

September 22, 2021



# MIDWEEK MESSAGE

CARMEL CHRISTIAN CHURCH

## **PASTOR'S PONDERINGS**

Hello, friends. I am so excited to finally be here! I have much to learn about the way we do things here at Carmel Christian Church and look forward to sharing some of my ideas for new ways that we might do ministry together. It feels like a homecoming to me, having served as Student Minister from 2004-2007. I was ordained at CCC on June 20, 2007. This church has always held a very special place in my heart. I'm thrilled to be back home!

There are a couple of things I'd like to share with you today. First of all, I will be putting together a Task Force to deal with the issues related to the pandemic. Issues such as: what protocols we should have in place, when to consider going to online worship services only, how to keep our congregants connected when they aren't able to attend in person, how to keep everyone as safe as possible, etc.

Secondly, these are my office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday from 9:15-3:00. I will work remotely on Wednesdays, which is sermon writing day.

My email address is: [pastorgaleccc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorgaleccc@gmail.com). My cellphone number is: 317-361-5146.

FYI, I consider going out to lunch to be my "recess" so let me know if you'd like to meet me for lunch once I get settled in. 😊

Stay safe. Stay well. And remember that you are loved! See you on Sunday.

*Pastor Gale*

**Remember: "Love God...Love Neighbor...Get the word out!"**

## **Member Memorial Service**

Arrangements for the memorial service for Joan Bubna are being finalized at this Midweek deadline. The service will be held here at Carmel Christian Church on Saturday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm. There will be calling hours on Friday, October 8<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 to 6:00pm. A brief refreshments reception will be held right after the service on Saturday. We continue our prayers for Ken Bubna and family on Joan's passing.

## **Ice Cream Party - September 26th**

Ice cream party for Pastor Gale Stutz, this Sunday, September 26th following worship! The party is planned for outside, weather permitting, so come have a wonderful time as we welcome our new minister!

## CROP Hunger Walk

### Why a Different Hunger Walk for Hamilton County?

It seems like forever that our church has been doing the CROP Walk! Fourteen years ago, I (Mike Ainley) became involved in the leadership of the walk. We peaked at 30 churches over that time. Last year it was five. Even within some of those 5 churches interest waned. Our leadership team shrank as well (Mike Coleman maintained our website). We needed a change. Working with Nancy Chance (Director of Good Samaritan Network) and Rev. Jerry Rairdon of Noblesville First UMC (passionate about the walk), a large “board” was assembled representing Good Samaritan Network, churches, food pantries, a food bank, among others. A survey of county members involved with helping those in need was done. From the survey results, a new ratio of giving 75% of the money raised to local needs and 25% to global causes (CWS) was established. This ratio is the reverse of that for the CROP Walk. Given the response from the survey, we expect a strong response for the walk. Although time was short, the team decided to have a walk this year, but we went “simple”—not many bells and whistles.

Our church has been very supportive and generous for decades! In recent years, Mike Coleman and David Sapper have done a remarkable job as our recruiters! We hope you can join us!!

The website to register to walk and/or donate is: <https://www.hamiltoncountyfood.com/>.  
*(link at the end of the newsletter)*

If you would like to write a check, please make it out to our church and indicate it is for the Hunger Walk.

You can walk virtually anytime, anywhere if you like or join the walk on October 3rd. If you have any questions, please contact Mike Ainley, [mainley2@gmail.com](mailto:mainley2@gmail.com) 317-840-9372.

### Walk For Water Update

I am pleased to announce that the Jubilee Village Project Walk for Water raised \$26,150 with the help of many CCC folks. Thank you all! This enables the surveying of villagers to begin and will bring clean safe water to Village #4! ~ Myrna Dowden

### Peace Garden Update

We are nearing the end of the growing season for the Peace Garden, but we are still harvesting tomatoes and peppers. Overall, quite impressive in terms of numbers—788 tomatoes, 305 cucumbers and 530 peppers have been harvested!! A total to 664 pounds have been delivered to the Carmel United Methodist Church food pantry. Thanks to Carolyn for harvesting last week and to the many that help water the garden!

## Volunteers Needed

The church is always on the lookout for talented and skilled people to fill various responsibilities. There can always be a place for anyone that wishes to volunteer help for the church! At present, we are seeking those who may be able to offer assistance with special music (vocal, instrumental, keyboard, ensemble). Our worship service is enlivened and inspired when such wonderful music is presented as a gift to God. Please come forward to help out if you've been blessed with such talent.

In addition, we would like to enlist three or four helpers to assist with learning and running the audio/visual equipment for the worship service and special events (weddings, funerals, gatherings, etc.). We would like to have enough volunteers to rotate turns so no one person needs to commit to every service. A rotation of about once a month is the goal. Training will be provided for this specialty. Let us know if you're interested!

## Don't Forget Our New Roof!

We are certainly grateful for the new roof over our heads! However, it did put quite a dent in our budget! Some contributions have been received to help defray those costs, but more is needed to "pay ourselves back." If you are able, any donation for that roofing project would be much appreciated. If you offer a contribution, please mark it "roofing project" and it will get credited accordingly. Thank you very much!

## New Signs to be Added to Parking Lot

A problem with traffic congestion has developed in our parking lot during the hours the high school is in session. With the numbers of students being dropped off or picked up, many cars have been using our lot for those purposes. That creates a big traffic problem for the students who pay for the use of parking spaces. In many instances they have not been able to even back out of their assigned space! We have tried to approach those who are not authorized to use our lot and asked them to refrain from pick-up or drop-off in the lot. Most have been kind enough to comply. However, the Property Committee has ordered new signs to be placed at the lot entrances indicating parking by permit only, and not to be used for drop-off or pick-up. When you see those new signs, please understand that they are NOT directed to church members. The spaces in the front part of our lot are always reserved for use by the church. Two signs are there to indicate that use. We are glad to support the students by allowing them to park, and thankful for their fees which help our budget. It's a win-win!

## Note of Gratitude

Dear Jo and the Carmel Christian Church Hospitality Team,

Thank you all so very much for the hospitality and lovely meal offered to our family and friends! It means so much to us to have had Mom's memorial service at Carmel Christian and to have fellowship in a place that holds so many dear memories. Your time, thoughtfulness and delicious food are so very much appreciated.

Blessings,

Donna Carrier and family

## Sunday Sneak Peek

Sermon Title: "Imitators of God?"

It has been said that imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. In his letter to the fledgling church in Ephesus, Paul tells them they must be "imitators of God". What, exactly, does that mean and how well are you and I carrying this monumental task??? Come to worship this Sunday and we'll explore this question together.

I'm looking forward to seeing you! ~~~Pastor Gale

## Scripture for Sunday, September 26

Ephesians 4:25-5:2 NRSV

### Rules for the New Life

<sup>25</sup> So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. <sup>26</sup> Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not make room for the devil. <sup>28</sup> Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy. <sup>29</sup> Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear. <sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption. <sup>31</sup> Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup> and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. 5 <sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

## Prayer Concerns

*Please remember these folks and their families in your prayers. Mailing addresses are listed if you would like to send a note or card.*

*Judy Gest, is in hospice care at home surrounded by her family. 720 East Auman Drive, Carmel, IN 46032*

*Prayers of condolence for Brittany Pyatt on the death of her long-time boyfriend, Corbin Cook, who passed away suddenly this past weekend.*

*Continued prayers for David Price (Jeff's brother) as he recovers from a serious illness.*

*Prayers for the extended family of Bob Foster, whose father-in-law was severely injured in a car crash.*

*Prayers for the family of Rev. Terri Hord Owens, General Minister and President of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), whose mother passed away this last week.*

*Ken Bubna, Family, and Friends of Joan Bubna 519 Oak Drive Carmel, IN 46032*

*Family and Friends of Marilyn Huckleberry*

*Family and Friends of Martha Ellis*

*Beatie Cummings, 334 S. Cherry St., Apt. 107, Westfield, IN 46074*

*Elnora Osler, 751 Hawthorne Dr. Carmel, IN 46033*



## Keep in Touch

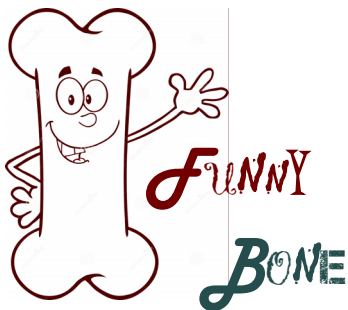
*A phone call, card or visit can mean so much!*

**Ginny Luzader** (317) 219-5675

12950 Talblick St Apt. 144B, Fishers, IN 46037

**Elnora Osler** (317) 844-4282

751 Hawthorne Dr., Carmel, IN 46033



*A church had a picnic and invited the entire community to come.*

*The pastor placed a basket full of apples on one end of a table with a sign saying, "Take only one apple, please. Remember that God is watching".*

*On the other end of the table was a plate of cookies where one of the children had placed a sign which read, "Take all the cookies you want—God is watching the apples!"*