



Broadway
United Methodist Church



The Broadway — May 2010

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The Pastor's Paragraphs

Everyone was amazed by the many miracles and wonders that the apostles worked. All the Lord's followers often met together, and they shared everything they had. They would sell their property and possessions and give the money to whoever needed it. Day after day they met together in the temple. They broke bread together in different homes and shared their food happily and freely, while praising God. Everyone liked them, and each day the Lord added to their group others who were being saved.

~ Acts 2:43-47

Scripture tells us that the early church grew like crazy. People were drawn to the group of those who told about Jesus and his ministry, and who – like Jesus – healed people and stood up for those who were on the margins.

The disciples did this at no small risk. They directly defied authority, were put in jail, did ministry under threat of torture. Stephen was the first Christian martyr, stoned to death.

Here and now, the risks may not be the same...we may not be in danger of stoning; however, if we go toe-to-toe with those who feel that homosexuality is a sin or a fluid gender identity is perversion, we may be spat at. If we stand with immigrants who are fighting for a fair wage, we may receive the epithets that attack those who today are considered "aliens." If we fight for affordable housing in the neighborhood, we may be painted with the brush that calls us socialists. When we speak out against racism when we experience or observe it, we may be considered troublemakers.

Why was it worth it for the disciples, and why is it worth it now? What is there about living the faithful life, where our actions are a direct result of our belief, that makes it worth the risks?

I don't know about you...but, for me, learning to trust that God's love for me knows no bounds has been powerfully healing, transforming, life-giving. Understanding myself as "beloved" makes me want to tell others that they, too, are beloved children of God.

In our Sunday morning book class, we read Sara Miles say that she spent at least a year after her adult-first-communion-life-altering-experience trying to figure out how to tell people she loved that she was a Christian – fearful of their reaction, fearful of the cynicism that was attached to "church." I wonder if, for us, sometimes that is the biggest risk of all – claiming the truth of being part of a faith community when "church" is seen as enemy; when "church" has done harm.

Don't you wonder how the world might change if more of us helped to re-define "church," and "Christian" to a world that is bruised and suffering? Don't you wonder how you might be part of God's plan for the restoration of a broken world?

Scripture teaches us that God's spirit will be with us, that the "risen Christ" is *in us*, that we are participants with God in re-creating the justice, peace, and abundant life that was intended from the beginning. Some days I just can't wait to get started!



On the journey, with you,

Lois +

Rev. Lois McCullen Parr

Vernice's View

As May begins, I am focused on a recent activity at Broadway. Our confirmation class hosted a friends and family all night lock-in. Alyssa Marron and Earl Schultz, our two confirmands, invited classmates and family to participate in a night of Bible study, movies, discussion and, of course, food. There was laughter, there was serious study, there was community building. The dialogue was amazing. Their supportive friends came from varied religious backgrounds. They were Lutheran, Jewish, Catholic and Methodist, and they all had enriching perspectives on creation and God and their responsibility as a part of creation. The questions they asked were insightful and the answers, thoughtful and perceptive. As we move toward confirmation day, I would like to profile our confirmands:

Alyssa Marie Marron, age fourteen, is a student at Hawthorne Scholastic Academy. Her hobbies include soccer and spending time with friends and family. Her favorite subject in school is science. When asked what she enjoys most about Broadway her answer was, "I like the diversity and how everyone is welcome." She will attend Walter Payton High School next year. Alyssa looks forward to making new friends and learning to do things on her own as she takes on more responsibility. Her proud parents are Tami and Brian Marron.

Earl Maximilian Schultz, age 13 (turning fourteen this month), is a student at Hawthorne Scholastic Academy. His hobbies include sports. He plays basketball, baseball, softball, flag football and volleyball. His favorite subject in school is math. When asked what he enjoys most about Broadway his answer was, "I like the togetherness. Everybody builds off each other and acts like a community, spreading love amongst each other." Earl is excited and intrigued as he wonders how his life will develop as he builds off his past and moves towards his future. His proud parents are Shelia and Ken Schultz.

The confirmands are working hard to complete the requirements of the confirmation process. As you see them around church, encourage and support them in their journey. Earl and Alyssa, we love you and support you as you take this next step in your life. Congratulations and blessings.



In Truth and Justice,

Vernice

CHILDREN'S EDUCATION

June 26, 2010 — SAVE THE DATE

Calling all artists! all educators! all musicians! all Crafters! all Parents of children between the ages of 1 and 16! - Save this date June 26, 2010. Exciting new ideas for our young Christians.

More information coming soon...

Kevin's Korner

May 2010

Background note: Rev. Kevin A. Johnson and Mike Shear are BUMC members who moved to Palm Springs, California, in July 2002, to begin Bloom in the Desert Ministries, which is an interdenominational, inclusive Christian ministry including the Methodist (Broadway style) tradition. "Kevin's Korner" is a monthly column reporting on their progress so Broadway and Bloom stay well connected in ministry together. (www.bloominthedesert.org)



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To be an encouraging and challenging progressive voice in this Coachella Valley is one manifestation of our mission. One way I act on our mission is writing. I am blessed to be published valley-wide on a quarterly basis. Here is a recent column I wrote:

"Words of Faith" April 17, 2010; *The Desert Sun*

Some preachers like to present Christian faith as a series of formulas and laws. Not me. I think Christianity is a lively exploration that questions and reflects on personal experience – all the while building the beloved community.

Christian Scriptures give examples where people like Jesus and Paul took conventional wisdom and interpreted it for their time and situation. Some of the greatest words I hear Jesus say are: "You've heard it said" (one way). "But I say to you" (another way).

I hope more people get used to that sort of openness. Once accepted as the way for learning and exploring Christian faith, more of us can experience the stories, poetry and declarations of the Holy Bible in meaningful ways.

Just think about what you've read and heard over the years. Teaching. Arguing. Passion. Betrayal. Death. Resurrection. And in all, faith.

Yet every year, after a great Easter of faithful resurrection celebration, in the story of one famous Thomas we acknowledge that doubt was part of our faith story from the beginning. It is reassuring to me that Jesus did not condemn Thomas the questioner. In fact, in John's Gospel, Jesus made gracious gestures toward Thomas among the disciples. The result was belief and acclamation. Thomas led the way.

We can celebrate doubt as a catalyst for faith. I think people who do not doubt get stuck in the complacency of fairytales. Instead, by learning through real doubts we can make living progress.

Doubts can be freeing in the sense that they allow us to think for ourselves and gain heartfelt conclusions. True doubting is more about having an open mind than about closing off possibilities of thinking.

John said his Gospel was meant to motivate belief for life. I think that his point in telling about Thomas was, in order to have belief and make community life happen, doubt is welcome.

Please keep all of us in your prayers and join Bloom in the Desert Ministries' group on Facebook.

KAJ

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

Seven Weeks with the Gospel of Luke

April 12/14	Introduction: Gospel of Luke (Acts, Part II) (<i>Luke 1:1-4</i>)
April 19/21	Two births (<i>Luke 1:5-2:21</i>)
April 26/28	Jesus (<i>Luke 2:22-4:13</i>)
May 3/5	Ministry (<i>Luke 4:14-5:32</i>)
May 10/12	In Galilee (<i>Luke 5:33-9:50</i>)
May 17/19	Teachings (<i>Luke 9:51-19:27</i>)
May 24/26	Jerusalem/the Passion/Resurrection (<i>Luke 19:28-24:53</i>)



Mondays, 7-8:30pm

@ the home of Bob Gorman
3410 Lakeshore Drive 8F, Chicago

Wednesdays, 10-11:30am

Wesley Room @ Broadway
3338 N. Broadway, Chicago

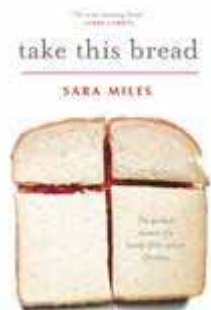
Come for a relaxed, informal Bible study of the story of Jesus, according to the Gospel writer Luke – whose key message is that Jesus came for those who are least, last, lost, left-out.

Supplies needed: a Bible (if you need one, please ask!) Snacks and beverages provided

For more information, please call the Broadway Church office at 773.348.2679

SUNDAY MORNING BOOK STUDY

Join us at 10 am on Sunday as we continue a study (**through May 30th**) of Sara Miles' *Take This Bread*. The book explores Miles' own conversion at the age of 46, in which a liberal professional blue-state lesbian daughter of atheist parents impulsively participated in holy communion. The act of "eating Jesus" led Miles to profoundly change her life, and uncompromisingly take on Christ's command to feed the hungry. Feeding the hungry became Miles' life work, and she relates it with a level of radical inclusion and welcome that is both inspiring and challenging, edifying and convicting.



Books are \$10 or pay-what-you-can. For a copy of the book, please contact Aaron Andersen (773-451-5346, aaron.andersen@gmail.com) or Amy Daigler (312-593-6072, amydaigler@hotmail.com). [If the book is outside of your price range, don't let that keep you away!]

CALL TO ACTION

May Day 2010

Join Arise Chicago in celebrating International Workers' Day to march for worker rights and immigrant rights. Bring your family, friends, or congregation to march with Arise Chicago!

Saturday May 1, 2010

11:30 am Arise Chicago office: 1020 W. Bryn Mawr,
3rd floor in the Edgewater Presbyterian Church

OR

1 pm at the NE corner of Ashland and Washington—look for our banner and balloons near the baseball field bleachers

RSVP to Jacob at 773-937-1825. More information at www.arisechicago.org

COVENANT EXPLORATION



Are you interested in joining Broadway's family? Would you just like to know more about the congregation? If either is the case, "Covenant Exploration" may be the experience for you. **Everyone is welcome as we begin the next series in late May.** (More information coming soon.) We plan to receive new members on *Sunday, June 20th*. Covenant Exploration has been designed for people who are interested in entering into covenant with Broadway and the United Methodist denomination or only with Broadway. The series is a prerequisite for taking the vows of connection. So if you're thinking of "joining the family," think about this opportunity to learn more!

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

We already have ten people ready to be part of a summer mission trip to the UMC Spirit Lake Volunteers in Mission Center on the Spirit Lake Reservation in North Dakota. Please let Paula Roderick, Fran Markwardt, or Clayton Parr know if you are interested, and your availability to get away for a week at the end of July! (emails are, respectively: fairjust@sbcglobal.net; franmarkw@att.net; cparr@depaul.edu). Folks of any skill level, aged 13-90, are welcomed! More information and interest forms are in the Broadway mailbox area.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Sanctuary Prayer

Need some meditation time after a stressful day? Need strength and encouragement to complete the week? Need quiet time to reflect on transitions going on in your life? Need special prayer to help you through a particularly challenging time? If you answered yes to any of these questions, there is a special place to have those needs addressed. Sanctuary Prayer is open to the church and community **each Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m.** Come, enjoy the quiet, and listen to meditative music and the healing sound of water. A pastor is available for special prayer and consultation.



Guided Meditation — NOTE NEW TIME!

In addition to Sanctuary Prayer, Vernice and Lois are offering Guided Meditation in the Pillow Room at **6:00 p.m. on Wednesdays**. If you're interested, come in comfortable clothes for this brief meditation. If you have questions about guided meditation, please see Vernice or Lois.

Education Hour

Following up our *Garden Party: Grow Your Dream!* theme, we will put our faith into practice as we study *Cultivating Fruitfulness*, a congregational resource that inspires participants through 5 weeks of prayer and devotion. Each day includes a Scripture, a short story or concept from the book, a personal question and a prayer. Based on the book, *Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation* by Bishop Robert Schnase. Books are available from the church office for \$6 each.

We hope you will join us on **Wednesdays in May at 7pm** in the Pillow Room.

FINANCE

Mark Your Calendars!! Just after we share the dreams that we've been cultivating through the *Grow Your Dreams* small group ministry, the Finance committee would like to host a congregational conversation about how we fund those dreams **on May 11th, at 7:00 pm** in the sanctuary. More details soon, but get ready to share your good ideas, commitments, and time to ensuring that this church can meet the promises it makes and support the ministries we choose to grow.

ESTATE PLANNING

Getting Your Affairs In Order

Spring is a good time for house-cleaning, and one area that should be considered is also one of the most hard to handle: our personal affairs, including wills, trusts, living wills. Particularly in our community with many alternative family arrangements, the issues may be complicated or painful to address.

Attorney Trailov has been associated with Paula Roderick's law firm and is offering a one-hour general and informal program to discuss the basics for estate planning. He has concentrated his practice in the area of trusts and probate work, and he offers a knowledgeable and enthusiastic view of what we need to get a handle on our estate plans. **Join us on May 16, 12:30-1:30 pm in the Wesley Room.** Questions? Contact Paula at 312-342-0575.

PRIDE MONTH PREVIEW

June is Pride Month, and Broadway is uniquely equipped to be a witness to the LGBTQIA and Christian communities.

Interested in helping with the planning of Broadway's Pride month activities? Have ideas for decorating, events, or more? We'd love to hear your ideas! Want to help out with specific projects or events? We want to start gathering a list of people who are interested in these kinds of projects. Email Tricia Nowacki today to join our ad hoc group for PRIDE month planning!

We will be meeting mid-May to sketch out plans and to delegate tasks for the coming month, but we need to know now which date works best to meet. **Right now, possible dates are May 15th (Sat), 16th (Sun), or 17th (Mon).** When you email, let Tricia know you're interested and which days you could or couldn't meet. We will announce via email and the church bulletin when and where the meeting will be fairly early in May, so email Tricia today!

Items already on the agenda include:

- An LGBTQIA movie series, taking place every Friday night in June. So far, we're considering *Milk* (2008) and *Paris is Burning* (1990). Come with ideas for other films!
- A publication of Broadway's stories: we want to hear your ideas of what it means to be LGBTQIA and a part of Broadway (allies' stories are of course welcome too). There will be a brief writing workshop in late May and early June to help you write your story (more details to come...)
- Pride Parade: Are some of us going to march with the Chicago Coalition of Welcoming Churches, or do we want to build our own float? How can we be Jesus to some of the thousands of people coming to our neighborhood on June 27? These are some of the questions we will be trying to answer.
- Your ideas!

Please direct all messages concerning Pride Month activities to Tricia Nowacki at: tricianowacki@gmail.com.

MAY MISSION MINUTE

International Child Care

International Child Care is a Christian health development organization. Operating in Haiti since 1967 and in the Dominican Republic since 1988, ICC is working to change the conditions of poverty that impact health and well-being.

Their vision is health and wholeness for children and families in empowered communities. **Their mission** is to respond to a loving God by promoting health and well-being for the children and families of Haiti and the Dominican Republic through caring service and the education of others.

ICC's programs center around three goals:

1. **Prevent Illness** among children and their families through immunization, oral rehydration, vitamin A distribution, prenatal care, clean water projects, training of Traditional Birth Attendants and village- and church-based health promoters
2. **Promote Health** for children and their families through health education, pre- and postnatal care, reproductive health services, growth monitoring and community based rehabilitation for children with disabilities
3. **Restore Health** for children and adults who have fallen ill through TB and HIV treatment, outpatient medical clinics at Grace Children's Hospital and curative care services through our Integrated Community Health projects

More information can be found at: <http://www.internationalchildcare.org/>

May's Mission Minute Sunday is **May 9, 2010**. However, you can make donations to *International Child Care* throughout the month. To donate, mark your envelope or check with the Mission Minute. (Make check out to Broadway Church but be sure to mark your donation for *International Child Care* or May Mission Minute.)

MUSIC DIRECTOR SEARCH

We Are Interviewing!

Our search for a Director of Music and Worship Arts has narrowed to three potential candidates. The Search Committee will bring in each of the three good candidates for an interview and then, to lead the Broadway choir in a rehearsal. One candidate will be onsite each of the following dates: April 28th, May 5th and May 12th. Successful candidate(s) will be invited back for the final round of interviews with the Staff Parish Relations Committee and the Pastors.

If you have any questions regarding the process, please feel free to contact any member of the search committee. Search Committee Members: Reed Melton, Clayton Parr, Jenn Peterson, Laura Goetz, Emily McConnell, Amy Wells, Elina Rodriguez and Curt Bewley.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU

Featuring Tim Barnes and Mike Mutuc

On an average day do you have any idea how many people pass through the doors of Broadway? There are church meetings, community meetings, worship, fellowship, neighbors and so many more. How does one keep all of this under a manageable transition? We can thank our security monitors Tim and Mike. But really, who are these guys?

Tim has been a security monitor for 6 years. Tim plays the pipe organ, harpsichord and piano. You may have experienced his work as he plays the organ for worship services and singing in the Broadway choir. Tim is a member of the American Guild of Organists. As a traveler he enjoys camping and hiking. He has recently traveled to Estes Park and the Rocky mountains. He has also traveled to Cozumel Mexico with his family. His next trip is to travel to London in the Spring of 2011.

Mike has been a security monitor for a year and six months.

In a casual conversation to get to know them better the guys answered a few questions about themselves.

Are you originally from Chicago?

Tim: No I'm from Texas

Mike: A true Chicagoan

What is something that no one knows about you?

Tim: I'm working on a model airport and naming it after Greg Dell; also I am a science fiction fan.

Mike: I collect comic books

What do you enjoy doing with your free time?

Tim: Travel

Mike: Watch movies

What book have you recently read?

Tim: *Five People I'd Like to Meet in Heaven*

Mike: *The Road*

What is your favorite restaurant?

Tim: Mickey Finn's

Mike: Flub a Dub Chub

Where is your favorite place in the church?

Tim: The pillow room

Mike: The kitchen

What kind of music do you enjoy?

Tim: New Age

Mike: Hip Hop

What other things do you enjoy doing?

Tim: playing the organ, shopping, walking on the beach and volleyball

Mike: basketball

As you make your way through Friendship Hall, thank the guys for all that they do.

Diana Davis

HOLY WEEK 2010

Thanks be to God for the many volunteers who made our “Great Three Days” from Maundy Thursday to Easter morning possible – thanks to those all who helped set-up and clean-up, to the Vigil-keepers, to the cooks, to the writers and readers, to the musicians, to the organizers...we are grateful for your ministries! Check out some pictures from this year’s Seder Meal: (photos thanks to Liz Holland)



Above: Blessing over the matzah.

Below: The ritual table is set.



Mark leads us in song.



A meal of remembrance — of the “narrow place” and God’s faithfulness.



ADULT EDUCATION I

Don't want to be "Left Behind?" Worried or curious about "The Last Days?" The Sunday morning Bible study will begin an in-depth study of the Bible's last book, The Revelation of St. John, **beginning the first Sunday of June** (it is expected to take us to Advent). Led by Christopher W Graul. We meet at 9:50 am each Sunday Morning in Area C. Feel free to join us! (Adult Education I will continue to study the lectionary through May.)

MEDIA ANNOUNCEMENT



Have you ever wanted to work on the sound system to record the services or program the media for the on-screen display? Now's your chance to do so. We are training people who have had an interest in media/sound and want to learn how.

Please sign-up on the sheet on the table in Friendship Hall or contact Richard Holley (dbz1973@hotmail.com) or Latoya Thorn (afrocentricbeauti@yahoo.com) to discuss times for training.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Will Broadway Continue This Tradition?

"Reverend Nyman to Stay at Broadway" from *Church News*, May 1917

Early in the winter our pastor was approached on the subject of accepting a call to one of the largest churches of the Northwest. He sent word in the negative. Then a telegram came to him, inviting him to come at the church's expense to investigate the field, stating that he had been unanimously called as pastor. The matter then came before our official board, and it was unanimously voted to request Mr. Nyman not to look into the proposed opportunity, assuring him of continued loyal support, with an increase of salary, so as not to place all the sacrifice upon his shoulders. Now let us all pull together for a larger and better Broadway.

~ submitted by Mark Van Hyning, Church Historian

June Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the **June 2010** issue of *The Broadway* are due **Sunday, May 23rd**. Articles in electronic format are preferred and should be sent to broadwayc@ameritech.net. Hard copies may also be submitted in the newsletter mailbox off Friendship Hall.



The Broadway

May 2010

Pastor: **Rev. Lois McCullen Parr**
gizhilois@yahoo.com

Associate Pastor: **Rev. Vernice Thorn**
akatinyt@hotmail.com

Office Manager: **Alexia Kruger**
broadwayc@ameritech.net

Outreach Ministry: **Rev. Kevin A. Johnson, Bloom in the Desert**
revkev@bloominthedesert.org

Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. on Sundays!

NEW WEBSITE COMING SOON!!

Broadway United Methodist Church
3338 N Broadway St
Chicago, IL 60657