Letter from the Elder Chair

Dear Church Family,

Advent is a time of preparation and waiting. We prepare our hearts and lives for the birth of baby Jesus. It is a time to slow down and focus on the real reason for the season, the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Sadly, the world around us tells us we must do more, spend more, and work more during this Advent season in order to be happy. Please consider joining us for the first Sunday of Advent on Nov. 28th and the next 3 Advent Sundays as we prepare for the birth of baby Jesus. My prayer for all of you is that you can listen and hear that still small voice amidst the clamor this season. May you be blessed with hope, peace, joy, and love.

We will have a reception for Clayton Summers immediately after worship on Sunday, December 12. Clayton has truly been a blessing to this congregation, and he will be missed! Please plan to attend and wish Clayton well as he moves on to his new position at Camp Walter Scott.

Blessings,

Sue Larkin, Elder

Upcoming events:

Elder's meeting Dec. 6 2:00 pm Board meeting Dec. 13 7:00 pm

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.

Communion

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

Choir Update

The choir has been rehearsing again! While they will not currently be singing in worship (if this changes, we will let you know), they will be practicing for the Christmas Cantata! All are invited to join for the rehearsals on the dates listed!

Choir Rehearsals Dec. 1, 8, 15 <u>Choir Sunday Anthems</u> Dec. 19 (Cantata)

Coffee Hour

This Sunday (November 28th) come for coffee food at fellowship starting at 9AM. If you would like to host coffee hour, please sign up in the church Narthex or contact Sue Larkin.

Dave Segneri (309)-532-8400 Sue Larkin (309)-531-2396

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

Children & Youth Programming This Week!

Crew and Cohort are wrapping up for the fall but there is still time to join in! Crew and Cohort will be taking place this Wednesday, December 1st. 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. 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 Crew will be meeting in-person and virtually while Cohort will be meeting in person with an option to join online. Our remaining gatherings for this year are December 1, 8, and 15.

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 <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.

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.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Dec. 13th – Nolan Lanz Dec. 17th – Dan Gilmore Dec. 17th – Faye Keller Dec. 26th – Kim Geshiwlm Dec. 27th – Dan & Cindy's Anniv.

Sue Larkin (309)-531-2396

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

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>Clayton</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 Sue's brother Doug and his wife Kim, praying for healing through the doctors and staff at the hospital
- We keep in prayer Crystal's grandfather who is not doing well
- We keep in prayer Linda with some upcoming tests
- We keep in prayer Debbie Q.'s Aunt Jean who had a fall and broke several ribs
- We offer up prayer and joy for Lou's brother Andy in his new nursing facility in Gilman and his improved health but his inability to see family due to a Covid lockdown at the facility
- We keep in prayer those in our community with Covid, including Mo Davis (Tobin's Pizza) and the Ralston family
- We keep in prayer Clayton's family on the death of his grandmother
- We offer up joy for our guest preachers, including Jim Warren this past Sunday
- We offer up joy for Sharon's surgery going well and her recovery
- We offer up joy for knowing Jesus loves us and is with us
- We offer up joy for the cards and support Lil and Marshall were shown
- We offer up joy for all the faces we have with us in worship
- We offer up joy for the tireless work in the church garden by Dorothy and the Larkin family this past week
- We offer up joy for Kankakee high school's first championship sports match of any kind

Food Pantry

Dave Segneri

(309)-532-8400

For the month of December, Carlock Christian is specifically collecting fruit for the food pantry. Please bring your fruit (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 Sue Larkin (309)-531-2396

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

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: <u>https://www.facebook.com/cccdoc1/</u>

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:

 $\underline{https://www.docfamiliesandchildren.org/untitled-cdwm}$

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

Dave Segneri (309)-532-8400 Sue Larkin (309)-531-2396

Clayton Summers (618)-262-3065 <u>clayton.wwjd@gmail.com</u>