's brother who is sick

Missional Opportunities

The mission of a church can be expressed in a plethora of ways, but perhaps a common definition is that of being the body of Christ in the world. With this in mind, here are some opportunities to be the body of Christ in the world.

- Volunteering with the [Midwest Food Bank](#)*
- Eligible donors donating blood with the [American Red Cross](#)
- Make masks to give to those in need following an [online guide](#)

*Suggested only if you are in the lower risk category at this time – under 60 and without underlying health conditions

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 52

March 14, 2021

Giving

Financial tithes and offerings can be mailed to the church's P.O. Pox Address to continue to help support the ministries of the church. Even when separated by physical distance, we are still reaching out to be the body of Christ in our community. Everyone who has given back to God during the pandemic in whatever form, you are furthering the work of God's reign.

Carlock Christian Church
P.O. Box # 279
Carlock, IL 61725

Rev. Zach Martin
(217)-358-6593
zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com

Clayton Summers
(618)-262-3065
clayton.wwjd@gmail.com

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 52

March 14, 2021

Links

All the links from each week's Weekly Update will now appear in a section at the end of the document for your convenience:

Church Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/cccdoc1/>

Church Website Worship Page: <http://carlockchristianchurch.org/worship/>

Food Pantry Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/Danverscarlockcommunityfoodpantry/>

Crew and Cohort Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88226160610?pwd=L21qck84OXoreDVVRGt3QlB0Q2R4Zz09>

Midwest Food Bank: <https://www.midwestfoodbank.org/>

Find a Blood Drive: <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive>

Ministry Across Generations Faith at Home Resources:

<https://www.docfamiliesandchildren.org/untitled-cdwm>

Regional Website's Partnership Announcement: <https://cciwdisciples.org/2021/03/cciw-and-ccmr-announce-partnership-discussions/>

Camping Program Current Dates & Announcement: <https://cciwdisciples.org/camp-program/>

Crew/Cohort Format Survey: <https://forms.gle/MThyFMvMxYr3KYqs5>

Email Rev. Zach Martin: <mailto:zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com>

Email Clayton Summers: <mailto:clayton.wwjd@gmail.com>

As always, we ask everyone continue to stay in touch, to reach out to each other and the church staff should needs arise, and to stay safe.

Blessings

Rev. Zach Martin
(217)-358-6593
zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com

Clayton Summers
(618)-262-3065
clayton.wwjd@gmail.com