

# The Messenger

Volume 19, Issue 8

August 2024

## Carlock Mennonite Church



Worship 10:15 am  
Sunday School 9:00 am

217 East Washington St.  
Carlock, IL 61725  
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[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

### AUGUST CALENDAR

Sunday, August 4	Morning Worship, Hospitality Time, Guest Speaker, Tom Swanson Update from Kyle and Nettie Embry
Wednesday, August 7	Church Board meets, 7 pm
Sunday, August 11	Morning Worship Update on CRU, Jeb Uphoff
Sunday, August 18	Morning Worship
Sunday, August 25	Morning Worship

#### For August 2024

##### Hospitality Committee

Lori Amberg  
Julie Greenburg  
Jill Mohr  
Vicki West

##### Food Pantry Item

Peanut Butter

## Board News

\* A letter is posted on the bulletin board regarding FEC wanting to pay off the office building in Fort Wayne in 2024

\* Jr High Sunday school teacher is needed

\*Two scholarship applications were received

\*Rough estimate of \$7500 was received for bell tower repair

\* Kitchen oven will be repaired

\* New thermostat for heating/cooling the church will be installed so it can be accessed remotely

\* New partitions for basement Sunday school room is being researched

\* Jeb Uphoff will speak at the Aug. 11 service to update us on campus crusade which we support

\*VBS went very well - 41 kids attended, 25 volunteers helped and over 100 came to Sunday breakfast

\*A brief congregational meeting will be held on August 25 to vote on whether to change our name. To vote, we will encourage it to be regular attendees.

\*Pastoral search committee reports that church profile is almost ready to send out to solicit interest.

## **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS**

### **and ANNIVERSARIES**

5	Wyatt Waller
10	Jeremy & Kayla Myers (A)
11	Betty Miller
11	Bob Waller, Sr.
12	Scott Frietsch
20	Micah Mohr
21	Whitney Pyne
21	Mike & Sharon Miller (A)
22	Nathan Waller

## **Hymn Note...**

Our hymn 'Victory in Jesus' was written by Eugene Bartlett. It has a clear evangelical message, telling the joy of salvation. It was written and published in 1939. Most hymnals include it, and congregations enjoy singing 'Victory in Jesus'.

## **Bible/Book Drive**

September is the annual Bible drive (sponsored by Christian radio station WPEO). Items are collected for missionaries and pastors working in areas in need of Bibles. We are collecting for this drive at our church.

Love Packages, (Butler, Illinois), sends Bibles, also, materials that spread the Word of God. One Bible may be shared among 20 people. More information is available on their website, [LovePackages.org](http://LovePackages.org).

**\*Items to donate: (may be brought to the south sanctuary now through Sept. 22)**

1. Bibles – new or used, any translation
2. Reference – Bible dictionary, concordance, commentary
3. Christian books, (non-fiction), adult or children
4. Daily devotionals, magazines from Christian publisher
5. Sunday school lesson books
6. CDs, DVDs, BluRay: music, movies, teaching from well known speakers
7. Tracts
8. Puppets, nativity sets, etc., Bible games, Biblical puzzles – items that help teach the Gospel, especially to children

**\*Something that will lead someone to faith in Christ, disciple a believer**

## **From Pastor Doane...**

The “pursuit of happiness” is one of the unalienable rights mentioned in the Declaration of Independence. Notice, the founding fathers did not say happiness itself is an inherent right. But seeking it is. Not everyone who pursues happiness finds it.

Jesus looks at happiness and the pursuit of it differently than people commonly do in our world. In His sermon on the mount, you can find conflicting ways people pursue happiness. There’s also a difference in what we think happiness consists of.

There's a typical human take on happiness. Then, there's what Jesus means. About Matthew 5:3-12, the Life Application Study Bible notes;

“Each beatitude tells how to be blessed. ‘Blessed’ means more than happiness. It implies the fortunate or enviable state of those who are in God’s kingdom. The Beatitudes don’t promise laughter, pleasure, or earthly prosperity. To Jesus, ‘blessed’ means the experience of hope and joy, independent of outward circumstances. To find hope and joy, the deepest form of happiness, follow Jesus no matter what the cost.”

There are two ways to pursue happiness; the “pagan” way (walking apart from the Lord) and Jesus’ way. The Beatitudes (Matthew 5:3-12) give a list that show us the Lord’s way. Matthew 6 describes the pagan way, which includes pursuing a self-righteous reputation, material treasure, satisfying our appetites for food and dressing to impress.

Right after that, Jesus said those are the things the “pagans” chase after (Matthew 6:32). And He follows that with priority #1 which connects to the Beatitudes back in chapter 5; “Pursue above all else the kingdom and righteousness of God” (6:33).

You see, when we pursue happiness, it eludes us. But it is found in the pursuit of the righteous King who is the author and source of happiness.

So, according to the Bible, instead of chasing happiness directly, pursue holiness. For example, Jesus said it is those with an appetite and thirst for righteousness that will be satisfied and blessed (Matthew 5:6).

You will be *blessed* or *happy* – the words are interchangeable in the Bible – with a profound and godly contentment that comes from alignment with God in Christ Jesus.

You’ll find God’s sketch of a happy person in the first Psalm: *“Oh, the joys of [blessed are] those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or stand around with sinners, or join in with mockers. But they delight in the law of the Lord... They are like trees planted along the riverbank, bearing fruit each season. Their leaves never wither, and they prosper in all they do.”* (Psalm 1:1–3)

Jesus teaches us that God’s way of living stands in clear contrast to the worldly pagan way in things like this: “You must be ready to say and do what seems strange to the world. You must be willing to give when others take, to love when others hate, to help when others abuse.” (Life Application Study Bible on Matthew 5:3-12)

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

Doane