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Pastor: Doug Carroll  
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Secretary: Rhonda Brudi  
Email: [pearlcityumc@gmail.com](mailto:pearlcityumc@gmail.com)  
Office Hours: Tues. & Thur. 9 am to 2:15 pm

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Praising Christ Every Sunday at 8:30 am**

**JANUARY 2021**



**Love God. Love God's Children. Love God's Creation.**



[facebook.com/pcumcil](https://facebook.com/pcumcil)

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

# From the Pastor

Grace and Peace to you all!

I am looking forward to coming back “home.” As in, Stockton is my home town I grew up in and Pearl City – McConnell UMC were the first two churches I served in the Methodist denomination for seven years. I have had great memories and experiences with all of you that has shaped me and formed into the person I am today. I am looking forward to continuing on that journey with all of you. I am looking forward to reconnecting and catching up with the changes that have taken place in your lives and sharing the changes that have taken place in mine. Of course, for Cheryl and I, we are sure you will all want to hear about our grandchildren.

Speaking of changes though, there is one change all of us have shared in common this year that has affected our lives, our family’s lives, our communities, our country, and our world. COVID-19 is one experience that all of us have shared in. And as much as I want to be able to come back “home” to the normal things of life I remember – that is not the world we live in right now.

Because of where we are at right now, I want to share a poem with you all. This poem speaks to the life we are living in at the present but it ends by looking forward to what the Lord is going to do in us and for us in the future. I am hoping and praying that this poem can be a starting place; a new starting place that our paths can join together again as we reunite on the journey of faith in Jesus Christ, we are traveling on.

***“We’ve all been exposed” by Sara Bourns.***

*Not necessarily to the virus  
(though maybe...who knows).  
We’ve all been exposed BY the virus.*

*Corona is exposing us.  
Exposing our weak sides.  
Exposing our dark sides.  
Exposing what normally lays far beneath the surface of our souls,  
hidden by the invisible masks we wear.  
Now exposed by the paper masks we can’t hide far enough behind.*

*Corona is exposing our addiction to comfort.  
Our obsession with control.  
Our compulsion to hoard.  
Our protection of self.*

*Corona is peeling back our layers.  
Tearing down our walls.  
Revealing our illusions.  
Leveling our best-laid plans.*

*Corona is exposing the gods we worship:  
Our health  
Our hurry  
Our sense of security.  
Our favorite lies  
Our secret lusts  
Our misplaced trust.*

*Corona is calling everything into question:  
What is the church without a building?  
What is my worth without an income?  
How do we plan without certainty?  
How do we love despite risk?*

*Corona is exposing me.  
My mindless numbing  
My endless scrolling  
My careless words  
My fragile nerves.*

*We've all been exposed.  
Our junk laid bare.  
Our fears made known.  
The band-aid torn.  
The masquerade done.*

*So what now? What's left?  
Clean hands  
Clear eyes  
Tender hearts.*

*What Corona reveals, God can heal.*

*Come Lord Jesus.  
Have mercy on us.*

Lord Jesus, our prayer is always, "Let Your will be done in our lives." Let Your will be done in Pearl City UMC, in McConnell UMC, and in Stockton Wesley UMC. Lord, give us Your clean hands, Your clear eyes, and Your tender heart. Come Lord Jesus. Have mercy on us. In Jesus name, Amen.

Your fellow servant in Christ Jesus,

*Pastor Doug Carroll*

## Upcoming Events At A Glance-Mark Your Calendars:

We will once again begin in person worship on January 3rd at 8:30 am. We will have communion on January 3rd. We will continue to stream the worship service via Facebook live at 8:30 am and this service will also be posted on our website by Monday evening.



**February Newsletter items are due on January 25th**



**Office Hours:** Rhonda is currently working from home in the afternoons. (She is at her other job from 8 am until noon each day.) You can email her at [pearlcityumc@gmail.com](mailto:pearlcityumc@gmail.com) or call her cell at 815-275-5959. She also checks the messages left on the church answering machine daily.



### Submitting a Prayer Request:

Please email all prayer requests to [pearlcityumc@gmail.com](mailto:pearlcityumc@gmail.com) at any time and we will add them to our bulletin and they'll be included in our worship service. These can be a prayer or even a joy! You can also leave a message on the Pearl City UMC answering machine at 815-443-2177.

**Offerings:** Please remember that if you are financially able, you can continue to mail your offerings to the church: Pearl City UMC, PO Box 236, Pearl City, IL 61062.



Thank you for the kind generosity of your Christmas gift. I look forward to continue serving the church.  
Thanks, Rhonda Brudi



**\*One Board Meeting is scheduled for January 21st at 6:30 pm**

## Those Who Serve

***\*Greeters and Readers will continue to remain as we have been currently doing due to COVID.***

	<u>Greeters/Door</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
Jan 3	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Jan 10	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Jan 17	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Jan 24	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Jan 31	Jason Barklow	-	No SS

### Communion Setup

Jan 3 (TBA)

### Pianist/Organist

Ann Pals

	<u>Greeters/Door</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Sunday School</u>
Feb 7	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Feb 14	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Feb 21	Jason Barklow	-	No SS
Feb 28	Jason Barklow	-	No SS

### Communion Setup

Feb 7 (TBA)

### Pianist/Organist

Ann Pals

***If there is a conflict with your schedule, please find someone to trade with you, then contact Rhonda at the office with the change at 443-2177, email her at [pearlcityumc@gmail.com](mailto:pearlcityumc@gmail.com) or text her at 815-275-5959.***

# Worship SCHEDULE

We will once again begin in person worship on January 3rd at 8:30 am. We will continue to stream the worship service via Facebook live at 8:30 am and this service will also be posted on our website by Monday evening.



**Website:** Stay up to date on events and other information by visiting [www.pearlcityumc.org](http://www.pearlcityumc.org). You can see our on line services, upcoming events, announcements, daily messages, view our church calendar/schedule, worship schedule, youth information, food pantry information and also view the newsletter.



**Facebook:** Visit our Facebook page at:

[facebook.com/pcumcil](https://facebook.com/pcumcil)

You can find our on-line services there, daily messages and many other updates/announcements.



## January Celebrations



### **Birthdays**

Jan 7 Greg Townsend  
Jan 8 Ed Wohlford  
Jan 8 Luke McDearmon  
Jan 10 Jason Barklow  
Jan 10 Ralph Drane  
Jan 13 Katrina Linnemann  
Jan 14 Cathy McDearmon-Nowak  
Jan 16 Natalie Lotz  
Jan 17 Sarah Kluck  
Jan 19 Kip Martens  
Jan 20 Robert Cooke  
Jan 23 Amy Johnson  
Jan 23 Jolene Martens

Jan 24 Bill Werkheiser  
Jan 25 Steve Sheffey  
Jan 25 Justin Kluck  
Jan 28 Deb Gerke



### **Anniversary's**

Jan 5 M/M Scott Saxer  
Jan 16 M/M Gary Brinkmeier  
Jan 24 M/M Shane Johnson

*\*If any birthdays or anniversaries have been missed or are incorrect, please let Rhonda know so she can update our records. Thank you!*



## **Pearl City United Methodist Church One Board Meeting December 17th.**

Present: Calvin, Jason, Janis, Dennis, Sarah, Cricket, Greg, Tonya, Jennifer, Janine, Phyllis, Lucy, Katie, Pastor Doug and Rhonda

Calvin called the meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

Checking account balance at the end of Nov was \$2,974.54.

Motion was made by Lucy to approve the consent calendar, Phyllis seconded, motion passed.

Cricket and Tonya will be leaving the board. We want to thank them for all their hard work and service over the years. We will miss them.

Conference went well, had good discussions about the church's goals for the upcoming year. Phyllis and Brian were renewed as lay leaders.

Parsonage was cleaned along with the carpets before Pastor Doug moved in. Will need to fix the Patio door and a window at the parsonage this spring. All utilities at the parsonage will be split 3 ways now with McConnell and Wesley churches. Anything property wise will still be split with McConnell and us since we are the ones who own the property.

Church Service will stay at 8:30 am and will start in person Jan 3<sup>rd</sup>. Will still be using Facebook live for those not comfortable with in person yet.

Angel Tree was a great success, thank you to everyone who donated!

Jason made a motion to adjourn, Dennis seconded, meeting adjourned at 7:52 pm.

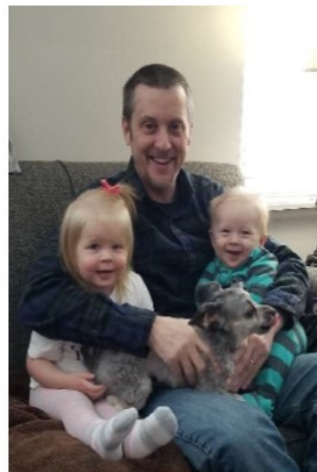
Jennifer Barklow

Secretary



**Bishop Sally Dyck and the NIC Cabinet are pleased to make the appointment of the Rev. Doug Carroll to Pearl City, McConnell and Stockton: Wesley effective January 1, 2021, for the following reasons:**

- Good preacher and teacher
- Great in Pastoral Care
- Deep spirituality
- **Passion for evangelism** and outreach
- Community minded



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### **BIO Introduction – Pearl City, McConnell, Stockton-Wesley**

Effective Start Date - January 1, 2021

Hello, I am Pastor Doug Carroll. I have been a pastor for fifteen years. I graduated from Dubuque Theological Seminary in 2010 and was ordained in 2012. Let me back up a little and share that I grew up in the Stockton area. My wife, Cheryl, and I lived in Stockton for ten years along with our two sons, which are now grown. Our eldest, Jason is an officer in the Navy and currently lives in California. Seth and his wife, Carrie, along with their two children live in Arkansas. I am blessed.

My life's theme verse is Proverbs 3:5-6.

**Trust in the Lord with all your heart  
and lean not on your own understanding;  
in all your ways acknowledge him,  
and he will make your paths straight**

Why do I claim this scripture as a theme verse for Cheryl and I?

Throughout life's journey, there are many times when we do not always understand the circumstances in which we find ourselves or we may be facing a decision that needs to be made. The first three lines speak to what we, as believers are called to do, and the fourth line speaks to what God will do. God will make our paths straight.

These verses are powerful and have been proven to be true time after time throughout my faith journey. Whether I was facing a decision, facing a trying situation, or simply concerned about cultural trends, it reminds me that God is always in control. I continue to place my *trust* in God for God is steadfast and faithful to his word. And because God is steadfastness, I (we) too, can stand firm in our faith journey.

I look forward to sharing God's word with you, getting to know you, and doing life with you.

Pastor Doug Carroll