

July 2008

# The Messenger

## Conceptualizing the New Constitution

It is mid-week of Skills Camp 2008. I am exhausted yet exhilarated. It is awesome to see relationships built, friendships emerge, skills develop, Christ proclaimed, and lives transformed. I realize that Skills Camp is a great example of how our new constitution can work.

Our Skills Camp volunteers (over 40 of us) are Broadway's members and regular attenders who are serving in their areas of interest and expertise to create an incredible, transformational, Christ-centered experience for the 100 kids who attend. Some are up front using their communication gifts like Michelle Gustafson, Wes Hardin, and Matt Link. Others are behind the scenes using their organizing and serving gifts like Cheryl Ecklund, Jon Brown, Kathy Adams, and Erica Schweiger. And lots of others are chipping in, helping out, any way they can like Mary Beth Adams, Neva Anderson, Dick Rasanen, Carol Palmer, Leslie Moore, Bob Schweiger, Jamie Waelti, Dorothy Benning, Amy Bertrand, Arline Gredenius, Becky Bamberger, Jennifer O'Marrah, Kristi Holstein, Jeff Irelan, Stephanie Link, Marcia Johnson, Jenna Rasanen, Sylvia Bowman, Jamise Retzlaff, Paula Rasanen, junior and senior highers, and many, many others. They are all using the gifts God has given them to glorify God by serving.

The work done behind the scenes – the “little” things like engaging kids who seem left out, helping tie shoes, picking up wayward candy wrappers, filling water balloons and super soakers, praying, counting soccer balls, cutting wings, painting faces, wiping tables, taking pictures, handing out candy, greeting parents, and buying supplies – are just as important as the upfront, whiz-bang teaching, music, skits and videos. In fact, the little things behind the scenes are a huge part of why our Skills Camp is so great – the big things are awesome, too – and little lives are transformed.

The same can be true for our church. It is the “little” things that make our church great (I put “little” in quotes because, they aren't really little, they are very important) like setting out cones, turning on lights, taking the offering, counting the offering, cutting checks, cleaning windows, buying grape juice, balancing the budget, writing notes, making meals, brewing coffee, bringing doughnut holes, baking pies, quilting blankets, wrapping bandages, running sound and videos, helping with errands, hosting small groups, rebooting the A/C, visiting hospitals and nursing homes, passing out bulletins, picking up bulletins, practicing the piano, playing in the nursery, updating the website, reading Scripture, welcoming people, changing the sign, caring for our computers, singing songs, folding newsletters, teaching Sunday School, vacuuming messes, painting ceilings, making phone calls, running errands, inviting friends. The upfront, whiz-bang teaching and music and worship experiences get a lot of accolades and responses, but without people helping with all of the “little” things, lives won't be changed. Our new organizational structure seeks to remove barriers to serving, to enable everyone to help make our church become a place where lives are transformed. An organizational structure doesn't transform lives. People, working with Holy Spirit, do. So for Broadway to become a transformational place through the power of the Holy Spirit, we need to emulate our Skills Camp experiences. Lots of people – each member and every regular attender – need to do the “little” things that change lives, “little” things that make this place great.

As a member or regular attender, what are the “little” things that you can do to make Broadway Covenant Church great, to help transform lives?

Serving Christ with the gifts He has given,  
Pastor Eric

# Student Ministries

And things continue on and here we are in summer already. Rain, rain, and more rain. After taking a break near the end of the school year, we amped up for summer.

Roots was slated to meet at my house on June 4<sup>th</sup> for a BBQ and bonfire, but the weather didn't cooperate and we met at church instead. Good times were had and we enjoyed some pizza, games and then had some talktime in response to a video entitled "Inconvenient Jesus". The video was about a guy who was fine with having Christ in his life as long as it didn't influence his schedule. He comes home from work and has made plans to hang out with Christ that night. Then it's pushed back to after dinner. Then he's checking email from work and finds out the presentation they did went great and everyone is celebrating. He argues with himself and struggles to keep the plans that he made with Christ, but in the end justifies inaction by telling Jesus that mornings work better and that they could meet Tuesdays for breakfast. As he gets ready to hit the bar scene where his buddy's band is playing, he notices Christ following him, expecting to go with him. The hardcore ending rattled our group as the guy's attitude changes and he yells and screams at Christ that he can't come with. It turns out that Christ wasn't welcome in that part of his life. We spent some time after that talking about the importance for getting into God's word and spending time in prayer and praise each day. We all left there more aware of the distractions that can arise and how easily they can maneuver us away from Jesus. We talked about how each person needs to make a conscious choice to follow Christ and make him important. It was a good lesson for the beginning of summer, when free-time abounds and distractions are at every turn.



On June 13 – 14, Roots met out at Rock Cut for a camping trip. It kicked off at noon on Friday with partly cloudy skies but dry, which is great and surprising news. We enjoyed some mountain-biking, hiking, catching frogs, roasting hotdogs and brats, making s'mores. And not sleeping. Actually, I should clarify. They did sleep. Everybody was in the tents by 2:30AM. It was quiet by 3:30AM. Here it is...kids were back awake and ready to go at, get this, 4:45AM. Are you kidding me!! Dawn broke and they were up. Wow!! Such a difference between Jr and Sr High. We packed up camp later that morning and then headed over to the concession area hoping to get some paddleboats. However, being a Saturday morning, they were pretty busy. So, we headed down to the lakefront for some wading and hangout time. A great experience was had and I'm looking forward to doing it again.

Overhaul met out at my house on June 8<sup>th</sup> for our kickoff. We played some ultimate Frisbee, had some hangout time, ate dinner and then talktime. Again, there was good conversation about making Christ a priority in life. Then, the storm moved in. We had just lit the bonfire when the sky turned eery. This wall of dark clouds moved in and the tornado warnings and severe thunderstorm warnings went into effect. So, being the responsible parent I am, I told the kids they couldn't leave until the warnings lifted. It was a little scary for some, so to lighten the mood, we watched the movie Twister. Everyone headed out around 11PM. It was raining pretty hard, but the warnings were over. Everyone had a good time.



On June 9-10, it was Overhaul's turn to invade rock cut for the night. Biking, Frisbee, cooking made for a good time. It sprinkled a little bit during the evening, but not enough to ruin anything. I have a pretty funny picture of 5 or 6 overhaulers trying to put up a tent. It appears each was looking at another for help, which made it fun to watch.

We spent 3-4 hours in the woods playing twilight camouflage. In playing that, I learned that I get an allergic reaction to nettles. Thank goodness for Benadryl spray. Anyway, we take a walk along a path and then the person with the flashlight yells "camouflage" and everyone else scatters and hides. Then the objective is for those without flashlights to tag the "target" person without being beamed with the flashlight. It's a great game and Jessica Lindquist was pretty doggone good at hiding in almost plain sight. Again, good times for the BCC youthsters.

A huge thank-you goes out to every single person who had a hand in Skills Camp '08. Whatever!!! 1 Corinthians 10:31 was our theme verse which says "Whatever you do, do it for the glory of God". It was an unforgettable week and 15 little ones decided to follow Jesus and trade their heart for His. Praise God for the 100 little ones and 50 volunteers who got together and used their gifts to make this a fantastic week. Praise Him for the great weather and needed energy and cohesiveness. As I looked at the kids during the week, I saw the face of Jesus. Too God be the glory!! Peace, Derek

## Missions Corner

David and Judy Dolan, Coordinators for Chinese Ministry, are our Missionaries to pray for this month. They have been the coordinators since 1999. Besides China and Taiwan the Chinese Ministry also works in Southeast Asia, North America, South Africa and just last month began a ministry in Mongolia. Please pray for wisdom for the future ministry in Mongolia. Also please pray for the Chinese Ministry as they continue to reach out to Chinese people around the world.

**Peter and Ruth Dutton** Missionaries in Southeast Asia will be sharing during worship on July 27<sup>th</sup>. Please come and hear about their ministry.

**Coins for Congo:** We recently sent \$170.34 to Timothy Mambo for his ministry in the Congo. We are collecting for him in the bank at the entrance of the church. Thank you for your support.

**Peanut Butter Update:** We recently took 32 pounds of peanut butter to the Food Pantry. Thank you for your donations.

### **Prayer and Praise:**

#### ***Johnna Hayward, Belgium***

- Praise for deeper relationships and conversations.
- Pray for financial situation and that she would raise the rest of her support.

#### ***Alaska Christian College***

- Praise for four students who chose to follow Christ.
- Praise that the GPA average was higher this year than in previous years.
- Pray that the students that have committed to returning this fall will do so and will secure the money they need to enroll.

#### ***Steve & Ellen Peterson, Asia***

- Praise for productive meetings with other team leaders.
- Pray that the area leaders will see clearly the next step and follow through with it.
- Pray for good health for Steve and for strength for upcoming travels.

Read their newsletters and other letters from our missionaries in the book by the Missions Board.

### **Missionaries Broadway Supports:**

Robert & Joyce Widman	Johnna Hayward
Leonid & Leanna Regheta	Peter & Ruth Dutton
Tim & Andrea Johnson	Jim & Barb Mikrut
Steve & Ellen Peterson	David & Judy Dolan
Byron & Sue Bruckner	

## Birthdays

1	Kurt Anderson
	Candice McCulloch
2	Matt Link
5	Gladys Anderson
6	Jonathan Brown
7	Arlene Schweiger
8	Troy Jackson
10	Pearl Wienke
13	Matthew Carlson
15	Mike Bliss
16	Rosalie Pearson
17	Joan Boettcher
	Wesley Nelson
18	Todd Johnson
19	Marshall Johnson
21	Ann Mary Ferguson
22	Kimberly Haase
23	Louise Berg
25	Leonard Mikkelson
	Nancy Rainwater
26	Wayne Augenson
31	Pam Zollar

## Anniversaries

2	Mayford & Pearl Engstrom
3	Charles & Noel Carlson
8	Erin & Tim Clark
14	Robert & Lorrie Werthman
	Mike & Stacey Parlapiano
23	Philip & Kathy Adams
24	Gerald & Christine Bauer
	Doug & Kathie Knight

## New Addresses

Althea Myers  
8501 Flying Cloud Dr. Apt. 302  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

Dorothy Kjell  
Fairhaven Christian Center #378  
3470 N. Alpine Rd., 61114

815/282-1028

## Thank You

I want to thank all those that sent cards and made phone calls. Thanks to Pastor Eric and Tate & Betty for their visits while I was in the hospital. Also thanks to those who brought meals to me after I got home. It was much appreciated. Also thanks for the many prayers and concerns. Bless all of you.

Thelma Melquist

## Patriotic Prayer Breakfast

Plan to attend the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Patriotic Prayer Breakfast on Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>. A free continental breakfast will be served at 8:30 a.m. with music and a guest speaker from 9-10:30 a.m. Lieutenant Colonel Robert



Maginnis, US Army (retired) is an internationally known expert on national security and foreign affairs who is currently serving as an analyst for several radio networks.

## Save Your Aluminum Can Tabs

The Ronald McDonald House in Madison, WI collects the tabs from aluminum cans. You can help by removing them from your cans and bringing them to the marked container in the narthex.



Broadway Covenant Church  
3525 Broadway  
Rockford, IL 61108

## Pastoral Care Pastor

Thank you to the many people who have made me feel welcome here at Broadway in recent weeks. I am looking forward to getting reacquainted with many of you as time progresses and serving you in the capacity of pastoral care. I will be organizing pastoral care visits in the weeks to come, and if you know someone who needs to be visited please feel free to contact me at Broadway Covenant Church 815-399-9296 ext. 14. I will also establish fixed office hours as my schedule becomes clear. I am looking forward to serving the people of Broadway Covenant in the days ahead.

Serving you in Christ's name, Joyce Cosman

## Covenant Point Triathlon

This event will take place on August 3<sup>rd</sup> to fund the expansion of special needs programming at Covenant Point. Pastor Eric is competing in the triathlon and hopes to raise \$1,000 for the camp's special needs ministries. Please contact him to sponsor him.