



December 2019

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CLGS: Shaping a new public discourse on religion, gender, and sexuality.



My December Dilemma: On Being Seen And Correctly Identified

-- Rabbi Jane Litman, CLGS Jewish Roundtable Coordinator

Some years ago I was grocery shopping with my then young son Asher during the weeks leading up to Christmas. As we were checking out, the clerk smiled and said to Asher, "I hope you're being a good boy so that Santa will visit you." Asher replied, "I don't have to be good; I'm Jewish."

December can be a difficult month for non-Christians (and for Christians as well, but in different ways), because Christmas is in the air. The Christmas music, decorations, warm "Merry Christmas" greetings from strangers - these all contribute to a feeling of invisibility for those who are not going to the party.

[Click here to read the entire piece!](#)

The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion
10th Annual CLGS Georgia Harkness Lecture

EMBRACING EROS AS PEOPLE OF FAITH: CREATING AN INTIMACY-BASED THEOLOGY AND PRACTICE

with **BISHOP YVETTE FLUNDER**
SUNDAY, 5 JANUARY 2020 | 5:00 PM



CITY OF REFUGE UCC

8400 ENTERPRISE WAY, OAKLAND, CA 94621

Reception to follow



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Studies in Religion (CLGS)
www.clgs.org

[Click here for Harkness 2020 Lecture Details](#)



**Liberating
Religious Liberty**



Center for
LGBTQ and Gender Studies
in Religion (CLGS)

LGBTQ Leaders Meet with Congressional Representatives about Non-Discrimination Protections

CLGS is in its second year of working as a part of a national coalition of equality organizations to **educate federal policymakers about the harms caused to LGBTQ people by discrimination** and the need for a federal response to anti-LGBTQ discrimination. Equality organizations from North Carolina, Florida, Texas, Ohio, Georgia and Utah are meeting with their members of Congress to share compelling stories from LGBTQ people in their states with the goal of changing hearts and minds.

Rev. Dr. Roland Stringfellow, Coordinator of the CLGS African American Roundtable, is representing this work in the State of Michigan on behalf of CLGS.

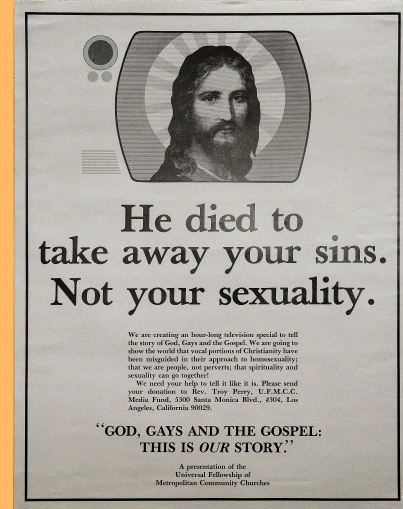
[Click here for more information!](#)

Standing on Holy Ground: Metropolitan Community Churches and LGBTQ- Affirming Religion: A CLGS Exhibition at the GTU Library

This exhibition includes a sampling of items from the **CLGS MCC Archives** which are currently being processed; they will eventually be housed at The Graduate Theological Union Library in Berkeley, California.

Including artwork, photographs, denominational publications, and news reports, this exhibition provides you, the viewer, with the opportunity to explore - and to celebrate! - a denomination which was one of the first to embrace and affirm lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people as beloved children of the Divine.

[For more Exhibition details, click here!](#)



Planning Underway for a CLGS Jewish History Conference!

LGBTQ-RAN, a program of CLGS, in collaboration with the CLGS Jewish Roundtable, has convened a planning team to start preparing for a **major conference on LGBTQ Jewish History** in late 2020 or early 2021.

Members of the initial planning team include: Rabbi Rebecca Alpert, Dr. Evelyn Torton Beck, Dr. Aaron Devor, Gregg Drinkwater, Rabbi Lisa Edwards, Rabbah Deb Kolodny, Dr. Joel Kushner, Rabbi Jane Litman, Rabbah Rona Matlow, and Arthur Slepian.

If you have particular questions or would like to be involved, [contact LGBTQ-RAN Coordinator Mark Bowman](#).



MINISTRY AMONG GOD'S QUEER FOLK



Bernard Schlager
David Kundtz

View a CLGS Lavender Lunch Book Discussion:

Ministry Among God's Queer Folks: LGBTQ Pastoral Care | Recorded 10 December 2019

At this Lavender Lunch Book Discussion, authors David Kundtz and Bernard Schlager discussed the second edition of their book, *Ministry Among God's Queer Folk* (Cascade Books 2019), a handbook for pastoral care givers serving LGBTQ people, our families, and our communities.

David Kundtz, psychotherapist and author of several best-selling books in the area of pastoral care, holds a doctoral degree in pastoral psychology from the Graduate Theological Union. **Bernard Schlager** is Executive Director of The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion (CLGS) and Associate Professor of Historical and Cultural Studies at Pacific School of Religion.

[Click here to view the video!](#)



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Become a CLGS Monthly Donor!

The mission and work of CLGS rely on the time, energy, and financial donations of the Center's many supporters. Every gift, no matter how large or small, will support the vitally important efforts that CLGS undertakes every day to advance the well-being of LGBTQ people and to transform faith communities.

[Click here to become a Monthly Donor!](#)

Your support matters!

Your donations make it possible for us to continue active programming that explores the lives and faith of LGBTQ people of faith and our families. Together, we are shaping a new public discourse on religion, gender, and sexuality. Thank you!

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