

Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 77

Week of September 5, 2021

Message from the Pastor

Dear Church,

This past weekend I was in Lincoln, NE to perform my sister's wedding. It was a beautiful, meaningful service (and I'm not just saying that because I officiated) and it was a wonderful week spent with family – old and new. I thank you all for allowing me the time to make that trip, and I thank Pastor Clayton for filling in so capably in my absence.

What I want to share with you all now is an excerpt from the wedding ceremony. These words were mostly written by my father, and I delivered them as my sister and her husband planted an olive branch in a pot of dirt (my sister pouring in dirt from her family home in Decatur, IL and her husband pouring in dirt collected from where he grew up in Nebraska). Before they did this, I said:

The dove brought an olive branch to Noah on the ark as an indication that there was new life beyond the chaos of the flood. In the continuing story of God's people on this earth, a dove carrying an olive branch has become the symbol of peace among people in the world.

As a symbol of their union, Avery and Mitchell will now plant a piece of an olive tree. They will prepare the earth and plant and water the seeds. They do this together as a symbol of their intention to live creative lives in peace with each other and their community. They will now plant this symbol of unity in the rich soil of their individual, earthly homes.

As I said, most of these words were written by my father, edited by me for the service, but I think they can be meaningful for us in Carlock as we approach the celebration of 185 years of ministry. Because 185 years ago something was planted here in Carlock. A church and a community of faith that like the dove of peace continues to this day to be evidence of God's continuing story of love and salvation. Also, like that olive branch that was planted to represent the bond of marriage, the church that was planted and still exists here, represents a covenant made between God and the church and the church and its members, as a commitment to live creative lives in peace with each other and the community.

Peace, love, and health to you,

Zach

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.

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Choir Is Back!

Choir has returned to Carlock Christian Church! Find the schedule below:

Choir Rehearsals

Sept. 8, 22
Oct. 6, 17
Nov. 3, 13, 20
Dec. 1, 8, 15

Choir Sunday Anthems

Sept. 5, 12, 26
Oct. 10, 22
Nov. 7, 17, 24
Dec. 5, 12, (Cantata) 19

Free Materials

There are "craft items, decorations, and bulletin board stuff in the basement". It is available to anyone, but if you do not claim it this week it will be donated to charity.

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 Hulit will be our guest speaker, giving a sermon on Proverbs 22:6 entitled "Hourglass". Following worship will be fellowship and a potluck (whether it is box lunches eaten in the park or of a different form will depend on the current Covid precautions).

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.

Fall Children & Youth Programming

Crew and Cohort are coming back for the fall! Crew and Cohort will resume after Labor Day on Wednesday, September 8th. Crew is for children in kindergarten through 5th grade, and Cohort is for youth in 6th-12th grades. Crew will take place from 6:00PM-7:00PM and Cohort from 7:00PM-8:30PM every Wednesday from Sept. 8th – Dec. 8th (with the week of Thanksgiving off). Crew will be using a curriculum called "Celebrate Wonder" while Cohort will be discussing "The Basics of Faith". Both groups will play games, do crafts, learn about God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit, and have a lot of fun doing so. We hope to see your kids there or for you to invite kids from families you know!

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032540122>

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Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sept. 5 th – Robert Hamilton	Sept. 13 th – Bryan Burris
Sept. 5 th – Jim & Marsha Funk Anniv.	Sept. 13 th – Neal Kentch
Sept. 6 th – Dave & Cyndi Dunmire Anniv.	Sept. 15 th – Hillary Thomas
Sept. 8 th – Braylen Walk	Sept. 17 th – Shayla Neblock
Sept. 10 th – Austin Baer	Sept. 17 th – Michael & Wendy Smiley Anniv.
Sept. 10 th – Gary & Sadie Short Anniv.	Sept. 23 rd – Ned & Christi Mueller Anniv.
Sept. 12 th – Marc Thomas	Sept. 23 rd – Tim Daniel
	Sept. 25 th – Jeff Myers

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.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 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 Sue L.'s brother Doug as he continues to face health issues and pain
- We keep in prayer all the people who are currently in Afghanistan at this time
- We keep in prayer the students, faculty, and staff as they are returning to school
- We keep in prayer David S. as he is still the same, but he and Diane miss worshipping with the community
- We keep in prayer Lou D.'s brother Jerry and his family as he has been falling and having health complications
- We keep in prayer Dawn N. and her family as she is hospitalized with Covid-19
- We keep in prayer Richard H. who is at OSF after a fall and has had some worsening of fractures
- We keep in prayer Crystal L.'s friend Krysta who broke her foot
- We keep in prayer all those affected by Hurricane Ida
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for the faith community's outreach to Dorothy L. following the sudden death of her sister-in-law
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for the love this community of faith expresses with birthday wishes
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for Cody getting a chance to play baseball a last Saturday

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Coffee Hour

This Sunday (September 5th) we do not have anyone signed up to provide coffee hour, but if you arrive early there always are coffee grounds in the fridge that can be brewed and shared. 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.

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.

Food Pantry

For the month of September, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting pasta for the food pantry. Please bring your pasta (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.

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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>

Crew/Cohort Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81032540122>

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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