

The Welcoming Congregation Bulletin

2012
September

uua.org/lgbtq

Welcome to the first issue of *The Welcoming Congregation Bulletin*! This new monthly newsletter from LGBTQ Ministries, part of the Multicultural Ministries office, will keep you connected to the work of building a Beloved Community where all people can bring their full authentic selves.

Each issue will offer a **tool** to increase your welcome, an **action** to live it loud and proud, a **story** for inspiration, and **news** to share.

Share your own resources, stories, and news by emailing lgbtq@uua.org! We hope you enjoy this newsletter, and we look forward to hearing from you.

A tool to increase your welcome

Affirmation and Nondiscrimination Language Best Practices

The Action Steps of being a Welcoming Congregation include having affirmative nondiscrimination language in bylaws and other documents, as well as explicitly welcoming lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people in places like your website. Have you revisited this language lately? Click below for a collection of our favorite examples:

uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/ways/185991.shtml

An action to live it loud and proud

Celebrate National Coming Out Day!

This year's annual National Coming Out Day is October 11. How will you celebrate? How will your congregation "come out" as a Welcoming Congregation? Check out this web page for inspiration:

uua.org/lgbtq/witness/47915.shtml

A story to inspire your work

UU Church of Ogden, UT, and OUTreach Resource Center

In 2002 the UU Church of Ogden, UT, decided as a congregation to make a difference for queer and trans youth. They started a safe space that is now a staffed resource center! Watch a video about their story at uua.org/lgbtq/stories/159626.shtml and learn more about OUTreach at ogdenoutreach.org.

Interested in doing ministry around queer/trans youth? Check out **Starting a Safe Space for LGBTQ Youth** from OUTreach:

ogdenoutreach.org/index.php/starting-a-safe-space

News to share

UUA Adds *Queer* to Language

On July 1 the UUA took a step forward in the work of welcome and inclusion by adding **queer** to our language around sexual orientation and gender identity/expression!

Learn more about the word **queer**, ten ways to be more welcoming and inclusive of queer people, and more by clicking below:

uua.org/lgbtq/identity/25347.shtml

Plus: Congratulations to our 12 newest recognized Welcoming Congregations!

UU Fellowship of Durango, CO

UU Congregation of Lake County, FL

UU Fellowship of Lower Bucks, PA

UU Fellowship of Bennington, VT

UU Congregation of Northern Chautauqua, NY

Free Church Unitarian, WA

Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg, PA

UU Fellowship of Bay County, FL

UU Congregation of Fayetteville, NC

Central Coast UU Fellowship, OR

Boone UU Fellowship, NC

Mosaic UU Congregation, FL

The Welcoming Congregation Bulletin is produced by LGBTQ Ministries, part of the Multicultural Ministries office (see uua.org/mgw). For more info, to subscribe, and to submit content ideas, email lgbtq@uua.org