

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 68

Week of July 4, 2021

Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

Last weekend I was back in Decatur, Il with my family, gathered to celebrate my father's transition into retirement. He was retiring from the position of Minister of Music and Visitation at Central Christian Church in Decatur. He has held that position for over 23 years. He started the job in late January of 1998 and the rest of our family moved to Decatur from Bloomington in April.

It was a special weekend for all of us, not just because we got to see all the ways that my father had an impact on the people of the congregation and the wider community, but also because we got to reflect on this formative and special time in all our lives. At least, that's what I did. I reflected on the way that my life changed since that move in 1998. I was just shy of eleven-years-old at that time, a formative time of growing up for anyone, so certainly, my life would have changed in many ways no matter where I lived. However, I cannot ignore the direct ways in which my father's job and our association with the church changed my life. The church is where I met some of my first friends in Decatur, friends that I am close with to this day. I met my future college roommate at church. I was introduced to my high school drama teacher by a church member. I went to a Disciples of Christ affiliated college. I served as an elder at church. I decided to go to seminary, a Disciples affiliated seminary. I work as a pastor. I don't know that any of these things would have happened if I had not been a part of that church and if I had not seen my dad do the work that he did, shepherding and caring for people.

As I said to the congregation in Decatur last weekend, being a minister is not the type of job that you can leave at the door when you come home to be with your family at night. The work and the people of the church are a presence in the life a minister's family. There are positive and negative effects of this. I'm sure we have all heard stories about preacher's kids that rebelled and caused trouble. Luckily, that didn't happen for me. For one thing, I don't think rebellion like that is in my DNA, but I was also fortunate to grow up around a very supportive church community. People that encouraged me to be myself and share that with the community. The church can be a wonderful place to grow up in, and I am grateful that even 23 years later, in a new church home, with an ever-expanding conception of "Church," I can continue to grow and share my gifts within a community of faith.

Let us continue to grow together,

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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Upcoming Outdoor Worship

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

Coffee Hour

With the updated CDC guidance, we are now returning to holding our coffee hour. If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up in the church Narthex or contact Pastor Zach.

Request for Pies

The Carlock Community Club is hosting the food stand at the Community Band Concert. We are in need of homemade and/or store-bought fruit pies for Sunday, July 25th for the Danvers Community Band Concert. If anyone would like to donate, please bring to the pies to church on Sunday morning, July 25th. Please and thank you! If you have any questions talk to Crystal Larkin (708) 705-9299

VBS+: July 10th

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!

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.

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Cohort

Cohort (6th – 12th) 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 be 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](#). This week we will be discussing “Does God Have a Gender?”. The Zoom link for each week will be:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88226160610?pwd=L21qck84OXoreDVVRGt3Q1B0Q2R4Zz09>

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.

Food Pantry

For the month of July, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting vegetables for the food pantry. Please bring your vegetables (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 address on the following page:

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

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.

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

July 2nd – Linda Wilson
July 3rd – Cory Branch
July 3rd – Leo & Jeanette Kaufman's Anniv.
July 7th – Richard Wiley
July 8th – Gary Short
July 13th – Diane Mitchell
July 13th – Red Woosley
July 15th – Bryan & Kathy Burris' Anniv.
July 16th – Dave Dunmire

July 16th – Lou Daniel
July 16th – Marlene (Mary) Myers
July 19th – Doug Geshiwlm
July 21st – Stella Fortner
July 25th – Cindy Gilmore
July 25th – Jairon Walk
July 25th – Kevin & Dawn Neblock's Anniv.
July 30th – Jim Fogle
July 30th – Lance & Michelle Geshiwlm's Anniv.

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@carlockchurch.com) 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 keep in prayer Dorothy L.'s brother-in-law John who is in the hospital with blood clots and a mass in the pelvic region
- We lift up in joy the prayers and support of the community of faith for Marshall & Lil

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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 if separated by physical distance, together we are still reaching out to be the body of Christ in our community. Everyone who has given back to God in whatever form, you are furthering the work of God's Realm.

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

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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