

**Immigrant Justice Ministries at Wellington**  
**Report for Congregational Meeting**  
**January 2012**

Wellington continues to be a leader in the movement for immigrant justice in Chicago and in the nation. We have participated in public actions and events and we continue to lift up in prayer our immigrant sisters and brothers who are affected by our unjust immigration system that breaks apart families and terrorizes communities.

In the upcoming months the Immigrant Justice Task Force invites the broader Wellington Community to join us in planning out our goals and plans for the upcoming year. **If you are interested in joining us in this discernment process, please contact Daniel Romero at [danieleromero@yahoo.com](mailto:danieleromero@yahoo.com) or 303.258.6444**

**Wellington is also planning on working with the Cluster 2 UCC churches** to organize an "Immigration Issue Table" that will sponsor a presence at the interfaith vigil at Broadview (most likely in March) and mobilize leaders of Cluster 2 churches to participate.

Here are some of the events that Wellington has participated in the last year to stand up for the human rights of immigrants and to live out the prophetic tradition of "Sanctuary," to welcome the immigrant and love our neighbor as ourselves.

**Wellington publicly declares that we are an Immigrant Welcoming Congregation as part of the Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition.**

Wellington joined eleven other congregations to publicly declare that we are committed to building welcoming communities and work for immigrant rights. Rev Jorge Morales, the Conference Minister of the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ and Rev Linda Jaramillo of the National UCC Office of Justice and Witness Ministries also participated in the celebration. For more information visit: <http://crln.org/Immigrant-Welcoming-Celebration>

**Wellington is part of collaborative effort to begin a monthly interfaith service at the Friday Vigils for Immigrant Justice at the Detention Center.** As of June of 2011 the first Friday of every month is an interfaith vigil with prayers and readings from the Christian, Jewish and Muslim traditions. The other Fridays continue to be centered on the Catholic rosary. Wellington also has continued to offer prayers on the buses carrying people to be deported to O'Hare airport that day. Every Friday there are between 50-100 people deported from Chicago. For more information visit: <http://crln.org/Broadview-Detention-Center-Vigil>

**If you would like to participate in the vigil or praying on the buses, please contact Michael Gabbard at [michael.a.gabbard@gmail.com](mailto:michael.a.gabbard@gmail.com)**

**Wellington continues to be fiscal agent of Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants.** As a part of the Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition, Wellington participates in the Interfaith Committee for Detained Immigrants that has led the effort to stand up for the rights of detained immigrants and those facing deportation. For more information visit: <http://crln.org/Interfaith-Committee>

**Please join us for these important immigrant justice ministry opportunities:**

**February 3, 2012: Prayerful Action at Broadview Detention Center** (First Friday of the month) Broadview Detention Center (1930 Beach St, Broadview, IL 60153)

**6:30AM:** Praying on deportation buses - Two representatives from Wellington offer prayers on the buses carrying those being deported every Friday.

**7:15AM:** Interfaith Vigil- Join us at Broadview Detention Center for an interfaith vigil as we stand in solidarity with those who are facing deportation, those in immigration detention, and their families and communities left behind.

**8:00AM:** Post-Vigil Discussion and Reflection – You are invited to join members of Wellington for a post- vigil discussion and reflection about current immigration issues on the first Friday of the month from 8- 9AM at Marquee Restaurant located at 2417 W Roosevelt Rd, just a few blocks from the vigil site.

**For more information contact: Michael Gabbard at [michael.a.gabbard@gmail.com](mailto:michael.a.gabbard@gmail.com)**

**March 2, 2012: Prayerful Action at Broadview Detention Center** (First Friday of the month) Broadview Detention Center (1930 Beach St, Broadview, IL 60153)

**March 10, 2012: Coming out of the Shadows March and Rally**

Join Wellington as we stand in solidarity with undocumented youth and students who will publicly come out of the shadows and declare that they are Undocumented and Unafraid! (Time and location TBA)

**April 6, 2012: Prayerful Action at Broadview Detention Center** (First Friday of the month) Broadview Detention Center (1930 Beach St, Broadview, IL 60153)

**April 14, 2012 – Fourth Annual El Pueblo Canta: A Concert for Immigrant Justice**

This concert is a collaboration with Centro Romero, Chicago New Sanctuary Coalition and the Immigrant Youth Justice League.

**May 1, 2012: Annual Immigrant and Workers Rights March and Rally**

Join the Wellington community as we stand up in solidarity with workers and immigrants (Time and location TBA)

**May 4, 2012: Prayerful Action at Broadview Detention Center** (First Friday of the month) Broadview Detention Center (1930 Beach St, Broadview, IL 60153)

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Report Submitted by Jenny Dale, Immigrant Justice Task Force  
[lrjdale84@gmail.com](mailto:lrjdale84@gmail.com)