

# The Messenger

Volume 17, Issue 9 September 2022

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

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

[doane@carlockmennonitechurch.org](mailto:doane@carlockmennonitechurch.org)

[www.carlockmennonitechurch.org](http://www.carlockmennonitechurch.org)

Carlock Mennonite Church on Facebook

Wifi available: connect to 217Washington password is carlockmc

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

## **For September 2022**

### Hospitality Committee

Emma Brandt  
Abby Pyne  
Deanelle Schieber  
Annie Schwoerer

### Food Pantry Item

Applesauce

### Sunday School Teachers

Kindergarten – Melinda Hartter  
Elementary – Lori Amberg  
Jr. High – Carrie Schwoerer

### Sunday School Nursery

September 4 – Carol Hoffman  
September 11 – Emma Brandt  
September 18 – Barb Karr  
September 25 – Sophie Schwoerer

## **SEPTEMBER CALENDAR**

Sunday, September 4  
Wednesday, September 7  
Thursday, September 8  
Sunday, September 11  
Sunday, September 18  
Sunday, September 25

Morning Worship, Hospitality Sunday  
Church Board, 7:00  
MW, 6:30  
Morning Worship  
East Bay Camp Annual Worship Service & Potluck, 10:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship

Card Shower for Doris Greenburg!

Doris' birthday is September 20. Let's celebrate with her through a card shower! (1701 Evergreen Village Blvd, Apt 168 Normal, IL 61761)

We will also share cake and ice cream at our East Bay service in honor of Doris.

### **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

4 Trisha Harter

5 Jacob & Shelby Mohr (A)

6 Luke Greenburg

10 Brian Mohr

11 Debbie Miller

18 Bob Waller, Jr.

19 Ross Greenburg

20 Doris Greenburg

20 Nathan & Heather Waller (A)

21 Brian & Jill Mohr (A)

23 Julie Greenburg

23 Riley Waller

24 Sharon Brubaker

24 Julie & Ross Greenburg (A)

30 Jeanise Frank

### Board News

\*Sound system is on hold until fall.

\*Boiler still needs fixed before fall/winter.

\*Basement restrooms are complete..

\*Kitchen remodel will tentatively begin at the end of August.

\*Windows will be getting completed soon.

\*Please be in prayer for our schools, staff and students.

## From Pastor Doane...

William Carey (1761 – 1834) was a Baptist minister and missionary to India. Along with all his good work bringing many to Christ, he also started Serampore College – now Serampore University. It is the first degree-granting college in India and the first to achieve university status.

Carey became seriously ill, and was asked; “If this sickness should prove fatal, what passage would you select as the text for your funeral sermon?”

His response; *“Have mercy on me, O God, according to your unfailing love; according to your great compassion blot out my transgressions”* (Psalm 51:1). At the time king David said that, he was miserable and in great need of mercy.

In Sunday’s sermon, I said misery and need are the targets of mercy. Mercy homes in on need and misery to bring compassion and relief.

In the medical world, *precision medicine* and *targeted therapy* illustrate that principle of mercy well. Many traditional drugs and therapies are effective at slowing or stopping illness, but also have harmful side effects because they can’t discriminate between healthy and diseased cells.

But, like precision medicine targets just the diseased cells, God’s mercy targets our spiritual disease and need.

Paul shows in Ephesians 2:1-10 what is done for us because God is so rich in mercy. Changing metaphors now; people skilled in their craft see potential in objects left on the scrap heap and destined for the fire. They rescue such objects and patiently work on them until they’re remade – a fine piece of art, useful and beautiful.

That’s your story. *“You were dead because of your disobedience and your many sins.”* You used to live *“following the desires and inclinations of your sinful nature. By your very nature you were subject to God’s anger just like everyone else.”*

You may not be able to envision what a useful and beautiful masterpiece you can be. But God has always seen that in you. So, *“because of his great love, God, who is rich in mercy, made you alive with Christ even when you were dead in transgressions.”*

By His grace which you receive through faith, you’ve been rescued, re-purposed and are being re-made so it can truly be said; you are *“God’s handiwork [His masterpiece], created anew in Christ Jesus to do good works.”*

In the hands of the Master Designer and Craftsman, you are put together like new and have become a living demonstration of His mercy. The Lord’s grace and kindness expressed to you is now on display so the Master is praised.

So, *“Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.”* (Matthew 5:16, NKJV)

Doane

---

A note from Susan –

Just going to start from the beginning.... Back in February 1964, in Memphis TN, a little baby girl was born... OK wait a minute, that's a little too far back. Let's start with March 4<sup>th</sup> 2022. That was the day I heard the words, "you have cancer." To say I was devastated is an understatement and to be honest with you I wasn't devastated for myself, I was devastated for what my negligence is now causing my family to go thru. The guilt set in big time.

- 1) Bad timing – planting season was just around the corner
- 2) Time off my work – co-workers having to pick up my slack
- 3) Time Bob had to take off work
- 4) Cost – money that could be going toward retirement, will this extend worktime before I can retire now??

Weirdly, as much as I felt guilty about what my negligence caused for everyone else, when it came to my feelings, it was ME going thru this, it's my body, my appointments, my surgery, my results, etc... It wasn't until my mom and dad came up after my first surgery and they said something to Bob that made me realize I needed to change the way I was approaching this. They told Bob that they needed to apologize to him because since hearing the news – all of their concerns, thoughts and prayers were directed toward their daughter and they realized that Bob, the boys/wives were going thru this too. Hearing that made me realize too that it's not "me, me, me", I have a family that's in this with me. As we started going to appointment after appointment, (notice I said "we", see how quickly I flipped from me, me, me to we ☺, so anyway, back to the appointments. There's been a LOT of them. I honestly went in with the mindset of – TAKE THEM OFF. Keep in mind, I hadn't even found out my prognosis yet but I was already SO over the emotional toil and didn't want to ever go thru this again. I was ready to do whatever it took to make that happen. Instead of "Take My Breath Away", the song from the movie Top Gun, my mantra had become, "Take my Breasts Away". Long story short, I was convinced by my Medical Oncologist that my prognosis of cancer returning after I've had surgery, treatment and hormone therapy would be the same percentage wise as it would be had they been removed so needless to say my mind was changed. Now that I knew what I was up against, I was ready to open up to the "outside" world. I'd struggled already as to when is the right time to let people into my personal life. On the one hand, the more people praying, the better, but on the other hand, not having any timeline or "real" diagnosis and having to repeat the story over and over as people came over with well wishes wasn't something I was ready to confront. I needed my own space to come to terms with this news and needed to get to a point where I could actually talk about it without crying. My prayers during this time were all over the place:

- 1) Please Lord, wake me from this horrible nightmare
- 2) Please Lord, help me deal with this news
- 3) Why Lord, did this have to happen to me

With that last prayer I thought, "well, why NOT me?? What makes me so special that I'm above getting cancer." This was another turning point. I think I'd finally reached a point of acceptance with my diagnosis. Now... how to make this my "new normal"??? I started by letting people in. Turns out, "the more people praying, the better" was the direction I needed to go. In my heart I already knew that but I can be very stubborn sometimes. No one knows that better than Bob. Not only were there prayers, but the texts, phone calls, visits, cards and letters came from all over. I felt like Glenn Campbell in the Rhinestone Cowboy – "Gettin cards and letters from people I don't even know!!" It was truly touching. I'd never been on the receiving side of anything this huge and to have this almost constant stream of texts, phone calls, etc was amazing and humbling. Some of those texts led to getting back in touch with Brian and Beth Schieber and to this day I still get a daily Biblical Wisdom verse via text from Beth. I've saved quite a few of them as they've hit so close to home. So now that I have the surgery behind me and I'm 3 treatments away from having radiation over, the biggest thing I've come to realize is: There's absolutely NO modesty in cancer!! You learn real quick that Dr's, Nurses, Technicians, pretty much the entire professional health world is going to see you at your "not so" finest moments and trust me you learn not to care!! I'm so conditioned to baring it all that when someone comes in to my waiting room/radiation room/surgical area, it's an automatic reflex for me to flip the cape up and over. Ok, that's not the biggest thing I learned, the true biggest thing to come out of this is my trust and reliance on God has changed for the better. I grew up in church so I'm one of those that just coasted by knowing that because I love and believe in the Lord that everything was golden!! I got too comfortable in my faith. This experience has taught me that I can't control my own destiny. Again, another thing I already knew but the stubbornness had shown up again. (I mentioned I was stubborn, right?)

God puts the right people in your life to help you get thru the tough times. Everyone from family, friends, co-workers, church family and like I stated earlier, people I don't even know took their time to pray, text call and send cards. We have a magnificent, caring God and the very least I can do is love Him and have faith that He is in control. A few of the Biblical Wisdoms I've received from Beth:

When you let go, something magical happens. You give God room to work. “Cast all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:7

The giant in front of you is never bigger than the God inside you. “Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance of the Lord. The Lord will fight for you; you need only to be still.” Exodus 14: 13-14

Thank you to all of you who have been there for me. I seriously can't thank you enough for being with me during this journey. Susan