



March 2024

The Messenger

Proclaim the Lord's Death Until He Comes - Pastor Mike Mirakian

Broadway will host a Maundy Thursday Worship and Communion Service on March 28 at 7 p.m. We will be joined by brothers and sisters from other Northern Illinois Covenant churches, continuing our tradition of shared worship during Holy Week.

Maundy Thursday commemorates Jesus' final meal with His disciples before going to the cross. That evening, He washed their feet and gave them the command to "love one another" (John 13:34). Jesus also told His followers to share a special meal together to remind them that His body was broken and His blood was shed for our redemption.

When we gather on Maundy Thursday with believers from other Covenant churches, we will sing and pray together, we will read the Biblical account of Jesus preparing for His life-giving death, and we will celebrate Communion.

During the Communion service, we read the words of institution from 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 that conclude with this extraordinary declaration: "For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." I usually substitute "we" for "you" to help us appreciate our participation in this sacred act of remembrance.

In the Communion meal, we join with the disciples in the upper room who shared the bread and cup with Jesus. We join also with believers down through the generations remembering what Jesus did at the cross. We find strength in knowing that what we believe today is the same faith so many before us have held to and even died for.

The Communion meal is also a proclamation, a public declaration of who we are and what we believe. We proclaim Jesus' death, announcing in the church and to the world around us that Jesus died for a reason. He died to give us life. His death came about by God's design, motivated by His love for humanity and His desire to save us from our sins. Jesus went to the cross willingly to sacrifice Himself in our place. His body was broken and His blood was shed as the atoning payment that sets us free.

Just as the Communion meal connects us with believers who came before, it also points ahead, through the generations that will come after us, until Jesus returns. We proclaim His death until He comes again. We believe that Jesus will come again – maybe tomorrow, maybe in 1,000 years – and we hold to that great hope, just as His first disciples did. The church will continue sharing Communion and proclaiming Jesus' death until the end of this age.

We consider Communion a sacrament, a sacred ritual that connects us spiritually to Jesus. By eating and drinking, we symbolize our participation with our Savior in His death and resurrection. We lay down our sins, confessing and putting to death our sinful nature. We rise again in faith with the hopeful assurance of eternal life. In the bread and the cup, we remember Jesus' death and we celebrate His resurrection.

So, I hope you will join us on Maundy Thursday as we welcome our sister churches to Broadway. I also hope you will take time between now and then to read the Gospel accounts of Jesus' walk to the cross. His story is the centerpiece of our faith and the hope of a world in need. We proclaim the Lord's death until He comes again.



Birthdays

- | | |
|----|------------------|
| 2 | John Loven |
| | Deon Woodard |
| 5 | Dick Rasanen |
| | Gerry Bauer |
| 7 | David Roen |
| | Danny Jones |
| 11 | Roger Creedy |
| 12 | Peggy Frint |
| 14 | Marvin Goodsell |
| | Judy Prather |
| 17 | Colleen Felts |
| | Derek Melin |
| 19 | Beth Cates |
| 24 | Shirley Anderson |
| 26 | Joyce Goodsell |
| 28 | Betty Lockett |
| 30 | Kelsey Melin |
| | Colton Whitney |
| | Teague Whitney |



Anniversaries

- | | |
|----|-----------------------|
| 27 | Carl & Cheryl Ecklund |
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Serving in March

Counters:

Carolyn Augenson and Dave Holmertz

Head Usher:

Steve Schweitzer

Remember in Prayer

Dave Roen with health concerns.

Kay Forsen in the death of her husband, Bill.

Thank You

Thank you Pastor Mike for being with me at the hospital and the wonderful service for Bill. Also thanks to Nancy and the kitchen committee for handling the luncheon and the beautiful flowers and decorations. I mostly appreciate all your prayers and thoughtfulness shown to me during this difficult time. **Kay Forsen**

Leadership Team Update

- The Leadership Team has agreed to serve Easter breakfast on Easter morning. We will serve it in the Adult Sunday School Room at 9:00 am.
- Annual Reports will be printed in the next few weeks.
- Our Comcast internet service has been updated.

Women's Fellowship

Women's Fellowship continues to meet on Tuesday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the adult Sunday school room. All women are welcome!

60 Plus



60 Plus will be meeting for lunch at John's Restaurant and Pizzeria 2914 11th Street, on Tuesday, March 19th at 11:30 a.m. Please call Sue at church 815-399-9296 or Karen Holmertz with your reservation by March 17th and let her know if you need a ride. Remember to invite others to join us.

March

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					1 7:30 VE Women Ministry	2
3 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna	4 11:30 Carol Circle at Louise Peterson's	5 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	6 7:30 VE prayer & worship	7 10:30 Pastor's Bible Study	8	9
10 2:00 DST 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 Worship 11:30 Leadership Team Mtg. 11:45 Vida Eterna	11	12 8:30 Morning Prayer 9:30 Women's Fellowship	13 7:30 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 11:30 60 Plus at John's Pizzeria ELECTION DAY	20 7:30 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 7:30 VE prayer & worship	28 7:00 Maundy Thursday Worship	29	30
31 9:00 Easter Breakfast 10:15 Worship 11:45 Vida Eterna 						

**March 2024
Broadway Covenant
Church**

3525 Broadway
Rockford, IL 61108

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

We're on the Web
www.broadwaycovenant.com

Mission Report

This month please pray for **Peter and Ruth Dutton (Thailand) and Rock House Kids**. The **Dutton's** are currently located near Atlanta Georgia. They are serving Thailand through zoom calls and biannual visits. They prepare and lead Bible Studies for leaders and church members. They encourage and join with their Thai brothers and sisters as they interact with their neighbors. They are also working with Merge Ministries to establish work in Thailand with a Thai coach and regular Merge team visits. Pray for Peter & Ruth that they would have wisdom in what they say to encourage their Thai brothers and sisters. Also please pray for Peter & Ruth's continued good health.

“Rock House Kids (RHK) began in 1999 with a nine-year-old boy who was running away from a dangerous home situation. The founder of RHK assisted him with food, clothing, school support and other items he needed. Soon after his friends joined him and over the years RHK has grown to be a safe haven for neighborhood children. In the past 25 years RHK has grown to have programs four nights a week, doubled the number of kids served, and completed renovations to add four offices, two classrooms, a volunteer center and an enclosed playground. They provide the children with a hot meal and a goodie bag to take home. Throughout the year they provide them with seasonal needs and hygiene supplies. In addition to meeting their physical needs, they also meet their spiritual needs. They have a time of singing, Bible lessons, crafts and games.” For more information see rockhousekids.org. Pray for wisdom and guidance for the staff and volunteers of RHK and for God to provide for the needs of the kids who attend.