Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

I must admit to a rather severe case of writers block this week. So, in place of a more formal essay in this space let me just share a prayer with you and for you, inspired by the fruits of the spirit, which our youth learned about at Vacation Bible School last weekend.

Church, I hope this letter finds you well. I pray that the fruits of the spirit are alive and ripe in your life. I pray that the **peace** that passes all understanding abides with you, so that the peace of God will rest with you and all in your presence.

I pray you are blessed with **faithfulness** that will keep you planted in God's rich and healthy soil, and that this will allow you to grow, and to flourish as God intended.

I pray that your life is blessed with **generosity**. That you find time and space to share your deep and abiding gifts with the world, and that there are people in your life eager to share the blessed abundance of God's creation with you.

I pray that you all experience **joy**. A joy that delights in the gift of the present moment, that makes you look on the past with gratefulness, and fills you with excitement, anticipation, and hope in the future.

Finally, I pray for **love** for you. I pray that you know love for yourself and for others. That you receive love, and you give love. For this gift is the truest expression we have of God in this world. So, I pray that these gifts, these fruits, of the spirit will find you all. I hope they will nourish you. I hope they will allow you to reach out and connect with God's creation. I hope you can bring them to bear on producing the life God creates with you.

Let us be fed by these fruits of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Save the Date! 185th Celebration: September 12th

Sunday, September 12th we will be celebrating the church's 185th birthday! More information will be coming soon about the activities, but make sure to mark your calendars as you won't want to miss this!

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

Communion

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

No Coffee Hour This Sunday

With the updated CDC guidance, we are now returning to holding our coffee hour on week's when people sign up to provide it. This Sunday (July 18th) there will be no coffee hour. If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up in the church Narthex or contact Pastor Zach.

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.

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 <u>Facebook page</u> and the <u>church website's worship page</u>. 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.

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.

Cohort

Cohort $(6^{th} - 12^{th})$ will meet for the final time this summer, 7:00-8:30PM on Wednesday. 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 <u>here</u>. This week we will be discussing "War: Does God Take a Side?". The Zoom link for each week will be:

Please do not hesitate to reach out to Clayton Summers with any questions at 618-262-3065 or via email at <u>clayton.wwjd@gmail.com</u>.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

July 16th – Dave Dunmire July 25th – Jairon Walk

July 16th – Lou Daniel July 25th – Kevin & Dawn Neblock's Anniv.

July 16th – Marlene (Mary) Myers July 30th – Jim Fogle

July 19th – Doug Geshiwlm July 30th – Lance & Michelle Geshiwlm's

July 21st – Stella Fortner Anniv.

July 25th – Cindy Gilmore

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 Jennifer's grandson Caleb's six-year-old friend Lakota and his family as they face many health complications and offer up thanks for successful surgeries at St. Jude
- 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 keep in prayer Dan G. following his back surgery this past week
- We keep in prayer the families of those killed in the car accident in Washington, IL
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for an undefeated season for Riley and Cody's baseball team
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for our VBS+ volunteers and kids

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

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/

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

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:rach.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