



May 2018

The Messenger

Many Hands and Many Feet - Pastor Mike Mirakian

No one can do it all, and in the church, no one person can handle every issue and need that arises. We depend on lots of willing and able hands to accomplish all the many tasks required for our ministries. From small jobs to large, from up-front ministries to behind the scenes efforts, from administrative chores to spiritual undertakings, keeping a church moving forward means lots of people doing lots of jobs.

The good news is that Broadway is blessed with many generous and talented servants. As we approach the May 20 congregational meeting, during which we will elect (and re-elect) Leadership Team members, I am reminded of the church's need for faithful, wise and dedicated volunteers.

For generations, Broadway has been led not only by pastors or staff members, but even more, by gifted and generous lay people. Without the dedication of church members who give of their time and energy, the church could never accomplish what God has called us to do.

So, we should be grateful for those who serve in important ministry areas. I know I am. And it's not just those who are elected to leadership roles, but everyone who shows up to help with each of our ministries deserves our thanks.

I have often been amazed at how God places the right people into ministry positions at the right time, and at how willingly church members use their gifts. It might be an attorney who advises the church on a legal matter or an accountant who helps balance the books or a plumber who fixes a leaky pipe. It might even be a retired electrician who teaches a Sunday School class or a teacher who helps paint the walls.

The church needs people like you!

I am also reminded during seasons of leadership transition that those who step forward to serve in the church deserve more than our gratitude. They also deserve our support, prayers and grace. People who take on time-consuming tasks at the church add these duties on top of busy family and work responsibilities. Time and energy given to the church takes away from what could be given to family, and I trust God sees these sacrifices and rewards them with extra strength when needed most.

Some ministry positions within the church are elected, but many more people step forward to serve as needed and in areas where they have gifts and talents. As Paul wrote to the Corinthian church, every gift is needed and every place of service matters to the building up of the whole body (1 Corinthians 12). "Now you are the body of Christ," he wrote, "and each one of you is a part of it" (1 Cor. 12:27).

Paul also warned the church not to prioritize certain gifts or ministry roles over others. As we elect Leadership Team members and church officers, it would be easy to assume that these people are the most important or the most gifted. While I trust God does call forward wise and gifted people to serve in these roles, I also see the many hands and feet that operate behind the scenes and in quiet moments to keep the church running smoothly.

"God has placed the parts of the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be" (1 Cor. 12:18). I am grateful for that promise, and for each of you!

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 19th. The Walk/Run is a 6K (3.5 mile) course.

If you are interested in walking yourself or sponsoring someone please check out the link below to and click on "FIND A HOST SITE", choose Illinois and look for First Covenant Rockford.

<https://www.teamworldvision.org/index.cfm?fuseaction=donorDrive.event&eventID=921>



CWM Fall Fellowship

It's time to start thinking about Fall Fellowship held at Covenant Harbor September 14 – 16. Information is available in the Women's Fellowship/Adult Sunday School Room. Registration begins June 1st. Nilwona Nowlin is the featured speaker with Unity – Psalm 133:1 as her theme. Be refreshed and encouraged in your faith at this week-end retreat.

Youth Ministries



I hope this finds you all well. It seems spring has finally arrived after a few long cold months of what

seemed like an endless winter. Sooner than you know it kids will be out of school and we'll be griping about 100 degree days. Any who, here are the dates for May. We're looking at the 13th of May, which is Mother's Day, so we will meet and read our bibles and then promptly spend time with our mothers. Then we will also meet on the 27th of May to end the month. Continue to keep our students in prayer, as they are coming to the difficult point of the school year. Let's hope they finish strong and have a great end of year.

Julie's Project - new work days

We're almost half way to our goal of 65 blankets for Rock House Kids. Three additional dates have been scheduled; Saturday, May 5th at 9:30AM, Thursday, May 17th at 1:30PM and Saturday, June 2nd at 9:30AM. We meet at First Covenant Church's Fellowship Hall. Park at the west end and come in the kitchen door. Coffee and treats are provided. Thanks for your help as we seek to serve these children.



Summer Schedule Changes

Sunday, May 20th	Last week of Sunday School Broadway Covenant Church Annual Meeting
Tuesday, May 22nd	Last Women Fellowship meeting before the break for summer
Thursday, May 24th	Last meeting of the Men's Bible Study before summer break
Sunday, May 28th	NO Sunday School—Worship at 10:15 A.M.
Sunday, June 3rd	Worship Service time changes to 9:30 A.M.

Spring Praise Concert

You are invited to this concert featuring the Alleluia Quartet in celebration of Fairhaven Christian Retirement Center's 50th Anniversary. This event will take place at First Free Church on May 6th at 6:00 PM. There will be a time of fellowship and refreshments following the concert.

May

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 6:30 Girl Scouts	2	3 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	4	5
6 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship 6:00 Alleluia Quartet at First Free	7 6:00 Carol Circle Potluck	8 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 6:30 LT Meeting	9	10 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	11	12
13 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship YOUTH <i>Happy Mother's Day</i>	14	15 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 6:30 Girl Scouts	16	17 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	18	19 8:30 Check in for "Walk for Water"
20 9:00 Sunday School 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship BCC Annual Meeting	21 Messenger news due in office	22 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	23 4:00 60 Plus van leaves for Fireside	24 10:30 Men's Bible Study 6:30 Boys Scouts	25	26
27 10:00 Prayer 10:15 Worship YOUTH	28 Happy Memorial Day 	29	30	31		



Birthdays

- 6 Pat Gasmund
- 9 Karl Burdick
Kathy Holmertz
- 11 Zach Bickford
- 12 Sylvia Bowman
- 14 Laura Price
- 16 Gladys Damrose
Izzy Parlapiano
- 17 Susan Nelson
Mike Mirakian
- 18 Pat Retzlaff
Tyler Swanson
- 19 Neva Anderson
- 21 Anna McCulloch
- 22 Jack Sowl
- 23 Amy Breese
- 30 Brooke Bamberger



Anniversaries

- 2 Jerry & Charmel Jacobs
- 12 Kari & Tyler Whitney
- 14 Jason & Shelby Holmertz

Serving in May

Head Usher:

Keith Holmertz

Counters:

Robin Robinson & Candice McCulloch

Nursery Workers:

- 5/6 Laura & Randy Price
- 5/13 Cathy Alexander & Jon Brown
- 5/20 Barb Rehnberg & Beth Pasch
- 5/27 Laura Mirakian & Kevin McCulloch

Coffee Schedule:

- 5/6 Kent & Jean Drews
- 5/13 Keith & Kathy Holmertz
- 5/20 Kevin & Candice McCulloch
- 5/27 Kim & Dave Lape



Remember in Prayer

Justin Murdock, Ft. Sill, OK

The family of Paula Rasanen and her father Gene Swanson in the sudden death of her brother John Swanson.

Connie Mikkelson home recovering from pneumonia and back pain.

Remember in Prayer

Dear Broadway Covenant Church,

My name is Desiree and I am a first year student in the MDIV program at NPTS. I just wanted to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to you for supporting my education. It brings me joy and comfort to know that there are gracious and generous churches like you out there. Your support is such an encouragement to me both in school and in ministry. I couldn't do this without you. Many, many, thanks!

Desiree Robertson

60 Plus

60 Plus will not meet for our normal lunch in May. Those that have made reservations will be going to the Fireside for the Collingsworth Family concert on May 23rd for the evening buffet and concert. Meet at church 3:45 so the Y van can leave at 4:00. Questions call Karen 399-1523.

Mission Report

This month we are praying for **Bridge Ministries and Rockford Area Habitat For Humanity**. **Bridge Ministries** purpose is to serve the local church. According to their website a few ways they are doing this are: Mentoring young leaders to live and lead with passion and relevance; Providing encouragement and support to civic business and agency leaders and networking with local churches; Sponsoring public prayer gatherings to pray for the city and churches; Building friendships with and between those separated by race, denomination, geography, gender or socioeconomic status. Bridge Ministries sponsored an all-area all congregation picnic last fall at Camp Winnebago in Rockford. They had an estimated attendance of 400-500 people with an estimated 35 congregations represented. It was a beautiful day and all had a wonderful time. Please pray for growing partnerships with like minded believers for community transformation.

Habitat For Humanity's mission statement is "Seeking to put God's love into action and bring people together to build homes, communities and hope." Their homes are simple, decent and affordable. "Their vision does not end at the construction of houses. They strive to be a catalyst for change for both their homeowners and the communities they live in. They are currently building in the Brandon Place subdivision near Sandy Hollow golf course. The Covenant churches of Rockford are building another home this year. Also, Broadway is providing lunches on Saturday June 16th. If anyone would like to help contact Sue Warren 815-397-3158 or suswarren3326@comcast.net. Please pray for safety for the workers and for the families receiving the homes.

Johnna Muniz-Praise  **Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity** & **Fabio France** for a wonderful trip to Brazil.

Pray for good health as they continue a difficult travel schedule; good visits where their partners can sense their gratitude and friendship and pray that they would be 100% funded by August.

Leadership Team Update

A new sign is coming! After researching what would best serve our needs and receiving congregational approval last month, a digital sign was ordered that will replace our 40 year-old sign. The new sign will fit into the existing footprint and should be installed in June. Pastor Mike and Sue Ippolito will be able to program the sign to communicate information from their computers. Several people have changed the messages on our sign over the years, but two people have been incredibly faithful in performing that task, Karl Burdick and Rowlie Holmertz. Rowlie did it for many years, and when he was no longer able, Karl took on that responsibility. For several years Karl has faithfully changed the messages on the sign and the weather hasn't always been 60 and sunny. Thanks Karl!!

Our congregational business meeting will be held on Sunday, May 20th immediately following worship.

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.

Covenant Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the Covenant Church will take place June 21-23, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN. We are 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 8, 2018.

BCC Annual Business Meeting

The Broadway Covenant Church Annual Business Meeting will take place immediately following the worship service on May 20, 2018. Although there will not be lunch, we plan to be done as soon as possible. We will vote on Leadership Team members, hear reports, and consider several other items of business. The written annual report was put out earlier this year.

**May 2018
Broadway Covenant
Church**

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