### **Message from the Pastor**

Dear Church,

This weekend I will be attending the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Virtual Gathering. It will take place this Saturday, the 7<sup>th</sup>, as an online, all day event. Virtual Gathering is standing in for the 2021 DOC General Assembly, which was originally scheduled to take place last month in Louisville, KY. Of course, due to the global pandemic plans had to be changed. So, this year the gathering will be virtual and in 2023 Disciples from all over the country will gather in Louisville to network, fellowship, and worship together.

The theme for this gathering is "Nothing," as in, "nothing can separate us from the love of God." This comes from Romans 8: 31-39, in which it also says, "For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nether angels nor demons, neither the present, nor the future, nor any power, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord." (v. 38-39)

It is, of course, easy to see how they may have landed on this theme and found this text important and meaningful for us in these times. Throughout its history the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and the other branches of the Stone-Campbell movement, have sought to show the world that nothing separates us from the love of God. No denominational doctrine or dogma, no interpretation of the scriptures, could stand in the way of the unity of Christ's church. No one of any age or any creed could be excluded from relationship with God through the church. This is belief has been a founding principle for the movement throughout its history. From the frontier revivals in the early 19<sup>th</sup> century to this on-line gathering of people all over the world, Disciples continue to try our best to live up to the promise of the open communion table, making sure that no one is separated from the love of God that is in Jesus Christ. I look forward to finding out new ways this will be made possible as we move into the future.

Peace,

Zach

### Save the Date! 185<sup>th</sup> Celebration: September 12<sup>th</sup>

Sunday, September 12<sup>th</sup> we will be celebrating the church's 185<sup>th</sup> birthday! Sue Larkin is currently looking for volunteers to help plan the event, please contact her if you are interested! More information will be coming soon about the activities, but make sure to mark your calendars as you won't want to miss this.

### 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</u> <u>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.

Rev. Zach Martin (217)-358-6593 zach.e.martin1987@gmail.com Clayton Summers (618)-262-3065 clayton.wwjd@gmail.com

## 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.

# **Coffee Hour This Sunday**

This Sunday (August 8<sup>th</sup>) 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.

# **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 <u>here</u> and the vaccine hotline is (833) 621-1284.

## **Birthdays and Anniversaries**

Aug.  $13^{th}$  – Clayton Summers Aug.  $13^{th}$  – Jim Funk Aug.  $14^{th}$  – Lisa Branch Aug.  $15^{th}$  – Mitch Mitchell Aug.  $15^{th}$  – Ryan & Crystal's Anniv. Aug.  $16^{th}$  – Brandi Bohannon Aug.  $21^{st}$  – Kaleb Jones Aug.  $23^{rd}$  – Jake Branch Aug.  $25^{th}$  – Emma Lanz Aug.  $25^{th}$  – Julie Foster Aug.  $25^{th}$  – Lil Elkin Aug.  $30^{th}$  – Riley Larkin

### 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 <u>Pastor Zach</u> 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 Covid-19 and its effects: health, mental, emotional, spiritual, and economic
- Please keep in prayer Acute Rehabilitation Unit, Carle BroMenn Medical Center
- 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 Dorothy L.'s brother-in-law John who is starting radiation and is grateful for our prayers
- 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 keep in prayer Dorothy L. and her family following the death of her sister-in-law this past week
- We keep in prayer Cyndi D.'s brother-in-law as he struggles with Parkinson's and complications
- We keep in prayer Crystal L.'s aunt who is healing from a hand injury
- We keep in prayer Richard H. moving into Heritage in Normal for rehab after a hard fall and continued trouble with dementia
- We keep in prayer Sue L.'s brother Doug as he continues to face health challenges with pain
- 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
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for Jennifer's family making it home safely from military deployment
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for the faith community's outreach to Dorothy L. following the sudden death of her sister-in-law

## **Food Pantry**

For the month of August, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting meals (complete kits) for the food pantry. Please bring your meals (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 <u>Facebook</u> 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/wpcontent/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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