

September 2023



# The Messenger

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## Opening God's Word Together - Pastor Mike Mirakian

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I'm not a doctor who can prescribe medication for your body, but as a pastor, I hope you will take seriously my prescription for your spiritual health. Whether you are feeling rundown, overwhelmed, anxious, hopeful, content or at peace, let me encourage you to spend more time in God's word where you will find help and healing for your soul.

We believe in the wisdom, authority and life-changing truth of scripture. In the Bible, we find the story of God's redeeming work through Jesus Christ. We find wisdom for how best to lead our lives. We find instruction on how to pray, worship and honor God. We find reasons for hope through hardship. We find purpose for this life and assurance for eternity. In all these ways, God's word fills us with what we need to survive and to thrive each day.

"All Scripture is God-breathed," Paul wrote, "and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the servant of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16-17).

As we head into the fall ministry season, I hope you will make time in your weekly schedule to study God's word alongside other believers. The week after Labor Day, three fruitful ministries will resume, and each will help those who attend to take God's truth into our hearts where, by the Spirit's power, it can do the vital work of transforming us to be like Jesus and equipping us "for every good work."

**Women's Fellowship** meets Tuesday mornings at 9:30. This fall, the group will continue watching and discussing *The Chosen*, a cinematic presentation of Jesus' story. In addition to learning about Jesus' life and message, this gathering is a time to encourage and pray for one another.

I lead the **Pastor's Bible Study** on Thursday mornings at 10:30. We will begin a new series in Ephesians, followed later in the fall by a study of Luke's Gospel. Each week, we read together through a portion of scripture and discuss what it means for our faith and our daily lives.

**Sunday School** meets each week at 9:00 before worship. This fall, the group will be led by church members who are gifted teachers and who love God's word. In September, we will focus on global and local missions. Beginning in October, we will learn about spiritual gifts and how to put them to use in the church. Later in the fall, we will discuss strategies for sharing our faith, and as we near Christmas, we will talk about Jesus' coming.

I know some of our church family are unable to attend these ministries. If that's true for you, let me encourage you to do two things. First, set aside time each day to open God's word. Read through a book of the Bible or use a devotional resource or follow whatever pattern of scripture reading appeals most to you. Make feeding on God's word a habit. Second, when questions or new insights arise, share them with someone in the church, maybe even me.

My hope is to see everyone in the church grow in faith as we read and discuss God's word. The Spirit reveals truth to each of us, and as we open the Bible together we will find fresh insights and reaffirm what we know to be true about our Savior and His redeeming work in our lives. I hope you will share the wisdom of your heart and benefit from what others in the church have to offer.



## Birthdays

- 5 Arline Gredenius  
Bob Rehnberg  
Patty Torres
- 10 Kathy Almond
- 12 Anders Gredenius
- 13 Perry Gregorcy
- 14 Marcia Johnson  
Malin Holmertz  
Jonathan Torres
- 16 Ron Miller  
Linda Evans
- 17 Don Leather
- 21 Bob Schweiger  
Erica Schweiger
- 23 Louise Peterson
- 24 Jean Drews  
Annette Retzlaff
- 25 Kevin McCulloch
- 30 Barbara Burwell



## Anniversaries

- 2 Randall & Laura Ann Price
- 4 Ryan and Kara Woodrow
- 8 Dan & Laura Schweitzer
- 11 Robert & Barbara Rehnberg
- 14 Emily & Brian Lorbach
- 15 James & Jill Page
- 16 Wayne & Carolyn Augenson
- 27 Keith & Kathryn Holmertz

## Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship begins Tuesday September 5 from 9:30 - 10:30 AM. We will meet in the adult Sunday school room. We will watch and discuss THE CHOSEN, session three. Looking at the scripture the session is based on as well as discussing the content of the video, we will see how it impacts each of us. All women welcome!

## Serving in September

### Counters:

Gene Felts and Sue Warren

### Head Usher:

Keith Holmertz

## Remember in Prayer

**Don Davis and family** in the death of Donna Davis.

**Jeff Irelan and family** in the passing of his mother, Teresa.

**Ron Burwell** recovering from hip surgery.

**Emmy Miller** with health issues.

## Carol Circle

Carol Circle will meet Monday, September 11th at 6:00 PM at Louise Peterson's home. Please bring a dish to share. There will be devotions and a time to share prayer requests. All are welcome.

## 60 Plus

Plan now to attend our September meeting at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva. See information below:

### September 12, 2023

### Spend the day at Covenant Harbor...

- Refreshing your spirit with worship in the lakeside tent
- Renewing connections to this place and others who love camp
- Relaxing while sitting by the lake, exploring the grounds and/or enjoying a one-hour boat cruise

Cost: \$39/person\* which includes lunch and the boat cruise

\*Cancellations will be accepted up to 7 days before the event with a refund of \$29/person. If you need help or more information call Rachel at (262) 248-3600.

### **Register for 60+ Day by going to this website:**

**<https://covenantharbor.org/retreats/60plusday/>**

After you register, contact Karen Holmertz to arrange car pooling.



## Leadership Team Update

The final removal, cleanup and seeding of the playground is starting. Also, the work on the electricity that was approved last spring is beginning. The Care Team Ministries has reorganized and will be dividing into teams. We will be looking at ministry opportunities for making meals, writing cards, Sunday coffee time, visitation, ushers and greeters. Please consider where you would like to serve. Call Colleen Felts with any questions, 815-222-3826. As always, feel free to reach out to the leadership team with any ideas or questions. Keith Holmertz, Bob Schweiger, Ron Burwell, Ron Carlson, Sue Warren, Jeanine Parker and Colleen Felts

# September

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	4 Office closed 	5 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	6 7:00 VE prayer & worship	7 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study	8	9 2:00 Memorial Service Donna Davis
10 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship BCC picnic 11:45 Vida Eterna	11 6:00 Carol Circle @ Louise Peterson's	12 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship 60 Plus at Covenant Harbor 6:30 LT Meeting	13 7:00 VE prayer & worship	14 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study	15	16
17 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	18 Messenger news due in the office	19 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	20 7:00 VE prayer & worship	21 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study	22	23
24 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	25	26 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	27 7:00 VE prayer & worship	28 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study 6:00 City of Rfd. Public Works Mtg	29 6:00 VE Women Ministry	30

**September 2023  
Broadway Covenant  
Church**

3525 Broadway  
Rockford, IL 61108

Senior Pastor - Mike Mirakian  
Phone - (815)399-9296

**We're on the Web**  
**[www.broadwaycovenant.com](http://www.broadwaycovenant.com)**

## Broadway Covenant Church Picnic

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The annual church picnic will take place in fellowship hall on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup> following the worship service. Sign up in the front lobby if you plan to attend. Chicken, beverages and table service will be provided, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. You may drop them off in the kitchen prior to worship. Use the refrigerator if needed and ovens will be on if you want to keep something warm.



## Mission Report

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This month please pray for **Covenant Youth of Alaska (CYAK) and Rockford Police Chaplaincy**. CYAK was formed in 1992 by Evangelical Covenant Church of Alaska to respond to the high rates of suicide, teen pregnancy and sexual abuse. "Today CYAK is committed to the development of Youth Ministry in Alaska. They focus their ministry on students between the ages of 12 and 25. Their ministry ranges from running youth groups in a small village, equipping students for life with vocational training and Christian mentoring. CYAK's goal is to keep youth and young adults within the "Continuum of Care." Whatever stage the individuals are in they want them to be supported and challenged to growth. By the time they are 25 they want to see young adults transformed by the Gospel and leading their communities towards hope and health." For more information see [www.cyak.org](http://www.cyak.org).

**Rockford Police Chaplains** help families grieve a death whether natural or accidental. They also help police officers or fire fighters as they struggle with the tragedies of their jobs.