

From The Reverend Pat Bumgardner, Chair of the Moderator's Global Justice Ministry

Dear MCC Friends and Colleagues:

I'm so thankful to MCC congregations around the world who are responding to this year's Easter Offering for MCC's Justice Ministries. If your church has not yet signed on to participate in this year's denominational Easter Offering, I want to invite your congregation to join the growing number of churches who are working together to advance justice in our world.

The global justice needs are so great! From MCC's recently launched CALL FOR LOVE campaign to protect the dignity and safety of LGBT people, to justice issues as far ranging as the fight for adequate HIV/AIDS care and education, marriage equality, organizing for peace not war, environmental justice – and MCC's vital ministry of making the life-saving connections between poverty, racism, sexism and immigration status – it's a big agenda for a relatively small movement. But the words of the gospel song are true: "Little is much, when God is in it."

If your congregation has not already pledged to be part of the Easter Offering for MCC's Global Justice Ministries, I hope you will do so right now.

To participate, simply send an e-mail to Rev. Nancy Wilson at RevNancyWilson@MCCchurch.net. Let her know your church will receive an Easter Offering for MCC's Global Justice Ministries – when you do, we'll promptly add your church to the list of MCC's 2008 Pacesetter Churches – churches leading the way for global justice! And be sure to visit www.MCCchurch.org/easteroffering2008 – you'll find downloadable graphics, background information – and bulletin inserts, coming soon!

Together, we can fulfill God's dream for the world.

May God continue to bless and guide all of us,

+ Pat



A CALL FOR LOVE Valentine's Day 2008 by Mel Bryant

"STOP THE VIOLENCE! STOP THE HATE!" More than thirty die-hard activists, including two associates from Jamaica AIDS Services, one of whom is currently seeking asylum in the United States after threats to his life, chanted these words as they gathered on February 14, 2008, at the Jamaican Consulate on Third Avenue to CALL FOR LOVE. The international action campaign organized by Metropolitan Community Churches in response to the recent wave of mob violence directed against LGBT people in Jamaica brought together representatives from MCC, Human Rights Watch, The Center, UNITY Fellowship, Renewed Life Ministries, Lavender and Green, Hadwen Park Congregational Church and the Peace Corps.

The Rev. Pat Bumgardner, Chair of MCC's Global Justice Ministry, recounted many of the horrific events of the past year, including the January 29th break-in to the private home of three gay men by a mob wielding clubs and machetes. "Two of those young men, doing nothing more than existing in their own home, were clubbed and macheted to the point of hospitalization," she said. "One lost an ear and may suffer paralysis from the attack. A third young man is missing and presumed dead. Only the blood trail away from the home remains."

"Enough is enough!" she called to the lunchtime crowds passing by the Consulate. "The time has come for people of good will around the globe to break their silence and demand that the Jamaican government and its political and social structures guarantee the safety of all Jamaicans." (continued on page 7)



Activists gathered in front of the Jamaican Consulate. (photo by Les LaRue)

The Rev. Dr. Dennis E. Wiley Preaches at MCCNY by Mel Bryant



(photo by Montel Cherry)

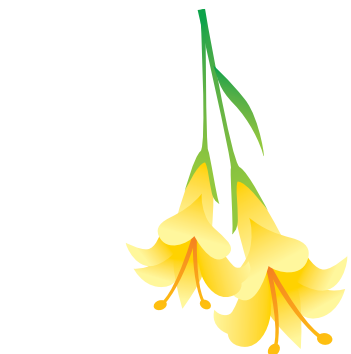
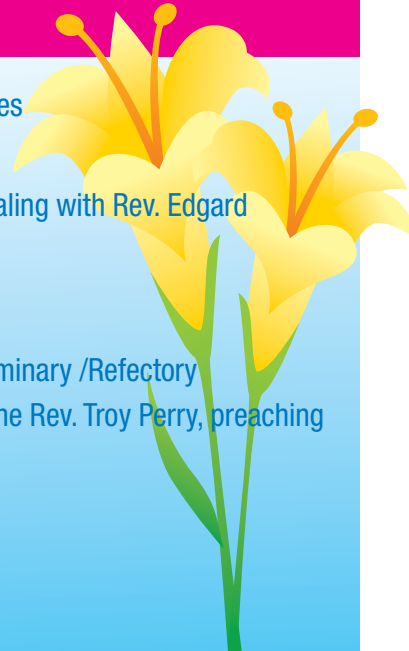
The Reverend Dr. Dennis E. Wiley (at left) blessed the Metropolitan Community Church of New York preaching at the 11 a.m. Celebration Liturgy on Sunday, February 17, 2008 as the highlight of MCCNY's celebration of African American History Month.

Reverend Wiley and the Reverend Dr. Christine Y. Wiley, his wife, co-pastor the Covenant Baptist Church in Washington D.C. As part of their pastoral vision for Covenant Baptist church, the Reverends Wiley envision "An inclusive congregation where all are welcome, regardless of race, ethnicity, class, gender, age, or sexual orientation."

In their mission statement on their website (www.covenantbaptistdc.org), Covenant Baptist Church states, "God calls this church to be a progressive witness for Jesus Christ, a creative model of Christian worship, a loving example of Christian fellowship and a humble servant to our sisters and brothers in the community, the nation and the world in which we live." (continued on page 3)

EASTER AT MCCNY

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|---------------------------|-------|---|
| + Wednesday, March 19 | 7 pm | Taizé Service with Rev. Edgard Danielsen-Morales
Chants of the Taizé Service led by John Fischer |
| + Thursday, March 20 | 7 pm | Maundy Thursday Service with Anointing for Healing with Rev. Edgard |
| + Good Friday, March 21 | 7 pm | The Passion of Christ & Stations of the Cross
Lavender Light! The Rev. Troy Perry, preaching! |
| + Holy Saturday, March 22 | 3 pm | Easter Awards Banquet at Union Theological Seminary /Refectory |
| | 7 pm | Easter Vigil Liturgy: Lighting of the New Fire +The Rev. Troy Perry, preaching |
| + Easter Sunday, March 23 | 9 am | Traditional Liturgy of the Resurrection |
| | 11 am | Celebration Liturgy of the Resurrection |
| | 7 pm | Praise & Worship Service of the Resurrection
The Rev. Troy Perry, preaching at all services |



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The Query Quarterly/Spring 2008

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MCCNY is a member of Metropolitan Community Churches, a global movement of faith with congregations in 22 nations. The Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson, Moderator



An Easter Message from Rev. Pat Bumgardner:

A CALL TO LOVE

Dear friends:

As we enter Holy Week and Easter this year, I find myself thinking a lot about the Passion of Christ — the stories surrounding the trial and crucifixion of Jesus. Often, when scholars talk about the “Passion” of Jesus they mean only the stories of betrayal and trial and death. But as I read the Gospel and think about what Jesus was passionate about, I remember stories like that of the woman who anointed his feet, pouring out a life-time’s worth of precious oil as a way of saying, “I share your dream/your vision of a world where all people are treated as the beloved children of God.” (Matthew 26) And I remember how passionate Jesus was that she not be judged or excluded from the ranks of God’s beloved children; that what she did be understood as the heart and core of what it means to follow him.

I think of stories like “the Widow’s Mite”, where again someone gives all she has — out of her need, Mark’s 12th chapter says — because of how passionately she believes in the God’s dream and vision for our world.

I think of Jesus finding Zacchaeus in that tree (Luke 19) and how passionate Zacchaeus was in his quest to make up for his mistreatment of others, once he, too, came to realize his own value and worth in God’s sight.

Passion — what are you passionate about? What would you give all you have to bring to reality in this world? Those are our Easter questions, because those are the questions that will inspire us to live and love in ways that bring new life and hope to the world around us.

In Jamaica, young Queer people are passionate about no longer living lives of fear, no longer hiding in shame. “I am not ashamed,” said Michael Hayden to a packed worship service the Sunday morning I was there. “I know God is with me,” he said, as twenty-two people came forward to be anointed, to lay their lives on the line for freedom and equality.

There’s a man in Pakistan who is passionate about opening a safe space for young queer kids there, and he wants to join MCC. There’s a person in Iraq who is passionate about creating a safe and supportive nation for Queer people there, and he wants to meet/to connect with MCC. There are Queer people in Kenya, in Uganda, in Malaysia — all over the globe — who are passionate about not only their own freedom and dignity and worth, but about the freedom and dignity and worth of all God’s children.

And that, I believe, is why so many are turning to Metropolitan Community Churches for comradery and the pursuit of a shared vision.

Passion — every year, we read the Passion of Christ — but it’s not just a story about betrayal and death. It’s a story about all the people who find new life and hope for their futures because of what one person passionately believed and lived for.

When Rev. Perry founded Metropolitan Community Churches thirty-eight years ago, he didn’t know we would grow to become the world’s largest Queer organization of any kind. He didn’t know that our name would become synonymous with “human rights” in Eastern Europe. He didn’t know that people from Africa to Asia, from Canada to the Caribbean would one day look to MCC for the kind of passion and courage and conviction that could raise them and the lands they love to new life. All he knew for sure was that God’s love is for all people, and that passion has carried him and our message around the world.

When he joins us this year, he will be fresh out of a Supreme Court battle for equal marriage rights in his home state of California. My prayers today are that he and Phillip win that battle, and move all of us one step closer to the freedom and equality we deserve as Children of God.

AND... this I know and trust: win or lose, his passion will continue to drive him forward in the quest to make God’s dream of human equality a reality for all of us.

My prayer this year is that our passions will continue to drive all of us to live and love in ways that make it possible for people everywhere to do the same — live and love. That’s the Easter story — and it can raise us all together to the new life that Jesus promised.

My prayer this year is that you will join with your family of faith on Palm Sunday and journey with us through Holy Week to Easter, as we celebrate our passion for love and life, and the hope that passion holds out for all creation.

With love,

Rev. Pat

The Rev. Pat Bumgardner Travels to Jamaica for Global Justice

As a result of the horrific violence against our LGBT siblings in Jamaica and the Jamaican authorities lack of response to the violence, The Reverend Pat Bumgardner, Chair of the Metropolitan Community Church’s Global Justice Ministry traveled to Jamaica on Saturday, February 23, 2008.

While she was there, she met with two of the survivors of the most recent attack. These men had been attacked in their home on January 29, 2008 by a mob wielding machetes. A third man who was in the home is missing and presumed dead. Of the men, Reverend Pat said, “Their physical injuries, as serious as they are, will heal. I don’t know if the emotional trauma that they have suffered will heal. I pray it will.”

Before Reverend Pat returned to New York on Monday, February 25, 2008, Michael Hayden, an openly gay man and former police officer in Jamaica

was pulled off a bus and beaten before being locked up. Michael had been featured in an article in the *New York Times* about the violence against LGBT Jamaicans the day before his attack, the same day he had attended the MCC in Jamaica and heard Reverend Pat preach. Michael was released the same day and taken to a hospital.

The worldwide denomination of Metropolitan Community Churches launched the international Call for Love Campaign on Valentine’s Day to heighten awareness of the violence and to call for the end of the violence against our LGBT siblings in Jamaica.

The Global Justice Team will meet in St. Louis prior to the People of African Descent Conference in April.

A CALL FOR LOVE *(Continued from page 1)*

Rebecca Schleiffer of Human Rights Watch recounted the horror of three gay men trapped in a pharmacy by a mob of two hundred in Montego Bay last year on Valentine’s Day. “Those three young men had to place an international phone call to the Human Rights Watch,” she said, “and we had to act on their behalf before the police would intervene. And even then,” she continued, “those charged with protecting the lives of Jamaican citizens joined in the taunting and threatening gestures, punching one of the three in the face and stomach.”

Jamaican Nathaniel Cunningham, who is seeking asylum in the United States because of death threats for his work with Jamaica AIDS Services and his courage in being out as a gay man, said, “The nightmares must end! No more sleepless nights wondering if you will be next! It’s time for all Jamaicans to feel safe in their own homes and in their own country!” Cunningham led the crowd in chants calling for love to replace hate.

Speaker after speaker, including the Rev. Judith Hanlon, Pastor of the Hadwen Park Congregational Church, UCC, who had traveled to New York from Worcester, MA to participate in the demonstration, called on the Jamaican Consulate to intervene and promised to keep the pressure on until change is as evident as the violence has been. Prior to the demonstration, Rev. Pat and Jamaican activist Junior Walker were politely rebuffed in their attempt to meet with the Acting Consul General, Mr. Downer. They did, however, manage to deliver a letter calling attention to the CALL FOR LOVE campaign and promising ongoing efforts until the violence ends.

As the demonstration ended, those gathered placed flowers carrying the banner, “For the Jamaican Victims of Homophobic Hatred and Violence.” As Rev. Pat prepared to lead the crowd in a prayer of remembrance and promise, the Building Manager for the Consulate came outside to say that praying on the sidewalk was not allowed.



Rev. Pat leading a prayer of remembrance and promise. (photo by Les LaRue)

“We are going to pray now,” Rev. Pat responded, at which point he stepped away and waited for the prayer’s conclusion. A few moments later he reappeared to say that the flowers must be removed. After some negotiation, the flowers were delivered to the Consulate with their banner intact.

This action marked the beginning of an international public awareness campaign being organized by Metropolitan Community Churches.

For more information on the action, contact: The Rev. Pat Bumgardner, GlobalJustice@mcccchurches.net, 212-629-7440.

For more information on MCC’s Global CALL TO LOVE Campaign, contact: Jim Birkitt, *Communications Director*, Metropolitan Community Churches, Ufmcchq@aol.com.

Letter from the Editor:

Dear Family and Friends,

As I’m writing this, the first Letter from the Editor for 2008, on the first day of March, I can’t help but think about all of the “firsts” for MCCNY.

Our first Executive Director of Charities.

Our first season of Church Lady Bingo starring Sybil Bruncheon.

Our first CALL FOR LOVE.

Our first Easter Offering for Global Justice.

Our first straight ally in the pulpit.

Then there’s Rev. Pat’s first trip to Jamaica for Global Justice, Lori’s first trip to New York for the launch of her son’s book and, for many of the youth of Sylvia’s Place, their first trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art.

At Finishing School this week, one of the girls shared how, unlike other groups she attends, she enjoys coming to the Bread of Life dinners because she is served. As we approach this Easter season, come home to MCCNY and be served the good news of God’s inclusive love.

Enjoy the issue.

Mel Bryant, Editor

The QUERY

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Contributors Kate Barnhart, Samantha Box, Mark Damiani, Joe Kennedy, Sarah Lewis, Mary and Monica Cole, John McGee, Kathryn Millan

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**Sunday Worship Services at 9am (traditional)
11am (celebration), and 7pm (praise & worship)**

On TV in Manhattan: Sundays 1:30 pm,
Time Warner channel 57, RCN channel 85

A Message from The Rev. Elder Darlene Garner

I am writing today to all People of Color in MCC. I am inviting you to join me in bringing about change in the national political, social, and economic agendas. In partnership with Metropolitan Community Churches, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) is conducting a survey to discover the concerns of LGBT People of Color in the U.S.

To take the survey, visit: www.hrc.org/issues/equalityforwardsurvey.asp

Please participate in this survey and share it with other People of Color so that together we can move equality forward.

God bless!

Rev. Elder Darlene Garner/Regional Elder

St. Pat’s for All *by Joe Kennedy*

MCCNY’s contingent marched in the annual LGBT-inclusive St. Pat’s for All Parade in Queens on March 2nd. NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn, the grand marshal, told the marchers: “We are marching here today because some of these contingents are not allowed to march in the St. Patrick’s Parade on Fifth Avenue...but I believe that every mile we march here on Skillman Avenue in Queens brings us a mile closer to the day when we will all be able to march on Fifth Avenue.”

(photo by Mark Damiani)

MCCNYer Sebastian Maguire was a volunteer on the parade organizing committee headed by longtime LGBT activist Brendan Fay.



News from MCCNY Homeless Youth Services

Field Trip *by Kathryn Millan*

Never assume anything about the youth at Sylvia's Place.

There was silence when I suggested the Metropolitan as the next museum for us to visit. It doesn't have the giant squid and the whale, or the tigers and apes in their own theatrically lit habitats, like our previous destination. The Museum of Natural History had been a big hit when we went in the fall. But I guess the name Metropolitan sounds unimaginative, like it has nothing but "art." "I would like to see the armor," Blacc said. Wow, he knows about the armor! "That's right, and there is a real shark in a big tank of formaldehyde done by a famous artist," I added, following his lead. When the sign-up sheet was posted at Sylvia's Place, it filled up quickly.

On the following Sunday morning we arrived at the Met fairly early before it got too crowded. The Egyptian wing was a unanimous choice for the first stop. Everyone knew fun facts about the mummies and pyramids, except Fantasia. "These mummies are creeping me out", she said to me quietly. Fantasia doesn't look like anything would scare her, so I lured her closer to check out the detailing on a wrapped and masked Egyptian body. The lady's painted hair truly resembled a weave. Suddenly the mummies seemed more cool than dead.

Then we found the armor, and lots of it. Even the horses wore it. There are examples from many countries with matching weapons. Anthony liked the emerald and ruby encrusted daggers in the cases nearby. "It's their bling!" The exotic weapons inspired Jasmin to speak up, "Is there any art from the Ottoman Empire here?" she asked. She reads historical fiction and had enjoyed the novel Seraglio. Hey, my book club read that one too. It is based on the legend of a French girl, captured by pirates, who ends up in a Turkish harem. This is the Met, I thought, there has to be something for Jasmin here.

Heading deeper into the museum, we came to the section of French rococo rooms dating from the late 1700's. Our book has the same time frame. It all seemed serendipitous, especially because this is one of my favorite exhibits in the whole museum. We could actually walk into a pale yellow drawing room. This room is detailed with white ornate molding that seems so fluffy it resembles icing. The old parquet floor creaked under our feet, sending us back in time and making us wonder what it might have been like to live in such a beautiful serene space. "Welcome to my home," Blacc said with an aristocratic bow, and we laughed.

"We forgot about the shark!" Kendra reminded us, and we returned to the 21st century. There was another shift in time as a guard directed us through the wing of medieval art. I was surprised that everyone liked these seriously religious paintings of solemn and haloed people. One long panel was horizontal with different scenes like a cartoon strip. It depicted the life of a martyred saint. She was a noble lady who was executed because her rich husband caught her feeding the poor with their leftovers. Surrounded by altarpieces and stained glass, this dark old painting held our attention in the gloomy hall.

Luckily the shark, and Kendra, lured us back on track. Finally we found it in a sunny gallery upstairs. Five feet long, the whole animal was suspended simply in a giant rectangular glass tank. He seemed to be looking at us. We looked back. And this is contemporary art, not a science project. After everything else we had seen, I think the youth realized the difference. Suddenly the natural light from outside told us it was late afternoon. We had been floating from one amazing exhibit to the next for hours. We had not stopped looking or talking, and many things in this grand old place had definitely talked back to us. Each gallery had artfully connected us to another world or to our own reality, or both. Our field trip had been a real trip.

Was it fun? Absolutely. Did we learn something? You bet!

(Photo by Kathryn Millan)



Shelter Success Story: Mavinga "King" Warner

by Kate Barnhart, Director, MCCNY/Homeless Youth Services

Abused by his parents, who beat him and insulted him for being overweight and "eating too much," King first became homeless at age 14, when he ran away from home and survived by begging on the street. When he asked a policeman for money, the officer took him to the station and called his parents, who took him home. This was the beginning of a long journey that included running away several more times, a stay in foster care, becoming homeless at age 18, going to Covenant House shelter, feeling uncomfortable there, and eventually, coming to Sylvia's where he found the people he considers his "family."

Even while sleeping on the subways, King had further education on his mind. Naturally gifted with technology, he wanted to go to college and have his own computer repair business. When he arrived at Sylvia's, he enrolled at Community Prep, a GED program, and passed the GED on his 2nd try. He channeled his creativity into our weekly writing group, saw our social worker for therapy to help heal from his past, and volunteered to fix assorted broken items around the shelter, including my blackberry. He also got a job, at the BP gas station on the corner of 36th Street and 10th Avenue, and earned enough money to move into a rented room. Currently, King is in the process of applying to Hampshire College, which he hopes to attend in the fall.



(Photo by Samantha Box)

The Rev. Dr. Dennis E. Wiley

(Continued from page 1)

In his sermon, Reverend Wiley shared excerpts from a sermon by the Reverend Dr. Howard Thurman entitled "The Sound of the Genuine."

So the burden of what I have to say to you is, "What is your name – who are you – and can you find a way to hear the sound of the genuine in yourself?" There are so many noises going on inside of you, so many echoes of all sorts, so many internalizing of the rumble and the traffic, the confusions, the disorders by which your environment is peopled that I wonder if you can get still enough – not quiet enough – still enough to hear rumbling up from your unique and essential idiom the sound of the genuine in you. I don't know if you can. But this is your assignment.

Reverend Wiley encouraged us to let our past be a stepping stone to our future, to honor our families but be true to who we are and, most importantly, to honor God who made us even if our families do not support us.

Many people testified to the power of the day. The Reverend Pat Bumgardner, Senior Pastor of MCCNY said,

There was a certain electricity, a certain sense of our own power as well as God's presence that ran through the sanctuary that morning. Much of Rev. Wiley's approach to Scripture and the universality of God's love was familiar to us – yet somehow this unassuming, Harvard educated man brought new life and vigor to that "old, old story." I guess that's what was meant in the hymn we often sing here – "I love to tell the story, because I know 'tis true; it satisfies my longings, as nothing else can do." I for one left wholly satisfied and feeling sustained in the knowledge that God calls and claims not only me but our people.

MCCNY was honored to have the Reverend Dr. Christine Y. Wiley, their daughters Aiyana and Samira, the Reverend Gale Jones of Renewed Life Ministries, Pastor Joseph Tolton of Rehoboth Temple Christ Consciousness Church and members of his congregation join us to share Reverend Wiley's message of inclusion and affirmation.

Following the service, CAD hosted a gala reception in the third floor gallery.

Dinner With Friends – MCC Binghamton *by Mary and Monica Cole*

On March 11, the Binghamton Congregation of MCCNY will prepare and share a chicken and biscuit dinner with friends in our neighborhood whose lives are affected by HIV and AIDS. Our first friends dinner was in 2006 and we shared food provided by the MCCNY food pantry. Thank you! Since then we've prepared nine dinners, with our own members providing food, cooking skills, and companionship. Along with Binghamton MCCNY, about a dozen local churches take turns providing the dinners. Of course, MCC is unique in that about 50% of our membership turn out for the friends dinners. And in the tradition of MCCNY's neighborhood dinners, we all stay and enjoy chicken and biscuits with friends. We're all hungry, and we all eat, and everyone is welcome at our table.



Fannie and Sharon in the dining room.

Church Lady Bingo!

Shiny red hearts hung from the ceiling and DJ Sugar wore Cupid's wings as Nina Schnell celebrated her birthday on Friday, February 8, 2008 with Sybil, Gefil and DJ Sugar at Church Lady Bingo Starring Sybil Bruncheon. This was our biggest bingo to date so make your reservation now for the March 14 show and mark your calendars for the April 11, May 9 and June 13 shows. Church Lady Bingo Starring Sybil Bruncheon, a fundraiser for the good work of MCCNY, is a good cause and a good time so don't miss it.

Sybil's outrageous humor is now available online. Visit www.youtube.com and search Sybil Bruncheon to get in on the fun.



(Photo by Montel Cherry)

Remembering Malcolm Smith *by Mel Bryant*

Malcolm Smith's life was celebrated at a memorial on January 17, 2008 at the Riverside Memorial Chapel. It was a testament to the way he deeply touched people when Reverend Franc Perry invited those in attendance to share their memories of Malcolm and friend after friend after friend stood up to share their special, wonderful remembrances.

Malcolm had served MCCNY as personal assistant to Reverend Pat for many years. His impact on the members of the congregation was apparent by the number of MCCNYers present at the service to remember his generous and loving spirit.

Charles Bumgardner and Malcolm were the best of friends

for more than 35 years. Charles shared this with me about Malcolm: "Malcolm had a highly developed sense of what was unfair in the world. He used to say all the time that life wasn't fair and that that was why we had to do everything that we could to see that the playing field was as level as we could make it."

Bradley Curry, the personal assistant to Reverend Pat, believes that it was Malcolm's influence that changed his own perspective on inclusive language. As a tribute to Malcolm, Bradley will begin facilitating inclusive language workshops for the church.

He is missed.



The Christmas Season at MCCNY! (Photos by Montel Cherry, Sarah Lewis, and John McGee)



Christmas at Sylvia's

For the second year in a row, volunteers from MCC and across the country made Christmas special for our shelter residents by participating in our "Gay Santa" project. The young people wrote letters requesting gifts, and the gay santas purchased the gifts and dropped them off. Requests ranged from a sewing machine for Berlin, a fashion student at Katherine Gibbs, to a stuffed animal for Kendra, who has a collection in her locker at the shelter. Volunteers also contributed items for the young people's stockings and helped stuff them in the early morning hours on Christmas Eve, while the youth slept.



(Photos by Samantha Box)

MCCNY Names William Moran-Berberena Executive Director of Charities

MCCNY's Sylvia Rivera Food Pantry feeds more than 5000 hungry New Yorkers every month. MCCNY's Homeless Youth Services houses homeless LGBT youth 365 nights a year in one of its three shelters, Sylvia's Place, Sylvia's East and Sylvia's Sugar Hill, and provides drop-in services such as meals, laundry, showers and counseling at the only homeless LGBT youth drop-in center in the country at the Marsha P. Johnson Center.

As the good and necessary work of MCCNY continues to expand and reach even more people in need, Rev. Pat Bumgardner saw the need to create a position to oversee

both the Sylvia Rivera Food Pantry and the Homeless Youth Services. Thankfully, William Moran-Berberena (*at right*), formerly the Director of the Sylvia Rivera Food Pantry, accepted the call to serve as MCCNY's Executive Director of Charities. Christopher Stadmeyer will step up and serve as Director of the Sylvia Rivera Food Pantry.

This is a very exciting step for MCCNY's charities that will allow MCCNY to aid even more people in need and is a testament to MCCNY's commitment to serve all of God's children.



(Photo by Montel Cherry)

Lucky Stephen Michaels' Shelter Launches

Shelter, Lucky Stephen Michaels' coffee table book of photographs and narratives that explores the lives of the homeless LGBT youth of Sylvia's Place, launched on Saturday, December 15, 2007 with a party at Exit Art Gallery. Lucky (*at right*) was joined by his mother, Lori Pickard-Hill, his partner, Billy Siegfried and more than 150 of his friends and fans to celebrate the occasion.

Lucky will have a book signing at the Barnes and Noble on 6th Avenue and 8th Street on Saturday, March 29, 2008 at 6 p.m. and with a special voucher available at MCCNY or at Barnes and Noble that day, 10% of any purchases of almost anything in the store will be donated to MCCNY's Homeless Youth Services. There will be a representative from MCCNY all day to answer questions and distribute information about the work of MCCNY.

