

March 2010

# The Messenger

## What time does the **Revival!** start?

Our Renew + Rebuild = Revival! Campaign is complete. We've met in homes; we've prayed through prayer guides; we've had desserts, dinners, and lunches reflecting on what Broadway means to us and how God is at work in our lives and in our church. We've studied the architect's drawings; we've asked questions; we've listened to testimonies; we've made our pledges; we've done it all! Wow! Now, I know what you are thinking (because I'm wondering the same thing):

"Okay, Pastor Eric...I am working hard at remembering Isaiah 40:28 – 'that those who hope in the Lord will **renew** their strength' – and finding opportunities for my hope to be renewed each week. I have recognized the needs of our building and my own need to **rebuild** my spiritual life by being born again according to John 3:3. So, my question, Pastor Eric, is when does this **revival** that you've talked about begin?"

Indeed, when will the **revival** start? 1 plus 2 equals 3, right? So...Renew + Rebuild = Revival! So...on March 7 our revival begins, right? I wish it were that easy, that God's Holy Spirit could be conjured up by creative alliterations. Although our campaign is over, our work has just begun. Everything we have done over the last six months in planning, preparing, preaching, praying, and pledging has laid the groundwork for our future. By preparing our hearts, minds, and our building, we have constructed a foundation for us to build upon. Once the builders come, we will see immediate effects of our campaign, and by the end of summer (hopefully?) our building will be renewed. However, unless the workers come, our entrances, elevator and bathrooms won't be built. Likewise, unless the Holy Spirit comes, we won't experience revival. So the question of when will revival come is really a question of whether the Holy Spirit will come.

In Dr. Bob Griffin's book Firestorms of Revival, he outlines ten characteristics of revivals that have taken place biblically and historically. For Broadway the key characteristics that we must keep central in our minds are these: **prayer**, **proclamation** of God's Word and salvation in Jesus Christ, and **worship**. These three characteristics are remarkably similar to what we see at the beginnings of the New Testament church in Acts 2:42, 47:

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching (**proclamation**) and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread (**worship**) and to prayer (**prayer**)...And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved (**revival!**).

This is the reason you have received a different prayer guide in your bulletin each Sunday in 2010. I invite you to reuse those prayer guides over and over in the coming weeks and months. Kathi Engstrom and Colleen Felts created wonderful opportunities for us to pray individually for revival to come. You are invited to pray with others on Tuesday mornings and Wednesdays at noon at church. **Prayer** is central to revival.

"**Proclamation** of God's Word and salvation in Jesus Christ" isn't just what I seek to do every Sunday during my sermon. It should be what each one of us is engaged in by studying our Bible and sharing our faith in Jesus with our friends and neighbors. Alpha is the easiest opportunity for you to focus your attention on proclaiming of God's Word and salvation in Jesus Christ. Bring a friend on Wednesday nights to proclaim God's Word and see salvation (and revival) come.

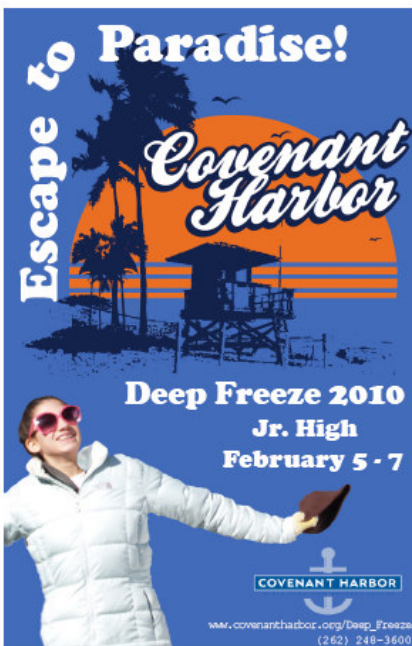
Gathering together on Sunday mornings for **worship** must be a priority if we desire revival at Broadway. Please join us on Sundays. Revelation 22:17 says, "The Spirit and the (church) say, 'Come!' And let those who are thirsty come; and let all who wish, take the free gift of the water of life." Please come!

# Student Ministries

Greetings Broadway Covenant! First off, thank you so much to all the parents for trusting me with your kids this weekend at Deep Freeze. It was a great experience for all involved. After some cheese curds and butterburgers at Culver's en route to Covenant Harbor, we arrived at the camp around 7PM on Friday night. The guys schacked up at Hilltop and the girls had a room in the Lodge. After claiming bunks, hanging out, and eating beef jerky and pringles, it was off to the JAC for our opening session. Brandon Early, our speaker, along with the band, The Least of These, and the harbor staff did a great job of amping it up and engaging all of us in song, laughter, and community. Dylan made a spam castle and others engaged in goofy retro dance-offs and other challenges that left some a bit queasy! ☺ After things got cleaned up and calmed down, Brandon spoke on the Jesus Creed, which is simply "Love God, love others". He gave a very cool illustration using a study done by Cambridge University. This study showed how the brain reads. Some of you might be wanting to see the Cambridge paragraph...so here ya go. Enjoy!!

**Aoccdrnig to a rscheearch at Cmabrigde Uinervtisy, it deosn't mttar in waht oredr the ltteers in a wrod are, the olny iprmoetnt tihng is taht the frist and lsat ltteer be at the rghit pclae. The rset can be a toatl mses and you can sitll raed it wouthit porbelm. Tihs is bcuseae the huamn mnid deos not raed ervey lteter by istlef, but the wrod as a wlohe.**

How is that not cool?? Brandon used this to teach us that the Jesus Creed is the first and last letter of our faith. If those two are present and in place, then the rest of our mission, faith, life, and path makes sense. Very very cool.



When we weren't in large group worship, we were defini tely busy with other things. Kids were running throughout camp finding "lost" items that could be turned in for "auction cash". Broadway scored packs of small boomerangs and get this...a milk jug full of beans. Not sure what to do with those! During freetime kids braved the frozen lake geneva and went polar bear dipping. Some headed down to Snake Road Ropes course for some climbing wall action followed by a 300 foot zipline. I have video and pics of kids overcoming fears and persevering through challenges! Congrats to all of you for challenging yourselves and pushing past the limits!! Very cool! Other options included Arts and Crafts, extreme sledding, x-country skiing, broomball, open gym, bounce castle, naptime, or cards. Everybody found their interest and good times were had. The kids also contributed to both the sugar levels within themselves and the profit levels of Harbor's snack shack and pop machines!

While there, the kids were presented an opportunity to support Haiti Relief Efforts through a love offering on Saturday night. I decided that we would forego stopping for lunch on the way home on Sunday to allow kids to give to the offering if they so chose. It was very much their individual choice to give or not and I was extremely proud of our students as they stepped up to the challenge and provided what they could to help those struggling so badly in Haiti. They're living the message of the weekend..."Love God, love others". So awesome...

I was so blessed to have such a great group this year in addition to 2 fabulous counselors who go above and beyond each week. Thanks to Kristi Holstein and Dan Schweitzer for their great leadership and example to our students. This year we had nine students give their lives over to Christ at Deep Freeze and commit to following Him. How incredibly awesome is that! On behalf of all of us, thank you so much for all your support of BCC's Student Ministries. God is good!

Peace,

**Derek**

## Mission Report

The Missionaries that we are praying for this month are Peter & Ruth Dutton who are in Thailand. They are directors of Mekong Valley Food Company, a new company they opened in Thailand that grew out of their previous work with Friend of the Upland Farmer in Laos. They are responsible for setting up the company, finding personnel, both national and international, connecting with the Thai government, maintaining relationships with Lao contacts and initiating new contacts within Thailand. They have much more freedom in Thailand than they did in Laos so they have many opportunities to disciple both within the company and out of it. Peter has had opportunities to teach and preach within the greater church in Thailand. Their vision for the company is that it would evolve into a center and platform for ministry that will train lay church leaders in business skills needed to support their families; stimulate Christians to grow in their faith and live it in hostile environments; provide jobs and economic stability for staff members and their families as well as an economic uplift for the surrounding communities by purchasing their crops at fair prices and processing them into finished products; and to be a catalyst for active evangelism into communities throughout the region. Please pray that they would be able to complete the set up of the Mekong Valley Foods mill and if it were God's will that they would get a contract from the World Food Program. Also please pray for their son and daughter in law who have joined them that God will give them specifics of how he might use them in the future.

### **Prayer and Praise:**

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

- Praise for the 44 students that are attending.
- Pray for the new students that they will adjust to their new home.
- Pray for a cook and maintenance person member to join their staff.

#### ***Covenant Children's Home, Princeton IL***

- Praise for the doctors & nurses who volunteer their time to give free medical care through their clinic and mobile unit
- Pray for the women and children who have experienced domestic violence and stay at their Freedom House and for Pastor Weborg who provide spiritual ministry and support to them.
- Pray for the children who are in their handicapped preschool program.

## Potluck at Melin's

If you were born in the 1970s or 1980s this is for YOU! Come join us on Thursday, March 4th from 6:30 - 8:30PM at Melin's for a great time of fellowship, open discussions on relevant stuff, and dinner. Please bring a dish to pass and your calendars (or phones or pdas or whatever!) so we can plan future dates and details. Single, engaged, married, parent, all are welcome and encouraged to join us. Childcare not provided so please plan accordingly and don't hesitate to call us with questions at 815-222-2416. Cya there!

## Coming Soon – The Alpha Course

Everyone is invited to join the Alpha Course which starts March 10, 2010. Although Alpha is designed as an evangelism tool to reach the un-churched with a straight-forward explanation of the gospel, it is also a great course for believers. It offers the opportunity to revisit the basics of our faith and challenges us with the importance of sharing what we know with others in our circles. Coming on the Alpha Course will help us understand just what the course is and excite us about inviting our friends to join the course the next time it is offered.

Please consider coming to the course which will start with dinner at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2010 and run through our Celebration Dinner on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

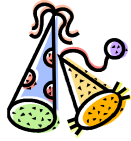
## 60 Plus

Join 60 Plus for lunch at the Hoffman House on Bell School Road, Tuesday, March 16, 2010 @ 11:30 AM. Please call Peggy, 282-0640, by Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup> with your reservation or any questions.

We have some reserved tickets to go to the Fireside Christian concert to hear "The Anchormen" on May 18<sup>th</sup> for the Fireside's Fish and Chicken Buffet and Matinee Concert. The cost is \$34.95 per person, plus tip. Please give Karen a \$1.00 deposit to reserve your place as soon as possible. The rest of the money needs to be paid to Karen by April 15<sup>th</sup>. We have reserved the Salvation Army Eden Express Bus for transportation and some will be riding in cars or vans.

## Change your Clocks

Daylight savings time begins Sunday, March 14<sup>th</sup>.



## Birthdays

- 2 Paul Anderson
- 3 Matthew Gustafson
- 4 Jason Clark
- 5 Dick Rasanen
- 7 David Roen
- 8 Loren Heinzerth
- 9 Eric Kracinski
- 11 Roger Creedy
- 12 Peggy Frint
- 14 Marvin Goodsell  
Patricia Andersen  
Karen Pearson
- 17 Sarah Cates  
Colleen Felt  
Derek Melin
- 18 JoAnn Olson
- 19 Beth Cates
- 26 Joyce Goodsell
- 26 Patrick McCulloch
- 27 Alice Nelson
- 28 Betty Lockett



## Anniversaries

- 4 Mike & Amy Bliss
- 5 Dennis & Carol Helm
- 10 Eric & Margret Kracinski
- 25 James & Jennifer O'Marrah
- 27 Carl & Cheryl Ecklund
- 28 Dennis & Nancy Norman

## Remember in Prayer

**Phil Adams Jr.** recovering from surgery on his broken ankle.

**Dick Rasanen** recovering from out-patient surgery.

**Katie Rowl** recovering from knee replacement surgery.

**Orville Roen** following cataract surgery.

**Bert Erickson** recovering from surgery.

**Wally Filkin** at rehab in Wheaton following a stroke.

**Justin Murdock** serving in Afghanistan and **Craig Anderson** in Iraq.

## Thank You

I send a special thank-you to all my friends at Broadway for the lovely flowers, many cards and the very helpful prayers. I appreciated it all so much. Peggy Frint

I missed the print cutoff last month, but I wanted to extend my most sincere thanks for the love offering gift I received this year. Our family is so blessed to be a part of such a great community of Christ followers. Thank you all for your generosity and example to my family and me. Peace, Derek Melin

## Special Congregational Meeting

On Sunday, March 14, 2010 immediately following the worship service there will be a special congregational business meeting. The purpose of the meeting will be to hold a congregational vote for approval to obtain construction financing from National Covenant Properties.

## From the Building Committee

As we announced recently, the building committee has selected Larson and Larson Builders as our general contractor for our proposed remodeling. Larson and Larson have been in business for many years and have completed several church projects similar to the work we are considering. The building committee will be working with Larson and Larson to plan the construction phases that need to take place. Access to the church will be limited at times to either the southeast or north entrances during construction. The entrance from the west parking lot and lower level entrances won't be impacted. Based on a successful conclusion to our capital campaign, construction could begin as soon as the weather permits, probably late March or early April and be completed in four or five months. We are excited to see how God has blessed the financial needs thus far and are looking forward to exploring the additional work we may be able to do. As we continue in this process we will keep you notified of the steps we are taking. Please feel free to contact any of the building committee members if you have questions. With Thanks to God,

The Building Committee

Al Damrose

Randy Price

Steve Schweitzer

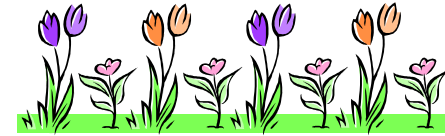
Eric Holstein

Kim Schweitzer

Keith Holmertz, Chair



# March 2010



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b> 9:00 Patchwork Quilters	<b>2</b> 8:30 Corporate Prayer	<b>3</b> 12:00 Prayer  4:30 Journey 5:30 Supper 6:00 Crosswalk/Roots 6:30 Choir	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship  6:00 Overhaul	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 8:30 Corporate Prayer 9:30 Janet/Joy at church 6:30 Leadership Team Meeting	<b>10</b> 12:00 Prayer  4:30 Journey 5:30 Supper 6:00 Crosswalk/Roots 6:30 Choir	<b>11</b> 6:30 Homeless Breakfast Pgrm	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14 (spring forward)</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Congregational Mtg.  6:00 Overhaul	<b>15</b> 9:00 Patchwork Quilters	<b>16</b> 8:30 Corporate Prayer 11:30 60 Plus at Hoffman House	<b>17</b> 12:00 Prayer  4:30 Journey 5:30 Supper 6:00 Crosswalk/Roots 6:30 Choir	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  Gregorcy Rehearsal	<b>20</b>  Gregorcy Wedding
<b>21</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship  6:00 Overhaul	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 8:30 Corporate Prayer  7:00 Mission Mtg.	<b>24</b> Messenger News Due 12:00 Prayer  4:30 Journey 5:30 Supper 6:00 Crosswalk/Roots 6:30 Choir	<b>25</b> 6:30 Homeless Breakfast Pgrm	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship Palm Sunday  6:00 Overhaul	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 8:30 Corporate Prayer	<b>31</b> 12:00 Prayer			



Broadway Covenant Church  
3525 Broadway  
Rockford, IL 61108

### **Return Service Requested**

### Maundy Thursday

Plan now to join us for a traditional Passover Seder dinner on Thursday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30 PM. You will have an opportunity to sign up this month in the southeast narthex or by calling the church office.

### Good Friday Worship

The Good Friday Service will be at 7:00 p.m. on April 2<sup>nd</sup>.



### Easter Breakfast

Men's Ministry will be serving breakfast from 9:00 to 10:15 a.m. on Easter morning. A minimum contribution of \$3 for children under 12 and \$4 per adult with a family cost of \$12 is suggested. All your donations are appreciated as the money will be used for maintenance of women's vehicles on "Make a Difference Day." Please call the church office by Wednesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> to make your reservation.



### Easter Plant

We will have another glorious display of spring flowers and lilies for our Easter service this year. Be looking for an order form in the bulletins or pick one up at the information table in the southeast narthex, fill it out and return it to the office with your payment of \$15. If you are writing a check, please make it out to Broadway Covenant Church and note on the memo "Easter Plant."

### Skills Camp 2010

Mark your calendar to save the week of June 14-18, 2010 for Skills Camp. Be planning to send your children, grandchildren and notify your neighbors so they don't miss this fun and important opportunity.