As we bring to a close our 2020-2021 20th Anniversary Year celebration, we invite you to mark June, the international month of LGBTQ Pride, by taking part in one of the many offerings and events sponsored – or co-sponsored – by CLGS.

In this month's newsletter you will find some ways in which you can join The Center for LGBTQ & Gender Studies in Religion as we live out our mission of shaping a new public discourse on religion, gender, and sexuality!

Where You Go I Will Go” Same-Sex Marriage & Jewish Law with Rabbi Irwin Keller

In this online workshop, co-sponsored by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav and the CLGS Jewish Roundtable, Rabbi Irwin Keller explores the possibility of uprooting the Jewish wedding language entirely and introducing the words of Ruth’s vow to Naomi: “Where you go, I will go…”

He argues for the deep Jewish resonance and legal heft of the words, and points to the symbolic richness of the
Ruth/Naomi story for queer couples.

Sign up [here](#) for this ONLINE workshop!
on **Wednesday, 2 June 2021**
from 7pm to 8:15pm (Pacific Time)

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Click here to register for this CLGS Jewish Roundtable Workshop!

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We are accepting applications for our **2021-2022 Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort**!

For more information on this year-long **Leadership Development Program for Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender-Nonconforming Seminarians**, [click here](#).

Applications are due 15 June 2021
God’s Pride Evensong: A Celebration of LGBTQ Pride!

Join our CLGS Latinx Roundtable | *Fe, Familia, Igualdad* for an online Evensong to commemorate the 5th Anniversary of the Pulse Nightclub Massacre in Orlando, Florida, on 12 June 2016.

This online event, held at The Church of St. Matthew & St. Timothy in New York City, is a celebration of LGBTQIA+ communities that will also shine a light on the resilience of communities of color in the midst of systemic racism and incidents of violence and hate.

**ONLINE: Saturday, 12 June 2021: 3pm to 4:30pm (Pacific Time)**

Join this Evensong via Zoom, Facebook or YouTube!

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Homosexuality & the Christian Tradition

This 3-credit online graduate-level course at Pacific School of Religion offers an historical overview and survey of attitudes toward homoeroticism and homosexuality in ancient, medieval, and modern Christianity in the West and in present-day US Christianities. Several key figures, texts, and movements will be considered and analyzed with a view toward understanding and interpreting their impact on contemporary debates.

Offered ONLINE the weeks of **14–18 June** and **21–25 June 2021** from 8:30am to 12:30pm (Pacific Time). **Click HERE for more information!**
CLGS is proud to serve again as a Community Sponsor for the 17th-Annual Queer Women of Color Film Festival. This year QWOCMAP will premiere 20 films in 3 screenings during its free livestreamed Queer Women of Color Film Festival: 11-13 June 2021.

The 17th-anniversary Festival Focus “Molten Connections” forges new relationships, awakens steadfast bonds of diaspora, and sparks a metamorphosis of love that withstands time. From Chumash ancestors who mapped the starts to an undocumented Mexican grandmother creating mutual aid networks during the pandemic, these films resonate across generations and lay the cornerstone for change.

All films are subtitled for the Deaf & Hard-of-Hearing. ASL Interpretation and CART/live open captions will be provided for the interactive Filmmaker Q&As.

For more information, click here!

For centuries, evangelicals who read the Bible have literally misused seven verses to convince the world that homosexuality is a sin and that homosexuals are sinners. Those verses have forced many LGBTQ+ persons to live their lives under a cloud of shame and guilt.

In his recently-published book Clobber the Passages, Mel White doesn’t bother to explain the verses again. That’s been done a thousand times. Instead, he blows away that dark cloud by celebrating the truth learned from America’s leading mental and physical health professionals.

Homosexuality like heterosexuality is just another of the Creator’s mysterious gifts. White calls literalists to stop accusing LGBTQ+ people falsely and to start celebrating what they have achieved throughout history in music, science, athletics, politics, the arts, education, literature, the military, parenting, and even religion.
In this Lavender Lunch, Mel White discusses Clobber the Passages and presents LGBTQ+ people in a healthy new light that banishes that dark cloud of guilt and shame that hangs over too many queer people’s lives.

Click HERE to view a video recording of this CLGS Lavender Lunch!

Check Out These Resources for Pride Month!

52 Ways To Increase Your Welcome of LGBTQ+ People and Our Families

During our 20th Anniversary Year CLGS has been reprising — and updating! — our popular weekly blog 52 Ways to Expand Your Welcome to LGBTQ+ People and Our Families. Every week we post suggestions on how your faith community can become more welcoming to – and inclusive of – LGBTQ+ People and Our Families!

View CLGS’ 52 Ways Series Here!

The Sex and Religion Project was created by Steven Anderson, a graduate of Pacific School of Religion's Certificate of Religion & Sexuality Program, and includes 6 downloadable pamphlets on the following topics:

- An Introduction to Sexual Identity
- An Introduction to Society and Sexuality
- An Introduction to the Bible’s “Clobber Passages”
- The Importance of Queer Theology
- The Importance of a Theology of Social Change
- The Case for Integrating Sexuality and Religion

Click HERE to access this Curriculum!

CLGS: Shaping A New Public Discourse On Religion, Gender, and Sexuality

Your financial support makes it possible for us to offer innovative programming that explores and supports LGBTQ people of faith, our families, and our spiritual communities. Together, we are shaping a new and progressive public discourse on