

June 2018



The Messenger

Outreach Prayer - Pastor Mike Mirakian

Who do you know who doesn't know Jesus? Are you praying for them? Have you ever asked if you could pray with them?

Jesus said that He came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10). By God's grace, we used to be lost but now have been found by the one and only Savior. That's good news for you and me, and now, Jesus sends us out to share good news with others and help them find their way home to the God who loves them.

The mission to seek and save the lost begins with and is fueled by our prayers.

During April and May, a group of church members gathered to discuss how we can grow in our motivation and ability to reach out to those who don't yet know Jesus as their Savior. We read and discussed *Organic Outreach for Ordinary People*, written by Kevin Harney, a pastor who has encouraged thousands of believers to engage personally and comfortably in evangelism.

Evangelism might not sound like your cup of tea. Many believers struggle to know where to begin with sharing our faith or how to invite someone to follow Jesus. Let me encourage you to start with prayer.

We can all pray. We know how to lift up our own needs to God and how to trust Him with the needs of family and church friends. Many of us pause regularly throughout our days to pray for specific needs of the people we care about. We pray because we believe it makes a difference and that God changes lives in response to our prayers.

Prayer is essential to evangelism, and I believe you will see God work through you to reach the lost as you engage in two simple forms of outreach prayer.

First, spend a few minutes each day praying by name for the specific needs of people you know who aren't yet followers of Jesus. Pray that their hearts will open to the Savior, but also pray for their daily needs. Pray that God will protect and provide for them. If you know of a specific burden they carry, ask God to help them. If they are ill, pray for healing. If they experience blessings, give thanks to God on their behalf. In other words, pray for the lost just as you pray for your family and church friends.

Second, be daring enough to offer to pray with your lost friends. If someone tells you they are facing a hard moment in life, ask if you could say a prayer for them. If you are daring enough to offer, they will almost certainly accept. Pray out loud, in Jesus' name, just for a few seconds, using simple and faithful words.

"When you pray with an unbeliever," Harney writes (p. 118), "all kinds of amazing things can happen. God's presence can be felt as he draws near in the power of the Spirit. God's power can be seen as prayers are answered. Spiritual seekers can see that your faith is real and you have a relationship (a friendship) with God."

You already know how to pray, and you believe that prayer unleashes God's power to change lives. By offering to pray with someone in need, you not only show them genuine faith in action, but you also open the door for real, Spirit-given blessings to flow into their lives.

Before you know it, you will be doing your part to share the love and message of Jesus with people in need.

Youth Ministries



Hello everybody. We are experiencing a late rainy month, but hey, it's better than snow. I hope this finds everyone well. Here's what we're looking at for June. June 10th and the 17th will be our Sunday meeting dates for the month. On the 9th or the 16th (weather permitting the 9, but 16 as a fallback) we will have a Rock Cut State Park outing. We can grill, hike, play fun games, maybe take



the canoes out on the lake and eat some ice cream. Should be right about when the weather is beautiful. We'll meet at church at noon and be back to church around 4. Bring bathing suits (if you want to get wet), otherwise food and fun will be provided. Outside of that those two dates we will meet after church for regularly scheduled youth group.



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.

Julie's Project - new work days

We're almost to our goal of 65 blankets for Rock House Kids. The last date scheduled is 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.



Congratulations 2018 Graduates

STUDENT	Graduating from:
Gabriel Creedy	High School in Spartanburg, SC - attending University of Florida in the fall
Jenna Seibold	Harlem High School, plans to study nursing
Jacob Seibold	Harlem High School
Zach Bickford	Auburn High School, plans to join the military
Tyson Parks	East High School
Keaton Price	Rockford Christian High School, attending Bradley University in Peoria
Brooke Bamberger	Bethel University with a Bachelor Degree in Education



June

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2 9:30 Julie's Project at 1st Cov.
3 9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship	4 6:00 Carol Circle Potluck	5 8:30 Morning Prayer	6	7	8	9 12:00 Youth Rock Cut outing
10 9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship YOUTH	11	12 8:30 Morning Prayer 6:30 LT Meeting	13	14	15	16 9:30 Habitat lunch prep
17 9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship YOUTH	18 Messenger news due in office	19 8:30 Morning Prayer 11:30 60 Plus at Olive Garden	20	21	22	23
24 9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship	25	26 8:30 Morning Prayer 7:00 Fairhaven Birthday Party	27	28	29	30



Birthdays

- 1 Steve Abrahamson
- 2 Kathy Loven
- 3 Ann Chapetta
- 4 Brianna Haase
- 7 Janel Mamer
- 8 Stacey Parlapiano
Mike Pasch
- 9 Aina Hitchcock
Jim Page
Sophie Gray
- 10 Darlene Edwards
- 13 Laura Schweitzer
Christopher Jones
- 14 Mary Beth Jones
- 15 Tim Gill
Brad Johnson
- 16 Larry Franzen
- 23 Cathy Alexander
Alice McCulloch
- 25 Erin Clark
- 26 Patti Franzen
Brad Gasmund
- 30 Shazma Jones



Anniversaries

- 8 Dick & Paula Rasanen
- 10 Bud & Pat Johnson
- 11 Doug & Kristi Swanson
- 15 Don and Donna Davis
- 16 Danny & Mary Beth Jones
- 17 Beth & Mike Pasch
- 19 Mike & Laura Mirakian
- 24 Derek & Christina Melin
- 25 Doug & Mary Gibson
- 27 Albert & Gladys Damrose
- 29 Bruce & Michele Johnson
Bob & Arlene Schweiger

Serving in June

Head Usher:

Kevin McCulloch

Counters:

Jim Page & Sue Warren

Nursery Workers:

- 6/3 Gene & Colleen Felts
- 6/10 Jeanine Heck & April Parker
- 6/17 Kathy Holmertz & Laura Mirakian
- 6/24 Cathy Alexander & Jon Brown

Coffee Schedule:

- 6/3 Dave & Karen Holmertz
- 6/10 Marcia Johnson
- 6/17 Ryan & Kara Woodrow
- 6/24 John & Kathy Loven



Remember in Prayer

Justin Murdock, Ft. Sill, OK

Evangelical Covenant Church Annual Meeting, June 21-23, 2018.

Summer Worship Time

Sunday morning worship service will be at 9:30 AM during the summer months.

Ladies Night Out

All women are invited to our annual "Night Out". Mark your calendar for Monday, July 2 at 6:00 pm. The restaurant is yet to be determined so please watch the bulletin for more details as they become available. Hope you can join us for this special evening of fellowship.

60 Plus

60 Plus will meet at the Olive Garden for lunch Tuesday, June 19th at 11:30. Make your reservations to Darlene, 398-3902, by June 17th and let her know if you need a ride. We will be serving Fairhaven Birthday Party June 26th. Karen will remind those bringing sandwiches and helping that night. Thanks to Nancy Norman, Robin Robinson and April Parker for doing the program.



Mission Report

As we approach summer we are praying for our Covenant Camps - **Covenant Harbor** in Lake Geneva and **Covenant Point** in Iron River MI. Both camps are a place where people of all ages, through various types of camps, can go to experience God's creation, develop relationships with other campers, staff and God. They also have a lot of fun. Some things that have been said about the camps: "God spoke to me through his creation, which helped me to again realize his great power and love, leading me to rededicate my life to God's purposes". "My daughter felt comfortable going to camp alone because the counselors and cabin mates make instant friends".

We are also praying for Covenant Children's Home now Freedom House. Freedom House was started 1983 as a walk-in shelter by family therapist Nedda Simon in Wyanet IL. Through the years a Sexual Violence Program was added and a Legal Advocate Office opened. In 2003 Freedom House moved to the Covenant Children's Home. They offer safety and security to women and children who need their assistance. They also have 4 transitional apartments which may be available for up to a two-year stay. In 2017 they served over 800 clients and provided more than 4000 nights of shelter, plus countless hours of medical and legal advocacy, counseling, prevention education and professional training.



Covenant Youth of

Alaska: An 80 acre retreat center was donated to the Covenant Church of Alaska to provide a place for people to engage with God in a wilderness setting. Pray for CYAK as they are managing the property and overseeing it's development.

Fabio and Johnna Muniz-France: Continue to pray for safe travels as they visit churches on the west coast then back to Chicago by mid-June. Also continue to pray that they will be 100% funded by the end of June. They are currently 81% funded.

Leadership Team 2018

Please be in prayer for our new Leadership Team, elected at the May 20 congregational meeting. Officers are Colleen Felts (chair), Kim Schweitzer (vice-chair), Kathi Engstrom (secretary) and Dave Holmertz (treasurer). Other LT members are Toni Cooper, Theresa Gregorcy, John Loven, Ken Yarwood and Pastor Mike Mirakian. Broadway will be blessed by their gifts and willingness to serve.

Covenant Annual Meeting



The Annual Meeting of the Covenant Church will take place June 21-23, 2018 in Minneapolis, MN. Pastor Mike Mirakian will be the delegate from Broadway Covenant for this meeting. Please pray for the leadership, missionaries and decisions that will impact the denomination for God's kingdom.

Summer Save-a-dates

Fun Fest 2018 - Saturday August 4th.
Be thinking now how you can help serve and those you will invite to this outreach event.



All Church Picnic - Sunday, September 16th.

Mark your calendar to join us following worship at Olson Swedish Heritage Park at Rock Cut for a time of food, fellowship and games.



**June 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