

April 2018



The Messenger

Supporting Our Covenant Connections - Pastor Mike Mirakian

Covenant church pastors and members will gather April 26-28 in Glen Ellyn for Celebration 2018, the Central Conference Annual Meeting. I know that doesn't sound terribly exciting to most people, but I hope you will join me in praying for the work of our conference and the decisions that will be made at the annual meeting.

What happens in the Central Conference and nationally through the Covenant is an extension of our local ministry. Broadway does not exist alone. We are part of the Kingdom, and more specifically, we are connected with the Covenant churches across Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Missouri. We are blessed to share in ministry much larger and further-reaching than what Broadway can accomplish on our own.

The annual meeting actually consists of two meetings. First, the ministerial association, made up of credentialed clergy, will gather for continuing education and our own business agenda. Later, delegates from each conference church will meet to hear reports and make decisions on behalf of the conference. The agendas for these meetings can look similar from year to year, but just as our congregational meetings help advance the ministry of our local church, the conference annual meeting enables ministry across our region.

Let me highlight a few items we will deal with later this month. I currently serve as the conference ministerial association treasurer, so I have an inside view of how our finances advance our shared ministry. For example, one of the largest expenditures each year out of the dues paid to the ministerial association goes toward the Ministerial Care Fund, a resource managed by the conference office to assist pastors and their families who face financial hardship. Every year, these funds help pastors through difficult life moments.

The ministerial association also elects pastors to serve on the Committee on Ministerial Standing (COMS), a position I held several years ago in the East Coast Conference. COMS interviews, prays for and encourages young pastors working toward ordination. Before a pastor can be credentialed in the Covenant, he or she has to complete theological education and ministry training, receive a call from a local Covenant church, and write a lengthy paper responding to theological questions. COMS reviews these papers and interviews each pastor as a way to ensure spiritual, theological and ministry readiness. While working behind the scenes, COMS plays a vital role in preparing young pastors for a life-time of ministry.

This year's gathering will be especially meaningful as it will be the first meeting for Danny Martinez, our newly elected Conference Superintendent. Danny brings joy, passion, vision and excitement to our shared ministry. He has particular interest and experience in developing Hispanic churches, which can help the Covenant reach more effectively into a large and growing segment of the population.

The conference also puts resources into planting new churches. Church plants have historically been the most effective means for reaching unbelievers and drawing the unchurched into fellowship.

Beyond the important business items that will be considered at Celebration 2018, this gathering of pastors and church members will also deepen relationships and strengthen unity among brothers and sisters in Christ. Friendships formed through shared ministry, shared values and shared experiences shape the Covenant community and give life to our theological affirmations. As you pray for the Spirit to guide our discussions and decisions, pray also for unity and joyful fellowship among pastors and church leaders.

Youth Ministries



We have arrived in April. Hopefully that means warmer days are on the way. Long story short, we have only a little while longer before we are in the summer. For the month of April the youth group will only meet once. We will meet on the 15th of April for regularly scheduled youth group.

Outside Clean-up

Please come on Saturday, April 21st to help us get the church grounds cleaned up. Bring rakes and yard tools. We can use the help any time after 8:30 a.m. Many hands make light work, and the fellowship is great, so come for as long as you can and bring a friend.



World Vision - Walk for Water

The joint council of Covenant churches in the Rockford Area is planning to participate in the Project Blue Covenant World Relief, "Walk for Water" that supports efforts to bring clean water to the people of India. The event in Rockford will be held on May 16th. All of the Covenant Churches have agreed to participate in this event.

The Walk/Run is a 6K (3.5 mile) course. Broadway Leadership Team hopes to organize a team to walk (or run) and also hopes that many of us will financially support those who walk/run on May 16th.

There will be more specific information coming in next weeks. Please be thinking about how God is calling you to participate.



Julie's Project – 2018 – Rock House Kids



Rock House Kids will be the recipients of our fleece blankets. We need your help to make this happen. Our next two "tie" dates are Saturdays, April 7th and April 21st. Meet at First Covenant's Fellowship Hall at 9:30AM. We usually finish around noon. Come even if it's only for a little while. All help is welcome. See Carolyn Augenson or Neva Anderson if you have any questions. Coffee and treats will be served.

Covenant Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the Covenant Church will take place June 21-23, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN. We are also in need of delegates for this meeting. If you are interested or have questions please talk with Pastor Mike or Keith Holmertz. We need to appoint delegates by May 14, 2018.

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>1</p> <p>9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Happy Easter</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 Carol Circle Potluck</p>	<p>3</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:30 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Boys Scouts</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30 - Noon 1st Covenant Fellowship Hall Julie's Project</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship</p> <p>6:30 LT Meeting 6:30 RG Meeting</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:30 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Boys Scouts</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;">YOUTH</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 11:30 60 Plus at Tavern on Clark 6:30 Girl Scouts</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:30 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Boys Scouts</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>8:30 Outside Cleanup 9:30 - Noon 1st Covenant Fellowship Hall Julie's Project</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Messenger news due in office</p> <p>7:00 Mission Meeting</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:30 Men's Bible Study</p> <p>6:30 Boys Scouts</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship</p>	<p>30</p>					



Birthdays

- 1 Aiden Gasmund
- 3 Pat Johnson
- 6 Joyce Cosman
- 7 Kendra Ecklund
- 10 Kellen Price
- 12 Meagan Haase
- 13 Grace Hulstedt
Theresa Gregorcy
April Parker
Mitchell Wimbush III
- 19 Brian Beyerl
Jess Starr
- 20 Kristi Swanson
- 21 Virginia Roen
- 22 Karlee Swanson
- 23 Toni Cartwright
Alice Tsai
- 24 Doug Boettcher
Jeff Brown
Jamise Roberts
- 26 Don Davis
- 29 Dan Hitchcock
Kari Whitney
Jeff Irelan



Anniversaries

- 7 Theresa & Perry Gregorcy
- 11 Gene & Louise Peterson
- 16 Roy & Janel Leidahl
- 26 William & Kathryn Forsen
Carrie & Paul Pretzer

Serving in April

Head Usher:

Steve Schweitzer

Counters:

Bill Forsen and Carolyn Augenson

Nursery Workers:

- 4/1 Laura Mirakian & Jon Brown
- 4/8 Kim Lape & Stacey Parlapiano
- 4/15 Kevin McCulloch & Kathy Holmertz
- 4/22 Gene & Colleen Felts
- 4/29 Jeanine Heck & April Parker

Coffee Schedule:

- 4/1 Todd & Elena Cultra
- 4/8 Amy Breese & Aiden
- 4/15 Dan & Aina Hitchcock
- 4/22 Judi Papka
- 4/29 Gene & Colleen Felts



Remember in Prayer

Justin Murdock, Ft. Sill, OK

Ken Yarwood recovering from a 2nd knee replacement.

Roger Creedy and family in the death of his wife Sandra.

Ethel Johnson who was hospitalized with breathing issues.

Thank You

On behalf of our families, thank you for all of the help and support we received for Sandy's funeral. Those who worked in the kitchen and dining area or provided desserts did a tremendous job. Also thanks to Keith Holmertz for leading the singing during the service. And to anyone else who contributed, a special thank you. It made the day very special to us all. Roger Creedy and the Seibold and Creedy Families.

Mission Report



This month we are praying for **Alaska Christian College** which is located in Soldonta Alaska. ACC is two- year college where students can earn an Associate's Degree in Behavioral Health, Christian Ministry & Paraprofessional Education. They can also earn a one-year Certificate of Biblical Studies. "The vision of Alaska Christian College is to be the premier college of choice for Alaska Native students so that they graduate to follow and serve Christ within the church and larger society." An example of their vision is a student who grew up in one of the small Alaskan villages and spoke mainly his native language until high school. At ACC he found support and was able to achieve his goals. He was an influential leader in the Native Dance Group and in student life activities. He continues to share his faith and life experiences through story- telling, community involvement and volunteering. He said "without ACC I might not have had the confidence to finish college." Please pray for the students as they finish out their school year and for those who are thinking of coming in the fall. Also pray that they will raise funds needed for scholarships.

Peter & Anna: Pray for upcoming surgeries for their daughter.

Hymn Sing at First Covenant



You are invited to an old fashioned hymn sing and pie fellowship on Friday, April 27th at First Covenant Church, 316 Wood Rd. at 6:30 p.m. A good will offering will be collected to help support our summer camp scholarship fund. Featured organist is Seth Carlson with special guest Lauren Hartman.

Leadership Team Update

At the Special Congregational Business Meeting on March 18th we voted to accept Todd and Elena Cultra into membership at Broadway. Todd and Elena have been active at Broadway the last few years and we are excited to have them become members. There were also two recommendations from the Leadership Team that were approved. One is to replace the roof, gutters and downspouts on the Education Wing, and to wrap the columns and facia with aluminum. There is also some additional exterior painting and staining included. The other item that was approved is the purchase of a digital sign to replace the almost 40-year-old sign. The new sign will be a great communication tool for Broadway. Our church has been blessed by some gifts to our Special Projects and Building Fund, so we are able to afford to do all these items at this time. Work will take place over the next several weeks

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.

60 Plus Lunch

Plan to join 60 Plus for lunch April 17th, at Tavern on Clark, 755 Clark Road (off N. Bell School Rd.) Please call your reservation to Dar-

**Tavern
On Clark**

lene, 815-398-3902 by April 15th and let her know if you need a ride. Remember to invite others to join us. Once again we are serving the Fairhaven Retirement Home Birthday Party on June 26th in the evening. We need to have a program that lasts for 15/20 minutes and are looking for suggestions. We also need 6 people to bring 2 dozen sandwiches and at least 8 people to help serve. Please let Karen, Mary Gibson, Darlene Pearson or Judi Papka know if you can help.

FAIRHAVEN
CHRISTIAN RETIREMENT CENTER

**April 2018
Broadway Covenant
Church**

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