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Alka's Angle

It was a cold winter afternoon. I was on my way to a meeting when the call came from my District Superintendent informing me that another District Superintendent from another District will be calling me soon. Such calls are no strangers to United Methodist clergy, especially in the beginning of the year. The rest, of course, is history. Since then, I have met with the Rev. Zaki L. Zaki, Rev. Vernice Thorn, members of the Relationship builders team at Broadway UMC, and many other members of the church. Each meeting has been extraordinary and I can't wait to experience the joy of serving the Lord with this lively, vibrant, welcoming, and, best of all, justice focused congregation.

I even have moved into the parsonage but I am sure it will be some time before I will know you all and find my way around the church and the community. I have never lived in the city so this is going to be a totally new experience for me. I'd be looking for help in finding my way around and might be calling upon you for assistance.

As we learn of each other and know each other, I invite you to share with me your stories and your heritage. Stories are a great part of who we are and whose we are. Jesus was a storyteller- he told stories of how God worked in the lives of people then and the same is true for us here at Broadway. In our stories we will find God stories and look for them to help us continue our work for justice.

But none of this can be done without prayer.



So as we all experience 'change,' let us remember to hold each other in prayer.

- Pray for our 'beloved' pastor, friend and colleague Lois as she makes Albion her new home and all that it means for her,
- Pray for the work of justice that we are all called to, so we may be faithful to God in all we do,
- Pray for all the people who participated in the Pride Parade, and that one day we will not have to have a day designated where our LGBTQ brothers and sisters have to claim a safe space but all places will be safe for all of us,
- Pray for those who live of the trauma of being treated differently because of their race or color, especially the people in Charleston after the recent shooting,
- Pray for God's guidance for me, as I take on the honor of being your pastor, and I promise to,
- Pray for you.

I sincerely look forward to meeting you at church soon.

Peace!

Pastor Alka



Vernice's View

Happy Pride!

I just want to say to you all today....Love Wins!

Our pride march is over, but the justice journey continues. Let's continue to celebrate the victories and challenge injustice wherever we see it.

We are called forth from this place committed to solidarity — committed to stay on the justice journey until there is full equality for all.

Go from here with open arms and with love in your hearts. Each one of us is beautiful and our lives matter. Always celebrate, with pride, who you have been created to be, even as we in solidarity celebrate the sacred worth of all creation. Be everything you can be — and commit, this day, to share the gift of YOU to the world. Let it be so!!!!

That is the benediction I wrote to give at the end of the four mile Pride parade route yesterday. (I walked a total of eight miles. I'm limping a little today, but happy.) And thank you to Chuck Cole who carried the Broadway sign!

It was a beautiful day beginning with worship at Broadway, where several lay teams presented me with a card and DSW gift card (yay!) to acknowledge my ministry at Broadway. It was so unexpected and affirming to hear Victor's words. Thank you Broadway for loving and supporting me for the last 14 years. It has been and continues to be an exciting and challenging journey.

This last week culminating with the Pride Parade has been life changing. There has been joy and sorrow; feelings of hope and feelings of hopelessness. My mind still reels as I remember daily the lives that were taken in South Carolina because of the deep, deep hatred around race that still lingers in these not so united, United States. I'm angry, I'm sad, and I'm committed to staying on the journal of peace and justice for all.

...and there were victories: the Supreme Court rulings on health care and marriage equality #lovewins. I'm reminded of Greg Dell's statement, "Death does not have the last word, life (love) has the last word." We've worked really hard for the marriage equality victory and I'm so thankful for this win, AND I would challenge us as an inclusive faith community to stay engaged in the justice journey for gay rights and for racial equality. There is still a lot of work to do.

As we continue to process all that is happening around us, let us also be present in a prayerful way as we transition to a new Pastoral Team. I want to publicly and with open arms and heart welcome Rev. Alka to Broadway. And say to her I look forward to our ministry together and to the many gifts you bring to share with this unique and radically inclusive community. Welcome!

Please be aware of our summer schedule for July and August, found on page 3.... Stay connected and stay safe. I love you all.

Living Brave Space,

Rev. Vernice Thorn

Broadway UMC Pastor, CWACM Clergy

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"Death does not
have the
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Sizzling Summer Schedule

July and August, 2015

Sunday Morning Worship Schedule

- 9am Open Sanctuary/Meditation. Come and enjoy the sound of running water and soft music. Come and experience stillness!
- "When you lose touch with inner stillness, you lose touch with yourself. When you lose touch with yourself, you lose yourself in the world. Stillness is your essential nature." ~ Eckhart Tolle*
- 9:45am Prayer Circle. We share joys and concerns as we hold hands and walk the journey together.
- 10:00am Fellowship time in Friendship Hall.
- 10:30am Morning Festival Service. We worship, we praise God, we hear the Word, we are sent forth to share the Word!
- 10:50am Children's Church – following Time with Young Christians

Wednesday Night Live!

Open to the whole family – kid friendly activities – bring friends!

- 5:30pm Open Sanctuary/Guided Meditation
- 6:00pm Potluck, bring a dish to pass
- 6:45pm Cleanup
- 7:00pm Movie time, with popcorn! (adults in sanctuary, children in nursery)
- 8:10pm Dialogue with pastors
- 8:30pm Closing prayer circle in Sanctuary (everyone)



July Mission Minute

June's Mission Minute is **Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries (www.gcbm.org)**.

The mission of Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries is to save, to heal, to offer a vision of hope, and thereby, serve the whole human family to use the medium of television and on-line video, with a sense of artistic competence, as an instrument that embraces diversity and reveals the mystery of God's love manifested in human life and all creation.

GCBM celebrates 59 years of the longest running ecumenical and interfaith Emmy Award winning television programming in the nation, produced in cooperation with ABC and CBS, that examines news, issues, and trends in religion and culture. Our mission has truly been reborn in a new and relevant way in large measure through the steadfast support by the dedicated members of our Board of Directors, our devoted staff, and faithful volunteers and donors.

Over the years, thousands of Chicago area clergy and laity have conveyed a prophetic voice of faith on our broadcasts and on-line videos, and our host television stations have provided free studio and airtime since 1956 through a rare partnership that serves the needs of the wider community. The voices of faith presented on our programs include clergy and laity from Chicago area congregations who have supported our ministry for nearly six decades as ecumenical mission partners on Chicago's commercial television stations.

GCBM's mission priorities for peace, justice and humanitarian concerns locally and around the globe are at the heart of our historic programming that engages vital thought and action at the intersection of life and faith as no other public medium does. Each year Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries gives voice to hundreds of transforming life-faith stories by men and women who live their faith through acts of public ministry.

With production and public information services for church conferences and assemblies, seminary workshops on religion and media, and television placement of member churches and denominations, Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries is a vital leader in the communication of authentic faith for the common good.

As we celebrate our 59th continuous season, GCBM's historic Emmy Award winning broadcasts and video productions remain a precious commodity. We continue to be the only major market with a consistent presence on commercial television shaped by an inclusive ecumenical and interfaith spirit of collaboration with the Protestant, Orthodox, and Episcopal churches of greater Chicago in cooperation with the Council of Religious Leaders.

I give thanks for your sustaining witness that helps keep an authentic message of faith with action alive on our flagship programs. You can view episodes of Sanctuary at www.youtube.com/sanctuaryABC7 and Different Drummers (produced in the CBS-TV studios with Chicago area youth and clergy Sunday afternoons) at www.youtube.com/differentdrummers.

We are honored to acknowledge Broadway United Methodist Church in the on-screen credits of our Sanctuary documentaries broadcast on ABC-7. In partnership with Chicago Theological Seminary, GCBM participated in an on location camera coverage of on their recent conference: Selma at 50: Still Marching.

Fifty years ago, civil rights activists marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama and into history. Chicago Theological Seminary, the Chicago Sunday Evening Club, and Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries encourage you to step inside the stories of the people and the struggle for justice then and now.

Thank you for your vital support that helps us turn our modest budget into priceless television and on-line video for the common good! In faith and hope, Lydia Talbot, Executive Director, Greater Chicago Broadcast Ministries

You can donate throughout the month of July – make checks out to Broadway UMC and designate to "GCBM" or "July Mission Minute". You can also donate [online](#).

August Mission Minute

August's Mission Minute is the Children's Defense Fund (www.childrensdefense.org).

Their Mission: The Children's Defense Fund Leave No Child Behind® mission is to ensure every child a Healthy Start, a Head Start, a Fair Start, a Safe Start and a Moral Start in life and successful passage to adulthood with the help of caring families and communities.

CDF provides a strong, effective and independent voice for all the children of America who cannot vote, lobby or speak for themselves. We pay particular attention to the needs of poor children, children of color and those with disabilities. CDF educates the nation about the needs of children and encourages preventive investments before they get sick, drop out of school, get into trouble or suffer family breakdown.

CDF began in 1973 and is a private, nonprofit organization supported by individual donations, foundation, corporate and government grants.

You can donate throughout the month of August – make checks out to Broadway UMC and designate to “Children's Defense Fund” or “August Mission Minute”. You can also donate [online](#).



Children's Defense Fund

A strong, effective, independent voice for *all* the children of America

Farmers Market

Stop by Advocate Illinois Masonic's Farmers Market on Tuesdays to shop from a mix of local and organic produce and other goods.

When: Tuesdays, throughout the summer

Time: 3 to 7 p.m.

Where: Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
836 W. Wellington Ave., Chicago, IL



All are welcome to attend!

Sponsored by the Advocate Illinois Masonic Green Team and Work Life Quality Committee.

 Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center

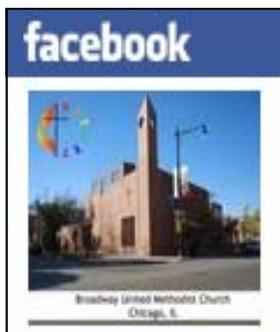
New Student Pastor this Fall

A sneak peek at our new Student Pastor, Taylor Gould, who will be joining us this fall. Welcome Taylor!



I am from the small town of Swisher, Iowa (population 900), and am a “born and raised” United Methodist. I received my BA in Communication Studies, Religious Studies, and Leadership Studies from the University of Iowa last May. During my college career, I worked at the Wesley Foundation as a Ministry Intern and was able to deconstruct my embedded theology. It was there that I was able to discern my call to ministry as a call to the local parish. It was also there that my passion for justice was nourished. I served as the Pastoral Intern at the UMC next door my final year and was encouraged to attend Garrett-Evangelical in Evanston. I had promised myself that my first year, I would attend as many churches as possible. I attended four before Lois invited me to visit Broadway. Despite the hour commute from my seminary housing, I fell in love with Broadway's diverse community and commitment to fighting ALL injustices. I am excited to serve such a beautiful church community and can't wait to see what you all have to teach me!

Social Media



Are you a **Facebook** Fanatic? Are you a **Twitter** Ambassador? Are you the Mayor of Starbucks on the corner of Broadway and Roscoe? If so, Broadway needs your help! We want to get the word out about all that is happening at Broadway, and we can strengthen our network and communications through social media tools! Many of you already have a strong online presence, so you can help us make Broadway to viral! Please Tweet about upcoming events. Or post a message to your Facebook wall about the Youth Lounge. When you're here, check in on **Foursquare**! Let your friends know what is going on here!

Facebook: www.facebook.com/ChicagoBUMC

Twitter: @ChicagoBUMC

Broadway welcomes Pastor Alka Lyall, effective July 1, 2015.



*Celebrating
Arrests:*

*From left,
Methodist faith
leaders Rev.
Deborah Tinsley
Taylor, Aurora;
Bishop Minerva
Carcaño,
California; and
**Rev. Alka
Lyall, Aurora,**
show arrest
wrist bands
after being
released by
Washington,
D.C., police
July 31, 2014.*

Rev. Alka Lyall is a life-long Methodist, who is at the table fighting for the inclusion of those who continue to be voiceless and excluded. She grew up in the Methodist Church in India and came to the United States in 1996 as a seminary student. She is an ordained elder in the Northern Illinois Conference and has been serving the people of God, with the people of Northern Illinois Conference, since graduating from Seminary in 2000. She has two sons and a husband without whose support she could not have done anything. Alka has always been an active and involved member of the church. She was a delegate to World Methodist Council as a youth representative from India in 1986 and later served on its Presidium. She has been a delegate to 2012 and alternate to the 2008 General Conference. Alka has chaired and served on various boards, agencies and committees in her conference. She currently chairs the Annual Conference committee of the

Northern Illinois Conference and serves on the Board of Directors of Northern Illinois Conference Justice for our Neighbors. She is also active in the Northern Illinois Conference RMN task force. In addition, Alka serves on the RMN Board of Directors and is an elected delegate to the UMC Global General Conference in 2016. Alka desires to share the love of God, which welcomes all people, with all the people of God but especially with those who have been rejected, refused and forgotten by the church. Her prayer is that someday the church will open its doors to all people and to that she continues her ministry.

The relationship builders team will continue to work to make this transition a smooth, healthy, and blessing to the Broadway community.

Christopher Lewis,

Chairperson, Relationship Builders



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Celebrating God's Love for ALL People

BROADWAY'S MISSION STATEMENT

“God calls Broadway United Methodist Church to be a faith community embracing the diversity of our Chicago neighborhood and larger community. We welcome all persons – celebrating the human family’s God-given diversity of race, age, gender, sexual orientation, and physical or mental capacity. We also welcome persons of all social and economic classes and faith backgrounds. At Broadway, we are accepted into God’s nurturing family, which invites us into spiritual growth through worship, study, mission, and social action. We are grateful for the opportunities God gives us to experience and share the love of Christ.”

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

You can give online at www.broadwaychurchchicago.com

or scan code at right for our donation page.

