

October 2009

The Messenger

Three Stories to Build Broadway

All buildings have stories. Whether a one-story ranch home or a hundred-story skyscraper, the stories behind the building can bring hope and encouragement. Our first story focuses on God's Word. In August and September, we looked at the prophet Haggai. Haggai served God's people eighteen years after returning from exile in Babylon. God had provided them the resources to rebuild the Temple, but nothing had happened for 18 years. Haggai challenged God's people to look at their lives and to rebuild the Temple so that God could "take pleasure in it and be honored" (Haggai 1:7-8). In spite of fierce hardship, poverty, and drought, God's people responded to the challenge and rebuilt the Temple – the same Temple where Jesus preached 500 years later! In coming weeks, we will be challenged to decide whether we will respond to God's call in His Word to rebuild Broadway Covenant as a place where God is can take pleasure in it and be honored.

Our second story is prayer. One over-arching theme of our 2009 sermon series has been prayer. We've looked at starting "sparkling conversations with God" and we're now digging deep into the Lord's Prayer. If we respond to the challenge to pray, we will build the church. I believe that prayer is the foundation for healthy, growing churches. Without prayer, Broadway will not grow. In coming weeks, you will be invited to pray at church and in home groups for Broadway's present and future. On an upcoming Sunday morning in October, we will experience a concert of prayer. If Broadway is to grow, we need to pray. Jesus said, "My house is to be a house of prayer." Let's build God's house as a house of prayer.

The third story is your story. And your story is Broadway's story. You are reading this newsletter because your story intersected with Broadway's story. As your story intersected with Broadway's story, our stories became part of God's story of his faithfulness, salvation, and love. We need to hear each other's stories. Telling our stories reminds us of what God has done in our lives and can encourage others to experience God's faithfulness, salvation, and love. In other words, the act of telling your story to someone else may be just what they need to receive Christ in their life. Enclosed in this newsletter is a resource developed by our denomination's Department of Christian Formation entitled *Your Story – An Account of Transformation*. This resource provides an outline for reflecting on your story and your faith. It encourages creativity in sharing your story in a way that reflects who you are. So if writing isn't your thing, try painting, or poetry, or music. If putting your story on paper doesn't work, we can record your story through audio or video. What is truly amazing is just the process of thinking about God's story and our stories and creatively crafting them is a spiritual experience that enriches our faith. Please us this tool to help capture **your** story,

which is **God's** story,

which is **Broadway's** story,

which together is **our** story,

which can help others make their story part of God's story, too. By sharing our stories, we will build this church.

Looking forward to experiencing what God has in store for us,

Pastor Eric

Student Ministries

What is a parable? Here is the definition according to Dictionary.com:

1. A short allegorical story designed to illustrate or teach some truth, religious principle, or moral lesson.
2. A statement or comment that conveys a meaning indirectly by the use of comparison, analogy, or the like.

Jesus told many parables and through them we understand more about who God is and who and what we are. This next school year we're going to dig into the parables of Jesus during Roots and Overhaul. I encourage you to continue to be here each week as we study Jesus' words in the Gospels. Invite your friends, kids, grandkids, nieces and nephews...basically any student who could benefit from Jesus' teachings. I'm so blessed to see kids each week who are seeking Jesus' face each day and who won't settle for what the world says. Thank you all!! Here's the subject matter for the next 30 or so weeks based on Stories with Intent by Klyne Snodgrass:

The Unforgiving Servant

The Two Debtors

The Lost Sheep

The Lost Coin

The Compassionate Father and His Two Lost Sons

The Parable of the Sower and the Purpose of Parables

The Growing Seed

The Wheat and the Weeds

The Mustard Seed

The Leaven

The Treasure

The Pearl

The Barren Fig Tree

The Two Sons

The Wicked Tenants

The Wedding Banquet and the Feast

The Two Builders

The Good Samaritan

The Workers in the Vineyard

The Tower Builder and the Warring King

The Rich Fool

The Unjust Steward

The Rich Man and Lazarus

The Friend at Midnight

The Unjust Judge

The Pharisee and the Tax Collector

The Net

The Ten Virgins

The Talents and the Minas

The Sheep and the Goats

What good is it to know the parable but not live out the lesson? Jesus says in Matthew 7: "Therefore everyone who hears these words of mine and puts them into practice is like a wise man who built his house on the rock. The rain came down, the streams rose, and the winds blew and beat against that house; yet it did not fall, because it had its foundation on the rock."

Peace, **Derek**

Mission Report

Our missionaries to pray for this month are Steve & Ellen Peterson who are in Asia. They have 2 daughters Anjali and Jaiya. They live in a country that has areas where Christians are being persecuted. Fortunately it is not happening in their area but because of the possibility they cannot be open about their faith. They have a business where they are able to interact with the local people and share about Jesus with them. Steve is also in charge of the missionary teams in his area. Please pray for their protection and good health. Also pray for wisdom and joy in their leadership.

Save the Date: Carpenters Place will be holding its 3rd annual **“Walk for the Homeless”** on Saturday October 10th. It will be held at Christian Life School’s running track. There will be sponsor sheets available in the SE Narthex. If you have questions please contact Sheri Glover at the Carpenter’s Place 815-964-4105 (ext 203) or Sue Warren.

Needs for Grounds for Life: Creamer, jelly, sugar, syrup, powdered milk, aluminum foil, napkins, plastic spoons & forks, oatmeal, grits, dish cloths, pot holders, aprons & dish soap, plastic bowls, coffee stirrers, Pam and canned or bottled juice. There is a box in the SE narthex for donations.

Missionary Prayer Calendars: The 2009/2010 calendars are in. Please stop by the information table and pick one up. They are a good way to get to know the missionaries that the Covenant supports and how to pray for them.

Prayer and Praise:

Leonid & Leanna Regheta, Russian Ministries

- Praise for the birth of daughter Amelie Grace on Sept. 1st. She weighed 7lbs 14 ounces & 19.25 inches long. Mother and baby are doing great.
- Pray for sports camps that the churches are using as an outreach to spread the Gospel.

KICY Radio, Alaska

- Praise for the completion of several work projects this summer and that they are able to enjoy the extremely reliable, bright and efficient tower lights.
- Praise for the 10 years Dennis Weidler has been manager of KICY.

Read their newsletters and other letters from our missionaries in the book by the Missions Board.

Robert & Joyce Widman	Johnna Hayward
Leonid & Leanna Regheta	Peter & Ruth Dutton
Tim & Andrea Johnson	David & Judy Dolan
Steve & Ellen Peterson	Byron & Sue Bruckner
Jim & Barb Mikrut	



Church Family Military News

Justin Holmertz is currently home on a 2 week leave for R&R. We will continue to collect hard candy, body powder, and deodorant, National Geographic – adventure series, phone cards, chapstick and crystal light in the southeast narthex. These items will be sent to those serving in Afghanistan. Thanks.

A Walk to Remember

A memorial walk and dedication to remember children lost through miscarriages, stillbirth, infant and childhood death will take place on October 4th at 1:00 p.m. on the Sinnissippi Bike Path at the YMCA Log Lodge. For more information call (815)961-2398 or (815)226-2273.

Walk for the Homeless

Carpenter's Place is holding their 3rd annual walk on Sat. Oct. 10th at Christian Life's running track on the corner of Spring Creek & Mulford. Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. and the walk starts at 10:00 a.m. There are sponsor sheets available in the SE Narthex on the table under the bulletin board.

8th Annual Breast Cancer Walk

The 8th annual American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk will take place on Sat., Oct. 17, 2009, at Martin Park. Making Strides is a 4-mile walk along the Rock River and everyone is welcome! There is no registration fee and you can sign up that morning at the Registration Tent at 8:00 a.m. The walk begins at 9:00 a.m. 96 cents of every dollar raised will go to support breast cancer research, education, advocacy, free programs and services for breast cancer patients and their families. For more information, call 815-229-2960 or visit www.MakingStridesIllinois.com

Christian Fellowship Band

CFB second performance of the season will be the “Third Annual Fred Hubbell Memorial Concert” held on Sunday, October 25th at First Evangelical Covenant Church. This special event will begin at 4:00 p.m. and will include “A Classic Chorale” directed by Larry Runestad. Fred Hubbell directed the Chorale for a time.

Birthdays

- 3 Eugene Peterson
- 6 Kim Schweitzer
- 7 Becky Bamberger
- 9 Darlene Pearson
- 10 Lorna Bjurstrom
- 11 Jerry Gowan
- 12 Randall Price
- 17 Keith Holmertz
- 18 Janet Tollefsrud
- 20 Dean Parker
- 22 Carolyn Augenson
- 22 Barbara Rehnberg
- 24 Catherine Johnson
- 24 Emmy Miller
- Tim Ramgren
- 25 Sally Gill Pierce
- 26 Gale Levey
- 27 Phil Adams Jr.
- Gene Felts
- 28 Thelma Melquist
- Verna Pearson
- Susan Warren
- 29 Steve Schweitzer
- 30 Mary Ann Egler

Anniversaries

- 3 Mark & Karen Pearson
- 5 Michael & Mary Haney
- 6 Pat & Annette Retzlaff
- 15 Michael & Ginny Woodrow
- 17 Wesley & Susan Nelson
- 19 Donald & Wyone Leather
- 22 Daniel & Aina Hitchcock
- 25 Steven & Kim Schweitzer
- 26 Ron & Emmy Miller
- 27 Michael & Linda Myers

Financial update from Treasurer

At 8-31-09 our receipts are \$192,851 which is \$46,741 under the budget of \$239,592 and \$13,466 under 2008 receipts for the same period. Thanks to all of you we were able to get all bills paid except for Missions. So far this year we have paid \$7,379 of Missions commitments but that leaves us \$16,111 short of the budget amount. If receipts stay strong for the last 2 Sundays in September we may be able to pay some of our \$16,111 Missions shortage. Please pray and give.

Remember in Prayer

The family of Mae Kolnes as they grieve her passing on September 24th.
Stephanie Link and Dan Kirchner in the passing of their grandmother, Alma Goode.
Alice Nelson recovering from out-patient surgery.
The family of Ruth Carlson who passed away September 2nd.
Jim & Jill Page as they mourn the death of Jim's mother.
Justin Holmertz & Justin Murdock serving in Afghanistan and **Craig Anderson** in Iraq.

Thank You

Thanks to all of you for your support - your prayers, phone calls, cards and concerns during my recent surgery. Also, thank you for the lovely plant I received. I am very grateful to you and to God.
Alice Nelson

Dear Friends at Broadway, Thank you for the lovely flowers you sent to mom while she was in the hospital. Thanks also to all of you who came to the special memorial service last Sunday night. It was great to see you all again. Family of Ruth Carlson

We would like to thank our Broadway family, for all of the cards, kind words of sympathy, and the many prayers, as we grieve the loss of Jim's mother. In Christ, Jim & Jill Page

Thanks for the visits of the pastor and the care people. Thanks for the prayers while I was at St. Anthony Hospital and P.A. Peterson home.
Martin L. Nelson

Special Congregational Meeting

On October 18th, immediately after the 10:15 Sunday Service there will be a special congregational meeting. The sole purpose of this meeting is to present the final details and plans for the proposed repair and renovation to the Lord's church at 3525 Broadway. There will be a call for a congregational vote requesting your approval to proceed with a capital campaign to cover the expenses of the project. This IS the largest and most important project undertaken by Broadway Covenant Church since its inception. Your **participation** in this meeting is needed and will be greatly appreciated.

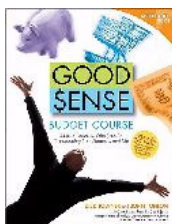


Broadway Covenant Church
3525 Broadway
Rockford, IL 61108

Return Service Requested

Good Sense Budget Seminar

Need Help during tough economic times? Join us for the Good Sense Budget Seminar which provides budgeting techniques that allow you to stretch your dollars to their fullest extent. You won't want to miss this timely course which will empower you to streamline your finances. Good Sense Budget Seminar on Nov. 7th from 8:30 until 4:30. \$15.00 registration fee covers participants guide, coffee with snacks and lunch. Sign up now, you must register before October 16th



Make a Difference Day

The winterizing of cars for single, divorced or widowed ladies will take place on Sat., October 17th at the church. Please call Doug Swanson, 398-7960 or the church office to make your appointment. Be prepared to give the make, model, year and engine size (in liters) of your vehicle.

60 Plus October Luncheon

60 Plus will meet October 20th, 11:30 AM at Stockholm Inn in one of the new rooms. George Hayward will present his family's story of fleeing the German's in WWII. Call Peggy Frint 815-282-0640 with your reservations and let her know if you need a ride. Please call in by Sunday, October 18th.

Women Ministries News

Mark your calendar: Saturday, October 24 we will gather at North Park Covenant here in Rockford with other women from Covenant churches in the surrounding area. Janice Kelly who just returned from the mission field will be speaking. Come and hear as she shares how God is working. Brunch will be served for a small fee. Reservations are required to help in the planning. Call Sue in our church office no later than noon, Mon., Oct. 19th. **Reflecting God's Glory** is the theme for Triennial XIII to be held July 22-25, 2010 in Washington, DC. Please check out the website www.triennialxiii.org for more information. Save \$50 by registering between now and January 15, 2010. Over 400 women have already registered for this exciting event. Why not join them for a life changing experience.