

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 71

Week of July 25, 2021

Message from the (Youth) Pastor

Pastor Zach has asked that I write this week's weekly update message and I thought I would tell you about one of the Seminary classes I took during my June intensives. The class was called "Disciples History and Polity II" and focused on our denomination, the [Christian Church \(Disciples of Christ\)](#), its history, its structure, and the different organizations that are part of the general church or affiliated with it. We were graced with four guest speakers from several of these organizations who spoke about their ministries and experiences.

Our first speaker was Laura Jean with the [Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance](#). The Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance works on expanding the table of Christ by providing resources to congregations for having conversations about sexual orientation and gender identity opposed to being an outside force who dictates to churches. She spoke about the history of queer Disciples as well as toolkits and other resources they put together. She emphasized a point that was important not just for her organization, but for church in general, "Change happens through encounter and relationship." People don't change or grow together from being yelled at or talked down to, but through committing to be in relationship with one another through the good and the bad.

Our second speaker was Rev. Dr. Don Gillet, the incoming regional minister in Kentucky and former president of the [National Convocation](#). The National Convocation serves as a voice within the General Church promoting pertinent issues related to the African American Church, carrying out the biblical mandate, and transforming lives. Rev. Dr. Gillet talked to us about how predominantly African American churches have existed since the beginning of our denomination in the 1830s in free states and spoke through the history of how the National Convocation came to be where it is today. While a long history, the brief is that the National Convocation is intended to cease to exist as per the legally binding merger agreement with the rest of the church from the 1960s that formed the denomination; we are still on that journey today, still seeking to be One Church.

Our third speaker was Rev. Chung Seong Kim, current executive pastor of [NAPAD](#). NAPAD is the part of the Disciples that seeks to recognize and promote the gifts and presence of North American Pacific/Asian Disciples in the life and work of the Church. He spoke about how there are currently over 130 NAPAD congregations composed of 18 different languages and cultural groups; in addition, they are one of the fastest growing groups in the Disciples, adding new congregations every year! Another important point he spoke about was Anti-Asian violence and how it affects our NAPAD congregations, as well as noting that only 12% is reported.

Our final speaker was Rev. Dean Phelps, most recently the interim regional minister in Kentucky who spoke about Regional Ministry in the Disciples. He told us he defines the purpose of a region (for us the Christian Church in Illinois and Wisconsin) as building up ministry among the clergy (pastors) and congregations within their geography as well as cultivating connections. He additionally made the point that while we often might want to emphasize that our churches are autonomous, this isn't actually spoken of in our founding documents. Instead, he suggests we view our relationship with other Disciples' churches the way one of our founders, Alexander Campbell did near the end of his life, "Nothing I have said [about the Christian Church

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(Disciples of Christ)] was meant to suggest that we were supposed to go it alone”. As we support one another within churches, he suggests we think about how churches within our denomination can support one another as well.

While this is a lot of information, I hope you find some of it informative about the denomination our church has proudly been a part of for nearly 185 years. If you want more depth on these speakers or my other two classes from June “Cultural Variations in Death and Dying” and “Who is My Neighbor?”, feel free to call or catch me on Sundays at Coffee Hour or after worship!

In Christ,
Clayton

Thank You!

Thank you to Dorothy Lilienthal and Jeanette Kaufman for cleaning the church this week! Also, thanks to Dorothy for maintaining the flowers around the church and keeping our outdoor spaces beautiful!

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.

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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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 25th) there will be coffee hour at 9AM. If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up in the church Narthex or contact Pastor Zach.

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.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

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.

Aug. 1st – Michael Montoya

Aug. 1st – Rene Montoya

Aug. 6th – Scott Boots

Aug. 13th – Clayton Summers

Aug. 13th – Jim Funk

Aug. 14th – Lisa Branch

Aug. 15th – Mitch Mitchell

Aug. 15th – Ryan & Crystal's Anniv.

Aug. 16th – Brandi Bohannon

Aug. 21st – Kaleb Jones

Aug. 23rd – Jake Branch

Aug. 25th – Emma Lanz

Aug. 25th – Julie Foster

Aug. 25th – Lil Elkin

Aug. 30th – Riley Larkin

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

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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 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 starting radiation and is grateful for our prayers
- We keep in prayer Dan G. following his back surgery
- We keep in prayer the families of those killed in the car accident in Washington, IL
- We keep in prayer Mary Ellen M. who can't come to worship but is thinking of us
- 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

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.

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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/>

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: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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