

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 53

March 21, 2021

Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

Next week will be Palm Sunday already! This means that we will be moving into Holy Week, so I would like to take this space this week to make sure and invite you to take part in Carlock Christian Church's plans for Holy Week. On Thursday April 1st, we will be having a Maundy Thursday service in the sanctuary at 6:30 pm. This service will focus on telling the story of Christ's last days, and of course, sharing in communion with one another. The tone of the service will be somber and reflective, preparing us for the Good Friday and Easter Sunday.

On Friday April 2nd, we will be holding a Good Friday prayer service outside in the church garden at 5:30 pm, weather permitting. If the weather is nasty like it was this past week, we will hold the service inside. This prayer service will focus on the Seven Last Words of Christ, Christ's last sayings recorded in the Gospels.

Easter Sunday we will have the traditional 10:00 am service. I hope that you all, and any friends or family you would like to invite to come celebrate Easter, will be able to join us for in-person worship. If you cannot, or do not feel it is the right choice for you at this time, all services will be posted on Facebook and YouTube.

I would like to extend one more invitation to you all. As the COVID numbers go down in our area and more people receive the vaccine, I would like to begin having more opportunities to fellowship with all of you and get to know each of you better than COVID restrictions have allowed, so far. In that spirit, in the coming weeks I would like to begin inviting small groups of you to a Coffee Hour with the Pastor before, or after, Sunday services. I am hoping to have these get togethers starting at 9:15 am on Sundays and lasting until about 9:45 and/or after worship, from about 11:00 to 11:30 am, gathering in groups of 4-8 people, or up to two family groups. This will just be an opportunity to share fellowship over food and drink and learn more about one another. Arrangements can also be made for visits during my weekday office hours, or remotely via zoom or telephone. Be on the lookout for sign-up sheets in the narthex or via email.

Peace and health,

Zach

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.

Rev. Zach Martin
(217)-358-6593
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Clayton Summers
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Illinois Covid-19 Vaccine Appointment Hotline

The state of Illinois has set up a vaccine hotline to assist in getting Covid-19 vaccine appointments for people who are eligible as an alternative to the online only sign-up. More information can be found [here](#) and the vaccine hotline is (833) 621-1284.

New Church Email

The church has a new email address! To assist in making a more centralized online presence, carlockdoc@gmail.com will be the email address associated with the weekly update, a Carlock Christian Church YouTube channel where all our worship services will live, and other online accounts. Nothing should change for reaching our staff via email. Pastor Zach can still be reached at zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com and youth pastor Clayton at clayton.wwjd@gmail.com at this time. For the time being this is a change to centralize our various online church accounts.

Crew and Cohort

Crew and Cohort will be taking this week off (March 24th) as it is Spring Break for the school districts in Carlock. We are still evaluating our responses to the format (in-person/online/hybrid) survey and will be contacting parents this upcoming week about what format options we will have for the rest of the year. Have a great week off!

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](#).

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.

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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. 22nd – Lacie Walk

Mar. 27th – Jennifer Reece

Mar. 28th – Marjorie Scott

Mar. 31st – Marshal & Lil Elkin's Anniv.

Food Pantry

For the month of March, 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

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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](mailto:pastor.zach@carlockchristianchurch.org) 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 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 Dorothy L. who is facing some health concerns

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

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 Realm.

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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>

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

Vaccine Hotline News Story: <https://news.wttw.com/2021/03/15/illinois-launches-hotline-covid-19-vaccine-appointments>

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

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