



Broadway
United Methodist Church



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The Broadway — January 2013

Letter from Lois

How good of you, God, to make truth a relationship instead of an idea.

Now there is room between you and me for growth, for conversation, for exception, for the infinite understandings created by intimacy, for the possibility to give back and to give something to You... ~ Richard Rohr

Many years ago I participated in putting together volunteer opportunities for people of faith, and we called the project "HOT! – How Outreach Transforms." What we recognized (and had experienced) is that when people of faith get involved in ministry, they themselves experience the most change (as opposed to changing the people who "receive" the ministry).

I think of this at Broadway all the time – from Youth Lounge to the Tony Vega Thanksgiving Feast to the new partnership with Broadway Youth Center (BYC) to the Martin Luther King CommUNITY event this month. When we open ourselves to be in relationship with others, we are changed by the encounter.

God invites us to this. As Rohr says: it's about a relationship rather than an idea. It's about giving and receiving. It's about back and forth. It's about growth and transformation.

As we move from year 2012 and "Making it Real," to year 2013 and "Acts of Faith," I'm excited to see where Broadway is bound. To be sure: we are *bound together*, we are also bound to a future with hope. What does that hope look like to you? What "acts of faith" are you thinking of as you make new year's resolutions, or as you re-commit yourself to something you care deeply about or have a passion for as a new year begins?

Broadway needs all of us to "act" and put our faith to work – it's a witness the community experiences in our outreach. It's a witness the community and our friends experience in our own transformations, because when we're at church instead of someplace else on Sunday morning, people want to know why. As one of the early disciples writes, "always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3).



My reason? Jesus loves me, this I know,

Lois

Rev. Lois McCullen Parr

Vernice's View

Most of us leave 2012 with broken hearts. As we reflect on the painful deaths in Connecticut, we are reminded of the fragility of life. As we enter this New Year, we do so soberly. I don't know about you, but for me, I am full of questions about what this New Year will bring. I wonder about the health and well-being of my friends and of my family, especially my soon to be 101 year old mother. I wonder about the health of this nation – financial, social, and spiritual. How do we recognize God's love in a world gone mad? How do we live into the promises of the birth of Christ? In light of all that has happened, how do we "see" Epiphany this year? What form will (can) the manifestation take on for us this year? Epiphany is defined as the appearance of God; the manifestation of the divine. How do we embrace that in 2013?

As we begin this New Year, I would challenge us to find God. I would encourage us to develop, create, or continue an intimate relationship with our loving creator. As with any relationship it takes intention and attention. As many of you know, my favorite book of the Bible is Psalms. Psalms teach us how to express our hearts, our true emotions – anger, thanksgiving, sadness, joy, uncertainty, fear... Psalms are said to be the words of our hearts. The things that we are often afraid or reluctant to express are spoken clearly and loudly in the Psalms. They teach us to pray by teaching us to entrust all of who we are to a God who is loving and merciful; a God who hears our pain and all the messy stuff of everyday life. And with compassion and love God walks with us through it. The Psalms help us to live authentically as we speak and live truth day by day. The Psalms inspire us to open ourselves to the possibility of peace and wholeness – something we all yearn for on this journey we call life.

So as we begin this New Year I invite you to a time of prayer and meditation through the Psalms. This year I embark on a writing journey, a book of devotions titled **Praying the Psalms, one day at a time**. I have to be honest, this is the only way I know to make it through these very uncertain times; times of violence and injustice which we continue to perpetrate on each other. I need God like I've never needed God before and so I invite you to be with me on this journey of praying the Psalms each day; beginning January 1 with Psalm 1, titled "The Two Ways":

Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers; but their delight is in the law of the Lord, and on God's law they meditate day and night. They are like trees planted by streams of water, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither. In all that they do, they prosper. The wicked are not so, but are like chaff that the wind drives away. Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment, nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous; for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous, but the way of the wicked will perish.

This Psalm reminds us that we have a choice in how we live our lives: we can honor God's law, which I hear as a law of love – love God, love one another – or we can go the way of the wicked. As we begin this New Year let's choose to delight in God's law. Let's meditate on it day and night and then - let's live it!

Happy 2013! Our Journey continues...



In Peace and Wholeness,

Vernice

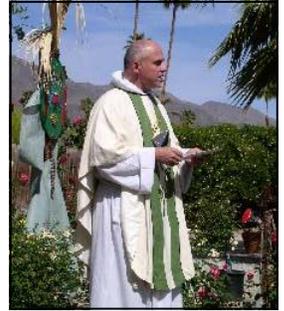
Rev. Vernice Thorn

CWACM Clergy, Broadway UMC Pastor

Kevin's Korner

January 2013

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)



Dear Broadway Friends,

Thank you **so much** for your generous offerings in support of Bloom this year. We are so grateful for your help and appreciate that you value our mission as much as we do. Always remember that Broadway is our original inspiration.

You know that I write columns and submit them to the Desert Sun, our local paper in the Coachella valley, for occasional publication. I woke up one December morning with an idea and, with some editorial counsel from Cathy Knight, the following hit the presses:

As Christians celebrate the birth of a child with divine intentions for peace, broken-hearted mothers mourn their children killed by violence. Globally, the unexpected arrival of drone missiles, mortar rockets and semi-automatic bullets mute the joy of heavenly songs proclaiming peace and good will. Still, Christmas comes as it will. This year, the herald for many is more about comfort than joy. I hope the messengers will live up to the task.

As a Christian and a full-time local pastor, I am often saddened and sometimes outraged by clergy who speak hate and nonsense, especially this time of year. In our profession, we have ample opportunity to make public statements. I am reminded by my training that our job is to not make bad things worse.

Sometimes preachers say stupid stuff. When they are media personalities and publishing moguls, their rant-manure gets spread widely. This often infuses shallow thinking with perceived deeper meaning and magical thinking is magnified with false credibility. The silliness becomes common gospel, recycled from televisions and radios to pulpits and dinner tables.

Saying that children are killed because God is not present in public schools or because gays and lesbians marry in some states and press for the same civil right in other states is not silly. Flailing for a reason like that is a failing of good sense and theological understanding. It is evil and hurtful. It fosters the pathology of a sick theology, granting latent permission to some people to commit harm. We know better.

To look to God for a reason is to shrink from responsibility for human actions. When a shooter enters a school, a church, or a shopping mall, the hand of God does not clear a path. When a shooter carries a weapon meant for combat into a place meant for learning, prayer or commerce, the hands of irresponsible lawmakers are all over the place.

This is how the ancient prophets' words of "peace, peace; when there is no peace" stay true. We mouth the words while being incapable or unwilling to commit to act accordingly. Some will sing that peace begins with us, yet not start for a moment. As media commentators and elected representatives say this year makes a difference, we can pray that is so and do more.

[continued on page 7...]

SAFE SANCTUARY



Safe Sanctuary for children & youth policies and procedures

If you are involved in children or youth ministry, as a teacher, volunteer, staff or parent, we invite you to this training. It is imperative that we keep our young people safe. Learn the state's requirement, review a sample "Abuse prevention policy", learn basic safety procedures and much more.

Part one of the training will be held on **January 5th from 10am-2pm**. Refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Vernice Thorn to reserve your space or contact her if you have questions. (This training will be held in the sanctuary.)

CHOMP AND CHAT

We would like to extend an invitation to the next Chomp and Chat on **Sunday, January 13 after the 11:00 Service**. Please bring your choice of one of the following to share with our community of friends: side dish, veggie tray, chips, beverage or dessert. Any questions contact Fran Markwardt at frankmarkw@att.net or Diana Davis at 773-960-9142. We look forward to seeing you there!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE TEAM

Broadway's Congregational Care Team will gather to follow-up and brain storm on more ways to meet the congregation's needs. Join us on **Sunday, January 13th from 1-2:30 pm** in the Wesley Room.

MLK COMMUNITY DINNER



Save the Date: **January 21, 2013** is Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday and BUMC will be celebrating it with our first CommUNITY dinner of the New Year.

We'll have our usual chili and dessert cook off and poetry slam (open to spoken word, music, and dance!). Helpers needed, so watch for further announcements.

SUNDAY EDUCATION HOUR

Sunday Morning Adult Education: Ann Lamott's new book *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. Led by Pastor Lois at **10am** in the Pillow Room.

Children's Education at 11:15am (following A Time for Young Christians at the 11:00 service).

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 Room A. We are continuing our study of the book of the prophet Isaiah.

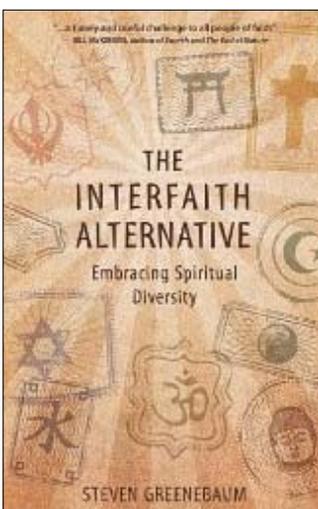
All are welcome to join in and there is no required homework. This study is led by our very own Tom Hope.

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 completes *The Interfaith Alternative* book study this month with dialogue with Muslim friends. Watch for more information as we conclude this study.



The Interfaith Alternative, Embracing Spiritual Diversity by Steven Greenebaum

"There is no them. There is only us, celebrating our common humanity. The Interfaith Alternative shows us how we can celebrate each other without fear of losing our own identity. At its core, Interfaith is about community and justice."

About the Author: Rev. Steven Greenebaum is an interfaith Minister with Masters Degrees in Mythology, music and Pastoral Studies. His experience directing Jewish, Methodist, Presbyterian and interfaith choirs have helped him to understand the profound wisdom of many spiritual traditions. Steven has dedicated his life to working for social and environmental justice through a multitude of forums. He is the founder of the Living Interfaith Church in Lynnwood, Washington.

Wednesday evenings at 7pm in the Pillow Room.

We invite you to this challenging and timely discussion. It is a natural progression to the inclusive work we embrace. You can order your book from [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/dp/9780865717053) ISBN 978-0-86571-705-3. Join us. Bring a friend. Please contact [Rev. Vernice](mailto:vernice@broadway.org) for more information.

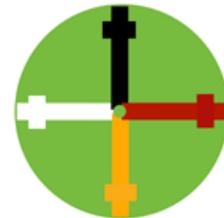
JANUARY MISSION MINUTE

The Mission Minute for January is Church of the Reconciler.

Church of the Reconciler (www.churchofthereconciler.com) is a multicultural, multiracial, mission church, serving over 900 homeless people in Birmingham, Alabama. We have offered our financial support to Rev. Kevin Higgs and our sister church that boldly proclaims itself to be “A Church in Mission to Homeless,” in Birmingham over the past several years.

Our Mission Minute Sunday is January 13, but you can donate throughout the month – make checks out to Broadway and designate your check or envelope “Church of the Reconciler” or “January Mission Minute.” You can also donate [online](#).

CHURCH OF THE
RECONCILER



faith in God. love for the city. hope for all people.

STEWARDSHIP IS WORSHIP: 2013



Stewardship IS Worship: 2013

Thanks to all who have felt ready to make a pledge, committing to the regular financial support of Broadway's identity & mission for 2013. So far, we've received promises for 2013 from 68 households of our worshipping community, totaling around \$136,600 — getting us started toward what we need to continue to do the amazing ministry to which we're com-

mitted. (In 2012, about 80 households pledged a total of \$169,622; we hope to surpass that number for 2013 to more fully support Broadway's ministries!)

If you have not done so yet, please find an orange pledge card outside the Sanctuary, or get one online at www.broadwaychurchchicago.org under “Resources” and then “Misc.”, and return it to the office today so we can best predict how we'll put together a budget for 2013. The 2013 budget will be presented at a **congregational meeting on January 27, 2013.**

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

KEVIN'S KORNER CONTINUED...

This time, the candles of Christmas – and recently Chanukah – can move us to live our truth so the lies of hate and bad theology are extinguished. Rather than twist public policy honoring the rights of citizens into threats, we can hold leaders accountable for the safety of our communities. When that job is done, future candles will be lit in celebration of peace and good will, not in vigils mourning the loss of innocents.

Citizens of faith and no faith can call upon the Caesars of our day to restore general safety by replacing gun violence with gun safety, war with truce. Preachers can comfort all with glad tidings that the Divine presence is found in justice and compassion, not judgment and violence. Mothers near and far do not have to mourn this way. It remains in the hands of humanity to make the commitments that will protect their hearts.

Please remember: As you consider your late winter plans, why not plan to be with us in Palm Springs in March? That's the month for Bloom's 10th Anniversary Celebration of continuous Sunday morning worship on March 10th at 10 a.m. If you want to make a big trip of it, think about planning to be here for our Fourth Annual Spring Fling Cabaret fundraiser on Friday evening, March 1, 2013. It would be GREAT to have you here.

BTW – Check out Bloom's new public [YouTube channel](#). Also, go to www.bloominthedesert.org to sign up for our weekly e-newsletter, "BloomNotes."

Peace,

Rev. Kev and Mike Shear

BROADWAY YOUTH CENTER

A reminder of BYC's schedule here at Broadway; a five-month space-sharing agreement that began on Dec. 17, 2012.

Resource Advocacy: Fridays and 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays from 12-5pm in Area C.

Shower Access: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 1-4pm in Area C.

Drop In Services: Fridays and 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays from 12-5pm in Area C.

HIV/STI Testing and Health Services Clinic: Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 12-6pm; Fridays and 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturdays from 12-5pm in Wesley Room and Friendship Hall.



More information on these services and about BYC can be found at www.howardbrown.org/byc.

If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Lois (gizhilois@yahoo.com) or MJ Grimshaw, Property Caregivers Chair (mgrimshaw@sbcglobal.net).

ONWARD & UPWARD

Moving the Legacy Onward & Upward

(that is: attention to our history, to our lift, to our future...)

Did you know...

- Broadway's congregation began in 1891?
- The original building for Broadway Church was named Evanston Ave. Methodist Episcopal Church (ever notice this stone and the 1901 cornerstone in Broadway's front courtyard)?
- Broadway took its name in 1913 when Evanston Ave. became Broadway Street (about the time people switched from horses to cars)?
- Broadway became Broadway United Methodist Church in 1968, when the Methodist & Evangelical United Brethren denominations merged?
- The big stones in the Pillow Room and Room B downstairs are from the foundation of the original building which fire destroyed in 1983?!
- The stained glass windows are re-created from colored glass sections rescued from the rubble of the fire?!

Broadway's history is a rich one, and the commitment of its congregation for 122 years has given it a strong legacy.

As we face the need for support for continued accessibility...hear from one of our historians, Mel Bose, who grew up in this congregation, met his wife Janet in Young Adult Fellowship, raised his children here, and now serves on the Property Caregivers Team...

In the 1950s, Broadway's congregation got a big surprise: one of its members who passed away gave Broadway a substantial bequest in her will. She knew that the 50+ years old building needed much. Money was tough then and wise people knew her gift could be spent in many places; some of it was invested through the denomination's Board of Missions to purchase land for a Chicago Church (St. Matthews). These people suggested that the congregation match the bequest dollar-for-dollar as projects were identified and a Broadway Building Improvement Fund was established.

Storm covering was added to the three huge, old, stained glass windows and all of the building windows to reduce heating costs. Many other projects were funded and completed. In the 1960s, Broadway was mortgaged twice to buy property and use the rental income to retire the debt...with an eye toward tear down for expanded parking. At the time of the fire, uncompleted projects remained, along with a depleted fund and a small mortgage balance. The insurance paid about \$400,000 for the fire and classified it a TOTAL LOSS. Until the insurance settled, a benefactor retired the bank's mortgage without interest until it could be reimbursed.

DEVASTATED...the congregation took what could be recovered from the fire and stored it in a vacant basement apartment, our Northern Illinois Conference helped with life support, and we continued Worship at 1pm in UCC's Temple Emanuel, west on Buckingham (you can still see the name on this building, which is now condos). A small congregation of 30 people pledged \$100,000 to a BROADWAY CHURCH BUILDING FUND...The UCC requested increased rent for Sunday use, so Worship moved to 11am in one of our 618 Buckingham apartments (adjacent to our parking and the burned remains)...As the burned remains stood for eight years, an architect was chosen, and together we agreed: tear down the old, and build a new Accessible Church!

Bids exceeded the funds. With no courtyards and an unfinished basement committed to inactive storage, a contractor assembled an affordable budget. A buyer had cash available for our lot at 634 Buck-

ingham, but all funds needed to be ready before construction; fire insurance funds at banks now needed bankruptcy insurance payments...Meanwhile: the disaster story spread throughout NIC and four UMCs stepped forward to loan the missing funds; various banks' insurance planned to pay in coming years if we agreed to reimburse their endowment funds as insurance repaid Broadway...Construction started. Fund-raising continued. God called others to their heavenly home – they remembered Broadway in bequests: their spirits will be with us (and both courtyards were returned to the project)...Nearly finished, we moved out of 618 Buckingham with folding chairs and bare concrete floors to Worship in new space. Construction is completed, with furnishings, and an empty inactive storage basement. Pledges were in place to cover \$100,000 owed to the Methodist Development Fund.

ANOTHER SURPRISE: a former Sunday School Teacher in a Dayton, Ohio Retirement Home who could not contribute to the Broadway Building Fund bequests her estate to Broadway. Broadway Invested Funds was established as we are growing and needed to provide for the future. Pledging continued to convert the basement to usable program space and the loan from the Methodist Development Fund is increased to have construction funds in place. We continue growing, paying debt, and also replacing sound systems, the grand piano, and the pipe organ (with an electronic organ).

PROBLEM: a class-action lawsuit is settled with the manufacturer of our roof insulation; Invested Funds are used for this major expenditure.

*TODAY...with another tight economy and pledges not meeting budgetary needs, we are facing **Lift Replacement** and **Bell Repair**. I'm reminded of the pictures of the old & new Broadway buildings as you walk in the front entrance off Broadway...have you noticed?*

Some of the old had been wrought into the new. The stones above the windows along Broadway were selected from the fire of the structure erected in 1901. The Stained Glass from the four-panel arches over the North and South windows of the old church now make the circle of stained glass viewed from the Sanctuary. The panels differ in color because glass artisans considered the sun exposure at the installed location. The stained glass window next to the old entrance doors is now inside next to the Sanctuary entrance doors.

For many years the picture of the old church hung inside the rear entrance porch of the parsonage. In 1967 my Mom, Dad and I were burned out of our home as fire spread from the house next door. Pastor Glen Sutton invited us to stay in the Parsonage. He had printed a sign with the words ONWARD AND UPWARD and placed it under the photo of the old church. He explained it was his motivation each day as he left the parsonage to minister to the community. Following our home fire, each morning as I left for work it became my inspiration too.

Later, following the Broadway church fire, the architect Richard Kalb prepared a rendering of the new Broadway Church. I had ONWARD AND UPWARD printed on a plastic plate and placed it under the rendering after having the picture framed. As it took several years to start construction, we learned "the church is not a building, the church is not a steeple" – we are the church; the church is people all around the world together. The picture and words helped to keep the people together with hope for a new place to worship. Both pictures now hang on the North wall just inside the Broadway Entrance as a reminder of where the church has been and reminds all to keep moving ONWARD AND UPWARD!

What now?

Property Care Givers proposes:

- Establishment of an **Onward & Upward Account** to help fund the lift and the bell, and to replace the withdrawal of Invested Funds
- Seed the **Onward & Upward Account** with:
 - \$5,000 from the BYC shared space donation
 - \$2,632 (gifts contributed to Ellenora Bose's memorial, a contribution to the lift replacement, and donations from the Christmas Concert which were dedicated to the lift replacement)
- Application for a matching grant of \$9,000 toward the lift (in process)

[continued on following page...]

- Withdrawal of \$12,000 from Invested Funds earnings (to support \$18,000 for the lift; \$2,000 toward the bell; a total of \$20,000 for the project)
 - While congregational support is not *required* for a withdrawal of funds from the interest and earnings of Broadway's Invested Funds (it is actually only required for withdrawal from the corpus, per Invested Funds by-laws), we feel it is prudent to have congregational support for such action, as the legacy from which the fund began is central to our identity as Broadway. We also feel that the nature of the Invested Funds and its history calls on us to support its repayment over time.
- Support from the congregation to pledge to restore the remaining repayment of \$3,000 to Invested Funds (this amount assumes a matching grant is awarded) – *this amount could be repaid if every active Broadway person gave \$25 this year!*

Please be part of the conversation about what it means to move money in order to be faithful stewards of our property and to be faithful to our commitment to inclusivity (which also includes accessibility).

Property Caregivers will host a congregational meeting in the Sanctuary on Sunday, January 20, 2013, at 12:30pm (following the 11:00 am Worship) – please bring your questions and commitments there!

Questions...please speak with Mel, MJ, or Lois.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS

Sunday, January 20 after the 11:00 service to discuss Invested Funds and the elevator replacement & bell repair (see "Moving the Legacy Onward & Upward" pg. 8-10)

Sunday, January 27 after the 11:00 service to approve the 2013 budget. (see "Stewardship" pg. 6)

MLK JR. DAY CELEBRATION

Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration

Bishop Sally Dyck invites all NIC members to a conference wide celebration of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on **Sunday, Jan. 20, 2013.**

Special guest speaker is Rev. James Lawson, Pastor Emeritus at Holman United Methodist Church in Los Angeles and human rights leader.

Location: **Hartzell Memorial UMC** (3330 S. King Dr., Chicago)

4pm Gathering with light refreshments

5pm Worship Service

Reception to follow



Rev. James Lawson

YOUTH LOUNGE JANUARY UPDATE

Transitions, Gratitude, and on to the New Year...

Thanks to **Journey Community Church**, who provided the meal and stayed to volunteer at the December 8th Youth Lounge, and to **Broadway Youth Center** staff members who came to observe and ended up helping – we had a record night for volunteers and were able to open both the “Beauty Parlor” and the “Dressing Room” on one night – while dinner, games, and the usual lounge activities were going on. Yip-pee! We appreciate the generosity and the time and commitment of ALL our volunteers!

Exciting news as 2012 came to a close – we **have been awarded a grant of \$1,500 from the United Methodist Foundation for 2013!** The UMF provided grant support in 2010, and will support us again in 2013...*Thanks, UMF!*

As the January Newsletter goes to press, we’re planning the last Youth Lounge of the year where the “Dressing Room” will give away **warmies** (winter coats, hats, scarves, gloves) that came to us through the collection efforts of the **United Methodist Women at Irving Park United Methodist Church** – *thanks!*

We’re also planning the **Youth Lounge Christmas Party** (on Christmas Day) with a dinner and (again) the amazing support of our “**Secret Santa**” friends who help provide presents for the youth for the day – thanks to all our supporters for this special event, too!

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Our staff begins January 1 – welcome!

Administrative Assistant Vincent Wiggins will be keeping administrative details going, making sure volunteers are in place, record-keeping, and grant research, among other duties.

Ambassador Cindy Grissom will be focusing her energy on recruitment of new volunteers as well as continuing connections with our neighborhood partners and making contact with potential new partners.

(If you missed it, background info about Vince and Cindy is in the December Newsletter).

~ ~ ~ ~ ~

The **Working Leadership Team** (WLT) has been announced, and you’ll want to look to these folks when you’re interested in supporting Youth Lounge as a volunteer or in some other way:

MJ Grimshaw (role: food)

Mike Mutuc (role: supplies)

Eric-Todd Rushing (role: new volunteer orientation and training)

Spencer Conklin (role: nurturing of ongoing volunteers, including matching seasoned volunteers with new volunteers)

Latoya Thorn (role: oversight of Berkowitz Award implementation and record keeping)

Craig Fitzgerald (role: oversight of 2013 UMC GBOD Grant for Ministries with Young People)

Vernice Thorn (role: staff supervision)

Z Williams (role: “floating” team member)

Chantal Hayes (role: “floating” team member who will work with Spencer on matching and mentoring)

Ways to get involved are ongoing & continuing...donate items, donate time – see the WLT. Youth Lounge continues to grow and shift as we keep our commitment to this “love work” for the young people who make themselves at home at Broadway on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month.

3years 4ward!

NEW YEAR'S DUO RECITAL

Music Written on the Wind

A recital at Ravenswood Fellowship United Methodist Church (4511 N Hermitage)

Sunday, January 6, 2013, at 2 p.m.

Internationally acclaimed Yoko Reikano Kimura (koto, shamisen, voice) and Hikaru Tamaki, principal cellist of the Forth Wayne Philharmonic, will perform a wide variety of pieces from traditional Japanese music to contemporary music (including a Chicago premier duo). After an extensive tour in Japan and a New York recital, they are bringing their one and only fusion of sound to Chicago!

Tickets are \$15 (Students \$5). Part of the proceeds will be donated to Ravenswood Fellowship UMC. Children must be 6 or older.

Contact information: 773-764-2475 or yokohikaruduo@hotmail.com.

LETTER FROM BEN BOWER

Dear Broadway Family,

Over the past year and a half you have welcomed me, challenged me, and cast a bigger vision to me for what the Body of Christ can be in the world. As we move into the Advent season I am thankful to have another six months to be working with you all as I finish my degree. I am also preparing myself to be apart from you from **mid-December through mid-January**. I will be gone, not because I want to be away from you all but because I will be taking the necessary steps to prepare for my life in ministry ahead. In December I will be meeting with my district Committee on Ordained Ministry to be interviewed for their approval to be a certified candidate. This is an important time for me as I work on what will come next and as I continue to discern how to faithfully serve God and God's people. I will also be preaching at my home church in Birmingham on the 30th, and I will be in class in the Detroit area in January.

As I prepare to meet the dCOM I am thankful for all of the experiences that I have been able to share with you. I would like to special thanks to my lay support team: Anna DeShawn, Keri Rainsberger, Richard M. Johnson, and Richard C. Johnson, for their guidance over the past year and a half. The support that they have shown me, and that the entirety of the Broadway community has given me, I will take with me to the dCOM meeting. However, it is more than your support that I carry with me. It is also the trust, challenge and grace that each of you have charged to me, in preaching, teaching, worship, prayer, anti-racism work, and leading the stewardship campaign, that encourages me and emboldens me. I only hope to live into that trust, challenge and grace in word and action in Detroit.

Thank you all for your grace and understanding in affording me this time to do what is necessary, to continue on the path toward ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church. I write this letter to you in advance, but I can say earnestly that I will miss my Broadway home while in Michigan. I thank God every day for this community, for bringing me to you, your honest acceptance, and for your enduring strength and faith.

Grace and Peace, Ben

WINTER WARMING

WINTER WARMING 2013

A GATHERING OF NIC RECONCILING UNITED METHODISTS

Winter Warming 2013, a gathering of NIC Reconciling United Methodists and those who believe in a fully inclusive church, will be held **Saturday, January 19th at First UMC of Elmhurst**. The event includes a forum on marriage equality (2:30pm), six engaging workshops (4:00pm), a community meal (5:30pm) and dynamic worship featuring preacher and prophet Bishop Mel Talbert. Go to www.winterwarming.com to register.

BIBLICAL OBEDIENCE: THE HIGHER LAW OF LOVE

FEATURING BISHOP MEL TALBERT

"One may well ask: "How can you advocate breaking some laws and obeying others?" The answer lies in the fact that there are two types of laws: just and unjust. I would be the first to advocate obeying just laws. One has not only legal but moral responsibility to obey just laws. Conversely, one has a moral responsibility to disobey unjust laws. I would agree with St. Augustine that "an unjust law is no law at all."

*"Letter from Birmingham Jail" (April 16, 1963)
Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

www.winterwarming.com

date	location	time
1/19/13	FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ELMHURST 232 SOUTH YORK ROAD, ELMHURST, IL 60126	2:00PM-8:30PM Registration, workshops, meal and worship. (una en espanol, mas detalles por venir)



LAKEVIEW ACTION COALITION NEWS

Broadway is a member congregation of Lakeview Action Coalition (LAC); as such, we're invited to the conversation about the potential merger of LAC with Organization of the Northeast (ONE). The first public conversation took place at the last Community Council meeting (Susan Armstrong represented Broadway), and there will be other opportunities to be part of the discernment, if you are interested.

Both organizations are currently strong and vital, and the purpose of the merger would be to build a more powerful organization that could more effectively have an impact on social justice issues. LAC and ONE share advocacy efforts around similar issues -- housing, health care, economic justice, to name a few.

The decision making process will be inclusive and will run through the next several months (probably until March 2013). There will be several opportunities for input. If you would like to be involved in this discussion, please reach out to Susan or Lois, or to Jennifer Ritter, the Executive Director of Lakeview Action Coalition at jenrg@lakeviewaction.org or 773-549-1947 x 102.



SPIRIT LAKE MINISTRY TRIP 2013

We have secured our dates for the Spirit Lake Ministry trip for 2013. **July 27th through August 2, 2013.**

The trip is filled with feel good work as we help build handicap accessible ramps, decks, paint homes, and other rehab work as well as have great fellowship with our fellow parishoners and those of other organizations that week. Spirit Lake Ministry is headed by Mike and Libby Flowers, set in the middle of the Dakota Indian Tribe, Devils Lake North Dakota. The trip is 6 days and costs \$300/person. Included in that price is housing and three meals per day, as well as the chance to experience an actual POW WOW put on by the Dakotas and on camp site demonstrations of Dakota dances, chants and drumming.

Secure your days off for this great trip now and stay tuned for further details. For more information you can contact Craig Fitzgerald at 773-219-8878 or via email at craig_m_fitzgerald@yahoo.com.

STEPS FOR EQUALITY

An excerpt from *Self-Made Man* by Norah Vincent:

Norah Vincent spent a year and a half as her male alter ego, Ned, and reported back what she observed incognito. Narrating her journey with exquisite insight, empathy, and humor, Norah ponders the many remarkable mysteries of gender identity as she explores firsthand who men really are when women aren't around. As Ned, she joins a bowling team, takes a high-octane sales job, goes on dates with women (and men), visits strip clubs, and even manages to infiltrate a monastery and a men's therapy group. Absolutely engrossing in its reporting and surprising in its analysis. It is a thrilling tour de force of immersion journalism.

Happy New Year - Dee, Emily and Helen, Allies for Change

HISTORICAL NOTE

Never Take Our Pastors for Granted

"Reception for the pastor and his wife" (excerpt) from *Church News*, November 1915

One of the most cordial and well-attended receptions given during the five years of the pastorate of Rev. Stuart B. Edmondson and wife, was tendered them November 2nd.

There was a large gathering of present and older members and friends. The Sunday School never appeared more attractive. Rugs had been laid all about, ferns placed to give a sort of "garden effect" in the whole.

The pastor and wife arrived about 8:40 and were welcomed by friends and members. It was indeed a happy time.

An attractive program was rendered, Mr. J.H. Dyon in his own inimitable way. Mr. and Mrs. Edmondson both made short responses and Mrs. Edmondson was presented with a large bouquet of "mums." Dainty refreshments were then served, and after an hour of social intercourse, the pastor and people turned their faces to the new year. May God make it the greatest of all is the wish and prayer of the "Advocate."

~ submitted by Mark Van Hying, Church Historian

February Newsletter Deadline

Submissions for the **February 2013** issue of *The Broadway* are due **Sunday, January 20**. 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

January 2013

Pastor: Rev. Lois McCullen Parr
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Pastor: Rev. Vernice Thorn
akatinyt@hotmail.com

Student Pastor: Benjamin Bower
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Interim Praise & Worship Leader: Jacqueline H. Boyd
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Affiliated Pastor: Rev. Kevin A. Johnson, Bloom in the Desert
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Worship Services at 8:45 and 11:00 a.m. on Sundays!

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

Twitter: @ChicagoBUMC

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

You can give online at www.broadwaychurchchicago.org
or can QR code at right for our donation page.

