

# Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 62

## May 23, 2021

### Worship Reminder

Many of you may have seen or heard about the updated guidance from the CDC about mask wearing. For the time being, meaning at least this Sunday, please continue to wear your mask to worship at Carlock Christian Church. As always, we are committed to providing a safe and welcoming space in which to gather for the worship of God. In part this means considering the well-being of those people that worship with us who have not had the opportunity to get vaccinated yet, including our youngest members. This matter will be under further consideration and discussion, and vaccinated individuals can gather in smaller groups in other parts of the building without masks, **but for now please continue to wear your mask while worshipping in the sanctuary.**

Peace and health,  
Zach.

### Slate of Officers for 2021

The following is the Slate of Officers for 2021 approved by the board at their May meeting and which will be voted upon at a congregational meeting following Sunday worship on June 6<sup>th</sup>:

<b>Chairman</b>	Dave Segneri
<b>Vice Chair</b>	Mike Shrier
<b>Clerk</b>	Cyndi Dunmire
<b>Treasurers</b>	Cristin Weber and Lacie Walk
<b>Historian</b>	Paul Stauffer
<b>Advocate Bromenn</b>	Pat and Sue Larkin
<b>Trustee – 3 year</b>	Pat Larkin
<b>Elders – 3 year</b>	Jason McKeown Paul Stauffer Marc Thomas
<b>Deacons – 3 year</b>	Ryan Larkin Sadie Carlock-Short Jeanette Kaufman Mindy McReynolds Lou Daniel Mike Shrier

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### Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

In Acts 2: 1-13 we read the story of Pentecost. We are told that when the Holy Spirit came upon the assembled believers, they began speaking different languages, that is, languages that were not their native tongue. Some could understand them, some could not, but they knew that all were speaking God's truth. Now, I don't know about you, but I took a foreign language when I was in school. I took French from 7th grade through my junior year of high school. Unfortunately, I cannot claim to speak it fluently now, if at all. It is hard work learning a new language and I cannot claim to have been the most engaged student. Most of the phrases that stuck with me would not be appropriate for me to repeat in this space. I got by, but mostly my friend and I would simply goof around. Over the years my French has faded, my friend, however, learned to speak the language well. That is because he spent time as a missionary to a French speaking country in the Caribbean. Before he could leave, he had to learn to be able to communicate with the people. So, he brushed up on his French.

Theologian and scholar Willie James Jennings points to the significance of the people speaking different languages on Pentecost being that the Spirit seeks to join and bring people together. However, he also affirms my feeling stated above, that to learn a language is hard, but not just because it is an unfamiliar process, but because to learn another language "requires submission to a people." It is a humbling experience, because it means learning the pronunciation, the meaning, and the context of another culture's words. It means giving of ourselves to the experience of "The Other" at the expense of our own point of view, perhaps even our own ego. Maybe that is why my friend learned French so easily the second time, because he submitted himself to the service of others. He desired connection.

Sadly, throughout history colonizers and military conquerors have gone into foreign lands and imposed their own language on a people as a way of controlling the population. If anything, this kind of forced compliance created barriers and harmed communication, even if people were now speaking the same language. As Jennings says, God "speaks people fluently," and the Holy Spirit was sent to us so that we might also, speak people fluently. To do that requires a desire for connection, placing our attention on the needs of others, and a willingness to submit to the Holy Spirit, the foreign language teacher that is constantly trying to teach us to be fluent in people.

Merci,  
Zach

### 2021 Pentecost Offering: Be the New Church

For the past thirteen months, many Disciples living across the United States and Canada have been struggling with social isolation. They've stayed away from their various places of worship to protect the health and safety of themselves and others. It has been hard. How have new church leaders responded? By launching communities of faith in creative and innovative ways. It's looked like spreading the word about the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) through Door Dash food deliveries, meeting with folks every week on Zoom to discuss anxiety, and making

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sure that the spiritual needs of transitioning out of correctional facilities are met. From hospital and prison chaplains to tri-vocational pastors, courageous new church leaders have answered the call to **be the new church**. To support them and their efforts to continue the new church movement, please contribute to the 2021 Pentecost Offering, collected in most congregations on Sundays, May 16 and May 23. Each year, half of the gifts made go to your own Region to support local new church development. The other half goes to New Church Ministry, which trains, equips, assists, and multiplies new church leaders. Through programs such as Leadership Academy, New Church Hacks, and Water the Plants, your gifts make a difference across the life of the Church. By participating in this Special Day Offering, you ensure the viability, vitality and sustainability of unique new church plants in your area and in states, provinces, and territories far away. Please give generously. Let's all **be the new church**, together. Videos and stories can be found by visiting: <http://disciplesmissionfund.org/special-offerings/pentecost>.

To donate towards the 2021 New Church Pentecost Offering, please write “New Church” or “Pentecost” on your check’s memo line or note it somewhere on your offering envelope on May 16 or 23.

## Sunday Worship

This week’s worship will be in-person following our standard masking 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.

## Favorite Hymns!

Since singing in worship will be making a comeback in the weeks and months ahead, help me select some of the music that we will be featuring in our post-worship hymn sings and eventually in worship itself. What are your favorite hymns or praise songs? Which songs have you missed singing the most? What song do you want to be able to belt out on a Sunday morning? Let me know and I will try and work them into our plans for worship. You can let me know by dropping me an email at [zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com](mailto:zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com), or you can leave your song choices on our Carlock Christian Church Facebook page. There is already a post there asking this very question. I look forward to hearing from you.

## Summer Camps!

Incorporating guidance and recommendations from the state about how to operate our in-person camping programs this upcoming summer, our regional camping program has decided to have weekend camps! The regional church’s statement on the summer camps, the summer camp dates, age groups for each camp, the cost, and online registration links can be found [here on the Regional Website](#). Further, any of our children and youth who are interested in attending summer camp will have half of their camp cost paid by the church! If you have any questions or the remaining amount is still a barrier, please reach out to Clayton Summers (part of the camping program for 20 years) as we will make certain any child who wants to go to camp can.

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### **VBS+ *Embrace the Fruits of the Spirit: July 10<sup>th</sup>!***

We are excited to announce that this summer Carlock Christian Church will be taking a different twist on VBS, VBS+. The idea of VBS+ is that it is everything we love about VBS, from the stories to the crafts and activities, but *plus* families! Like our current children ministry offerings, there will be two ways to participate. Option one will be via a pre-packed kit and online videos for those who are not yet comfortable being in person or unable to attend for scheduling reasons. We'll send enough supplies for the entire family to participate at your own pace! Option two will be in-person at the church with either your family or some adopted adults from the congregation! For those in-person, more specifics will depend on the most recent health and safety guidelines. Our theme for this year will be “*Embrace the Fruit of the Spirit*” and for those in-person will take place in one day, Saturday, July 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:30AM-3:30PM. Registration can be found here: <https://vbsmate.com/CarlockDoc>. While we do not have any end date for registration, we ask that you register early so we can plan accordingly! For any further questions or clarifications, please contact Clayton Summers!

### **Emergency Broadband Benefit Program**

Now open, the Federal Communications Commission will open up registration for the Emergency Broadband Benefit Program, a program that will fund a \$50/month discount on internet services/associated equipment rentals and a one-time \$100 discount on a laptop/tablet/desktop computer. You can determine if you qualify [here](#) (at or below 135% of the national poverty line, had a substantial loss of income during the pandemic, etc.) and learn more about the program [here](#).

### **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](mailto: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](mailto:zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com) and youth pastor Clayton at [clayton.wwjd@gmail.com](mailto:clayton.wwjd@gmail.com) at this time. For the time being this is a change to centralize our various online church accounts.

### **Communion**

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

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### Cohort

Cohort (6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>) will continue this week, 7:00-8:30PM on Wednesdays. **(Please note the summer time change from a start time of 7:30 to 7:00PM. This will enable us to spend half an hour in gathering games followed by an hour lesson.)** We know families are often busy during summers, so we understand if kids aren't able to attend every week with family trips and other commitments. At the same time, we hope our youth are able to attend when they are available for Christian formation in community. We will be having two options each week for your child(ren) to participate. The first option will be in-person, masked, and socially distanced in the church basement. If you are not comfortable yet with this option or if you or your child(ren) is/are not feeling well, your child(ren) will still be able to join in via Zoom for the same activities, videos, community building, and Christian formation! For the summer, we will both be looking at volunteering in our community some Sunday afternoons (forthcoming) and doing a study series on how our faith and the Bible intersect with the world. The list of lessons and meetings can be found [here](#). The Zoom link for each week will be:

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

Meeting ID: 882 2616 0610

Passcode: 233001

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Clayton Summers with any questions at 618-262-3065 or via email at [clayton.wwj@gmail.com](mailto:clayton.wwj@gmail.com).

### 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.

### 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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### Birthdays and Anniversaries

May 23<sup>rd</sup> – Rebecca Neblock  
May 25<sup>th</sup> – Paul Stauffer  
May 27<sup>th</sup> – Alix Summers

May 27<sup>th</sup> – Kari Miller  
May 30<sup>th</sup> – Stacy Miller  
May 30<sup>th</sup> – Kim Maiorello

### Food Pantry

For the month of May, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting peanut butter for the food pantry. Please bring your peanut butter (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

### 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](#)

### 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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### 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) 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, Dorothy L.'s nephew who has died from cancer
- We keep in prayer Richard H. as his dementia worsens
- We keep in prayer Jeanette K.'s friend Karen Walters' family after her death
- We keep in prayer Cole and his family after a mowing accident as he comes home and offer joy for the community that has come together to support them
- We keep in prayer Jennifer's healing after her hand surgery
- We keep in prayer the family of longtime member Betty H. after her death
- We lift up in joy the birth of Marsha & Jim's great-grandson Weston to Nate and Katie
- We lift up in joy the birthday cards Sue sends to our church family
- We lift up in joy Jim & Marsha and Dan & Cindy who both passed their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary during the past year

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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>

Cohort Summer Lesson Schedule: <http://carlockchristianchurch.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/CohortSummerSchedule2021.pdf>

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

Email Clayton Summers: <mailto:clayton.wwj@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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