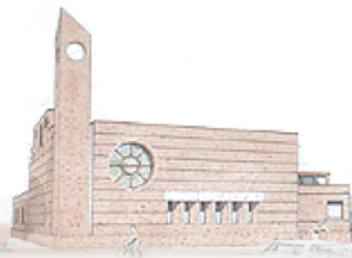




Broadway
United Methodist Church



The Broadway — December 2010

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The Pastor's Paragraphs

"The season of Advent means there is something on the horizon the likes of which we have never seen before. It is not possible to keep it from coming, because it will. That's just how Advent works. What is possible is to not see it, to miss it, to turn just as it brushes past you. And you begin to grasp what it was you missed, like Moses in the cleft of the rock, watching God's hindquarters fade in the distance.

So stay.

Sit. Linger. Tarry. Ponder. Wait. Behold. Wonder.

There will be time enough for running. For rushing. For worrying. For pushing.

For now, stay. Wait.

Something is on the horizon."

~ Jan Richardson

Kairos.

It's "God's time" – not our linear, *chronos* time that seems to organize by how much we get done.

God's time, *kairos*, organizes by what is most needed in the moment, in the season. These are the words of ancient Greece – two ways of thinking about time. *Kairos* means "the right time" or "the fullness of time," while *chronos* means chronological, measured time. *Chronos* is about quantity; *kairos* is about quality.

The season of Advent draws near as I write this. A season of preparation, intended to call us to slow down in measured time, to listen for the quality of the moment; to be alert for the ways in which we get ready for God to do a new thing, once again.

Our season theme, "The Village...on the road..." reminds us that, as one saying puts it: "the journey is our home." We are always *on the way* – and my hope is that we are intentionally, deliberately *on the way together*, as people united by relationship and a common faith in God's love and justice.

We'll be "on the road" to peace, hope, joy, and home as we gather each week of Advent, lighting the candles that remind us of time passing and that summon our hearts to consider how we live in time.

Advent's season gives us an awareness of the now and the not yet. We are at once in the moment, grateful for the fullness of time; and in the future, holding onto the hope that carries us into the then.

Jan Richardson writes, "you may recall that hope was the last thing left in Pandora's box. After all the plagues, griefs, sorrows, and misery had flown out of the box in order to visit themselves upon humanity, hope remained."

This gift, this great gift of hope that comes to us from the prophets of our tradition and contemporary prophets, is the gift we anticipate as we live in the *kairos* of Advent, knowing that hope is born in the story we share year after year of the birth of Jesus who becomes the Christ.



With you, on the road...

Lois ⁺

Rev. Lois McCullen Parr



Vernice's View

Advent is one of my favorite times of the Church year. It actually is the beginning of the Christian liturgical year. The first Sunday of Advent was November 28th and the introduction to our Advent Study began on November 21st and will continue throughout the 4 weeks of Advent.

The title of the book we are using is *While We Wait, Living the Questions of Advent*. I love this title because Advent is all about waiting, expectantly, while at the same time, working, preparing ourselves for something to be born anew in us. Each year during Advent we get another opportunity for a fresh start, to recreate ourselves from the inside out. We begin that journey by asking the hard questions. We wonder about why some have much and some have so little. We wrestle with the mystery of who God really is. We begin that journey by opening our eyes and hearts to the places where we have been hurt and where we have hurt others. The Advent journey helps us look closely at the deaths that have taken place in our lives this year: in toxic relationships, in illness, in grief, in loss of jobs, in challenging financial situations...Advent is a an occasion to claim new life even in the midst of all that goes on in us and around us. And I know that we all have something we would like to reflect on this Advent: anger, disappointment, poverty, forgiveness, peace, justice, hope... I've chosen forgiveness as my Advent focus. I know for many of us forgiveness is a hard one, especially when we feel strongly that we are the ones who have been wronged. Even so this Advent my personal study will be on forgiveness.

We meet each Sunday morning at 10 am in the Pillow Room. I know everyone can't make it, but I would encourage those who can to join us and if not to consider getting the study guide and using it in your own personal Advent Journey. The books are available in the office for a suggested donation of \$7.

As we move into the Holidays, my prayer is that we center our attention on God and the re-birth of God in us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

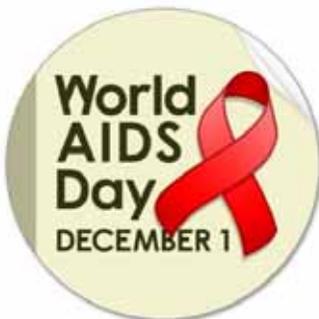


In Truth and Justice,

Vernice

WORLD AIDS DAY

December 1, 2010 at 6:00 pm



Come for special viewing of *Miss HIV*, the award-winning documentary by director Jim Hanon and producer Mart Green that brings into the open the little-known struggle for dominance over AIDS education and prevention.

Miss HIV showcases women in Botswana participating in a stigma-free beauty pageant, college students in Uganda fighting the stigma of their choice to remain abstinent, and gay rights activists at the International AIDS Conference in Toronto combating stigmatization. Discussion to follow after the film.

Kevin's Korner

December 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)



Wow!! I wish you could have been here in Palm Springs on November 7. Pride Sunday at Bloom was a great and fun day. Bloom was in two places at once for worship and witness at 10 am. Our worship was at the Demuth Community Center with Holy Communion and our witness to God's inclusive love in the world was demonstrated in the Greater Palm Springs Pride Parade downtown. The special treat for us was that we welcomed your Rev. Lois McCullen Parr and Clayton Parr from Chicago and Bloomers Rev. Woodley White and Julie White in from Hawaii to lead our worship while Mike Shear and I were in the parade! The finale for the day was a meet-up brunch at a Bloomer's home where we shared great food and friendship together. There are lots of pictures of Bloomers in the parade on the *Kevin A Johnson* Facebook page. Go have a look.

Big news – literally! Very soon, an outdoor Bloom billboard will appear in the On Dinah Shore Drive in Palm Springs – also known as the Mid-Valley Parkway – inviting people to “Check us out.” “Your journey. Your church. You're welcome here.” That's the announcement. We'll have to be ready with our extravagant welcome when they come.

This is a crucial time in Bloom's journey. We believe we are in accord in wanting to grow Bloom's ministries in the Greater Palm Springs area. We know we are not the typical Christian church. Being who we are takes extra effort. Our open and affirming/reconciling values mean we are different from most. We stand for marriage equality and economic justice. We promote peace, healthy relationships and individual responsibility. We encourage spiritual growth and foster creative talents. Reality means that providing quality worship services, professional pastoral ministry, excellent music programs, intriguing educational opportunities, and compassionate mission outreach activities costs money. It is only through increased awareness of and commitment to Bloom's vital presence that we can grow our church. That is why we are trying to figure ways to grow recognition and income as well as spiritual ministry programs.

So, I am truthful when I say that we are looking forward to Advent and Bloom's month as Broadway's Mission Minute benefactor. Our relationship with Broadway got a super duper boost with Pastor Lois' and Clayton's recent visit. I know that Mike Shear and I always feel that we are carrying on the ministry of Broadway here – even as a UCC, maybe especially so. That's because the values we share are the true catalyst for what we do. And we want to keep doing just that.

I hope you can be there in the Broadway sanctuary on December 19 to join me in celebrating our ministry together. I am so grateful for the dollar-for-dollar match that Darrell Windle has promised again. All of this is so exciting. Please do what you can, so we can do what we are called to do. God bless you.

Please keep all of us in your prayers. Join the Bloom in the Desert Ministries Group on Facebook, friend Rev. Kev and sign up for our weekly electronic newsletter at www.bloominthedesert.org. God bless you.

KAJ

DECEMBER SCHEDULE

Saturday, December 4 Hanging of the Greens at 2 pm
(please see page 10 for more info)

Sunday, December 5 Second Sunday of Advent;
Consecration (Pledge) Sunday
Special Guest: Mark Miller!



(Mark Miller)

Sunday, December 12 Third Sunday of Advent;
Mission Minute Sunday

Sunday, December 19 Fourth Sunday of Advent;
Guest Preacher: Rev. Kevin Johnson
Choir Advent/Christmas Concert at 2 pm
Choirs, Carols and Christmas
Pay as you can, suggested donation \$10

Tuesday, December 21 'Longest Night' Healing Service at 7 pm

Friday, December 24 Christmas Eve services at 4:30, 7:00 and 11:00 pm

Sunday, December 26 Christmas/Kwanzaa; **One** Sunday morning service at 11:00 am

VILLAGE PEOPLE: PLEDGE 2011



You are invited to join us on **December 5**, the 2nd Sunday in Advent, to enjoy acclaimed musician Mark Miller, and pledge for 2011.

Every villager counts. Join us on December 5 and you'll find it's fun to pledge at the BUMC.

See you there!

Sincerely,

Your Broadway Stewardship Team

DECEMBER MISSION MINUTE

December's Mission Minute is **Bloom in the Desert Ministries**. Bloom in the Desert Ministries United Church of Christ and Reconciling Methodist congregation is an interdenominational, inclusive, progressive-Christian, traditional mainline, liberal protestant church.

Mission Statement: Guided by teaching of Jesus Christ, Bloom is a community of believers who strive to uplift and heal one another. We gather to worship God, witness our faith in the living of our lives and uphold one another in Christian living. United in our diversity we are inclusive and embracing. We agitate for God's peace and justice in our community and around the world. **Core Values:** We are a people of God's extravagant welcome. We are a people of Covenant. We work toward a just and loving world through service and generosity. We listen for the still-speaking God. We encourage a life of inquisitive and thoughtful searching. We are grounded by Christian faithfulness. We celebrate the joy in life. **Rev. Kevin A. Johnson**, pastor of Bloom in the Desert, and his partner, Mike Shear, are members of Broadway, who moved to Palm Springs, California, in 2002 to begin a new inclusive church. News from Bloom in the Desert appears in "Kevin's Korner" which you'll find in every issue of the Newsletter. **Rev. Kev will visit Broadway and preach on December 19.**

December's Mission Minute Sunday is **December 12**. However, you can make donations to *Bloom in the Desert* throughout the month. To donate, mark your envelope or check with the Mission Minute. (Make checks out to Broadway Church but be sure to note *Bloom in the Desert* or December Mission Minute.)

HOLIDAY BAKE SALE

Do you like to bake or do you like to buy? **December 19th** you will have the opportunity to do one or the other... or both! We will be having a Holiday Bake Sale before and after the Choir Christmas Concert. So bring your Christmas Cookies or your Christmas Cakes, your Holiday Pies and your sweetest Holiday treats to Friendship Hall by **Sunday the 19th at 1 pm** for the sale. Then bring your sweet tooth and your money, too, and purchase some of the Holiday Goodies before or after you enjoy the joyous Christmas music presented by our choir! Questions? Contact Sean-Edward at 773-710-8875 or seanedward2@yahoo.com.

SUNDAY ADULT 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: Sundays at 10:00 am. If you are looking for a group Advent study with a difference, *While We Wait, Living the Questions of Advent* offers new ways of connecting study participants with their own faith questions. Group members have the chance to look at some biblical figures on whom we don't always focus during Advent. Author Mary Lou Redding (managing editor of *The Upper Room*) hopes *While We Wait* "will help people who don't want to gloss over their own questions about the Christmas story. It looks at Advent as a journey in which God seeks us at many levels of our understanding and spiritual will-igness. It allows for real-life struggles and questions as a legitimate part of Advent's spiritual exploration."

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Sanctuary Prayer is open to the church and community **each Wednesday from 5:30-6:30 pm**. Come, enjoy the quiet, and listen to meditative music and the healing sound of water. A pastor is available for prayer and consultation.

Guided Meditation in the Pillow Room at **6:00 pm. on Wednesdays**. If you're interested, come in comfortable clothes for this brief meditation. If you have questions, please see Vernice or Lois.

Education Hour — *Yearning for God: Reflections of Faithful Lives*, by Margaret Ann Crain and Jack Seymour. Join us **Wednesdays at 7 pm**.

KWANZAA CELEBRATION

December is almost synonymous with the word celebration. Even those of us who find this to be an extremely troubling time, for various reasons, cannot deny the festive feel in the air. It is certain we have individual impressions of what it means to celebrate, yet, most of us participate or ritualize the holidays in some manner during this month.

Christmas Day we celebrate new birth and God's continued presence in the world. So it is very appropriate that we come together as community to celebrate Kwanzaa, a commemoration rooted in the first harvest celebrations practiced in various cultures in Africa. Kwanzaa allows us, especially in our diversity, to embrace a message of hope and solidarity. The seven principles are values and goals that affect all of us, regardless of race or ethnicity. They are celebration stories, each principle affirming our awareness of God, strengthening our trust in our Creator and each other, as we work together to bring about healing, justice and wholeness. With conviction and passion the principles help us to face life with determination, unity, creativity, purpose and faith.

Kwanzaa is a cultural celebration which continues to evolve into an invitation to all people to celebrate the beauty and the contributions of people of African descent. Broadway United Methodist Church, friends and family are invited to celebrate all seven principles beginning Sunday, December 26th, and ending on Friday the 31st with a community potluck and the sharing of homemade gifts. Last year was an exciting time and this year will be that plus more. Kwanzaa is hosted by People of Color Discussion Group and The Anti-Racist White Caucus.



Kwanzaa 2010 Schedule:

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| December 26th | <u>One</u> Sunday morning service at 11:00 am |
| December 27 – 30th | 7pm (Wesley Room) |
| December 31st | Potluck and gift exchange at 6:30 pm (Wesley Room and Friendship Hall) |

We hope that you will consider sharing in this time of remembering and visioning as we move together into a new year.

ADVENT POINSETTIAS

2010 ADVENT SEASON POINSETTIAS

BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Broadway UMC worship committee invites you to join in decorating our Sanctuary with Poinsettias in celebration of Advent and Christmas. As in years past, the Worship Committee Environment team will handle acquiring the plants and decorating the sanctuary. All you have to do is sign up to donate one or more. The cost is \$12.00 per plant. This year we will decorate with the Poinsettias for the 4th Sunday in Advent (December 19th) and ask that they remain through Christmas Sunday (December 26th). You can pick up your plant after the late service on Christmas Sunday. To order your plant, please complete the information on quantity, color, and dedication below along with your name, address and phone number.

PLEASE, place your donation by Sunday, December 12th, 2010 to ensure reserving a plant/color.

Submit with check payable to Broadway UMC with "Advent Flowers" in the memo portion. Mail to BUMC or bring to the church and turn into the church office Attn: "Advent Season Flowers" or to Scott McGowan or Demetrius Kelsaw.

NAME: _____ PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ST: _____ ZIP: _____

Each plant is branched with approximately 5-7 flowers.

Poinsettia Color choices: Red White

Quantity Each: _____ _____

Quantity x \$12.00 Each \$ _____ \$ _____ Total \$ _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

In Celebration of: _____





2010 ADVENT SEASON POINSETTIAS

BROADWAY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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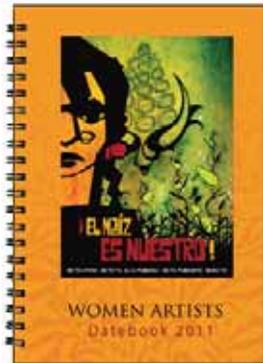




Church Within A Church Movement

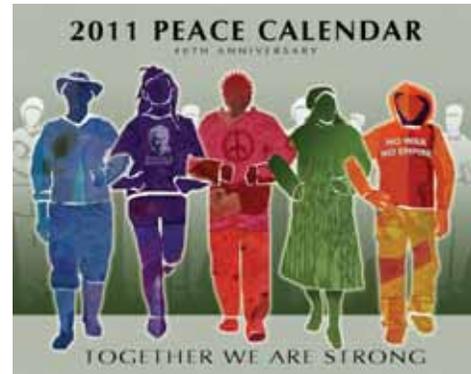
**It's time for CWAC's annual Peace Calendar Holiday Sale!
Quantities are limited so order today!**

2011 Women Artists Datebook



\$13

2011 Peace Calendar



\$12

TO ORDER: contact cathy knight in the CWAC office in the lower level of Broadway Church at JustChurch@cwac.us or contact Rev. Vernice Thorn at vernice.thorn@gmail.com.

Secure on-line ordering here: [2011 ORDER FORM](#)

2011 Women Artists Datebook

18th edition

This special edition of the datebook features women artists taking women as their subject as we celebrate the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day. Cover art by [Favianna Rodriguez](#) is the dynamic poster ¡El Maíz Es Nuestro! (The Corn Is Ours!), supporting the resistance to planting transgenic corn in Mexico. With art and poetry by 30 women, the datebook testifies to the beauty and fullness of contemporary women's lives.

- Quotations by women
- Flat opening, spiral-bound, 5x7
- Smudge-free stock for notations
- Lunar cycles, 13 native moons

2011 Peace Calendar

Year after year the **Peace Calendar** makes visible and helps legitimize several of the thousands of grassroots struggles for justice that occur daily around the world. Made invisible by commercial media, these struggles give us hope and a sense of solidarity – both critical ingredients in ongoing social change work.

Topics include: the 50th anniversary of the "Freedom Riders;" muralist David Fichter's urban-wilds tribute; the 100th anniversary of International Women's Day; a tribute to progressive hip hop; and a moving Sebastião Salgado photograph of Afghan children being schooled on unexploded munitions.

- Full color, 14 x 22 on your wall
- Over 200 people's history annotations
- Holidays for many faiths
- Lunar cycles, 13 native moons

HANGING OF THE GREENS



Join in the festivities, fellowship and fun with the annual Hanging of the Greens for advent'10 on

Saturday, December 4, 2010 from 2:00 to 5:00 pm

Help decorate Broadway Church for the joyous season of Advent and Christmas. Many hands make light work and we promise a great time. Come help us decorate, make new friends, rekindle old acquaintances and share in the spirit of the season that is *Advent At Broadway!*

Help will be needed with...

- ◆ Sanctuary Environment (Planters over windows)
- ◆ Sanctuary hanging of banners and advent flags HOPE, LOVE, JOY, PEACE
- ◆ Friendship Hall large tree
- ◆ Friendship Hall sanctuary entrance wreath around stained glass window and entrance table.
- ◆ Broadway street entrance tree
- ◆ Friendship Hall ceiling snowflakes
- ◆ Ribbon and garland on outside fences



Bring a potluck dish to share and enjoy warm beverage refreshments of cookies, brownies, Christmas cookies and other potluck items.

SAVE THE DATE: WINTER WARMING

A congress of Reconciling United Methodists: Sat, Jan. 15, 2011, 4 to 7 pm

Euclid Avenue UMC (405 S. Euclid Avenue, Oak Park)

You are needed if change is going to happen.

Gather with others who are committed to a fully inclusive church for workshops, strategic mapping, legislative action, a community meal and worship led by Bishop Sharon Rader.

Save the date now and invite others to join us.

"This hour in history needs a dedicated circle of transformed nonconformists."

~ Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

STEPS FOR EQUALITY

Concrete Steps On The Job

1. If your workplace has a human resource professional, ask whether the company has or supports an L.G.B.T. employee group. If such a group exists, contact a member of the group, offer your support, and ask what actions you can take to be of help.
2. Start a SAFE SPACE program or ally group at your workplace.
3. When co-workers socialize, try to insure that L.G.B.T. employees are encouraged to bring their spouses (but also respect people's privacy—do not assume that an LGBT friend or her partner is “out” to everyone.)

Source: *STRAIGHTFORWARD* by Ian Ayres & Jennifer Gerarda Brown, Princeton University Press, Copyright 2005

Contributed by Amy & Dee & Helen

HISTORICAL NOTE

Are we all up to the challenge?

“A beautiful program for Christmas Eve” (excerpt) from *Church News*, December 1914

The little folks are hard at work rehearsing their pieces and songs for the Christmas entertainment. Gifts are to be given to Lake Bluff orphanage and the Old People's Home at Edgewater. The spirit of giving is to be fostered rather than that of receiving.

However, a nice treat has been planned by the Sunday School Committee and no one will be forgotten. The young men this year are in charge of the Christmas Tree and the decorations. They are planning to have the S.S. room a blaze of glory and Christmas cheer for the program. Mr. Wallace Carlson, the gifted young artist, is the chairman of the committee, and that is quite promise enough of the interest in the affair.

Plan to be there. Make yourself young again. We are sure that you will have a good time. It will encourage the children and will make your Christmas happier if you are there to catch the Christmas spirit.

Come Christmas Eve at 8 o'clock pm. The Feast will be ready.

~ submitted by Mark Van Hying, Church Historian

January Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the **January 2011** issue of *The Broadway* are due **Sunday, December 19th**. 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

December 2010

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

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

Director of Music & Worship Arts: **Samuel-Hilaire Duplessis**
Duplessis.Sam@gmail.com

Field Education Intern: **Tracy Nolan**
tnolan@go.mccormick.edu

Field Education Intern: **Abigail Ozanne**
abigail.ozanne@garrett.edu

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

Affiliated Pastor: **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

Broadway United Methodist Church
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