

News and Events: January 2025



The Toll of Bad Theologies on LGBTQ+ People

Dear CLGS ,

"Right now, much of southern California has been ravaged by fires for weeks. Nothing awakens the gremlins of bad theology like the roaring devastation of wildfires, the catastrophic winds



like the roaring devastation of wildfires, the catastrophic winds and floods of hurricanes – and other natural disasters. What is it about the human condition that makes it so simple to turn the blame to God when terrible things happen?

LGBTQ+ folks and other allied communities have been torn apart by bad theology. As a Christian pastor, I spend a significant amount of spiritual and emotional energy working with people to heal the wounds caused by toxic theological tropes."

[Click here to read Rev. Jakob Hero-Shaw's reflection!](#)



The Rainbow in the Seventh-Day Adventist Church with Chris Ngugi | A CLGS Lavender Lunch

Join us as **Chris Ngugi**, a member of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church, shares with us his ministry with *The Rainbow in the Room*, a space for community members and professional presenters to gather and discuss what it means to care for our LGBTQ+ neighbors in an informed way while respecting cultural, religious, and political differences.

ONLINE: Thursday, 6 February 2025 @ 1pm (Pacific Time)

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

Our Trans Religious Leadership Cohort

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

This month we celebrate **Micah Melody Taberner**, (she/hers), a member of our 2024-2025 Cohort. As a bi-racial, Latina, transgender, Christian woman, Micah Melody has learned the importance of communities where people can embrace their whole selves. Her greatest passion is

helping individuals and communities explore the intersection of their own identities and faith. Currently, she works in and alongside queer Christian communities, building spaces for



individuals to heal, worship, and lead without fear of rejection or violence.

Micah Melody is currently pursuing a Master of Arts in Social Transformation degree and a Master of Divinity degree at Pacific School of Religion.



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



Queer Latinx Spirituality: Identity, Liminality, and Activism

In this *CLGS Latinx Roundtable* Event **Dr. Ish Ruiz** explores the vibrant intersections of faith, identity, and activism by delving into **the unique experiences of queer Latinx individuals** navigating spirituality within cultural and societal contexts.

By examining themes of liminality, resilience, and social justice, we will consider how spirituality becomes a space for both personal empowerment and collective action.

ONLINE: Tuesday, 11 February 2025 @ 4:30pm (Pacific Time)

Click [HERE](#) to join this online CLGS Latinx Roundtable Event



Trans Religious Leadership in Challenging Times

with Rev. Jakob Hero-Shaw

A CLGS Transgender Roundtable Event | Thursday, 13 Feb 2025 @ 12pm | **ONLINE**

In this CLGS Transgender Roundtable Workshop, we will consider methods of connection, affirmation, and empowerment for trans, nonbinary, and otherwise gender-creative people in religious leadership. We will also give specific attention to the needs of trans leaders who are serving in non-trans spaces, including strategizing together about caring for others and others – even as our own lives, legal identities, and bodily autonomy are under attack.

Thursday, 13 February 2025 at 12 noon (Pacific Time)

Click [HERE](#) to join the ONLINE CLGS Trans Roundtable Event



Living Together in Our Post-Election World

with **Dr. Leonard McMahon**

In this *CLGS Queering the 2024 Vote* workshop Dr. **Leonard McMahon**, PSR Professor and founder of *Common Ground Dialogue*, explored how we might contribute to **healing the post-election rifts in US society** and building a world where LGBTQ people – and everyone else! – can truly thrive.

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

Check Out These CLGS Resources!



The **CLGS Umoja Project** is designed to facilitate safe, non-threatening dialogue about the diversity of human sexuality and the tension that sometimes exists within African-American faith

A CLGS Curriculum for African American Christian Faith Communities

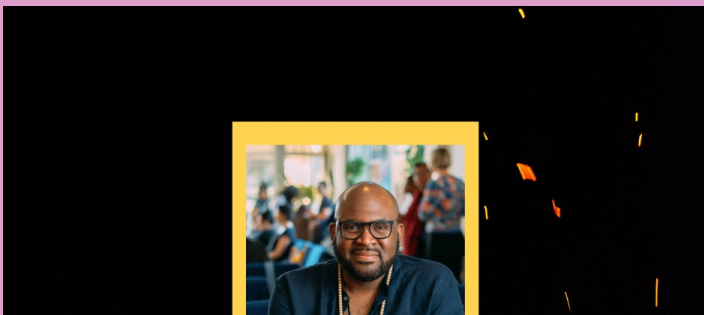
communities in relation to LGBT individuals. Film clips and group discussion questions are designed to help all participants (regardless of their position on this topic) explore the social and emotional impact of exclusion on those who want to be a part of the church community – but do not feel welcomed.

Click [HERE](#) to access this ONLINE resource!



CLGS invites you to check out this 2021 CLGS *Lavender Lunch* with pastor, theologian, and LGBTQ activist Mel White: *Clobber the Passages – Queer People and The Seven Deadly Biblical Verses*.

Click [here](#) to view a videorecording!





Buddhist scholar, teacher, and activist **Lama Rod Owens** spoke on "**Love and Rage: The Path to Liberation**" for our 2021 CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture.

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



Professor **Julia Watts Belser** delivered our 2022 CLGS Georgia Harkness Lecture: "**Queer Crip Revelation: Disability Dance, Jewish Text, and the Sacred Potency of Difference.**"

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



Contact Us

1798 Scenic Ave, Berkeley CA 94709

Call Us: 510-849-8206



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

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