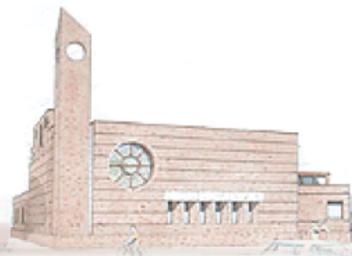




Broadway
United Methodist Church



The Broadway — July 2010

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The Pastor's Paragraphs

Jesus told them, "You don't get to know the time. Timing is God's business. What you'll get is the Holy Spirit. And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world."
~ Acts 1:7-8

Whenever I am at the Northern Illinois Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, it is touching to celebrate the "six degrees of separation" that connects us as United Methodists. We see former pastors, former parishioners; we introduce old and new friends. This year we got up at 6:00 am to share Holy Communion with a small circle like Broadway's 8:45 Worship hour. We sang "Sanctuary" as the bread and cup were passed one to the next, and we met people for the first time – some who said to us, "Broadway? Oh! *Broadway.*"

We are known. Known for offering radical hospitality and claiming a vision of the church as a truly inclusive place. Known for the expression of God's love that knows no bounds. Known for believing that what Jesus did in word & deed is what we want to do, too.

What an amazing month June has been here at Broadway as we continue "On the Road to Justice," claiming our ministry through our dialogue & learning, affirming our identity as a Reconciling, Anti-Racist Congregation who welcomes all. It is humbling to be to part of this journey with you, and I thank you for the *Pride* witness this congregation gives.

This month we gear up for another witness, as eighteen (18!) people travel to North Dakota to share in the mission & ministry of Spirit Lake Ministry Center. One of the things that draws me to the ministry at Spirit Lake is the focus on relationships that Libby & Mike (the United Methodist missionaries at the Center) are so clear to call for. Mike always says, "if you're painting and someone comes out of the house to talk, *put down the brush.*" The painting can be done by any crew; *this moment, this opportunity to know someone, won't come again.* It's the building of relationships that has given the Spirit Lake ministry its commitment to community with tribal people – vs. mission to strangers.

That call is ours wherever we go, I believe. This moment, this opportunity to know someone better, won't come again. This moment, this chance to be in relationship that we may all represent God's love, is what it means to "walk the talk."

I pray for these moments "on the road" with you, within and beyond the walls of what we know as Broadway. *That Broadway.*



In gratitude,

Lois +

Rev. Lois McCullen Parr

Vernice's View

It's hard to believe that it is July already. We're into the second half of 2010.

As I write this we are just finishing up Pride month and what a month we have experienced! I want to say a special thank you to the Pride Planning Committee, headed up by Tricia Nowacki. The educational events and pride worship services and film studies were well planned and well attended. They were shaped and informed by our mission statement of inclusivity and the Gospel message of radical welcome. I want to also thank our special guest preachers, Rev. Ermalou Roller and Sue Laurie. Their messages were timely, powerful and challenging.

As we move into July, many of us will participate in family gatherings and vacations. In the warmth of the days we will look for cool beaches and parks to play a little, to take some well deserved time away from the hustle and bustle of daily living. As a faith community, the pace slows a bit here as well. However, I want to remind us that getting away does not have to necessarily mean not coming to church. Think of the church as an oasis as well, a safe and cool haven where we can breathe deeply and let the Spirit refresh and heal us from the everyday stresses of life. There is a healing service planned this month. We continue with open sanctuary and guided meditation on Wednesday evenings, a powerful time of silence, of imagery, of music and scripture. We follow that with our Old Testament Disciple Bible Study, where we examine the stories of scripture and connect them with our own stories. And Sunday morning worship, we just never know what nugget of truth or healing that might ensue as we meet God and each other in sacred space.

So as we move through this time, together, I pray for our continued health and peace as individuals and as a community, and leave you with this scripture to ponder and this prayer.

I invite you to meditate this month on Psalm 121.

We lift up our eyes to you, O God, knowing that all that we have and all that we are comes from you. You have created us in your image and called us, each of us, by name – we belong to you, you belong to us. Our prayer this day is that you will continue to bless us with your presence and your love. Our hope, Sovereign One, is that your spirit will challenge us to commitment, will encourage us to love and will call us to mission. Enlarge our vision, increase our trust in you and in each other. Disturb us, comfort us, make us whole and free. In the name of the Living Christ, we pray. Amen.



In Truth and Justice,
Vernice

P.S. We wish our mission trippers safety. Work well, have fun and bring back lots of memories to share.

Sacramental Acts of Broadway during the month of June

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Baptism (June 6): Jayla Rose Matias Thorn

Confirmation (June 13): Alyssa Marie Marron and Earl Maximilian Schultz

Covenant Members (June 20): Irene Bourgeois, Sarah Ewing, Deon Falcon, Sean-Edward D. Hall, Tom Hope, Karl Lyons, Jeffery Morris, Eva Skky, Becky Szucs, Il You

Kevin's Korner

July 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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As you read this, the events will be in the past, but let's think presently.

We Bloomers and friends are collaborating to support the first ever June LGBT Pride Month activities sponsored by the Tolerance Education Center in nearby Rancho Mirage. We are joining with Coachella Valley faith and community neighbors to provide programs and promotions of a four-day celebration of "Pride," June 24 though 27, 2010. The Tolerance Education Center was founded by Holocaust survivors and features educational displays, resources and programs pertaining to the six-million Jews and five-million others, including LGBTs, killed by Nazis. I was much moved the first time I saw the center's historically authentic cloth "original" pink triangle. It is displayed along with authenticated patches consisting of a yellow Star of David for the masses of Jews, a blue Star of David for "trusty" Jews, and a purple triangle for Jehovah's Witnesses.



Among the weekend's varied activities; Bloom is specifically participating in a Thursday evening panel discussion examining the "Roots of Intolerance," hosting a Friday evening movie/discussion of the feature documentary "The Times of Harvey Milk," and arranging a Saturday "Lifeguard" workshop on teen suicide in collaboration with The Trevor Project, a national teen help-line headquartered in Los Angeles. Besides staff and volunteers' time, we contributed \$100 to partially fund a Pride Sunday afternoon open-house with a tolerance education "game" experience, entertainment, and serving Kosher hotdogs and other picnic treats. All activities are promoted to the general public through general, church and LGBT-community media.

I wonder if people will get how important it is that the catalyst to recognize June in our valley as LGBT Pride Month comes from the mostly straight, primarily Jewish, Tolerance Education Center. In the same way, the center recognized Black History Month and Women's History Month with weekly film screenings earlier this year. Recently they held a special event to screen the documentary film "The Armenian Genocide." The local members of The Armenian Assembly of America who attended the special event told the center's executive director that it was the first time anyone outside their Armenian community had recognized their history.

It's been pointed out to me that one way to oppress a people is to deny their history. It happens all the time around the world. It happens to us LGBTs. It happens to the various histories of our ethnic and racial brothers and sisters, both straight and LGBT. I cannot help but be thankful to the Universal Compassionate Spirit working here to cross boundaries of denial and hurt with the salve of tolerance. I think history is being made as history is being remembered and, in appropriate ways, celebrated.

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

KAJ

Parking Lot Garage Sale at Broadway UMC Parking lot:
July 17, 9 to 3pm

The members of Broadway going on the Mission Trip to Spirit Lake, ND, need your help and support! We will hold a sale of donated things to defray the cost for this trip! Any item worth resale would be greatly appreciated! It's time to clean out your closet, junk room or any items you just don't use anymore! Also, baked goods are needed for the sale! We appreciate your support for this Mission trip anyway you can.

Please contact Diana Davis (773-960-9142, davidav22@sbcglobal.net) or MJ Grimshaw (773-680-0857, mgrimshaw@sbcglobal.net). If you are unable to get the items to the church, call MJ to arrange a pick up!

Shalom.

SPIRIT LAKE MISSION NEWS

Plans are moving forward for the mission trip to Spirit Lake Dakotah Nation, Devils Lake, North Dakota, **July 25-31**. There is still some more room for team members to join us — if you're interested, please review the information sheet on the website [under "Join Us" and then "Summer Mission Trip"] and fill out an intent form [link on website], return it to me at the church. If you can't join us as a member of the team, there will be a number of ways you can support this mission project. (For one way, see "Sale" above.) We also will be gathering materials to donate as the departure date gets closer. If you're willing to support the team's travel through donations, those can be accepted at any time. Checks can be made out to Broadway and designated "Spirit Lake Mission." ~ Clayton Parr



JULY MISSION MINUTE

Lakeview Pantry



Lakeview Pantry Mission Statement: ***Our mission*** is to eliminate hunger in our community by: providing food to fill the basic need of hungry people, increasing the independence of our clients through self-help initiatives and other innovative programs, and raising awareness of hunger and poverty and work towards solutions to eliminate them. ***Our vision*** is to be a stable presence in the communities we serve, and to be a model of compassionate, effective, and collaborative service delivery. ***Our ultimate goal*** is the eradication of hunger and poverty in our communities.

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

July's Mission Minute Sunday is **July 11, 2010**. However, you can make donations to *Lakeview Pantry* 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 *Lakeview Pantry* or July Mission Minute.)

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Hello from the Finance team. Below you will see our budgeted income and expenses and actual income and expenses for the months of March and April. Budgeted incomes and expenses are always drawn from the budget the congregation passed last November, based on previous experience. As you can see, our budgeted income was quite high for April, because of Easter. Our actual income was higher than past months, but not at the budgeted level. For the first time this year, our actual expenses were larger than our actual income, which is because we used some small savings from the first few months to pay off bills that had not yet been paid, including one month of apportionments. As you can see, we will need help from all of you to increase our income to meet the budget that the congregation supported last year. As always, e-mail me with any questions, Hannah, Finance Chair (hmconn@gmail.com).

March 2010	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Gross Income	\$21,085	\$28,796	(\$7711)
Expenses	\$20,072	\$26,445	(\$6273)
Net Income	\$913	\$2351	(\$1438)

April 2010	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Variance</u>
Gross Income	\$22,852	\$34,798	(\$11,946)
Expenses	\$28,324	\$25,645	\$2679
Net Income	(\$5472)	\$9153	(\$14,625)

Weekly Giving Update — There is a thermometer outside the sanctuary which measures how much money we have in comparison to how much we need for basic budgeted expenses for each month. This is not any extra fundraising — it is to sustain Broadway's mission and ministries, which are supported by basic expenses like utilities, staff salaries, and ministry supplies. Our monthly budget also includes giving to the General UMC in "apportionments" to support global mission and other projects. Combined, our monthly need is \$25,645.

We calculated that over the year, the Weekly Giving Needed: \$5,600

On June 13, we received: \$2,600

On June 20, we received: \$3,200

Please help Broadway meet its needs and continue to serve God in all the great ways we do.

Thank you for your commitment to our faith community's purposes!



SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR

Adult Education I: Don't be LEFT BEHIND. Come be enRAPTURED by a lively discussion of John's REVELATION. We are in the midst of an in-depth study **Sundays at 9:50 am** (between services) and will meet each week (almost). All are welcome! This class is being led by Christopher Gaul.

Adult Education II: 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 6 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 or pay-what-you-can. We hope you will join us on **Sundays, July 4-August 8, at 10 am** in the Pillow Room.

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

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.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

June 30 — August 18: Invitation to the Old Testament, an eight week in-depth *Disciple* Bible Study. This is an opportunity to read the Bible with curiosity; to ask the questions: who? what? where? when? how? and why? This study allows scripture to speak even if the meaning is troubling or unclear. We will use the Bible and various study tools to seek answers to questions that arise. **We meet each Wednesday at 7 pm in the pillow room.** Please contact the office to reserve your spot. Books for the class will be ordered; the cost is \$11 or pay-as-you-can (please see Vernice). Hope to see you there.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE REPORT

You won't want to miss Diana & MJ's slideshow and presentation on **Sunday, July 18**, as we hear about this year's Northern Illinois Annual Conference of the UMC, *Bold Disciples Abundant Fruit* (based on John 15:1-5). Legislative highlights include:

- ◆ petition the UMC Judicial Council to reconsider its recent decisions on inclusive membership
- ◆ divest conference investments from companies that profit from the occupation of the Palestinian territories
- ◆ support the people of Haiti through ministries of mercy, love and justice
- ◆ advocate for comprehensive immigration reform
- ◆ continuing support for Harvest 2020 reminded us of the Harvest 2020 Core Values:
 - we believe the Gospel changes everything
 - we develop outward-facing communities
 - we practice social healing
 - we give thanks for God's abundance
 - we foster and grow the United Methodist movement

HISTORICAL NOTE

An unorthodox motivation for church attendance?

"Hot Weather" from *Church News*, July 1916

Everybody is talking about the hot weather. The thermometer is within focus all the time, and the iceman has orders to leave 100 pounds instead of 50. We know of no other place nearby which is as cool as Broadway Church. At least 20 degrees cooler in church than at home. Come out next Sunday and see for yourself. The first three rows of pews directly in front of Dr. Davidson* are the coolest in the entire building. We want all of our members to jam into the first three cool pews. The other remaining nine pews will be sufficient for visitors and friends.

*Historian's note: William J. Davidson, D.D. was Broadway's pastor at the time.

~ submitted by Mark Van Hying, Church Historian

August Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the **August 2010** issue of *The Broadway* are due **Sunday, July 25th**. 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

July 2010

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

Associate Pastor: **Rev. Vernice Thorn**
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Office Manager: **Alexia Kruger**
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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!

www.broadwaychurchchicago.org

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