



CENTER FOR LGBTQ & GENDER STUDIES IN RELIGION

[clgs.psr.edu](http://clgs.psr.edu)

## CLGS News and Updates | May 2024

Hello CLGS :

The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion celebrates with our United Methodist siblings the **lifting of the 40-year ban on LGBTQ+ clergy serving openly in the UMC denomination**.

"With this change," as Rev. Dr. Kristin Stoneking writes, the United Methodist church "becomes one of few, and one of the largest, worldwide Protestant bodies without anti-LGBTQ positions."

We are deeply grateful for the decades-long advocacy of countless numbers of LGBTQ+ United Methodists and allies who have worked so diligently to bring about this moment of liberation!

[Click HERE to read Rev. Dr. Stoneking's Op-Ed](#)

## Remembering Cecil Williams (1929-2024)

CLGS celebrates the life of Rev. **Cecil Williams**, pastor of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco for many years. Rev. Williams was a truly transformational leader, a pioneering and inspiring social change activist, and a tireless advocate for LGBTQ people and our families.

[Click HERE to read more about Rev. Cecil William's Life](#)



Photo Credit: GLIDE



Jess Hunt (they/none)

## Spotlight: Jess Hunt

**Jess** (they/none) is a queer creator, researcher, thinker, puzzler, and parenter. As the head of their active, brilliant, goofy, autistic family, Jess ensures the survival of five humans through all the strife that is life in Central Florida (except of course when it gets too humid and the family flees to UU camps in cooler climes). Every time they lie in a hammock, they commune with the sacred.

[Learn More About Our Trans Seminarian Cohort!](#)



Rabbi Yoel Kahn

Photo Credit: Shoey Sindel

CLGS is proud to welcome **Rabbi Yoel Kahn** as our Interim Coordinator of the **CLGS Jewish Roundtable**. A Bay Area native, Rabbi Yoel Kahn graduated from the University of California, Berkeley, and was ordained at the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, New York, in 1985. He received his PhD from the Graduate Theological Union, Berkeley. He served as Rabbi of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, San Francisco's GLBT outreach synagogue, from 1985 to 1996, and recently retired as Senior Rabbi of Congregation Beth El in Berkeley. He has spoken and published widely about liberal Jewish decision-making, Judaism and sexuality, homosexuality, and the history of Jewish liturgy. His research on the prayer book was published as *The Three Blessings: Boundaries, Identity and Community in Jewish Liturgy* by Oxford University Press in 2011. **Welcome, Rabbi Yoel!**

## On The Calendar



### ***Mi Dor L'Dor: Queer Jews Across The Generations | A CLGS Jewish Queeries Series Event***

**7 May 2024 at 1pm (Pacific Time)**

Join us online as a panel of clergy representing three generations reflect together on the challenges and changes that have shaped queer Jewish identity, community and leadership “*mi dor l'dor* – from generation to generation.”



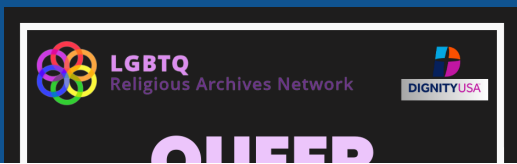
### **Valuing Families: A Curriculum of LGBTQ Welcome and Inclusion for for AAPI Communities of Faith**

**16 May 2024 at 1pm (Pacific Time)**

In this online program we will explore *Valuing Families: Christian Education for the Household of God*, a CLGS curriculum for Asian American and Pacific Islander churches seeking to welcome and include LGBTQ people and families.

### **Queer and Catholic: Making Sense of Recent (and Confusing!) Catholic Statements on LGBTQ Issues**

**16 May 2024 at 5pm (Pacific Time)**



Join CLGS, LGBTQ-RAN, and DignityUSA for this webinar



# QUEER AND CATHOLIC

The Center for LGBTQ and Gender Studies in Religion  
(CLGS)



in which we discuss – and try to make sense of – recent statements by Roman Catholic leaders on homosexuality, Transgender persons, and same-sex relationships.

[Click HERE for our Upcoming Events!](#)



## CLGS is Accepting Applications for our 2024-2025 Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort!

The **Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort**, a joint project of CLGS, the Freedom Center for Social Justice, and the National LGBTQ Task Force is a year-long **Leadership Development Program** for Transgender, Nonbinary, and Gender-Nonconforming Seminarrians. Applications are due on 15 May 2024.



**TRANS SEMINARIAN  
LEADERSHIP COHORT**

*Lead with Love*

[Click HERE for more information on our Trans Seminarian Leadership Cohort](#)



### God of the Intersections: Latinx Perspectives on Ministry with Revs. Rhina Ramos, Yadi Martínez-Reyna, and RJ Robles

View this video recording featuring Revs. Rhina Ramos, Yadi Martínez-Reyna, and RJ Robles as they imagine a borderless, genderless God, a God of vastness and infinite grace – and how this God is manifesting their love through the ministries of these three Latines siblings.

[Click Here for the Video Recording!](#)



### Luis Menéndez-Antuña on *Why Do Biblical Interpreters Hate Sex So Much?*

Check out his video recording of our **17th Annual (2024) CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture** in which Professor Menéndez-Antuña from Boston University School of Theology invites us to read the Christian New Testament from a queer perspective.

[Click Here for the Video Recording!](#)

# Emma Cieslik Reflection: *Bodies Scarred and Sacred*



Emma Cieslik, Director of the CLGS Queer and Catholic Oral History Project, offers this reflection for Trans Day of Visibility/Easter Sunday 2024.

"I know," she says, "that trans, nonbinary, and queer individuals are valid and important members of the Catholic Church, and for many, today's gospel reflects how their own bodies are in communion with that of a risen Jesus"

[Click HERE to view Emma's Sermon in US Catholic magazine](#)

## 52 Ways to Expand Your Welcome to LGBTQ+ People and Our Families

Check out our 2024 edition of this popular weekly blog and explore with us **how your faith community can become more welcoming to – and inclusive of – LGBTQ+ People and Our Families**

[Learn More about our 52 Ways!](#)



[Donate Now](#)

### Contact Us

1798 Scenic Ave, Berkeley CA 94709  
Call Us: 510-849-8206



[Website](#)

[Our Work](#)

[Resources](#)

[News and Press](#)

[Events](#)

CLGS at Pacific School of Religion | 1798 Scenic Ave, Berkeley, CA 94709

[Unsubscribe clgs@clgs.org](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [clgs@clgspsr.ccsend.com](#) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!