

# The Welcoming Congregation Bulletin

2013  
August

[uua.org/lgbtq](http://uua.org/lgbtq)

The Welcoming Congregation Bulletin is produced by LGBTQ Ministries, part of the Unitarian Universalist Association's Multicultural Ministries office. Each monthly issue offers a **tool** to use, an **action** to take, a **story** to inspire, and **news** to share.

## A tool to increase your welcome

### Gender Neutral Bathroom Resources



General Assembly this June took a firm stance on inclusion by turning bathrooms in the plenary hall and elsewhere gender neutral. Find out more about why gender neutral bathrooms are important and how to take this step in your congregation!

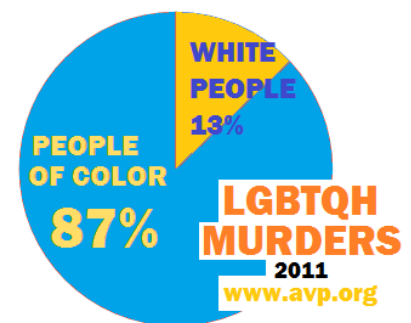
[uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/ways/289449.shtml](http://uua.org/lgbtq/welcoming/ways/289449.shtml)

## An action to live it loud and proud

### Engage in Dialogue about Racism and Homophobia/Transphobia

The U.S. is in turmoil over George Zimmerman's not-guilty verdict in the shooting of Trayvon Martin. Engage in dialogue about how racial justice is LGBTQ justice. Oppression targets people of color and LGBTQ people, but also the LGBTQ people most criminalized, incarcerated, and murdered are LGBTQ people of color.

For one good take, check out Michelle Garcia's op-ed in *The Advocate*: [http://bit.ly/advocate\\_garcia](http://bit.ly/advocate_garcia)



Want more reflections and resources on justice for Trayvon Martin? [http://bit.ly/standingonthesideoflove\\_trayvon](http://bit.ly/standingonthesideoflove_trayvon)

## A story to inspire your ministry

### Unitarian Universalists Call for an End to the FDA Anti-Gay Blood Ban

David Traupman took action to get his congregation, the UU Congregation of Miami, FL, involved in the fight to end the ban on blood donations from men who have had sex with men.



“As a gay man,” David reflected, “whenever I see the bloodmobile at one of our Sunday services it ... makes me feel like I am not truly welcome.”

Read more!

[bit.ly/standingonthesideoflove\\_7-23-13](http://bit.ly/standingonthesideoflove_7-23-13)

## Plus: Congratulations to our 5 newest recognized Welcoming Congregations!

UU Church in Idaho Falls, ID

Unitarian Church of Montpelier, VT

Washington Ethical Society, Washington, DC

San Marcos UU Fellowship, San Marcos, TX

UU Fellowship of Galveston County, TX

## News to share

### The Multicultural Ministries Sharing Project

The UUA is excited to announce a groundbreaking project to seek insight into the experiences of UUs who are people of color, LGBTQ, people with disabilities, or otherwise marginalized around sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, ability, and/or race/ethnicity!



The Multicultural Ministries Sharing Project consists of a survey and, later, focus groups, to help UU leaders and staff understand where we are now and how we can best shape our future ministries to meet the needs of all.

Learn more, take the survey, and spread the word! [uua.org/sharingproject](http://uua.org/sharingproject)

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