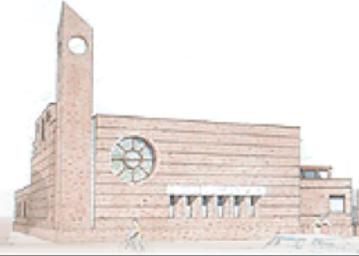




Broadway
United Methodist Church



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The Broadway — September 2012

Letter from Lois

Don't think the important thing is to be certain about answers nearly as much as being serious about the questions. ~ Richard Rohr

Jesus asked, "Why are you so afraid?" ~ Matthew 8:26

Jesus asked, "Do you believe that I can do this?"

"Yes!" they answered. ~ Matthew 9:28

You probably know about me that I'm a "both/and" person, rather than an "either/or" person. I've found that, the older I get, the more I'm aware of the paradox in everything.

Richard Rohr, whose devotions I receive daily, has been writing about paradox this week – about the inevitable contradictions we see around us as life moves along. I like the way he suggests that our questions will help us when these times come, for it is in the questions (and not the answers) that we are more likely to meet God, to be "open to God and grace and growth."

So I'm thinking about that...

...as September nears and there is excitement about back-to-school for so many/*and*/will there be a teachers' strike; and will our teachers get the pay they deserve? How can the "longer day" in CPS or the turnaround school provide the complex "answer" for our children and their education...

...as the days are shorter and the evening temperatures cooler and summer fun moves to thinking about work and "labor" day/*and*/how many people are out of work or under-employed? How many people who've been able to survive on park benches still won't have an inside bed as the temperatures dip...

...as the possibilities and energy for our nation enters the public debate/*and*/political rhetoric is ugly, violent, racist, anti-LGBTQ, anti-women...

...as the boats begin to leave the harbor and Chicago tourists with cameras slow down/*and*/another 37 are shot this past weekend in Chicago (a total 253 of murders in Chicago since January 2012)...

Spiritual wisdom reminds us that violence (physical and verbal) arises when we don't know what to do with our own suffering. When we are in pain, *if we don't attend to it*, it's bound to work its way out of us and onto or into others. The spiritual practices of inner work – that is, attention to our minds and hearts – are required if we are to be contributors to peaceful discourse and a peaceful world.

[continued on page 4...]

Vernice's View

It's hard to believe that it is September already. It feels as though summer just flew right past, and here we are finishing up our summer activities and leaning into our fall events.

In the church, September usually begins a new programming year. And so we kick off the month with a family focused weekend – a church wide picnic on September 8th and a re-commitment worship experience on September 9th. This is a family oriented weekend. Bring your chosen family and let's share a meal and games and worship together.

Re-commitment is a time to begin anew – to claim again our ministry and connection with God and with Broadway. On September 9th at both our worship services we are invited to take some time and seriously consider how and why we are connected with this faith community. What is life-giving for us here? What changes are we dreaming about? How might we connect differently?

In keeping with new beginnings, on Sundays this fall we start a Sunday morning scripturally based meditation. Using music and one of the morning lectionary passages, we are invited to find our center as we relax and listen for the movement of the Spirit. This very sacred offering will take place starting September 9th in the Pillow Room from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Included with this meditation is time to reflect, in community, on the experience.

There is stimulating conversation going on with parents and primary care givers about children's education at Broadway, continuing Sunday, September 2nd, at 10 a.m. in the Pillow Room. Starting September 9th we will resume our school-year Sunday morning schedule of 9:45 a.m. for Kaleidoscope Choir, Sunday School at 10:15 a.m. and Children's Church at 11:30 a.m. after Time with Young Christians. But look for a new and exciting schedule in October. We are planning a Children's Education Leaders Training Session on Sunday, September 16th, from 1-4 pm. If you are interested in leading or helping to facilitate Children's Education you are invited to attend. We will keep you informed with additional information in the weekly bulletin.

Adult Education continues with Bible Study on Monday morning at 10:30 a.m. and Book Study on Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. Our small groups are ongoing: Anti-Racist White Caucus and People of Color groups meet the third Tuesday of the month. Our new Young Adult Group is forming and will begin regular meetings soon.

There is room for everyone to be in ministry here. If what I have mentioned in this article is not something you connect with, come and talk with me; if there is not a place already for you, we will create one. This is your community and we want each person to feel invited to share their gifts.

September is the new program year. We begin again...Find your place.



In Truth and Justice,

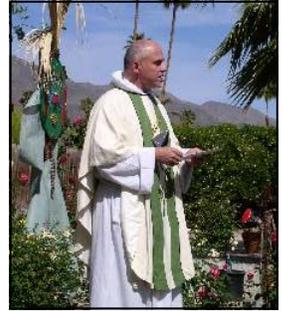
Vernice

Rev. Vernice L. Thorn

Kevin's Korner

September 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.

PLEASE KEEP IN MIND...

Your pastors have different schedules and roles...just a reminder that Lois is at Broadway full-time, and Vernice part-time -- Lois keeps Sabbath on Mondays (new this fall); Vernice is out of the office on Thursdays & Fridays.

Vernice is the first point person for pastoral care and the congregational care team, educational/spiritual formation ministries, the multicultural series, and Church Within A Church.

Lois is the first point person for administrative teams (Relationship Builders, Property Caregivers, Money Ministry Team), Sowers (outreach) ministries, Lakeview Action Coalition, and Reconciling Ministries Network.

As a reminder: Alexia Rivera, our Administrative Assistant, is part-time and is out of the office on Fridays.

Thanks for your support of our pastors and staff, and for your respect of their days away from the office.

SECOND ANNUAL FAMILY PICNIC



Join the Young Adults Group as we host Broadway's Second Annual Family Picnic!

You do not want to miss out on this fun family potluck. There will be plenty of food, games and activities for all ages!

Join us on **Saturday, September 8, from 11am – 3pm.**

Meet at 3600 N. Recreation Drive (Lake Shore Drive) by the clock tower.

Please bring a side dish and drinks to share. Meat, ice and utensils will be provided.

Questions? Contact Rev. Vernice.

JACQUELINE H. BOYD



Announcing Broadway's New Interim Praise & Worship Leader

Jacqueline H. Boyd

Broadway United Methodist Church is an evolving and inclusive worship community, and I am honored to serve as the Interim Praise and Worship Leader. I come to Broadway as a life-long member of the United Methodist Church with a passion for singing, activism, and relationship building. A social worker by day, music has dominated the remainder of my waking hours. In 2011 at the request of close friends I founded and direct Stratesqueer — Chicago's Queer Quoir, which strives to be an affirming

and celebratory space for all members of the LGBTQ community. I have been a member of Artemis Singers — Chicago's Lesbian Feminist Chorus for five years and various other singing groups in the Chicago area. I also have had the pleasure to serve on the Chances Dances Critical Fierceness Grant Board which gives micro-grants twice a year to queer artists working in the Chicago area. I live with my beautiful sisters, Liz and Jazmyn — two of my many blessings.

Collaborative work and worship is a cornerstone of my faith and I am grateful for the opportunity to engage with the BUMC family in this way. I'm excited to meet you; please reach out and let me know if you would like to be involved in our praise and worship ministry!

Broadway Choir meets **Thursdays from 7 to 8-30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary.

Questions? Contact Jacqueline at jacquelineh.boyd1@gmail.com.

Letter from Lois (continued from page 1)

Quaker teacher Parker Palmer writes about people of faith living in the “tragic gap” – the gap between what is and what could and should be. That kind of living is our faith statement, as we seek to embrace the paradoxes and hold onto the hope that comes from believing that it *can* be “on earth as it is in heaven.” Writes Palmer: “We don’t learn how to love from being talked at but from being around love in action.”

I pray that we can be a community of that – love in action – that others may experience in us that questions and paradox cannot undo the hope we have as God’s beloved.



One foot in heaven,

Lois

Rev. Lois McCullen Parr

SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR

Starting Sunday, September 9th: Sunday Morning Meditation from 10-10:45 am in the Pillow Room
Children's Education Time at 10:15 am in Room A (following Kaleidoscope Choir at 9:45 am in Wesley)

WEEKDAY BIBLE STUDY

Come join us on **Monday mornings from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm** for a relaxed and informal bible study in the Wesley Room. We are looking at 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.

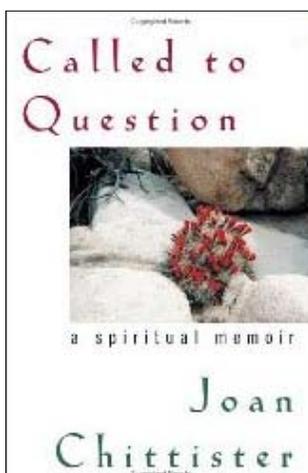
[Note; Bible Study will not meet on Labor Day, **Monday, September 3rd**. See you on **September 10th!**]

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.

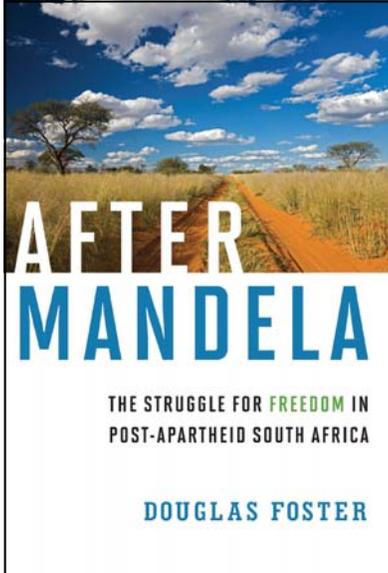
Education Hour: Book Study — *Called to Question*, a spiritual memoir by Joan Chittister.



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 **July through September**. I promise you what we discover will be life changing. **Join us at 7 pm each Wednesday** 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.

READING / BOOK SIGNING EVENT



Sunday, September 2

Light lunch following 11:00 service

A Reading/Book Signing with the author to begin at 1:30 pm

Douglas Foster, an associate professor at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism, is a contributor to *The Atlantic*, *New York Times Magazine*, *Los Angeles Times*, and *Smithsonian*. He lives in Chicago, Illinois and is a member of Broadway Church. His new book is *After Mandela: The Struggle for Freedom in Post-Apartheid South Africa*.

“A nonidealized but never cynical portrait...Foster was there for the wild celebration of the World Cup but asks, What now? Essential reading for anyone interested in South African affairs.” ~ *Booklist*

Official Release: September 10, 2012

facebook.com/aftermandela

JUSTICE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS

You are invited to join us for the
First Annual Dinner Celebration of



**JUSTICE FOR
OUR NEIGHBORS**

Northern Illinois

“Seeing God in the Faces of Others”

Featuring Rev. Bill Mefford
of the UMC General Board on Church and Society

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2012

**European Chalet
5445 S. Harlem Ave, Chicago, IL 60638**

Music, Good Food, Testimonies, Fellowship

TICKETS: \$50/ TABLE OF 10 FOR \$500

Gathering Music: 4:30 PM

Dinner and Program: 5:00-7:30 PM

For tickets contact :

Michael Mann at 847-931-0710 ext. 20,
mmann@umcnic.org

Judy Siaba at 312-346-9766 ext. 124,
jsiaba@umcnic.org

Sponsored by the JFON Northern Illinois
Board of Directors. www.ifonnic.org

DANCE!



Hello Broadway family, You know those Sundays when the choir sings and you find yourself moving to the music? Well, if you can move, you can dance. On **September 9th** we will be incorporating liturgical dance/movement into the worship service, and I'm inviting you to come and be a part of that.

So, you think you can't dance? Think again! Dance takes many forms and bodies move in many ways. Perhaps the music sets your toes a'tapping and your feet a'flying. Perhaps the music sets your hands a'clapping and your arms a'waving.

However you move, consider sharing that movement in worship as we pray and praise God with our bodies. We will rehearse on **Sunday, September 2nd at 1:30 pm** in the Wesley Room and **Saturday, September 8 at 2 pm** in the Sanctuary.

If you are interested, please contact me at carol.mcpherson@garrett.edu. If you would like to participate but cannot meet on September 2nd, please contact me and let me know you are interested. If you can't join us on September 9th, but would like to participate another time, please let me know. ~ Carol McPherson

CAMPING AND WORK TRIP

BUMC Camping Trip

Friday, September 28 through Sunday, September 30, 2012

Who: Anyone interested in attending.

Where: Rockcut State Park, Lovespark, Illinois (<http://www.rockcutpark.com/>)

Cost: \$50/Person (Includes dinner each night, bottled water, sleeping bag, and sleeping tent.)

Why: FUN, RELAXATION, SWIMMING, FISHING, BOATING, HIKING, & FELLOWSHIP.

Please contact Jon Zilliox for more information and/or to sign up. (773-993-5250, jonzilliox1@gmail.com)

Rockford Work Day

Everyone is welcome to attend the Rockford Work Day, **September 29, 2012 (in conjunction with the BUMC Camping Trip). The work day begins at 10:00 am.** We will be cleaning and improving empty storefronts on 7th Avenue, in downtown Rockford, in an effort to help revitalize the area and entice prospective renters to these stores. We will also be serving lunch at the Rockford Men's Shelter. We encourage you to take part in the BUMC Camping Trip as well. Looking forward to working with you. It will be a great time! For more information and details please contact: Jon Zilliox at 773-993-5250 or via email at jonzilliox1@gmail.com.

*****We are especially in need of drivers for this trip! ~ Thanks!*****

SEPTEMBER MISSION MINUTE

The Mission Minute for September is Arise Chicago. (<http://arisechicago.org>)

Who We Are: Arise Chicago, formerly Chicago Interfaith Committee on Worker Issues, was founded by Monsignor Jack Egan, Rabbi Robert Marx, and United Methodist Bishop Jesse De Witt in 1991 under the guidance of Ms. Kim Bobo who went on to found the national group, Interfaith Worker Justice. With knowledge that the basic tenets of all faith traditions support the rights of workers, Arise Chicago organizes the religious community to bring about just resolutions to workplace injustice.

When workers wish to form a union, they are often met with intimidation and harassment. Arise Chicago organizes religious leaders through its Faith and Labor Solidarity program to support workers seeking unionization. Launched in 2002, Arise Chicago's Workers' Center is a member-based community resource for workers, both immigrant and native born, to learn about their rights and join fellow workers to organize to improve workplace conditions. The Worker Center has partnered with over 2,100 workers to recover over \$4.6 million in stolen wages and compensation.

Our Mission Minute Sunday is September 9, but you can donate throughout the month – make checks out to Broadway and designate your check or envelope “Arise Chicago.” You can also donate [online](#).

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

It's Back to School time and we need your help. Please assist us in collecting school supplies for the Marcy-Newberry Association (www.marcy-newberry.org). We will be collecting through the month of **September**.

Items needed: crayons, backpacks, painting aprons, pencils, erasers, paint, construction paper, markers, notebooks, glue. There is a blue box in Friendship Hall for your donations.

Thank you. ~ Diana Davis

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, September 28)

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 – SEPTEMBER UPDATE

New Volunteer Information Session on September 9...

Interested in volunteering with Youth Lounge OR know someone who might be?

**Youth Lounge New Volunteer Information Session
Sunday, September 9th at 5:00pm
Broadway United Methodist Church, in the Wesley Room (upstairs)**

Join us for a conversation about what Youth Lounge is about and the ways you can volunteer, and to meet some wonderful folks. As we continue to grow, we are always looking for people to join us in this love work!

Youth Showers Continue

Youth Lounge, in partnership with a number of community partners and organizations calling themselves "Lakeview Hearts for Youth," has stepped up to provide a shower space for our youth on Sundays from 1pm to 4pm in Area C. A group of volunteers from many different organizations have been present in the space, providing a vital place for quiet rest, food, and showers for our young people. **Thanks to your generous towel and shower supply donations, we are able to meet this need on Sundays!** Broadway hosts up to 24 youth each Sunday afternoon, and will continue to do so through the month of September. Thank you for your support of this important effort!

Youth Lounge dates in September...

The upcoming Youth Lounge dates for September 2012 are September 8 and 22. 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
New 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
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!*

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Lakeview East's Festival of the Arts will be held on **Saturday, September 8 and Sunday, September 9** on Broadway St between Belmont Ave. and Hawthorne Pl. Please be aware that there will be **road closures** that weekend, and **street parking near BUMC will be unavailable**. Great day to bike, walk, or take CTA!

LAC FALL FUNDRAISER

You're invited! LAC Fall Fundraiser

Thursday, September 13, 2012 7 pm – 9 pm

2037 W. Bradley (near Damen and Grace)

Special guest: Dick Simpson. Dick Simpson served two terms as 44th ward alderman, is currently a Professor and Head of the Department of Political Science at UIC, and has published several books. *Rogues, Rebels and Rubber Stamps* (2001) received honorable mention as one of the best books in adult nonfiction by the Society of Midland Authors in 2002.

Ticket price: \$60. There will be hors d'oeuvres, drinks, and a silent auction. Space is limited. Reserve your place today. Questions? Contact Linda at LAC at Islavik@lakeviewaction.org

View invitation on web here: <https://lac.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/mailling/view?reset=1&id=12>

HISTORICAL NOTE

Continuing Optimism

“Epworth League news” (excerpt) from *Church News*, September 1919

Now that vacations and outings are things of the past and autumn with its invigorating atmosphere is upon us, what is there that we can not undertake?

The league has an interesting program, namely the Lord's work. This program is not only interesting but inspiring and beneficial to those who undertake to do his will.

The Win-My-Chum campaign is not far off, and preparations must begin. The Personal Workers' Class has already been organized and is preparing for the week of devotional meetings. We extend an invitation to all members to attend the P.W. class, which meets Thursday evening every week.

Editor's notes: The Epworth League, named after John Wesley's hometown in England, was a denominational youth/young adult organization.

~ submitted by Mark Van Hying, Church Historian

STEPS FOR EQUALITY

— Living an authentic life — Having increased self-awareness and insight — feeling free to create flexible rules for what gender means and how it is expressed — experiencing strong emotional connections with others and creating supportive families of choice — exploring expressions of sexuality and creating intimate relationships with “new rules” — being a positive role model, mentor, and activist working for social justice — belonging to an LGBTQ community with straight people who are Allies for Change.

Chapter # 5: The major topics in this chapter are: ■ Stronger Emotional Connections with Others ■ Sharing my true self brings me closer to the people I love. ■ Connecting with Others ■ Family of Origin ■ Positive Relationships with Our Kids ■ Chosen Family ■ Familiarity with My Partner ■ Investing in relationships (49 year old Transsexual from California, married 16 years) ■ Activities for Reflection & Practice.

The act of self-disclosure, when done with sensitivity toward the person you are sharing with, is very liberating, and while potentially scary because you risk rejection, it is probably the single most important thing, you can do toward mental, emotional, and physical health. Our secrets can damage us. Further, we are investing in our relationships, which is our most important asset, and I think for the most part we are more apt to get as much in return for our risk taking if not more. This may vary; and we may need to expect some losses. I have found friends to be much more accepting of me, and we have both gained from the experience. Someday they may come to me with something deep to share, inviting me to give back the gift of acceptance & understanding, further deepening our relationship. Being a transgender person is certainly unique, and seeing things from two different perspectives can be a little unsettling at times, but I wouldn't trade it for “normalcy,” if that's what you would call it. Rather than being weird, I am DIFFERENTLY GIFTED. And I want to use that gift wisely and share it, rather than hide it and waste it. (p. 74: Transsexual, 47 year old man from California.)

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

SAVE THE DATE

World Market here at Broadway. **Saturday, October 20 from 9 am to 7 pm.** Interested in reserving space at the Market? Please contact Cindy, Vendor Coordinator, at 773-936-2600/cindygrissom@hotmail.com or Jon, Special Event Coordinator, at 773-993-5250. Application deadline is October 6, 2012.

August Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the **October 2012** issue of *The Broadway* are due **Sunday, September 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

September 2012

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

Pastor: Rev. Vernice Thorn
akatinyt@hotmail.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

Interim Praise & Worship Leader: Jacqueline H. Boyd
jacquelineh.boyd1@gmail.com

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

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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.