



February 2018

The Messenger

Ways We Care for One Another - Pastor Mike Mirakian

Broadway excels at loving one another. I have said this before, and it bears repeating, not to boast in our strengths but to emphasize the importance of extending this tradition of caring well for our church family. How we love one another lays the foundation for how we will love those we reach out to and those who find their way into our fellowship.

While loving friends and family within the church often happens in private ways, we also weave it into the fabric of our ministries. Every member and regular attender is assigned to a Care Facilitator as part of our Care Ministries, under the leadership of Marcia Johnson and Nancy Ilgen. Care Facilitators pray for, visit with and provide special attention during challenging times to each person under their care.

We also provide another care ministry that goes unnoticed, intentionally. For many years, the church has collected the Deacons Fund to offer financial assistance, confidentially, to people in our church during times of hardship. Recently, the Leadership Team renamed this resource the Care Fund, appointed Nancy Ilgen to serve as the Care Fund Administrator, and brought the funds under the church's financial oversight (in place of a separate bank account).

I want to highlight this important ministry, partly to encourage donations to build up the fund (currently, around \$2,800), and also to make sure that everyone in the church is aware that the Care Fund is available for those facing a financial need.

It's important to understand that the Care Fund exists to help people within our church. We support ministries for people in need in the community through our missions budget, but the Care Fund focuses on church members and regular attenders.

If you are in need or know of a pressing financial need in our church family, please contact Nancy or me. We will work together to determine how the Care Fund can help. Our priority is to meet short-term, occasional financial needs, like a utility bill or rent payment.

We will do our best to maintain your confidentiality. Nancy and I should be the only ones to know who has requested and received assistance.

Whenever possible, payments from the Care Fund are made directly to a billing company (utility, landlord, bank, etc.). In some cases, we can use the Care Fund to purchase grocery store or gas station gift cards, but we try to avoid, for the sake of accountability, giving money directly to a person or family need.

The Care Fund is not designed or financially able to meet on-going or large needs but should be able to help in small ways during times of financial crisis. Often people just need help to make it to the end of a month, and removing the burden of one bill or a week's worth of groceries can make a huge difference.

If you are facing a need, please don't hesitate to ask for help. The Care Fund is one way we turn our love for each other into useful action. In the same way, if you are aware that someone else in our church family could use assistance, please encourage them to talk with Nancy or me.

Finally, thank you for supporting the Care Fund with your donations. This ministry is supported by designated giving, not through the annual church budget. In recent years, we have not regularly asked for contributions to the Care Fund (formerly, Deacon Fund), and yet the church has been faithful to maintain a healthy balance. If you would like to give to the Care Fund, you can designate an amount on your offering envelope or the memo line of your check made out to Broadway Covenant Church.

Meet Carl Lindberg BCC Worship Leader

Carl Lindberg is a senior at North Park University studying Music in Worship. He is from Snoqualmie, Washington, and has two older sisters and a younger brother.

Music has been a big part of Carl's life for a long time. He has been playing the piano for 17 years and drums for 11 years. He comes from a musical family, with both of his parents participating in the university choir at North Park when they were students there.

Carl has applied to North Park Seminary to pursue a Masters in Divinity in hopes of one day becoming a Worship Pastor at a Covenant Church. Carl feels called to lead worship through a variety of styles and instruments, and prays that he can use his abilities to help lead himself and others closer to God while not getting in the way of the work that God is doing.

Carl Lindberg's Senior Recital

You are invited to the senior recital by Music in Worship student Carl Lindberg. It will take place at Anderson Chapel 5159 N. Spaulding Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625 at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, February 22nd at 6:00 p.m. He performs as drummer, guitarist, and solo pianist/vocalist. He also directs a jazz ensemble and gospel choir ensemble in standard spiritual compositions and his own arrangements. This event is free and open to the public.

Women Ministries Spring Celebration

Join with women from churches in the Central Conference on March 16 and 17 at First Covenant Church in Rockford to renew your knowledge that "God takes Great Delight in You!!" (Zephaniah 3:17). Early registration ends February 24 and the cost is \$40. Regular cost is \$50 and that registration ends March 7. Friday evening come for a light supper then viewing of "The War Room" followed by ice cream sundaes. Saturday morning begins at 8:15am with a continental breakfast followed by worship at 9:00am. There will be morning and afternoon workshops with lunch provided in between. Closing worship and leaving for home by 4:00pm. Take a break from the winter blahs and leave inspired. More information and registration forms will soon be available on the Information Center in the southeast narthex.

Youth Ministries



Hello again everybody. February is upon us. We have seen negative temps, we have seen 50 degrees. Last night it tried to snow

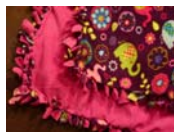
after a day of rain. Anywho, I hope this finds you all well and in good spirits as we forge our way through 2018. Here's what we're looking at for February. We will meet for regularly scheduled youth group on the 4th and the 18th. We are just starting Ephesians and I am excited to hear what Paul has to say to us as a youth group! I hope everyone is holding to their resolutions, they say that 80% of people drop them by February, let's not be that 80%. God bless!

Harbor Point Summer Camp

Camp registration has begun! If you have a child who has finished 1st grade all the way through high school who would like to go to Covenant Harbor or Covenant Point there are funds available. Look at the schedules on the bulletin boards, pick up a brochure on the information table in the southeast entry and check out their websites at covenantharbor.org and cpbc.com. Contact Dave Holmertz regarding all scholarship needs.

Julie's Project 2018

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 17, 2018. This is our first date to begin tying the fleece blankets for this year. We are once again making Rock House Kids the recipients of our work. We need your help to meet the goal of 75 blankets.



February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 10:30 Men's Bible Study	2	3 2:00 Memorial Service Katie Rowl
4 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship YOUTH	5	6 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 6:30 Girl Scouts	7	8 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	9	10
11 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship	12	13 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 6:30 LT Meeting	14	15 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	16	17
18 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship YOUTH	19 Messenger news due in office	20 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 6:30 Girl Scouts	21	22 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	23	24
25 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship	26	27 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	28			



Birthdays

1	Jennifer Braun
5	Kent Drews Paula Rasanen
6	Joyce Ball
7	Kim Lape
9	Carrie Pretzer Keaton Price
10	Justin Holmertz Dan Schweitzer
11	Elena Cultra
13	Gary Ecklund Kathi Engstrom
15	Sandy Creedy Doug Swanson Lauren Leidahl
16	Al Damrose Andy Brown
17	Kelsey Ecklund Odin LeJeune
19	Nancy Norman
20	Jason Holmertz Roy Leidahl
24	Jeff Chapetta
28	David Holmertz



Anniversaries

16	Marvin & Joyce Goodsell
20	Roger & Sandy Creedy
25	Maurie & Shirley Anderson
28	Larry & Patti Franzen

Serving in February

Head Usher:

Carl Ecklund

Counters:

Cheryl Ecklund & Jill Page

Nursery Workers:

2/4	Gene & Colleen Felts
2/11	Jeanine Heck & April Parker
2/18	Kathy Holmertz & Jon Brown
2/25	Kim Lape & Stacey Parlapiano

Coffee Schedule:

2/4	Kent & Jean Drews
2/11	Keith & Kathy Holmertz
2/18	Dave & Kim Lape
2/25	Kevin & Candice McCulloch



Remember in Prayer

Justin Murdock, Ft. Sill, OK

Pastor Dick Rasanen recovering from a fall and broken rib.

The family of Katie Rowl who passed away in January.

Financial Report from Treasurer

The Leadership Team had a goal of \$283,000 of donations in 2017. I am pleased to report that we exceeded that by \$168.00, assuming no changes by our audit. Praise God and thank you for all of your generous donations. Regarding 2018: The recent tax law change greatly increased the standard deduction for all of us. This means that many will no longer itemize their deductions. However there is an advantage still in the law that permits persons over age 70 ½ to make donations directly from their Traditional IRA Retirement Plan to the church. Call Dave Holmertz at 815-399-1523 if you would like to discuss this further.

60 Plus Lunch

60 Plus will meet at the Hoffman House for lunch February 20th at 11:30. Call Darlene Pearson 815-398-3902 with your reservations by February 18th and let her know if you need a ride. Invite others to join us. We have reserved 25 tickets to see the Collingsworth Family Christian Concert at the Fireside on May 23rd. for the evening performance. (main floor seating) Cost is \$45.95 plus tip including The Fish & Chicken Buffet and the Concert. We will be transported by the Y bus and the charge \$5 per person. Please let Karen (815-399-1523) know if you are interested in going. 17 of the 25 tickets have been reserved. The van holds 20 and the overflow will go in our van.

Mission Report

This month we are praying for **Johnna and Fabio Muniz**. They finished a three- year term in Japan last year and are currently living in Florida raising money and preparing to go to France later this year. They will be going to Lyon France. Their goal is to live as cross-cultural bridge-builders, creating and experiencing cultural fusion. Right now, they are spending time connecting with churches, doing language study, and reading to prepare them for their life in France. While doing this they are also taking care of their family. Sophia is learning to write, and Julia has just learned to walk. Please pray for good time management to do all they need to do and that they would be 100% funded by August.

Peter & Ruth Dutton – Thailand

Praise- New opportunities to write projects for long term partners in their work.

Pray- For future of new projects and programs: Ott and Inchais Recycling and Video Recording Studio projects. Pray that they will receive funds needed and accomplish the purpose for which they were written.

Peter & Anna Kim - Asia

Pray - For their time in the U.S. that they will be able to accomplish all that is needed. They will be visiting Broadway on Sunday February 11th. Please contact the church office if you will be able to join us for lunch at Stockholm after Church.

Pregnancy Care Center Baby Bottles - Please return the filled bottles by February 11th.

Be A Delegate

Have you ever wondered what happens at an annual meeting? Volunteer to be a delegate and find out. Delegates are needed for both the Central Conference Annual Meeting, April 26-28, 2018 at the Glen Ellyn Covenant Church in Glen Ellyn, IL and the Evangelical Covenant Church Annual Meeting, June 12-13, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN. Please talk to Keith Holmertz or Pastor Mike if you have a desire to be a delegate or if you want more information.

Leadership Team Update

In 2017, Broadway changed insurance carriers. We were able to maintain the coverage needed and reduce the church's premium. As part of that process, we committed to updating our Child Safety Guidelines. All individuals that desire to work with children and/or youth will need to undergo a national criminal background check. This will be done in a confidential manner with the information kept in a secure location in the Pastor's office. Over the next few weeks, those currently serving in these areas will be contacted about filling out a consent form.

We are excited to have Carl Lindberg join as our Worship Leader. The Youth & Worship Pastor Search Team continues to ask you to pray for wisdom and discernment as they seek to find the person God has chosen for this important position. In the mean-time we are grateful for Skyler and Carl's service in these ministry's. Search team members are Arlene Schweiger, Laura Mirakian, Steve Schweitzer, Tyler Whitney, Mike Mirakian and Keith Holmertz.

Members of the 2017-2018 Leadership Team are Colleen Felts, Dave Holmertz, Kathi Engstrom, Ken Yarwood, Kent Drews, Kim Schweitzer, Mike Mirakian and Keith Holmertz.

2017 Christmas Card Greetings

Dave & Karen Holmertz
Betty Lockett
Dan & Aina Hitchcock
Ron & Emmy Miller
Sue Warren
Judy LeGault
Jerry & Charmel Jacobs
Neva Anderson
Bud & Pat Johnson
Mike & Megan Woodrow
John & Kathy Lovens
Tom & Jeanine Heck
Pastor Al & Doris English
Paul Carlson Partnership
Ceroni Piping Company
Annette - 11st Street Express Printing
The Pregnancy Care Center Staff and Board

Jonathon Brown
Wes & Sue Nelson
Al & Gladys Damrose
Cris & Karl Burdick
Thelma Melquist
Kati Rowl



February 2018
Broadway Covenant
Church

3525 Broadway
Rockford, IL 61108

Senior Pastor - Mike Mirakian
Youth Director - Skyler Retzlaff
Worship Leader - Carl Lindberg
Phone - (815)399-9296
Fax - (815)399-7860

We're on the Web
www.broadwaycovenant.com