

# Carlock Christian Church – Weekly Update 79

## Week of September 19, 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.

### **Message from the Pastor**

Dear Church,

This morning while doing a guided meditation, I was prompted to think about gratitude. I was prompted to put my focus on what I had, and the things that I was blessed with, rather than focusing all my mental energy on what might be “missing” in my life. So, of course, I found myself thinking about how this might apply to me as I prepare to complete my ministry here at Carlock Christian Church. Beginnings and endings provide us with good, fresh opportunities to reflect on where we are in life, and to take stock of the blessings for which we are grateful.

When I started my ministry here one year ago, I was primarily grateful to have a job. I was grateful to have found something during a pandemic in which many people were losing their jobs. I was grateful to the search committee for their perseverance in continuing with the interview process, even though the rapid changes brought about by the pandemic could have given them reason to stop the search. During my time here I have been grateful for the opportunity to preach every week and hone that craft. I am grateful for relationships of support. I am grateful to have finished Clinical Pastoral Education, and I am grateful that we have come through the year without anyone contracting COVID-19 from their attendance at the church. I am grateful now for the opportunity to try new things and find new avenues of ministry. And I am grateful that I take with me lessons and experiences from my time at Carlock.

Going forward, I hope that all of you are able to look back on the past and evaluate the present from a place of gratitude. I believe you have much to be thankful for, even if at times things feel uncertain. Look no further than last week’s anniversary service. There are so many people who were shaped in their faith at this church and learned the value of community from this church. That is something for which to be grateful. That is something that you can carry on into the future, as together this community shapes what the future of this church will look like. I know I am glad that I got to play my part.

So, as we say goodbye, let us all be grateful for where we have been and for the present moment that God gives us all right now, and let this sense of gratitude help us to remain hopeful as we move into the future.

Peace be with you until we meet again,

Zach

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### Choir Update

The choir has decided to go on hiatus for the time being with the current Covid-19 wave. When they decide to come back from hiatus, it will be announced here and they will follow the schedule below:

#### Choir Rehearsals

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

#### Choir Sunday Anthems

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

### Communion

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

### Fall Children & Youth Programming

Crew and Cohort are back for the fall! Crew and Cohort will be taking place this Wednesday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. Crew is for children in kindergarten through 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and Cohort is for youth in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades. Crew will take place from 6:00PM-7:00PM and Cohort from 7:00PM-8:30PM every Wednesday from Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> (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. For the time being Crew will be meeting virtually and Cohort will be meeting in person with an option to join online.

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

### 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.

### Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> – Shayla Neblock

Sept. 17<sup>th</sup> – Michael & Wendy Smiley Anniv.

Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Ned & Christi Mueller Anniv.

Sept. 23<sup>rd</sup> – Tim Daniel

Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> – Jeff Myers

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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 [Clayton](mailto:clayton@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 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 home and recovering from Covid-19
- We keep in prayer Crystal L.'s friend Krysta who broke her foot
- We keep in prayer all those affected by Hurricanes this season
- We keep in prayer Richard H. and his family following his death
- We keep in prayer Debbie Q. and her family following the death of her brother Rob last week
- We keep in prayer Lou D. and her family as her brother Andy has deteriorating health conditions and is in a care facility far away from family
- We offer up joy and thanksgiving for the love this community of faith expresses with birthday wishes

### Coffee Hour

This Sunday (September 19<sup>th</sup>) 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](https://www.illinois.gov/covid19/vaccine) and the vaccine hotline is (833) 621-1284.

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### **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>

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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