

# The Messenger

Volume 20, Issue 3

March 2025

## Carlock Bible Fellowship Church



Worship 10:15 am

Sunday School 9:00 am

217 East Washington St.

Carlock, IL 61725

(309) 276-0281

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

Church Email [carlockbfc@gmail.com](mailto:carlockbfc@gmail.com)

Wifi available: connect to CBFC password is cbfc2024!

Doane Brubaker - Pastor

Ken Schwoerer -Board Chair

Susan Waller -Treasurer

Sharon Brubaker - Musician

Emma Brandt - Musician

Annie Schwoerer - Sunday School Supt

Kathy Schwoerer – Bulletin/Messenger co-editor

### MARCH CALENDAR

Sunday, Mar. 2	Morning Worship, Hospitality Time
Wednesday, Mar. 5	Church Board meets, 7 pm
Sunday, Mar. 9	Morning Worship, Tom Swanson, speaker
Tuesday, Mar. 11	Choir practice, 7 pm
Thursday, Mar. 13	MW meets, 6:30 pm
March 14 & 15	Relief Sale
Sunday, Mar. 16	Morning Worship
Sunday, Mar. 23	Morning Worship
Tuesday, Mar. 25	Choir practice, 7 pm
Sunday, Mar. 30	Morning Worship

## **For March 2025**

### **Hospitality Committee**

Melinda Hartter

Kayla Myers

Abby Pyne

Carrie Schwoerer

### **Sunday School Teachers**

Noah's Ark – Abby Pyne

Lion's Den – Melinda Hartter

Jr/Sr High – Carrie Schwoerer

### **Food Pantry Item**

Potato Products

## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS** **and ANNIVERSARIES**

1	Molly Frietsch
7	Holly Moran
11	Jill Mohr
14	Greg Mohr
15	Stan Otto
19	Michael Orndorff
19	Greg Otto
22	Janice Reimer
24	Walker Pyne
29	Lori & Duane Amberg (A)

## **Hymn Note....**

First, the chorus:

“Turn your eyes upon Jesus. Look full in His wonderful face. And the things of earth will grow strangely dim, in the light of His glory and grace.”

Composer Helen Lemmel was given a tract with this sentence: “Turn your eyes upon Him.” She soon had written a melody and text for the chorus. Then she added 3 verses.

Each verse has encouragement:

vs.1 “O soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you see? There's light for a look at the Savior, and life more abundant and free!”

Rejoice! Book #29 (titled ‘The Heavenly Vision’) The composer traveled much of America, singing and teaching children about Jesus.

The Booth Brothers have a recent song titled “Keep Turning Your Eyes on Jesus”. Interestingly it uses the words of this hymn's chorus.

## **67<sup>th</sup> Annual IL Mennonite Relief Sale**

March 14 and 15

Friday night, doors open at 5:00pm with "Trivia Night" from 6-8:30 pm. Food and drink available for purchase.

Saturday will feature much of the usual with pancake breakfast, auction, dutch market etc. Breakfast is served from 6-11:00 am.

## **Birthday Celebration**

Open House for Janice Reimer's  
85th Birthday

When: 1 pm - 3 pm on March 22nd (which is her actual birthday)

Where: Carlock Community Center

Ask: No gifts, but cards are welcome with a memory or message for Janice tucked inside.

Looking forward to celebrating with everyone on Janice's birthday!

## **Board News**

- \*Outreach committee considering an offering to a local family
- \*Pastoral search committee has a possible candidate who is currently being credentialed by FEC.
- \*Ideas discussed in structuring a spiritual council
- \*Projects currently being pursued include choir loft painting, bell tower repair, partitions for church basement, new thermostat, foyer doors, parking lot lights
- \*Carlock Bible Fellowship Church will soon have new logo and website. Someone will be needed to maintain the website, calendar, and respond to emails.
- \* Compensation packet for a new pastor was discussed.
- \*2025 board chairman will be Ken Schwoerer.

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

Which would you choose:

A banquet where you enjoy the most delicious dishes and desserts with cranky, cantankerous guests? Or, a piece of dry toast and bowl of broth eaten with a dear friend?

Solomon, who – being a king – certainly ate more than anyone’s fair share of extravagant feasts, knew what he liked. In his book of wise sayings, he wrote;

“Better a dry crust with peace and quiet than a house full of feasting, with strife”  
(Proverbs 17:1, NIV).

Or, you can read it;

“A meal of bread and water in contented peace is better than a banquet spiced with quarrels” (the Message).

Those aren’t the only possibilities. In the worst case, you could find yourself with nothing more than a crust of bread in the company of nasty people. Or, in the best case, it could be a marvelous feast with really nice people and great conversation.

But, I think you get Solomon’s point. It isn’t really about the gourmet food in a glitzy setting. Nor is it about tasteless grub in a dive.

It’s really about the companionship, the fellowship, the relationships. We were created to enjoy such, but it got messed up very near the beginning with a lying snake, a piece of forbidden fruit, and two people willing to believe their Creator wanted to deprive them of the good stuff.

But the Lord’s re-creating work in us aims to restore what was given up in Eden. And by His Spirit at work in us we can find the most pleasing companionship, unity, and fellowship.

Bible passages read in worship this past Sunday (Colossians 3) and this coming Sunday (Ephesians 5) get at this.

Since by a new relationship with Christ Jesus we “put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge in the image of its Creator,” we let “the peace of Christ rule in [our] hearts, since as members of one body [we are] called to peace.” So then, we “let the message of Christ dwell among [us] richly” and we harmonize and testify with “psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit” (Col. 3:10, 15, 16). Read Eph. 5 to see teaching that compliments Col. 3.

Since, as the Bible says, the Lord’s Word is like fine steak and sweet dessert, you can enjoy very good feasting while you dine on His instructions and promises.

They say, “We are what we eat.” So, join us at church to enjoy tasting God’s Word in the fellowship of good company. And, like you don’t eat one meal a week, dig in and digest the Scriptures every day to grow healthy and strong.

Pastor Doane