

The Messenger

Volume 16, Issue 12 December 2021

Carlock Mennonite Church
Worship 10:15 am
Sunday School 9:00

217 East Washington St.
Carlock, IL 61725
(309) 376-2781

doane@carlockmennonitechurch.org

www.carlockmennonitechurch.org

Carlock Mennonite Church on Facebook

Wifi available: connect to 217Washington password is carlockmc

Doane Brubaker - Pastor
Bob Waller -Board Chair
Suzi Waller -Treasurer
Sharon Brubaker – Musician
Emma Brandt – Musician
Rene’ Atkinson - Musician
Annie Schwoerer - Sunday School Supt
Kathy Schwoerer - Bulletin /Messenger co-editor

For December 2021

Hospitality Committee

Lori Amberg

Emma Brandt

Danielle Otto

Deanelle Schieber

Sunday School Teachers

Kindergarten – Melinda Hartter

Elementary – Lori Amberg

Jr. High – Carrie Schwoerer

Food Pantry Item

Meals

Sunday School Nursery

December 5 – Carol Hoffman

December 12 – Emma Brandt

December 19 – Barb Karr

December 26 – Sophie Schwoerer

DECEMBER CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 1	Church Board, 7 pm
Saturday, December 4	FFC Youth Movie night
Sunday, December 5	Morning Worship FFC Youth Taco/Trivia night
Thursday, December 9	MW Christmas at 6 pm
Sunday, December 12	Morning Worship, Children’s Presentation
Wednesday, December 15	Choir Practice, 7 pm
Sunday, December 19	Evening Worship Service, 6:30 pm FFC Youth Christmas, 6 pm
Sunday, December 26	Morning Worship

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

3 Mike Pyne
4 Ron Schieber
7 Ken & Annie Schwoerer (A)
10 Blake & Danielle Otto (A)
13 Orrin Hartter
13 Barb Karr
13 Kathy Schwoerer
13 Stephanie Staulcup
14 Micah & Amber Rhodes (A)
15 Mike Hartter
19 Emma Brandt
21 Olivia Brandt
21 Danielle Otto
21 Greg & Karen Otto (A)
22 Caleb Mohr
22 Avery Myers
23 Nick Moran
27 Kathy Moran
30 Jim & Roberta Bortell (A)
31 Micah Rhodes

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT

Local and World Mission
Budgeted for 2021 \$115,898
Anticipated giving through October \$96,580
Actual giving through October \$105,504

FFC Youth Group Dates

December 4 – Movie Night
December 5 – Taco/Trivia Night
December 19 – Christmas Party

BOARD NEWS

- *Work continues on elevator entry, brick to arrive in November
- *Parking lot has been resurfaced
- *Our church will be sponsoring a family for Christmas, and other outreach projects are being explored
- *Ceiling tiles in east entrance have been replaced
- *Red stacking chairs beside basement piano are being given to anyone who can use them
- *Potential board replacements are being sought

FROM THE FFC YOUTH

“Hello Church Family!

As many of you saw in previous emails and announcements, our service evening was this past Sat, Nov. 20th. We had some hiccups trying to secure a service project, but after some prayer and research we settled on supporting homeless teens through Project Oz located in Bloomington, IL. They have a need list for both ladies and young men, so we went shopping! We were able to fill 4 "joy" bags. Things needed were duffle bags, sweat pants and shirts, cell phone chargers, ear buds, gift cards for food, winter hats/gloves, household items (for older teens in their own apartments) and toiletries. One thing that wasn't on the list but we will be adding are teen study Bibles and personal notes of encouragement.

Since this was last minute, I didn't want to rush anyone into helping out with this, but if you would like to support our teens efforts in their project to comfort other teens in need, please feel free to donate to the youth group! Each joy bag came out to be \$104. We will be delivering the duffle bags the 2nd week of December. Any amount would be great! Donations of Teen Bibles would be wonderful too! We need 4. You can donate 1 of 3 ways. Give to your church with the funds or Bible designated for youth group, mail a check or teen Bible to the youth group @ FFC Youth Group, 19885 N 800 E Rd, Carlock, IL 61725 or contact us and we can come pick up!

We love that we have this opportunity for our teens to show Jesus to others their age through giving of their time, thoughts, prayers and resources. We thank you all for your continued support and prayers!”

FROM PASTOR DOANE

Changes come quickly this time of year.

For three seasons, to the north and east of our house we see a thick wall of leaves. Last week, in just 24-hours we began to see the other side of the ravine and neighboring homes.

One day you enjoy an unseasonably warm 65 degrees, and the next morning step outside to be greeted by 27 degrees and a heavy frost.

When the Saturday afternoon sunlight fades, your yard is clear of all the fallen leaves. By Sunday afternoon, the thick blanket of leaves covering the yard announces to everyone that you don't own a rake.

The Christmas advertising blitzes caught my attention and I diligently set out to do my shopping early. And all I see is "Sold Out".

Ready or not, things change quickly. It seems most of the time I'm not quite as ready as I thought and thus my reaction is too slow. It can be frustrating to realize good things you've missed that way.

And, we can also get pretty upset about what we think we're missing because God seems to react too slowly. Use your memory or imagination, and you can apply that in any number of situations.

So, it should come as some comfort to us that there are many assurances in the Bible that God's timing is not off. For example, a recycled phrase, "in the fullness of time" means "at just the right time." That's often attached when describing some act of God.

Another assurance repeated a few times is that He is slow about something because it's to our benefit. I mean this; "The Lord is slow to anger and filled with unfailing love, forgiving every kind of sin and rebellion. But he does not excuse the guilty" (Numbers 14:18). Several biblical authors mentioned God is slow about reacting with anger. I'm glad He is.

But then, they tell us He is not slow about honoring His promises. For example, this in 2 Peter 3:9; "The Lord isn't really being slow about his promise, as some people think. No, he is being patient for your sake."

And when the prophet Habakkuk hoped to see some action by the Lord, God gave him a vision of what He will do. But He also told him; "This vision is for a future time... and it will be fulfilled. If it seems slow in coming, wait patiently, for it will surely take place. It will not be delayed." Habakkuk 2:3)

"Be patient." Those are well-used words, repeated to eager children while the December days move on toward number 25. If you really expect they can calm down and wait patiently, then maybe the Father thinks you can too.

Eagerly anticipating another Advent.
Doane