Reverend Clifford Haider

(515)988-3777

haider.clifford@ gmail.com

Justin Chastain Church Secretary

(515)707-4779

justin.c.chastain @gmail.com

Church E-mail: carlisle.cc@ q.com

Web Site: <u>www.carlislechrist</u> <u>ianchurch.com</u>

On Facebook at Carlisle Christian Church - DOC

You may now give to the church online just go to <u>www.carlislechristia</u> <u>nchurch.com</u>. Please note that there is a fee charged for on-line giving. "We know that God works all things together for good for the ones who love God, for those who are called according to His purpose." **Romans** 8:28.

I like to think I know a lot about some things sometimes. I imagine God laughs like Sarah about that at times like these! These are days when I and others have worried beyond our capacity for it. I am not much of a worry wort but I have found myself in unfamiliar territory, the churches in our communities and nation are no longer within anyone's control, it seems, as we are closed down for a month and maybe for a longer time. My fellow clergy are concerned also. And I am discovering of late, I am concerned in ways I have not been in the past. What do I even know anymore? This verse from Romans reminded me this week that there is one thing I know that I have always known. It is the thing that kept me faithfully beside family members and church members when we want God to take away pain and bad things that are taking place, like COVID-19. It is the one thing I knew when the world caved in on me when I was younger, even though the church had stood by me. It was the one thing I knew whenever life was rocky

Reverend Cliff While I'm On My Feet!

and everyone around me worried, cried, and downright freaked out. Somehow, though, I recently forgot for a moment, caught up in the worry and gossip of upset friends and fact-less articles from magazines and newspapers that are anything but objective. How could I let that take away the one thing I know?

Then I read **Romans 8** which has always been my favorite chapter in times of struggle. I read again verse 28 and immediately knew why I was so worried about our church and community. I had forgotten the only thing I really knew. *"We know that God works all things together for good."* I have been troubled because our way of working things together has imploded. It's OK though, because God works all things together for good. Everything God works on is done for good. If I trust that God is acting in our church and community and state and nation, I must trust that God is working for good, even if we have problems, even if we fall short. God is at work and what God makes is good. And God made us.

If you find yourself lost, like you have forgotten everything you thought you once knew, remember this: God is working in the world and in each of us for good. When we let go of our own stubbornness and worry, what remains is God's goodness working. May God work a good thing and may I be open enough to God's way to let go of my own. -**Pastor Cliff**

Suggested Scriptures for the month are...April 5th (Palm Sunday) **Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29, Matthew 21:1-11**, April 12th (Resurrection of the Lord) **Acts 10:34-43, Jeremiah 31:1-6, John 20:1-18, Matthew 28:1-10**, April 19th **Acts 2:14, 22-32, 1 Peter 1:3-9, John 20:19-31**, April 26th **Acts 2:14, 36-41, 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35.**



Carlisle Christian News

CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEWS...

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Night of The Last Supper

ADAPTATION

Rev. J. Richardson

We are living in a time we only imagined in science fiction stories. Worldwide about half the population is under movement restrictions, schools are closed, retail shops shut down, travel in any form limited. Over half a million people have contracted COVID-19, and the number grows exponentially. Convention centers are being transformed into hospitals as traditional medical care facilities are overflowing. In the U.S. as I write this Thursday afternoon, the numbers are growing rapidly. Churches are closed and it will get worse over the next few weeks, depending upon our response. A colleague was thinking how churches might maintain their ministries during the health crisis, he then wondered how can regional churches change in new and different ways than ever before, post COVID-19. A few days later, reflecting on the adaptation pastors & congregations are now making, adaptation is not an easy process, it means finding new resources, making new partnerships, new leaders, and new ideas

and often involves fighting among those who love each other. It is warned that "congregations that do not choose adaptation are by default choosing to die," according to a book by Nancy Ammerman. Changing the way we do things is hard, we know how to do church as it has been done for several centuries. We even think the way we do church is a scriptural design that must be followed. This thinking is rather arrogant, followers of Jesus Christ have been church together in a vast variety of ways over the past 20 centuries!

It's not the way to which we are accustomed, but if you have internet access, a smart phone, and a free Facebook account, all you need to do is spend about \$25 or less, to get a tripod with a phone attachment and you can livestream your worship service via Facebook Live. It can be intimidating at first, but it is not super-expensive. Today being a church means taking care of each other. It means taking the initiative to check on our neighbors, especially the vulnerable. It means a profound hope that we are followers of a God who loves us. The Washington Post described the closing moments of New York governor Andrew Cuomo's recent daily briefing, "As he wrapped up Tuesday morning, his throat seemed to tighten as he expressed love for New York and said 'At the end of the day, my friends, even if it is a long day...love wins, always, and it will win again through this virus." May it be so.

DON'T FORGET THAT GIVING IS A SPIRITUAL DISCIPLINE

Please keep supporting your church during this health crisis. The ministry of the church continues (and even expands) during this time when none of us are using the buildings. Please don't let your absence from the building result in a lack of financial support. There are many ways to give, including on-line (www.carlislechristian

church.com). IN SYMPATHY

Dave Walker passed away March 13th. Please keep Debbie and the family in your prayers.

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much for the snacks & treats! My roommates & I really enjoyed them! Thank you for your thoughts & prayers – Love, Abigail ©

THANK YOU!

Thank you for the gift basket! I appreciate it! Love, Mykaela

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Carlisle Christian Ne APRIL BIRTHDAYS!



"But the stone was rolled away..."

Birthdays continued... <u>Ap</u>ril 28^{ťh} Marirose Weaver

April 30th John Graham

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Mike & Linda Robinson April 10th



"He has gone to sit at the right hand of God"

April 1st Kathy Betzer April 2nd Jenny Lee April 3rd **Judy Watkins** April 6th Mike Hamm April 9th Steve Thompson April 10th Abbie Molina

Please keep in your prayers

Pat Brehse Pastor Cliff Haider **Ben Lawrence** Nancy Charlotte Pugh Adeline Rhoten Kay Tilton Max Warren

April 10th Jenna Thompson April 11th Berenice Chastain April 11th Phyllis Mann April 12th Sherril Owen April 16th **Margaret Cummings** April 16th Jason Ekstrom

Les Dorsey

Lacresa Lee

Dee Wilbur

Butch Hayes

Wilma Rothfus

April 23rd Tom Hall April 24th Megan Anderson April 25th AJ Killen

> In the military Greg Wilbur Justin Miller Niklas Polson Joshua Wesner Tara Wesner

Tom Hall & Family Joe Lang **Jerry Mayes** Pat Reynolds & Family **Bill Sloan Ruby Warren Dave Walker Family** William

DEACONS

Team 1: Gerry Baker, Jim Watkins, Marilyn Hayes, Judy Watkins. Team 2: Marci Palar, Laura Rothfus, Rodger Rothfus, Heather Dayton. Team 3: Bob Stuyvesant, Mark Prall, Steve Thompson, Becky Rickabaugh. Team 4: Shirley Patterson, Louanna Pezzetti, Sherril Owens, Patsy Overton. Team 5: Cindy Berg, Craig Price, Diana Prall, Kayla Price. Alternates: Ethan Overton, Pat Reynolds (989-3846), or Mike Killen (480-6082).

April 5th : Team 2 April 12th : Team 3 April 19th : Team 4 April 26th : Team 5 ELDERS

April 5th : **Justin Chastain & TBA** April 12th : Dan Crum & Kathy Betzer April 19th : Sharon Bittner & Gloria Graham April 26th : **TBA & Justin Chastain**

(1st person listed is Communion Elder)

raytjulj

Carlisle Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)

305 Market Street Carlisle, Iowa 50047

> PHONE: (515)989-0176

E-MAIL: <u>carlisle.cc@q.com</u>

WEBSITE: www.carlislechristianchurch. com

We're on Facebook at Carlisle Christian Church -DOC



NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020



This Sunday, April 5th is Palm Sunday. Pastor Cliff will deliver his sermon on-line. If you have a computer or a smart-phone, you can listen by going to Youtube Channel: CarlisleChristianChur ch, assuming all goes

well, we will use this Sunday, April 12th for Easter as well. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO TAKE COMMUNION, PASTOR CLIFF WILL BLESS THE ELEMENTS AT THE END OF THE SERMON AND YOU CAN HAVE YOUR OWN BREAD & GRAPE JUICE READY AT HOME.

CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH (DISCIPLES OF CHRIST)

SEARCH FOR REGIONAL MINISTER FOR THE D.O.C.

As you may know, our long-time Regional Minister Bill Spangler-Dunning moved and we have Pastor John Richardson as our interim R.M. 10 letters

of interest were received. those interested are now preparing their candidate profiles. When they are completed they will be sent to a 3rd party screener to evaluate and rank them based upon what we are looking for. It is hoped that we will start interviews in May. although that is up in the air right now due to COVID-19. Thankfully the process is far enough along that in-person meetings are no longer required, so things can continue on track without too much delay. Your prayers are appreciated!

The Prayer Vigil will take place 4/9-4/10. Simply pray at home during your time slot.

CARLISLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH 305 Market Street Carlisle, IA. 50047

> DAN CRUM P.O. BOX 76 CARLISLE, IA 50047