

BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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CHURCH/CHARGE CONFERENCE REPORT 2016



Rev. Alka Lyall, Pastor

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BROADWAY’S MISSION STATEMENT

“God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons – celebrating the human family’s God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God’s nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ.”

Business

Leadership Nominations and Election

Clergy Compensation

Ministry Recommendations

Additional business requiring Church Conference decision

Prayer..... Keri Rainsberger, Candidate for Ministry

ClosingRev. Alka Lyall, Pastor

Faith is to believe what we do not see;

And the reward of this faith is to see what we believe. (~ St. Augustine)

May we go forth to walk in faith, seeking to see all the possibilities that God sees.

Fellowship Time



Rev. Alka Lyall, Pastor

Since I started at Broadway, the church has been on a roller coaster of transitions. I had not even settled into the rhythm of Broadway when Vernice announced her plan to retire at the end of the appointment year. We started another phase of transitions. I had begun to remind myself that I was a solo pastor now and there was no one to share the ministry with, when Cathy Knight shared with us that the space that Church within a Church Movement occupied in our basement was no longer suitable for their current reality and the direction that she saw CWACM going. Along with that came the news of the passing of the Rev. Greg Dell. The community of Broadway was very closely connected with CWACM and Rev. Greg Dell so these are difficult times for this community, but in the midst of that God continues to be faithful to us.

I continue to learn everyday what it means to pastor a city church with as unique an identity as Broadway has. I continue to learn about the community, about our members, about our struggles and our challenges. I am honored to serve a church that is always awake to the needs of our community and of our world. I rejoice that we are as concerned about the people in North Dakota and their resistance to the pipeline that violates their sacred ground as we are about the youth of color in our neighborhood who are experiencing housing instability or providing a meal for the residents in our neighborhood who would be alone on Thanksgiving Day.

This year I attended General and Jurisdictional Conferences and many other meetings in preparation for them. I am also involved in a 2 year Academy of Spiritual Formation as part of its leadership team.

I continue to be extremely grateful for this opportunity to journey with the faithful people of Broadway in the struggles for justice even as we learn and grow together in faith and in service to and with one another.



Together with all who struggle for justice, I am

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alka".

Rev. Alka Lyall

Broadway United Methodist Church Reports of the Clergy

*Clergy members connected with our Charge Conference:
Mary Beth Bernheisel; Rev. Gil Caldwell; Rev. David Eichelberger; Rev. Pamela Lightsey*

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Dear Friends of the Broadway UMC Charge Conference:

As Garrison Keillor was often fond of saying, it has been a quiet time in Lake Wobegon. So it has been for me this year. I have been blessed to be able to teach Adult Bible Study each Sunday, assist with Holy Communion in worship and take Holy Communion to shut ins. I have served as Chaplain to a number of Masonic bodies. I have led grief services for families who have lost animal companions. This year I have not participated in leading any weddings or funerals. I also serve as Pastoral Care Officer for the Order of Saint Luke.

I continue to hold the Broadway congregation in my prayers, especially this week with the passing of Rev. Greg Dell and the Cubs winning the World Series. May you all continue to be the light of Christ shining brightly on Broadway Avenue!

Rev. David A. Eichelberger, OSL

Retired Elder

Northern Illinois Annual Conference

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

See following page for report from Rev. Dr. Pamela R. Lightsey

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

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12 October 2016

TO: Broadway UMC, Chicago

Dear Family:

How wonderful it was to see you during my recent trip to Chicago for the RMN Board meeting! And wasn't that sermon by M just a blessing – thought provoking and inspiring.

As you might have read, I have been busy doing the work of activism on several fronts, two of which you know: 1) The movement for Black Lives and 2) LGBTQ justice within the UMC.

I believe, since my last writing to you, my book, *Our Lives Matter: A Womanist Queer Theology* has been published. It is both my reflection of my work in Ferguson and a constructive theology that explores what the doctrines of the Church have to do with the experiences of LBTQ Black women. The book has been well received in the academy, with clergy advocates, and among young activist and for that I am quite thankful. Writing the book actually helped me prepare for the tenuous days of General Conference 2016. Ugh!

I won't say too much about GC 2016 because...well...you know. I will say that I have never been prouder to be part of a life changing protest movement! Could you imagine Black Lives Matter protest at a GC? Well, yeah! We wanted the church to know that its discriminatory policies affect members of the very group of persons to whom it repented for its racism: Black people. And, to tell the truth, we wanted to send the broader message against racism and excessive police force: Black LGBTQ Lives matter. Racism and homophobia work hand-in-hand.

As an elder, I continue to preach and offer the sacraments here in the Boston area and across the country. I was honored to preach at many reconciling events held in connection with annual conferences. We are a strong and growing movement. Next month, I will travel to Rio de Janeiro to speak at the FLUPP literary conference panel entitled, "Ways of Seeing Love." The work of liberation and justice for LGBTQ persons is growing on a global level and I am honored to be part of it all.

So much more is happening in my life than I can remember in this sitting or should explore in such a short report. You can stay in touch with me via Twitter @onenabi or Facebook.

Much love to you all,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pamela R. Lightsey". The signature is stylized and somewhat abstract, with overlapping loops and lines.

Pamela
Rev. Dr. Pamela R. Lightsey
Boston University School of Theology
Elder, Northern Illinois Annual Conference

Candidates for Ordained Ministry
supported by Broadway United Methodist Church

~~~~~  
**M Barclay** (recommended to the Board of Ordained Ministry for commissioning as a deacon and provisional membership in the annual conference)

*I am currently working on my paperwork for the Board of Ordained Ministry in preparation for my interview in February. I'm looking forward to the opportunity to be considered for provisional membership this summer and am so thankful for the ongoing support of Broadway UMC in this time! Meanwhile, I continue to serve at Reconciling Ministries Network as Director of Communications.*

~~~~~  
T Nowacki (continuing candidacy as “declaring candidate” toward the ministry of Deacon)

T was in deep discernment about how to live out their call, and they recently decided to continue with the ordination process as a deacon. They've been in conversation with my spiritual director for months and other trusted spiritual guides and faith leaders. This decision has brought them a lot of joy, and they look forward to continuing the journey.

~~~~~  
**Keri Rainsberger** (continuing candidacy as “certified candidate” toward the ministry of Elder)

*I am in my last year at Garrett-Evangelical, and enjoying my studies. I hope to ask the District Committee to send me on to the next candidacy step in the spring. My field placement this year is with First UMC, Evanston, where I am trying to stretch and learn about ministry areas I didn't participate in at Broadway. I miss Broadway a lot, but my field placement congregations have been taking good care of me and imparting a wealth of knowledge for which I am very grateful.*

~~~~~  
Luis R. Rivera, Th.D. (continuing candidacy as “declaring candidate” toward the ministry of Deacon)

~~~~~  
**Elina Rodriguez** (continuing candidacy as “declaring candidate” toward the ministry of Deacon)



## 2016 Membership Report

between October 5, 2015 (2015 Charge Conference) and November 8, 2016 (2016 Charge Conference)

The following persons joined Broadway United Methodist Church as full denominational members:

| <u>NAME</u>    | <u>HOW</u> | <u>DATE</u>      |
|----------------|------------|------------------|
| Patti Plunkett | TR         | October 13, 2016 |

PF = Profession of faith; TR = Transfer from another church

The following members/regular attenders died:

Greg Dell  
Bob Gorman  
Mike Silverstein

The following children were baptized:

n/a

The following persons withdrew from Broadway United Methodist Church and/or transferred their membership to other churches:

n/a

*Broadway's membership records and rolls are in need of an audit.*

# Broadway United Methodist Church: Empowering All in Ministry 2016

*This document is not static: it is amended throughout the year as we seek to involve every member in ministry.*

*God has placed the members, each one of them, in the body, just as God desired. If they were all one member, where would the body be? But now there are many members, but one body. ~ 1 Corinthians 12:15-21*

## **Co-Lay Leaders**

David Belew  
Emily Enthof  
MJ Grimshaw  
Demetrius Kelsaw  
Reed Melton  
Victor Poncé

## **Congregational Care Team**

Mel Bose  
Conni Bryant  
Diana Davis  
Charolette Lill  
Sheila Ashby Schultz

## **Historian**

Fran Markwardt

## **ONE Northside**

Susan Armstrong and Eric Smith

## **Lay Member to Annual Conference (Quadrennial)**

MJ Grimshaw  
Diana Davis (alternate)

## **Money Ministry (Finance tasks)**

Ruth Clark, Chairperson  
Loraine Edwalds, Invested Funds Coordinator  
Jon Fallon  
Victor Poncé, Treasurer  
Vincent Wiggins (YL)

**Counters' Coordinator:** Charolette Lill

### **Stewardship Team:**

Ruth Clark  
Loraine Edwalds  
Victor Poncé

**Financial Secretary:** Alexia Rivera (Staff)

## **Property Caregivers (Trustees tasks)**

MJ Grimshaw, Chairperson  
TBD, Secretary-Treasurer  
Don Boedeker, Building Consultant  
David Belew  
Mel Bose  
Chuck Cole  
Steve Forst (representing Dignity Chicago)  
Kathy Wurster

## **Relationship Builders (SPRC tasks)**

Ines Brookens  
Emily McConnell, Co-Chairperson  
Victor Poncé  
Sheila Ashby Schultz, Co-Chairperson

## **GETS Intern Support Team**

(Student Pastor: Saralyn Jones)  
Ines Brookens, Marta Coronado, Diana Davis,  
Jon Fallon, Satia Orange

## **Sowers (Outreach ministry)**

Susan Armstrong  
Mel Bose  
Victor Poncé, Mission Minute Coordinator  
Paula Roderick

## **Additional Teams in Outreach Ministry:**

Annual Tony Vega Thanksgiving Feast, Lakeview  
Pantry, Signboard, Youth Lounge/YL 101 Team, CLASP

## **Additional Worship Ministry:**

Ushers, Media, Environment, Music, Liturgists,  
Gospel Readers

## **Additional Ministries:**

Education/Spiritual Formation, Multi-Cultural Ministry,  
People of Color Discussion Group, Anti-Racist White  
Caucus, Social Media, Hospitality/Coffee Hour

*This celebration of ministries list is probably not exhaustive of "every member in ministry"— many hands work within each of our ministry areas – and also come in the dead of night to drop off supplies or clean or fix something...all for God's glory!*

# Church Within A Church Movement

October 28, 2016

Dear Friends,

The Church Within A Church Movement has held its 'world headquarters' in Broadway Church since 2005. The time has come for the home base to change as CWACM has evolved and an office space within a church is no longer a fit for the current model.

I don't say the word 'home' lightly. The living and breathing of Broadway and CWACM has been intertwined, both providing an incubator for a vision for systemic change and new language of BEing. Space was created to take seriously the words of a reconciling congregation and apply that hope at the intersections of oppression. When Manny Ayala and I were the co-chairs of the Religion and Race committee at Broadway, the church adopted a statement of anti-racist intent, which CWACM adopted with some modifications a year later. Collaboration for Broadway's Black History Month between the people of color group and anti-racist white people caucus was the catalyst for a reorganized church committee structure seeking to de-center white ways of doing and being.

Upon moving to Chicago in 1999 leaving a very oppressive church in Florida, Broadway was where I found myself and my activist voice. The words of welcome I heard every Sunday morning and saw lived into by Greg Dell and Vernice Thorn broke open the wounds I'd long buried. Because I believed what they taught; that a Methodist lesbian white cisgender person had value, I gave up my United Methodist Church membership in 2006 with Judicial Council ruling 1032. The Church Within A Church Movement and Broadway's story continue to inform each other and I hope that continues beyond our physical proximity.

Thank you for the many years of collaboration, and shared space and we all wish BUMC all the best for the future. I look forward to growing our relationship as Broadway is a member of CWACM, even as the space you've generously offered is no longer suitable.

It's my intention to be out of the office space within a couple of weeks. I have nearly twelve years worth of papers to sort and sift and that takes time.

In hope and deep gratitude -

cathy

Sawa Bona! (I see you)

"Each gathering needs to become an example of the future we want to create." Peter Block, *Community; The Structure of Belonging*

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cathy knight | executive director and member | The Church Within A Church Movement

[www.cwac.us](http://www.cwac.us)

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