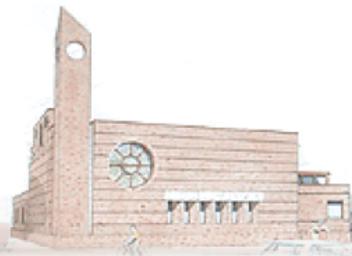




Broadway
United Methodist Church



The Broadway — July 2012

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Letter from Lois

God's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, and don't take yourself too seriously – take God seriously.

~ Micah 6:8 (The Message)

Love is such a powerful force. It's there for everyone to embrace – that kind of unconditional love for all of humankind. That is the kind of love that impels people to go into the community and try to change conditions for others, to take risks for what they believe in.

~ Coretta Scott King

It's been an amazing PRIDE Month here at Broadway as we've celebrated the joy of who we are as a community committed to being an anti-racist institution as well as a reconciling congregation – the culmination of this was PRIDE Sunday's Worship opening, as Latoya and Sean-Edward sang "for everyone born, a place at the table." As they sang, different people from our faith community poured sand in the colors of the rainbow into two vases on the Altar Table...what an astonishing visual representation of who we are: we are "everyone born!" Many of us were moved to tears.

I'm so grateful for the many hands and hearts that made our PRIDE month happen – especially the PRIDE Committee that assured the success of our film nights, book studies, picnic, and the parade. The sight of all the faith communities at the front of this year's parade – over 300 people and so many different congregations represented – was a great witness to the presence of LGBTQ folks in our churches.

The witness of Tuesday's Memorial Service for Ellenora Bose was again testimony to the significance of "all means ALL." Ellenora's family asked that, for her Memorial, we keep the rainbows (including the sand pillars, which were topped off with sand Kevin and Mike brought from the Palm Springs desert in front of Bloom's new office). "That's who Mom was," said Mel, and we heard that in the testimonies given. I had never heard the story (told by Rick Newberry) that then-85-year-old Ellenora *crawled under the police barricade* that surrounded Broadway the year Fred Phelps came here to protest our stand for marriage equality. What a picture of commitment!

That kind of commitment is what keeps Broadway in the news still as a vital witness for God's love and justice in the LGBTQ community, and as a vital LGBTQ witness in the United Methodist Church. We are among those who are committed to "Biblical obedience" in the wake of General Conference (which also means "non-compliance" with some aspects of the UMC's polity). This commitment, too, is a source of *pride*.

[continued on page 3...]

Vernice's View

As we begin July, I want to take just a moment to acknowledge the awesome work of the lay teams and the 2012 Pride Committee. Your ministry and commitment was so inspirational during Pride Month and helped to move us further on our "making it real" journey. The songs, the liturgy, the guest speakers, the book studies, the pride parade and picnic and movies were all memorable events and occasions for each of us who participated to grow and share the inclusive ministry of this great community. Thank you, thank you, thank you, for a job well done.

We continue our journey this month. July...the middle of our summer time experiences of graduations, weddings, vacations, family reunions...can zap our energy. It makes me tired just thinking of just how busy our lives get during the summer months. With that in mind, this month our Congregational Care Team (CCT) will provide a time to renew and refresh ourselves in the midst of our busyness. On the fourth Sunday, Lay Sunday, CCT is planning a healing service. There's a song, I think it is titled *The Statue of Liberty Song*, that asks us to bring the tired, the poor, those who long to be free – and that is our invitation to you on July 22nd – bring your tired souls; souls that are looking for refuge, for freedom, for rest. Healing services can provide a place where our souls can take time to breathe and heal from our busy lives; a place where in our emotional or physical challenges we might find peace and hope.

In the book, *Healing Worship*, the author Bruce G. Epperly talks at length about claiming new healing horizons and the theology of healing and says this about healing services:

I believe that God works in both dramatic and subtle ways throughout our lives. When we awaken to God's presence, "miracles," or acts of divine healing power, burst forth to transform our spirits, our relationships and emotional lives, even if our body remains broken or the healing process takes years to be completed. As with Jesus' own healing ministry, these miracles do not abrogate the laws of nature or dissolve the intricate web of casual relationships. But within the intricate interplay of mind, body, spirit, emotions, and the openness of faith communities, our spiritual practices, attitudes and healing services may lead to the alleviation of emotional and physical symptoms and, at times, the complete cure of physical ailments.

In a world in which God is the deepest reality of all things...all moments reveal God's generous aim at abundant life. As partners in God's universal passion for shalom, we can expect surprising releases of divine energy that transform our bodies, minds, and spirits. A healing community of faith can affirm that "God feels our pain and seeks our healing in every life situation and so should we!"

With that hope and assurance of God's healing power, we invite you to join us on the 22nd of July for both the 8:45 and 11:00 services, as we experience together new horizons of healing; where we together find solace, support and comfort – "bring me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses longing to be free..."



In Truth and Justice,

Vernice

Rev. Vernice L. Thorn

Letter from Lois (continued from page 1)

Meanwhile – there are folks who don't have a place to sleep at night and we are again faced with the reality that we are not (*yet!*) in a position to be a shelter...so we know that there is much ministry remaining as we keep our eyes on Jesus' kind of loving. I'm still dreaming about what's next for Broadway, and I hope you are, too.



See you Sunday,

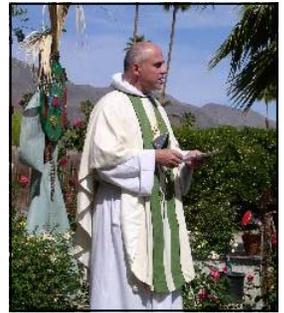
Lois

Rev. Lois McCullen Parr

Kevin's Korner

July 2012

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)



Rev. Kev is on sabbatical June 16 though September 15.

PARKING LOT GARAGE SALE

BUMC'S 3rd ANNUAL PARKING LOT GARAGE SALE!

July 21, 2012, from 9 am to 3 pm

It takes a Village to support BUMC's many justice missions! Make it happen!



- * Donate usable items for sale!
- * Collection will begin **Sunday, July 15**, at the church
 - * Sorting and pricing starts **Friday, July 20**.
- * Come on **Saturday, July 21**, and stock up on treasures!
 - * Sign up for day-of-sale set-up and/or tear-down
- * Volunteer to work the sale (as much time as you can spare)
 - * Donate hot dogs / buns / chips for the workers
 - * Share in the fellowship and fun!

For more information please contact MJ Grimshaw at 773-680-0857 or mgrimshaw@sbcglobal.net

You can also donate financially online! Go to www.broadwaychurchchicago.org.

WELCOME REV. ZAKI!

Bishop Hee-Soo Jung, Episcopal leader for the Northern Illinois conference is proud to announce the appointment of a new District Superintendent to the Northern Illinois Cabinet **effective July 1, 2012.**



Rev. Dr. Zaki Labib Zaki is a visionary whose roots extend across many lands. Born in Sudan to Egyptian missionaries and church planters, he spent much of his early leadership life organizing grassroots Christian Student movements and working with refugees from Ethiopia to the Middle East.

In 1989 Zaki came to the United States to accept a fellowship at McCormick Theological Seminary. After receiving his Masters degree from McCormick, Zaki completed and received a Doctor of Ministry degree from The Chicago Theological Seminary. In 1997, Rev. Zaki was appointed pastor of East Side United Methodist Church. While serving at East Side UMC, Rev. Zaki founded The Zone Youth & Community Center in 2002 together with his wife Ayla and a team of committed church leaders. In 2010, with support from the Northern Illinois Conference, East Side United Methodist Church, The Zone, and a wonderful team of courageous leaders, Rev. Zaki planted g2g Church (Generation To Generation Church), a youth-led and youth-driven church.

While serving at East Side UMC, Rev. Zaki founded The Zone Youth & Community Center in 2002 together with his wife Ayla and a team of committed church leaders. In 2010, with support from the Northern Illinois Conference, East Side United Methodist Church, The Zone, and a wonderful team of courageous leaders, Rev. Zaki planted g2g Church (Generation To Generation Church), a youth-led and youth-driven church.

"I am honored to serve a Great and Faithful God under the leadership of a visionary and courageous Bishop who is a man of faith and prayer. I am also honored to serve the most diverse district in our Annual Conference following in the footsteps of Rev. James Preston, an effective leader whom we all admire and love," said Rev. Zaki.

"Zaki is a gifted leader in our annual conference who has helped us stretch into new areas of witness through ministry at East Side and g2g. He brings a sense of global inclusion, ministry excellence and a commitment to our future. He will be a gift to the work of the conference and the life of the Northwestern District," said Bishop Jung.

Rev. Zaki is married to Ayla, an artist and a co-planter of g2g church. They are the proud parents of five children and just as many community initiatives.

Rev. Zaki will preach at the 11:00 service on July 1, 2012, here at Broadway!

Welcome Celebration For Rev. Dr. Zaki Labib Zaki and Family.

Join us as we welcome our new Chicago: Northwestern District Superintendent!

Sunday, July 22 at 4 p.m.

Ravenswood Fellowship UMC

4511 N Hermitage, Chicago

Worship Service with reception afterwards.

Churches are invited to bring an appetizer to share.

Hosted by the District Superintendency Committee and Ravenswood Fellowship Church.

SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR

Sunday Adult Education is taking a break. Stay tuned for more information!
Sunday Children's Education will move to 11:15 am — noon during July.

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

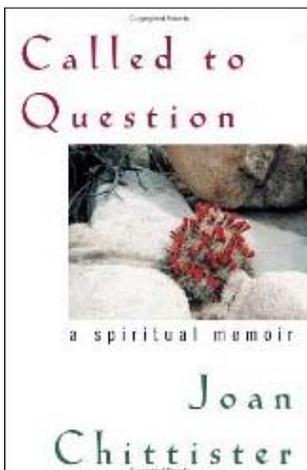
Come join us on **Monday mornings from 10:30am to 12:00pm** for a relaxed and informal bible study in the Wesley Room. Weekday Bible Study **will not be held July 2 but will reconvene July 9** to begin the natural follow-up to Daniel: The Revelation of John! All are welcome to join in and there is no required homework. This study is led by our very own Tom Hope.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LIVE!

Sanctuary Prayer is open to the church and community **each Wednesday from 5:30-6:00 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 Sanctuary 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: Summer Book Study: *Called to Question*, a spiritual memoir by Joan Chittister.



She's back!! So many of us enjoyed our study of Joan Chittister's *Scarred by Struggle, Transformed by Hope*, that we have brought her back to enlighten us with her wisdom as she talks about her faith journey — her struggle, her questions. We all have questions about faith, about religion and Joan's book gives us permission to take a risk and ask those questions that we have had on our hearts even as children in Sunday school. Now is the time to explore, to dig deep into what we believe and what we do not believe; now is the time to uncover our fears about religion and find the answers through our faith. This is a study that should be taken slowly, so we will examine and search our hearts' questions **throughout July and August**. I promise you what we discover will be life changing. **Join us at 7 pm each Wednesday, starting July 11**, in the Pillow Room. We invite you to bring all your questions and any doubts you have about religion. We'll find the answers, together! Please contact Rev. Vernice for more information.

NEWS FROM THE MONEY MINISTRY TEAM

There is much to celebrate in the financial life of Broadway United Methodist Church. The first piece of good news is that our invested funds has grown in the past quarter. This money can only be used in an emergency and a congregational meeting has to approve spending of this money by a vote of 7/8, but we are happy to see that we are getting a good return on our investment. We are also pleased to announce that we have already received our health rebate check. You may remember that we included this rebate as income in our budget at the beginning of the year. Additionally, we have had a great response for our COLA fundraiser, and as of this printing we have raised \$4,212 toward our \$5,000 goal. Thank you to Ruth Clark for spearheading this effort and for matching our offering! We look forward to giving our staff a well deserved Cost of Living Adjustment raise!

Also, when summer comes, and many people are away on weekends —
don't forget that Broadway is open on weekends! ☺

So if you're not present, please mail your pledge/gift or give online at www.broadwaychurchchicago.org.

SUMMER MISSION TRIP

Changing plans this year...

Sowers has decided that this year will give us an opportunity to "go local" for an outreach mission project, and we are researching the possibilities to connect with ministry in Rockford for a day and/or weekend trip for our congregation **in August, 2012.**

We'll spend a year getting ready for our Spirit Lake trip to happen again in Summer, 2013. Contact Craig Fitzgerald at craig_m_fitzgerald@yahoo.com if you're interested in Spirit Lake 2013.

If you have questions, please see Paula Roderick, Jon Zilliox, or Craig.

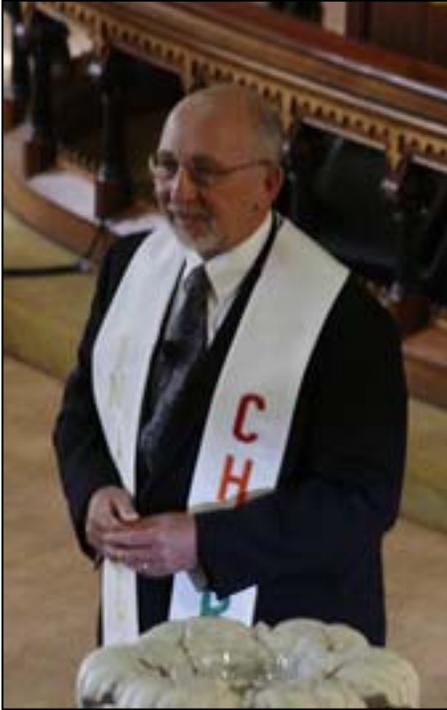
ARTS AND COMPUTERS

Join us for a fun time in creating some great art projects while at the same time learning more about technology. If you have wanted to complete some great family projects or learn more about computers, join us for the following event.

July – *Quilting the BroadWAY* – Take traditional quilting to a new level by including pictures of family and friends on your quilt. **Saturdays, July 7, 21, 28 from 2:00 to 3:30 pm.**

Contact Latoya Thorn at (312) 543-2029, latoya@latoyathornphotography.com or Vincent Wiggins at (773) 450-6706, vwiggins@OnlineEducationSolutions.org to sign up.

REV. DELL OFFICIALLY RETIRES



Rev. Gregory R. Dell
United Methodist, retired Clergy
 3428 W. Parker, Apt 2, Chicago, IL 60647
 Phone: 773-252-3008
 Email: PadiPilot@aol.com

Retirement message (sent to Annual Conference June 2012):

In the name of Jesus the Liberator, I send greetings to you, my sisters and brothers. I wish I could be with you on this occasion. There is so much I want to hear and say as we honor this occasion of retirement. Unfortunately my Parkinson's disease has progressed to the point where I am unable to speak publicly or participate in even small group conversations. Some would say that it's just payback time for my sometimes overly long speeches at Annual Conference. But I've had an amazing and wonderful ministry here in Northern Illinois. There isn't a speech long enough to communicate how precious and powerful that ministry has been for me. In five very different locations (Naperville: Community; Minooka; Evanston: Wheadon; Oak Park: Euclid Avenue; and Chicago: Broadway) and contexts, the congregations where I was appointed to serve each gave me so much that I

can't begin to list it all. Suffice it to say that I have been humbled, blessed by God's grace, and challenged to learn how to listen and speak in ways I couldn't imagine. My trial and suspension were not exceptions to that experience. While some people saw the results of the trial as a defeat, I saw those results as an opportunity for witness and vision. It was a time of being blessed and sharing the good news of God's unrelenting insistence on justice for all.

If I were challenged to offer one insight I gained over these 40+ years it would be this: practice intolerance. Do not be seduced by the liberal call to tolerate. Toleration is too often used as a banner that allows us to put up with and support everyone and everything. But I say to you: do not tolerate the racism, sexism, heterosexism and other "isms" in the name of being open-minded. Give up the heresy that God wants everyone and everything to be accepted. The gifts of grace, gender, culture and sexual orientation deserve more than polite tolerance. In God's vision celebration replaces toleration and confrontation replaces the silence of acquiescence.

As I said at the beginning of this message, I wish I could be with you today. But perhaps I need to see the ways in which we are with each other, even when we are not physically present. So, God be with you and let's stay in touch.

Editor's Note: Greg's retirement speech (read by the Bishop's Assistant) received a standing ovation at Annual Conference!



JULY MISSION MINUTE

The Mission Minute for July is The Middle East Children's Alliance (MECA).

This year the Sowers decided to dedicate July to a clean water project and chose an organization dedicated to children's needs, MECA. MECA was founded by Barbara Lubin and Howard Levine in 1988 after Barbara returned from her first trip to Palestine and Israel at the beginning of the first Intifada. She had witnessed the grave injustice, poverty and violence of the Israeli occupation paid for with US tax dollars. Both she and Howard decided to speak out about what was happening to Palestinian children and also to raise money for projects in the West Bank and Gaza that would help make life a little bit better for the children.

About the Maia Project: in September 2009, MECA launched the Maia (Arabic for water) Project, a long-term initiative to address one of the most harmful features of the Israeli Occupation and the blockade of Gaza: Water.

This project began when the Student Parliament at the UN Boys' School in Bureij Refugee Camp, Gaza, were given the opportunity to choose one thing they most wanted for their school: they chose to have clean drinking water. MECA's partner in Gaza heard about this vote and, after meeting with representatives from the school and the Student Parliament, came to MECA to see if MECA could respond to the children's request for drinking water. MECA provided the funds to build a water purification and desalination unit for the school in 2007.

MECA is working in partnership with community organizations in Gaza to build water purification and desalination units in schools throughout the Gaza Strip. MECA has provided clean water to 16 large UN schools in Palestinian refugee camps and to 22 kindergartens in refugee camps, towns, and villages.

Middle East Children's Alliance ■ 1101 Eighth Street, Suite 100 ■ Berkeley, CA 94710 US ■ Phone: 510-548-0542 ■ Fax: 510-548-0543 ■ website: www.mecaforpeace.org

Our Mission Minute Sunday is July 8, but you can donate throughout the month – make checks out to Broadway and designate your check or envelope "MECA." You can also donate [online](#).

MONTHLY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION



What: Monthly Birthday Celebration including pizza, cake, candles, and a door prize. A Game Night (with games such as *UNO*) will follow the food and cake.

Day: **Every Fourth Friday of the Month (this month, Friday, July 27)**

Time: **6:30-8:30 p.m.**

Where: Friendship Hall

Who: Anyone with a *birthday*, an *un-birthday*, or *anything* to celebrate. Bring a friend — *all are welcome!*

Any questions, please call the church office at 773-348-2679.

Youth Lounge – July Update

Youth Lounge needs summer clothing donations...

As we enter into the summer heat, we are in need of new clothing donations of summer clothes: short-sleeve and tank top shirts, button-up shirts, shorts, skirts, jeans (always), light shoes, and other summer essentials. Let's do some summer cleaning and bring your gently used but always stylish summer clothes in to share with our youth. Please leave the clothes with someone in the church office during office hours if a Youth Lounge representative is not available, and spread the word. Thanks for your help in advance!



Youth Lounge volunteers begin planning new creative elements...

Youth Lounge volunteers met just a few weeks ago to begin the first steps of planning and implementing new creative elements, supported by the Berkowitz Award. Team members are developing a beauty salon area complete with makeup, manicures, and pedicures; a creative project and workshop series; a computer area; new storage solutions; potential special guests; and more! Our youth have been part of the process too, as we've invited their ideas and input. Some of our young people have shared ideas about workshops on voguing, poetry, and dance, workshops on budgeting and life skills, makeup classes, hygiene classes, along with other ideas. We're excited to make these things happen with the support of the Berkowitz Award!

Youth Lounge dates in July...

The upcoming Youth Lounge dates for July 2012 are July 14th and July 28th. Please be on the look-out for food donation sheets for these upcoming meals at Broadway on Sundays!

Ways you can support and get involved in Youth Lounge...

Donate items:

- New or gently used clothing, shoes
- Socks and undergarments
- Non-perishable snack foods
- Sturdy paper plates and napkins
- Salon supplies and tools
- Makeup and hair products
- Travel-size deodorant
- Travel-size hygiene products

Donate your time:

- Help write and edit grant applications
- Help create the new beauty parlor area
- Build new storage solutions
- Share your creative skills with our youth

Volunteer:

We are still looking for volunteers to be present in the Youth Lounge space or help cook meals!

If you are interested in donating or volunteering, please don't hesitate to contact Tracy at theresanolan@gmail.com!

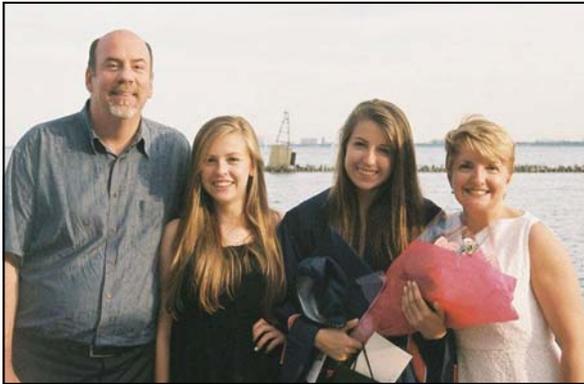
CONGRATS MICHELLE & KELSEY!

Michelle Schultz and Kelsey Marron graduated from Walter Payton High School in June, and both get ready to move to California in August to begin their college educations.

Blessings from Broadway!

Michelle and Sheila Ashby-Schultz —>

Michelle heads to **Pomona College** in Claremont.



<— Brian, Alyssa, **Kelsey**, and Tami Marron

Kelsey heads to **University of Southern California** in Los Angeles.

THANKS FROM SAM

Dear Broadway family,

As many of you may already know, I will be leaving the position of Director of Music and Worship arts in September of 2012 to pursue additional responsibilities in my work at the University of Chicago.

I have spent an amazing two years with the Broadway community and have learned and grown in such amazing ways as a leader, musician and conscientious member of society. It has been such a special experience getting to know each of you and working with the amazing musicians and worship planning teams throughout the past two years.

Thank you all for welcoming and supporting me in that special, unconditional, Broadway way.

Peace,
Sam

*Stay tuned for plans from Relationship Builders for our future position,
and be sure to be at Broadway **on August 26** as we bid Sam farewell and celebrate his ministry.*

STEPS FOR EQUALITY

Book Excerpt #2 SELF AWARENESS

Deepening my insights into myself has led to positive developments in my life. It includes self awareness, personal insight, personal growth, questioning assumptions (and authority), spiritual growth. (p.29)

Self awareness and insight are skills that we can cultivate. The more open we are to self-examination, self-reflection, and feedback from trusted others (who love and honor our authentic selves), the more awareness and insight we can develop. (p.43) The ability to ask tough questions of ourselves and to answer as honestly as possible is a skill that many GLBTQ - identified people practice while coming out and learning to live more authentic lives. (p43) It's a skill that helps us to know all parts of ourselves better (p43)

The Book — *A Positive View Of LGBTQ: Embracing Identity and Cultivating Well-Being* by Ellen D.B. Riggle & Sharon S. Rostosky. **About the Authors:** Ellen D.B. Riggle, PhD, is a professor of women's studies and political science at the University of Kentucky. Sharon S. Rostosky, PhD, is a licensed psychologist and a professor of counseling psychology at the University of Kentucky.

Contributed by: Dee, Helen, & Emily who are Allies For Change

HISTORICAL NOTE

Some reminders never change

"Official Board" (excerpt) from *Church News*, June 1920

It is urgently requested of every subscriber to the finance of our Broadway Church not to forget that, although they may go off for the summer, the expenses of the church go on just the same, and that each one either pay their subscription in advance or send it in regularly.

So far this year our Treasurer's reports have been encouraging and we are anxious not to have to find ourselves wanting at the close of the conference year, which is the last of September. Please will all subscribers to the "Centenary Fund" see that you are "paid up in full." This will help us to make our report complete and meet our obligation to the Home as well as the Foreign Missionary Boards. We hope to see the Broadway Church doing her full share in carrying on the great work of the Lord.

Editor's notes: The conference year at that time was October 1 to September 30. The "Home" referred to would probably have been the senior residence on Foster Avenue.

~ submitted by Mark Van Hying, Church Historian

August Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the **August 2012** issue of *The Broadway* are due **Sunday, July 22**. 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 2012

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

Pastor: Rev. Vernice Thorn
akatinyt@hotmail.com

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

Student Pastor: Benjamin Bower
Benjamin.Bower@garrett.edu

Youth Lounge Training Coordinator Tracy Nolan
theresanolan@gmail.com

Office Manager: Alexia Rivera
broadwayc@ameritech.net

Affiliated Pastor: Rev. Kevin A. Johnson, Bloom in the Desert
revkev@bloominthedesert.org



Broadway United Methodist Church
3338 N. Broadway St., Chicago, IL 60657
Office Phone: 773-348-2679

www.broadwaychurchchicago.org

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

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/ChicagoBUMC>

Twitter: @ChicagoBUMC

DONATE

You can now donate online! Simply go to our website and click on the "Donate" button on the home page. Please contact the office with any questions.