

July 2018



The Messenger

Remember Who Lives Inside Us - Pastor Mike Mirakian

For almost 30 years, I have carried my grandfather's obituary folded up in my wallet. He was a remarkable man, and that little slip of paper, tucked behind my driver's license, reminds me of him and how his life impacted mine. I haven't read the obituary in years, but I know it's there. Maybe it's time to read it again.

Sometimes, we treat the Holy Spirit like that. We tuck away God's priceless gift in some back corner of our hearts, finding comfort in the knowledge that God's presence is right here with us, but rarely inviting the Spirit out to impact our lives. Maybe it's time to let the Spirit out.

You know who the Holy Spirit is, right?. The third person of the Trinity is the active, living presence of God manifest in the lives of Jesus' followers. Jesus called the Spirit the Advocate and the Spirit of Truth. In Acts, He is known as the Spirit of Jesus (Acts 16:7), that is, the presence of our Savior at work in the hearts of His followers.

The Spirit dwells within every follower of Jesus, guiding, comforting and empowering us to serve Jesus' mission. The Spirit moves in our hearts with the same power that created the world, divided the Red Sea, inspired the writing of scripture and raised Jesus from the dead. The Holy Spirit is God, in every way. And the Spirit lives in your heart.

Which is why we should strongly consider letting the Spirit out, rather than hiding Him away.

The first two Sundays of July, I will preach on the Holy Spirit, focusing on how the Spirit guides us in righteous living (Galatians 5:16-25) and how the Spirit leads the church toward unity (Ephesians 4:1-6).

The truth is, we can ignore the Spirit in both of these areas. We can keep the Spirit folded up in our hearts, listening to the world rather than God's voice, going our own way instead of letting the Spirit lead. In the church, we can pursue self-seeking agendas while stepping over the needs of our brothers and sisters. The Spirit doesn't force us to follow His wisdom or accept His power.

We can keep the Spirit folded away, but why would we?

The Spirit offers to lead us along life's challenging way, just as God's glorious manifestation in the pillar of cloud and fire led the Israelite's through the wilderness. We can't see the Spirit hovering in front of our eyes, but if we listen with our souls, He speaks clearly as we pray, read God's word and learn from other believers. Letting the Spirit guide us keeps us away from sin and out of spiritual trouble. Even better, following the Spirit helps us to become more like Jesus in word, action and attitude.

The Spirit also works within each of us to build unity and loving fellowship in the church. If I listen to the Spirit and you listen to the Spirit, surely He will direct us in consistent, Christ-honoring ways, sending us all in the same direction. Unity in the church is not the result of everyone just agreeing to get along; it's the fruit of each person listening to the Spirit's harmonious voice of truth. As we move together in the direction the Spirit leads, the church will always produce life-changing ministry.

The Holy Spirit enables us to accomplish extraordinary things in pursuit of God's Kingdom. Without the Spirit, we remain weak and divided, but with the Spirit, God can do mighty things through us. It's time to remember who lives in our hearts.

Youth Ministries



Schools out, its been really very hot, the bugs are back, we are officially in summer. For the month of July here are the dates, we will meet on the 1st and the 15th as of now for regularly scheduled youth group. On the 1st we are going to go to volcano falls for an afternoon of mini golf and revelry. Should be a fun time of mini golf, maybe go karts, maybe batting cages, who knows?! I know, but you have to come to find out!



Save-a-date for the All Church Picnic


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.



Chronic Disease Self Management Program

We have the opportunity to have a CDSMP program offered at Broadway Covenant in the fall. It is a series of six sessions designed by Stanford University to help people with chronic diseases self manage their health. Both men and women are included. Care givers are also included. We will start meeting on Mondays, September 17 from 1 PM to 3:30 PM. We can register twenty persons. Please consider this for yourself, friends or neighbors. The cost is free, and includes a book Living a Healthy Life with Chronic Conditions, a 20 dollar value included at no additional cost. The overseeing agencies are Lifescape and NIAAA. We will be offering it to our neighbors if there are extra spaces. Please sign up on the church registration card, calling the church office, or calling myself at 815-222-3826. My co-teacher and I have taught several of these, and have had excellent responses. Please call me with any questions. Looking forward to seeing you then, Colleen Felts.

July

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
<p>1</p> <p>9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship YOUTH</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6:00 "Ladies Night Out" Lucha Cantina</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Office Closed</p> 	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer</p> <p>6:30 RG Meeting</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30 LT Meeting</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15</p> <p>9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship YOUTH</p>	<p>16</p>	<p>17</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Messenger news due in office</p>	<p>24</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:15 Prayer 9:30 Worship</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:30 Morning Prayer</p>				



Birthdays

- 1 Candice McCulloch
- 3 Jacobs Roberts
- 4 Charmel Jacobs
- 5 Gladys Anderson
- 6 Jonathan Brown
Laura Mirakian
Jessica Murbirigi
- 7 Arlene Schweiger
Jackson McCulloch
- 8 Megan Woodrow
- 11 Tom Heck
- 12 Jasmine Gasmund
- 13 Judi Papka
- 16 Rosalie Pearson
Mason McCulloch
Beth Plomos
- 17 Joan Boettcher
Wesley Nelson
- 22 Kimberly Haase
- 25 Nancy Rainwater
- 26 Linnea Holmertz
Wayne Augenson
- 28 Dillon Melin
- 31 Pam Zollar
Charlotte Boulware
Cortney Retzlaff



Anniversaries

- 7 Brad & Patricia Gasmund
- 8 Erin & Tim Clark
- 14 Mike & Stacey Parlapiano
- 23 Philip & Kathy Adams
- 24 Gerald & Christine Bauer

Serving in July

Head Usher:

Jon Brown

Counters:

Jon Brown & Bill Forsen

Nursery Workers:

- 7/1 Laura & Randy Price
- 7/8 Stacey Parlapiano & Amy Breese
- 7/15 Barbara Rehnberg & Beth Pasch
- 7/22 Jeanine Heck & April Parker
- 7/29 Kathy Holmertz & Cathy Alexander

Coffee Schedule:

- 7/1 Todd & Elena Cultra
- 7/8 Amy Breese & Aiden
- 7/15 Dan & Aina Hitchcock
- 7/22 Nancy Ilgen
- 7/29 Gene & Colleen Felts



Remember in Prayer

Justin Murdock, Ft. Sill, OK

Gene Peterson home recovering from a fall.

Dave Lape home from OSF St. Anthony's with heart issues.

Judy LeGault with health issues.



60 Plus

60 Plus does not meet in July & August.
We will resume in September.



Mission Report

This month we are praying for **Peter & Anna** who are in Asia. They are now on home assignment but will be leaving to go back soon. They have been praying for a teacher for their school in Asia. God has answered their prayers in a young couple who have felt called to teach. After many disappointments they have found the perfect teachers for their school. Please pray that the couple will get everything done and be able to be ready to teach by August. While they have been here in the US their newly adopted daughter has had surgery and been in a body cast. They were disappointed that she would not be able to go to school. But it turned out that with her lack of attention and language barrier her hour of one on one time with her teacher each day helped her catch up and was what she needed. Please pray that she will regain muscle strength in her left leg and be able to bounce back in recovery. Also pray for their whole family as they prepare to return to Asia. Pray for them as they return back to their routine and culture and safe travel. Also pray for their mentoring group in Asia as they continue to serve their community.

Fabio and Johnna Muniz-France

Pray for them and their girls as they prepare to go to France. Pray for day care and lodging in Anney, France and pray for a car they can use when they get there.

Peter & Ruth Dutton-Thailand

Pray for needed improvement in their Roi-Et Camp. Pray for completed chapel facility in Chiang Mai Campgrounds. And pray for their family in the U.S., their children and their families and Ruth's parents.

Leadership Team 2018

The new Leadership Team has started meeting. Please continue to pray for them as we apply our gifts to the needs of the church. Our current LT consists of Kim Schweitzer, vice chair, Kathi Engstrom, secretary, Dave Holmertz, Treasurer, Ken Yarwood, Theresa Gregorcy, John Loven, Toni Cooper and Colleen Felts, chair. Please do not hesitate to call or talk to a member of the team with concerns, prayers or suggestions. Looking forward to serving with you, Colleen Felts

North Park University Concert

We are excited to announce that the Lonesome Theologians are reuniting for one night only and will be appearing at North Park University on July 21st. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday, July 21
Doors open at 6:45 pm (closing down around 10 pm)
North Park University (Carlson Tower Lobby/Patio)
\$10 tickets [available online](#) or at the door.



**July 2018
Broadway Covenant
Church**

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