

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 66

Week of June 20, 2021

Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

This weekend is Father's Day, so recently I was in the greeting card aisle of a store looking for an appropriate card for the occasion. There were, of course, far too many cards to choose from, but as I looked, I realized that there were not quite so many options in terms of substance. You see, most of the cards seemed to be on one theme in particular: dads passing gas, a lot. A variation on this joke was on most of the cards I saw that day, except for a few that were about fishing, football, or beer. You run into a similar issue with Mother's Day cards. Most of them are jokes about mom needing a drink of wine and a break from the kids, and the rest are flowery poems about motherhood. Maybe a bit long and flowery for my taste, but certainly a nice sentiment. I couldn't help but feel like father's just weren't getting the same sort of celebration and respect.

I believe the reason for this is that it can be hard to judge a father's role in a child's life. Biologically the mother is connected to the child in ways that will nurture it and help it grow. Whereas, traditionally, the father's role has been to provide, and for most of human history, that has meant leaving the home, being frequently absent. The role as provider has meant that the father carries some assumed power within the family, but very often our attention is drawn to examples of fathers that misuse and abuse, or simply neglect, that power.

Next weekend I will be in Decatur, IL celebrating my father's retirement from 23 years of ministry. My family and I will be celebrating the work he has done, but I think we will also be celebrating how fortunate we have been to live and grow up in those circumstances. We were provided with the necessities to live, but also with a positive environment to grow up in, and the presence of, not just our father, but so many others whose presence made a positive impact on our lives.

I realize we all have different experiences of our fathers. Those relationships can be complicated. So, this Father's Day I encourage us all to take some time to reflect on the people in our lives who comforted us, helped us, and raised us up through the blessing of their presence and whatever it is they were able to provide. Hopefully, we will realize that these relationships reflect a small part of what our relationship with God can be.

I am hoping that you find yourself present and well provided for,

Zach

Communion

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

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

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

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Pastor Zach Vacation

Pastor Zach will be out of office this coming week and Rev. Neal Kentch will be the guest preacher on July 27th.

Upcoming Outdoor Worship

Weather permitting, we will have worship outside in the garden on Sunday, July 4.

Coffee Hour

With the updated CDC guidance, we are now returning to holding our coffee hour. Please note we will be having coffee hour **AFTER** worship this Sunday. If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up in the church Narthex or contact Pastor Zach.

VBS+: July 10th Volunteer Request

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 10th 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!

While we are going to be doing family-based groups this year, we do have some volunteer opportunities for our adults and youth for the in-person VBS+. If you are interested, please contact Clayton Summers at 618-262-3065 or clayton.wwj@gmail.com. If you are an adult and have not gone through the Church's Background Check process in the past three years, we'll make sure to send you the information. Here are the following volunteer opportunities:

- Kitchen Volunteer: Preparing Lunch and Afternoon Snack
- Craft Leader: Demonstrates Crafts
- Activity Leader: Leads/Demonstrates Activities (Games, Etc.)
- “Nurse”: Needs to be an adult, can offer minor first aid if needed. Can fill another role as well
- Additional Volunteer “Adopted” Families (as Needed): These volunteers will serve as an “adopted” family to kids whose families cannot be present. These adults will do the Bible Stories with the kids as well as help with crafts and activities.

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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.

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.

Cohort

As Clayton has his final set of intensive courses for Seminary this week, there will be no Cohort. 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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

June 19 th – Cristin & Dave Weber's Anniv.	June 25 th – Neal & Mary Kentch's Anniv.
June 19 th – Megan Branch	June 27 th – Owen Arvin
June 21 st – Mitch & Dianne Mitchell's Anniv.	June 28 th – Michael Fulford
June 22 nd – Jairon & Lacie Walk's Anniv.	June 28 th – Aaron & Ali Jones' Anniv.
June 22 nd – Alix & Clayton Summers' Anniv.	June 29 th – Mindy McReynolds
June 23 rd – Marshall Elkin	June 30 th – Connor Short
June 23 rd – David & Diane Stauffer's Anniv.	

Food Pantry

For the month of June, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting tomato products for the food pantry. Please bring your tomato products (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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Sunday Worship

This week's worship will be in-person. On Sunday evening/night 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.

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 Acute Rehabilitation Unit, Carle BroMenn Medical Center
- We keep in prayer Richard H. as his dementia worsens
- 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 Jessi, one of Clayton's friends who was in a car accident
- We keep in prayer Jennifer's grandson Caleb's six-year-old friend Lakota and his family as they face many health complications
- We keep in prayer Lou's brother Andy who is feeling isolated due to COVID and facing some unrelated health issues
- We keep in prayer Linda W.'s aunt Corrine as she is recovering from a stroke
- We lift up in joy the prayers and support of the community of faith for Marshall & Lil

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=L21qck84OXoreDVVRGt3Q1B0Q2R4Zz09>

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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