



Center for
LGBTQ & GENDER STUDIES
in Religion **EST. 2000**

News & Updates | April 2022

Check out PSR's Certificate of Sexuality and Religion!

Prof. Rolf Nolasco is our 2022 Boswell Lecturer
Queer Bodies: Colliding, Expanding, Flourishing
ONLINE Thursday, 21 April 2022, at 6:30pm | Pacific Time



Professor **Rolf Nolasco**, Rueben P. Job Professor of Spiritual Formation and Pastoral Theology at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, is our **15th Annual CLGS John E. Boswell Lecturer**.

In this lecture Prof. Nolasco will explore how the queer body, which has been tagged as "intrinsically disordered, unholy, and perverse" is "good, indeed very good..

for our queer body expands as it makes room for and sacralizes creaturely difference or multiplicity."

[Click Here to Register in Advance for this ONLINE Lecture!](#)

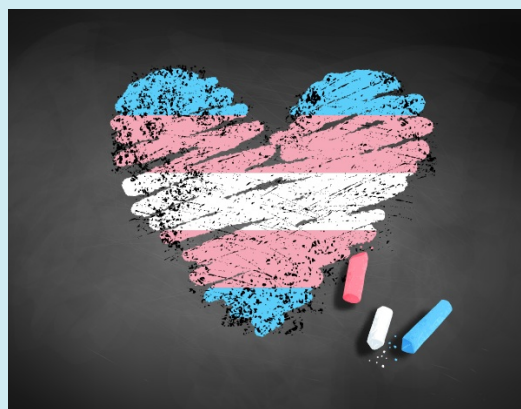
Is Your Faith Community Safe for Trans Folks?

The Trans* Seminararians Leadership Cohort
A CLGS Lavender Lunch

This panel discussion will explore **ways that faith communities can become safer spaces for trans and nonbinary congregants, participants, and leaders.**

Members of our Trans Seminararian Cohort – and other trans and nonbinary panelists – will discuss some of the successes and pitfalls in creating trans-inclusive faith communities.

The discussion will also cover topics of emotional, spiritual, and physical safety in liturgy, worship spaces, restrooms, and pastoral care situations.



[Click Here To Join this CLGS Lavender Lunch via Zoom!](#)

Two Hearts Dancing **A Conversation About Gay Men's Spirituality**

A CLGS *Lavender Lunch* and *Jewish Queeries Series* Event

with **Maggid Eli Andrew Ramer**, Rabbi **Jay Michaelson**, and **Bernard Schlager**
ONLINE **Thursday, 7 April 2022, at 1pm** | Pacific Time

In this online CLGS Jewish Queeries Series event, **Andrew Ramer**, Rabbi **Jay Michaelson**, and **Bernard Schlager** discuss aspects of gay male spirituality, using Ramer's recent book *Two Hearts Dancing: A Spiritual Journeybook for Gay Men* as a springboard for discussion and conversation.



"The book *Two Hearts Dancing*... isn't a guidebook on 'coming out,'" Ramer writes, "but a guidebook on coming in—coming in to who we are as mystics, lovers, and healers... The first section of this book, *Stories of our People*, contains fourteen tales that are grounded in gay archetypes and ends with a responsive reading to be used in gay men's rituals... the second part, *Poems of Our Tribe*, contains twenty-four poems that are mythic, mystical explorations of embodied spirituality, sexuality, and love."

[Click Here to join this ONLINE CLGS Event via Zoom](#)

Out in the Pulpit

The Lived Experience of Lesbian Clergy in Four Protestant Mainline Denominations

with **Rev. Dr. Pamela Pater-Ennis**

ONLINE Tuesday, 12 April 2022, at 12:15pm | Pacific Time



In this online Lavender Lunch, Rev. Dr. **Pamela Pater-Ennis** discusses her 2019 book *Out in the Pulpit: The Lived Experiences of Lesbian Clergy in Four Protestant Mainline Denominations*, which grew out of a dissertation project that included interviews with thirteen lesbian clergy members.

These women were interviewed about their early own religious histories, their journeys of rejection from their churches, and their ministries as ordained clergy in one of the following four mainline

denominations: The Reformed Church in America; the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; the Presbyterian Church USA; and the United Church of Christ.

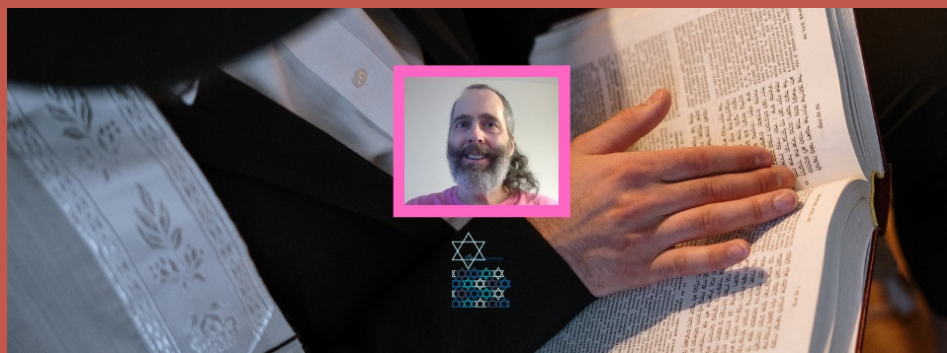
[Click Here to join this ONLINE CLGS Lavender Lunch via Zoom!](#)

Assigned Female... by Satan? **The Gender(s) of Eydl of Brody**

with Justin Jaron Lewis

A CLGS *Jewish Queeries Series* Event

ONLINE **Thursday, 28 April 2022, at 1pm** | Pacific Time



In this online CLGS *Jewish Queeries Series* event, **Justin Jaron Lewis** explores **Eydl of Brody** (d. 1885), who is remembered as one of the few Hasidic Jewish women to become a Rebbe (a spiritual leader and wonder-worker).

Our changing views of gender, however, raise the possibility of understanding Eydl as a trans man, or as non-binary. Much depends on our selection from contradictory stories and artifacts. For example, it was a common belief among her followers that Satan had prevented this great soul from being born in a male body. Justin will share some of these stories, and invite reflection on how we may wish to remember, understand, and learn from Eydl.

[Click Here to join this CLGS Jewish Queeries Series Event via Zoom!](#)

Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort 2021-2022 Cohort Spotlight



CLGS is a proud co-sponsor of the **Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort**, which is a collaborative partnership between CLGS, the **Freedom Center for Social Justice**, and the **National LGBTQ**

Task Force. The Cohort, launched in 2012, is a year-long learning experience for transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming students and is open to students of all faith traditions who are studying in a seminary setting, CPE residency, or similar training for religious leadership. Throughout 2022 we will highlight a different Cohort member in this, our monthly e-newsletter.

April Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort Spotlight Vica Steel

Vica Steel (she/her) is a woman. She is transgender, and she is starting her journey at the age of 56 toward becoming a faith leader. She could tell you all the joy and pain and hope that is embedded in those sentences, but this is a bio, not a book! She can tell you though, that she has been warmed by the welcome she has received from her churches in Madison (Midvale Lutheran and St. John's) as well as the abundant love from the seminary she attends, Wartburg Theological Seminary.

She lives with her powerful wife (35 years in joy) surrounded by a family of friends and the love of community. She gardens and cooks and builds and walks her dog and absolutely,



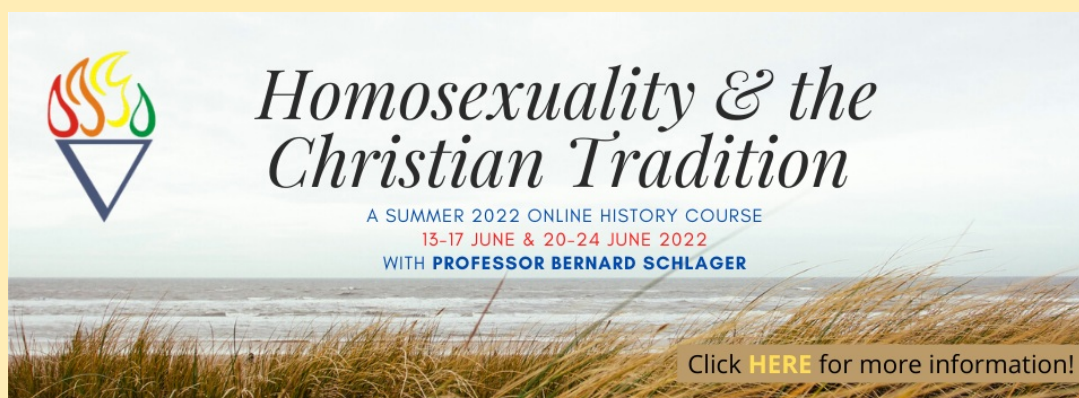
devotedly, loves her family and her family of friends.

Homosexuality and the Christian Tradition

A Summer 2022 ONLINE Graduate Course

Taught by Professor Bernard Schlager, PhD

June 2022



This online Summer 2022 ONLINE Graduate Course, offered by Pacific School of Religion, will be offered from 8:30am to 12:30pm (Pacific Time) the weeks of **13–17 June and 20–24 June 2022**.

[Click Here for More Information on this Summer 2022 Course!](#)

Check out these CLGS Resources!



The Interfaith Query

View this recording of a recent CLGS *Lavender Lunch* that featured **Tahil Sharma** of the *United Religious Initiative* exploring intersections of faith and spirituality with gender and sexuality. How, Sharma asks, might we foster accountability and equity when addressing issues affecting queer people in interreligious spaces?

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



Check out the **third edition** of our popular weekly blog on **52 Ways to Expand Your Welcome to LGBTQ+ People and Our Families**.

Every week in 2022 we are posting suggestions on how your faith community can become more welcoming to – and inclusive of – LGBTQ+ People and Our Families!

[Click here to view our 52 Ways blog!](#)





Email Us: clgs@clgs.org
CLGS at Pacific School Of Religion
1798 Scenic Avenue Berkeley, CA 94709

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 religion, gender, and sexuality.

Thank you for your support!

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