



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

News & Updates | March 2023

**Professor Pamela Lightsey is our 2023 Boswell
Lecturer!**

Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey

The Big Lie and Its Old Hatred

The 16th Annual CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture

ONLINE | Thursday 20 April 2023 | 4pm (Pacific Time)



Dr. Pamela Lightsey

The Big Lie and Its Old Hatred

The 16th Annual CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture

Thursday, 20 April 2023 @ 4pm (Pacific Time) | **ONLINE**

Rev. Dr. Pamela Lightsey, Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs and Associate Professor of Professor of Constructive Theology at Meadville Lombard Theological School in Chicago, will speak on the ways that Black queer bodies are used to leverage the aspirations of political candidates, church leaders, and power elites.

In this, our **16th Annual CLGS Boswell Lecture**, Dr. Lightsey will also demonstrate the ways that the big lie – propaganda – is damaging the gains made during the Civil and LGBTQ Rights movements. While its primary focus will be the lives of Black queer women, this lecture will spotlight why all persons who believe in freedom and liberation must see this old hatred as a danger to all humanity.

[Click Here to Register for our 2023 CLGS Boswell Lecture!](#)

Trans Youth and the Battle for Affirming Care

Rev. Jakob-Hero Shaw, Coordinator of the CLGS Transgender Roundtable writes: "As a trans person, I know the value of being taken seriously with regard to one's gender identity. I remember what it felt like to have begun the transitioning process as a young person: for me, it was absolutely lifesaving. This is the story I continually hear from other trans

people, trans-affirming medical care saves people's lives."

[Click HERE to read the entire essay](#)



From Convent To Seminary

A CLGS Queer & Latinx Faith Conversation

with **Lenia Pacheco Salas**

ONLINE Thursday, 2 March 2023, at 1pm | Pacific Time



From Convent to
Seminary: The Seminary
Journey of a Black Latino
Caribbean Queer
Lesbian

A CLGS Queer & Latinx
Faith Conversation with

LENIA PACHECO SALAS



**THURSDAY
2 MARCH 2023
1PM-2:15PM (PACIFIC TIME)
ONLINE**

Join us for our next CLGS *Queer & Latinx Faith Conversation*: **From Convent to Seminary: The Journey of a Black Latino Caribbean Queer Lesbian** with Pacific School of Religion student **Lenia Pacheco Salas**.

After seven years as a Missionary of Charity, Lenia realized that Catholic religious life was not the place that God wanted her to be. While it was a difficult decision to leave the convent, she felt that doing God's will was more important. After leaving the order and moving to Miami, Florida, Lenia began exploring her sexual orientation. This exploration led her, in turn, to embrace the word "queer" as one way to understand her own identity.

This Queer Latinx Faith Conversation will continue Lenia's story from convent to acceptance to seminary.

Faith Family Equality

The Latinx Roundtable

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

I Came Here Seeking A Person

A CLGS Lavender Lunch

with **Dr. Bill Glenn**

ONLINE Tuesday, 14 March 2023, at 12:30pm | Pacific Time

In this online **CLGS Lavender Lunch** **Bill Glenn** reads from – and comments upon – his recently-published book **I Came Here Seeking a Person** (Paulist Press, 2022).

This book is a spiritually-focused memoir: from Bill's childhood in a Midwestern Irish Catholic family in the 50's and 60's; through almost ten years as a member of the Jesuit Order; to his subsequent life as a sober, out gay man – detailing his complex journey of faith over the span of 74 years.



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

One More Mountain to Climb
The Past, Present and Future of LGBT Faith Leaders of African Descent
A CLGS African American Roundtable Event
with **Wilhelmina Perry** and **Ronald Moore**
ONLINE Tuesday, 21 March 2023, at 1pm | Pacific Time

Pioneers **Wilhelmina Perry** and **Ronald Moore**, co-founders of the **LGBT Faith Leaders of African Descent**, will discuss the founding of the organization and reflect on some of the many challenges they have faced throughout the years. They will also imagine with us the future for this vital group.

If you organize within faith communities and/or have an interest in the intersections of religion and queer identities, **please join us for this conversation!**



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

Souls a'Fire 8
20th Anniversary
of Black Queer Theology

April 22 –23, 2023
Online Conference



CLGS is pleased to host our **8th Souls A' Fire Conference**, a celebration of the next generation of **Black Queer Theology**. Join us as we continue this rich tradition of encouraging young scholars in their work and explore theologies,

engage in worship, and learn from one another about the intersections of African American culture, the church, and LGBTQ identities. This year's conference will feature Revs. **Kyndra Frazier**, **Terence Mayo**, **Dr. Pamela Lightsey** (Meadville Lombard Theological School) and **Marvin White** (Glide Memorial Church, San Francisco)!

[Click HERE to register for the CLGS Souls a' Fire Conference!](#)

Our Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort

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 2023 we are highlighting a different Cohort member in our monthly e-newsletter.

January Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort Spotlight Seth Anderson-Matz



Seth Anderson-Matz (he/him)

Seth Anderson-Matz (he/him) is an interfaith practitioner, theologian, and organizer based in Minneapolis, MN. He is currently pursuing his MDiv degree in Interreligious Chaplaincy and MA degree in Religion & Theology from United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Seth's scholarship and ministry centers queer & trans divinity/mysticism/hermeneutics, interfaith dialogue, public theology, radical hospitality & mutual aid, spiritual formation, youth mentorship, pastoral care, ceremonial & spiritual arts, and healing modalities.

Seth intends to pursue chaplaincy board certification as well as fellowship & ordination as a Unitarian Universalist minister. He recently served as Religious Education Program Coordinator at First Universalist Church of Minneapolis, and has also served as an advisor and organizer with

national queer & trans organizations including GLSEN, the Trevor Project, Advocates for Youth, and the National Equality March.

[Click Here for more information on our Trans Seminarians Leadership Cohort](#)

Our Upcoming Online Spring 2023 Lavender Lunches

Join us for one – or more! – of these online Tuesday events (from **12:30pm to 1:30pm** Pacific Time) which feature religious leaders, activists, scholars, artists, and educators:

- 14 March 2023: *I Came Here Seeking A Person* with Bill

Glenn

- 11 April 2023: **Transgender and Lutheran: A Journey of Self-Acceptance** with *Stephanie Dykes*



[Click HERE](#) for more information on our 2022-2023 Lavender Lunches

Check out these CLGS Resources!

Queering Purim with **Rabbi Denise Eger**

Rabbi Eger's phenomenal [CLGS Jewish Queeries Series](#) presentation a few months ago on *Queering Hanukah* generated so much positive feedback that she has agreed to present **a mini-series on queering Purim, Pesach, and Shavuot**. In this, the first lecture/discussion in this new series we explore **a queer approach to Purim!**



[Click Here to view a video recording of this CLGS Jewish Queeries Series event!](#)



Ministry with Queer Youth *A CLGS Lavender Lunch with Dr. Ish Ruiz*

In this recent *CLGS Lavender Lunch* **Dr. Ruiz** offers a theological framework for understanding ministry with queer youth. He also offers some practical advice for ministry with LGBTQ+ persons.

[Click Here to view Dr. Ruiz' presentation!](#)



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

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communities. Together, we are shaping a new and progressive public discourse on religion, gender, and sexuality.

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