Welcome to
Supporting Gender-nonconforming Children and Their Families
February 2017

Please mute your microphone and turn off your camera.

Find the Meeting Chat box and introduce yourself.
Housekeeping

Audio problem? Mute audio on your computer, and then call in by phone.

We’ll have time for questions at the end.

Recorded webinar will be posted at www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars
Presenters

Melissa James, PhD
Director of Family and Lifespan Ministry, First UU Church, San Diego, CA

Alex Kapitan
Co-founder, Transforming Hearts Collective

Lisa Rubin
Director of Religious Education, First Parish, Bedford, MA

Melanie Davis, PhD
UUA OWL Program Associate

Host

Gail Forsyth-Vail, UUA Adult Programs Director

Tech Support

Kareem Watson, UUA Office Administrator
Opening and Introductions

“Poem,” by Mary Oliver
Goals

• Shift the focus from individual children to the entire congregation and community
• Provide practical guidance and examples for how to support all children on their gender identity and expression journey
• Use stories and scenarios to illuminate particular practices that are helpful or unhelpful in supporting all children
• Reflect on our professional context and which practices need to be changed, eliminated, or made stronger
• Offer information/examples of support for gender-creative and transgender children and their families
• Suggest resources for further inquiry
“Blue and Pink,”
by Morgan, June 9, 2016
Question:

Why we are beginning our presentation by talking about the full congregation, rather than individual children?
Gender Assumptions

- We don't have to teach the Gender workshop in OWL because our kids 'get it' already.

- We have separate boys’ and girls’ bathrooms because families are more comfortable with it.”

- As far as I can tell, there aren’t any gender creative kids in our program.

- We don’t talk about Alida’s gender transition because it would just confuse the children in her RE class.
Question:

How can congregations move beyond practices that reinforce a gender binary to embrace the full range of gender expression?
Question:

What are some ways to support a gender-creative or transgender child and their family?
Our Whole Lives and Other Resources

Embodies the values of Self-Worth, Responsibility, Sexual Health, Justice and Inclusion at all grade levels

**OWL K-1, 1\(^{st}\) ed.**
- New baby story
- Facilitator support for updating language until the revision

**OWL 4-6, 2\(^{nd}\) ed.**
- Updated treatment of sex, gender identity, and expression
- Gender-neutral names in all scenarios
- Updated resources
Questions and Answers

Photo courtesy Jen Anderson Shattuck.
Closing Words

“Genderfluid,” by The Emerald Outcast

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Upcoming Webinars

March 2017: Who You Gonna Call?
Pat Kahn and Jan Gartner
Tuesday, March 21, 1 pm Eastern
Thursday, March 23, 9 pm Eastern
Registration online at
www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars

April 2017: Innovation in RE and Faith Development -- 2016 Roundtable Recap
Jessica York
Thanks for attending this Faith Development Office webinar.

This webinar has been recorded and will be posted online at
www.uua.org/re/teachers/webinars