



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

News & Updates | October 2023

UPDATE on our Harkness Lecture!

The Space Between Us

Maij Vu Mai, Coordinator of the *CLGS Asian American Pacific Islander Roundtable*, writes that **"ritual is the tether that brings us back to self and community"** when the tides of society pull us away from safe harbors and shores. Ritual is what strengthens ties between community, what keeps the spider's web tethered to the branches of the tree, a consistent inter-looping of intersections that strengthen the ties that bind one branch to another."



[Click HERE to read Maij's Reflection!](#)

Sacred Reckonings with the Doctrine of Discovery's Betrayal



Rev. Dr. Rebecca Voelkel (she/her) will deliver the 14th Annual **CLGS Georgia Harkness Lecture** online on **Thursday, 19 October 2023** at **4:30pm** (Pacific Time).

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

CLGS celebrates Rebecca Voelkel's ongoing recovery from injuries suffered from a car accident in early September. The CLGS *14th Annual Georgia Harkness Lecture* will now take place in Spring of 2024; we will post the rescheduled date as soon as we have it.

We continue to hold Rebecca and her entire family in our prayers during their time of recovery.

[Click HERE for more information on this ONLINE CLGS Lecture!](#)

Transgender and Lutheran: A Journey of Self Acceptance

A CLGS Lavender Lunch
with **Stephanie Dykes**

ONLINE Tuesday, 10 October 2023, at 12:30pm (Pacific Time)



In this online CLGS Lavender Lunch, Dr. **Stephanie Dykes** provides an introduction to what it means to be transgender, with an emphasis on current anti-transgender legislation. She will also explore the pivotal role played by her own experiences of reconciling her faith as a Lutheran Christian with her gender identity.

This event closes with some recommendations on how cisgender persons can be allies to transgender and gender-diverse communities.

Click [HERE](#) to join this online Lavender Lunch

Queer & Trans Embodied Altar Making

*A CLGS **AAP** Roundtable Workshop
with **Maij Mai***

ONLINE Thursday, 19 October 2023, at 1pm (Pacific Time)

How would our sense of spiritual liberation for LGBTQIA+ folks be transformed if we understood our embodied existence as sacred altars to the Divine? **How can we tend to, nurture, and care for LGBTQIA+ bodies**, in the words of trans theologian Liam Hooper, like a "sacred grove?" Join the *CLGS Asian American Pacific Islander Roundtable* for an interactive workshop, where we will deconstruct and reconstruct **new formations of gender and sexuality** as a sacred form of embodied altar-making.



Click [HERE](#) to join this online CLGS event!

LGBTQ Ministries in Cuba Today: Two Perspectives

*A CLGS **Queer and Latinx Faith Conversation***

with Elaine Saralegui Caraballo and Yivi Cruz Suárez

ONLINE Thursday, 26 October 2023, at 1pm (Pacific Time)



The CLGS Latinx Roundtable is proud to welcome Rev. **Elaine Saralegui Caraballo** and Pastor **Yivi Cruz Suárez**, two clergy persons who are working for LGBTQ equality through the Metropolitan Community Church in Cuba. They will share their stories about how they came to join MCC and also discuss their current ministries. Please join us!

Our Online Fall 2023 Lavender Lunches

- 13 September 2023: **Faith Organizing in Muslim Communities** with Kamal Fizazi and Ramish Nadeem
- 10 October 2023: **Transgender and Lutheran: A Journey of Self-Discovery** with Stephanie Dykes
- 8 November 2023: **Sexuality and Religion** with PSR Visiting Faculty Member Alexandra Rosado-Román
- December 2023: **HIV Prevention and Outreach in Communities of Color** with Activists and Organizers



CLGS Recommends!

Pacific School of Religion and its *Ignite Institute* have created **Project K**, which offers paths for spiritually-rooted or spiritually-curious social impact professionals to create a brighter future for themselves, their families, and the communities that they serve.

Click [HERE](#) for information on taking part in Project K's beta project!

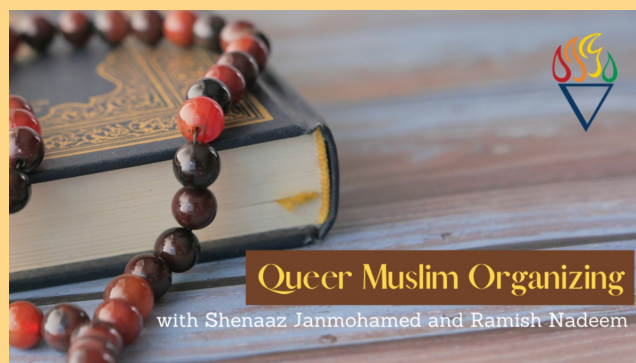


Check out these CLGS Resources!

The CLGS Catholic Roundtable

The **CLGS Catholic Oral History Project** interviews people who identify as LGBTQIA+ and Catholic (in the past or present); people who are ordained and/or vowed members of religious communities who identify as LGBTQIA+; people who were raised within Catholic communities or come from families where Catholicism has a dominant and discernable presence on their lives; people who were raised in ethnically Catholic communities, particularly in immigrant communities; and individuals who identify as culturally Catholic, in any manifestation that this culture takes form!

Click [HERE](#) to access this CLGS resource



Queer Muslim Organizing

CLGS has a rich tradition of fostering dialogue and creating curricula for communities of color that bring together queer identity and religious faith. In our first *Lavender Lunch* of 2023-2024 we welcome **Shenaaz Janmohamed** and **Ramish Nadeem** who share with us their experiences of working for LGBTQ equality from a Muslim perspective.

Click [HERE](#) to view a video recording of this CLGS Lecture!





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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