

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 75

Week of August 22, 2021

Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

Do you recall your baptism? I remember mine. It was Easter Sunday of my sixth-grade year, so probably around 2000(?). I remember putting on a very tight wet suit as I prepared to be immersed in the baptismal pool. I remember wading into the pool, responding affirmatively to the pastor's questions, and then being dunked. However, I remember the problem being that in that very tight wet suit it was hard to bend my knees enough to get under the water. I eventually got there, but it took some maneuvering. How do you remember your baptism?

I would like to use this space this week to briefly speak about baptism, as part of our ongoing conversation/sermon series about our church's heritage as part of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). I do not plan on preaching a sermon on baptism, but feel it is important to touch on, nonetheless. The Disciples believe in believer's baptism. Immersing one's whole body in water, only when they have made the conscious decision to be baptized. No one else can make this decision for us. We offer ourselves to God and the community, and we agree to open ourselves to receiving the many gifts of the life of faith.

For instance, taking part in believer's baptism leads one to acknowledge their sins so that they may be forgiven in the act of baptism. Also, believer's baptism acknowledges that a relationship with Jesus Christ is a personal matter and must be entered into freely and willingly. Yet at the same time, when we are baptized the community bears witness, and agrees to bring us into the family of faith, recognizing that we all have a personal relationship with Christ, but we bear witness to Christ's life and love as a community.

To uphold believer's baptism is to recognize that the path and the decisions that lead one to a life of faith in God through Jesus Christ is something that takes some maneuvering, but we eventually get there. Even after our baptism, some maneuvering is still necessary, because the path is never simple or obstacle-free. However, to be baptized is to make a commitment to live our life, as best we can, in a way that strengthens our relationship with Jesus and bears witness to that relationship in the world. When we emerge from the redeeming and sustaining waters, we are making a covenant to live in ways that will redeem and sustain the world, in Jesus' name.

Amen.

Zach

Zach Out of the Office

Pastor Zach will be out of the office this upcoming week starting Tues., August 24th through Sun., August 29th. Youth Pastor Clayton Summers will be preaching on the 29th.

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

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

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 75

Week of August 22, 2021

Masking Recommendation

[Regional Church Leadership] encourage our congregations to follow the latest public health advice. The current advice is wearing masks indoors, and vaccinations for those who are able...It would be wise to protect each other.

Save the Date! 185th Celebration: September 12th

Sunday, September 12th we will be celebrating the church's 185th birthday! We are excited to announce that Lloyd Hult will be our guest speaker, giving a sermon on Proverbs 22:6 entitled "Hourglass". Following worship will be fellowship and a potluck.

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.

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.

No Coffee Hour This Sunday

This Sunday (August 22nd) there will be no coffee hour due to flooding in the church building's basement two weeks ago with the heavy rains. 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 [here](#) and the vaccine hotline is (833) 621-1284.

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

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

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 75

Week of August 22, 2021

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Aug. 21st – Kaleb Jones
Aug. 23rd – Jake Branch
Aug. 25th – Emma Lanz

Aug. 25th – Julie Foster
Aug. 25th – Lil Elkin
Aug. 30th – 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 [Pastor Zach](mailto:pastor.zach@carlockchurch.org) 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

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

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

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 75

Week of August 22, 2021

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 [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

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 75

Week of August 22, 2021

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

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

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