

Who we are...

The Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ is a not-for-profit 501(c)3 corporation that advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer communities in the United Church of Christ and the world, and equips UCC congregations to become effective witnesses of Christ's extravagant welcome.

The issues that concern us...

Asylum-seekers	Marriage
Bullying/Suicide	Refugees
Discrimination	Seniors
HIV/AIDS	Transgender

Links to other resources...

Links to all of these issues may be found on our website at www.openandaffirming.org. Other links of interest are:

Contact Us:



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Cleveland, Ohio 44115

Phone: 216-736-3228

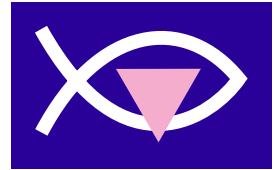
Email: office@openandaffirming.org

Web: www.openandaffirming.org

Web store: UCC RESOURCES

www.uccresources.com/collections/lgbtq

**OPEN AND AFFIRMING
COALITION**
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



LGBTQ Resource Guide



UCC RESOURCES

www.uccresources.com/collections/lgbtq

Open and Affirming means...

Advocacy, Ministry, Witness

The Open and Affirming Coalition of the United Church of Christ advocates for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in the UCC, and equips UCC congregations to become effective witnesses to Christ's extravagant welcome.

The Coalition's core ministry is growing the movement of Open and Affirming (ONA) churches in the UCC. Under our shepherding, ONA is now the largest and fastest-growing LGBT-welcoming movement in the Body of Christ.

The Coalition strengthens the ONA movement by:

- Providing study guides, trained consultants and workshops for congregations beginning their journey towards an ONA covenant.
- Supporting existing ONA churches with resources and workshops on evangelism; bullying, suicide prevention; care and advocacy for LGBT/SGL (*Same Gender Loving*) seniors; and advocacy for marriage equality and basic civil rights.
- Building relationships between ONA congregations, and resourcing effective ONA networks in UCC Conferences.

The Coalition works closely with the UCC's national offices and other settings of the church. We depend on you tax-exempt gifts for most of the funds used to support ONA churches and to grow the ONA movement.

Does your church want to become ONA?

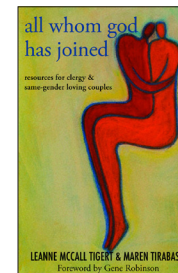
Learn more at www.openandaffirming.org/ona.

Biblical Defense Guide



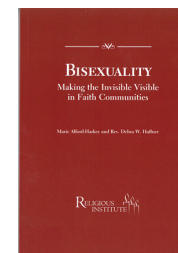
Written in clear language, *A Biblical Defense Guide* is especially helpful to gay and lesbian youth, and will help congregations explore biblical values.

All Whom God Has Joined



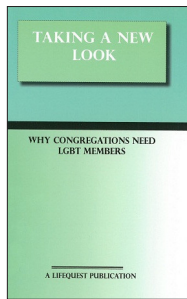
All Whom God Has Joined: Resources for Clergy and Same-Gender Loving Couples provides a unique collection of liturgical and ceremonial resources, as well as pastoral care tools and insights, on same-sex covenanting ceremonies for clergy and couples addressing these issues.

Bisexuality



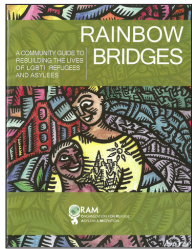
Bisexuality: Making the Invisible Visible in Faith Communities is a guidebook to help your congregation understand bisexuality and make the “invisible visible” in your congregation.

Taking a New Look



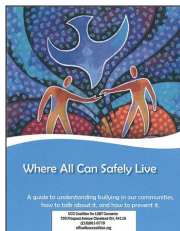
Taking a New Look addresses the issues faced when you welcome LGBT people into your church. But, did you know that you lose much more by not welcoming and affirming LGBT folks? As you have been blessed, be a blessing to others as you take a new look at welcoming LGBT members into your congregation.

Rainbow Bridges

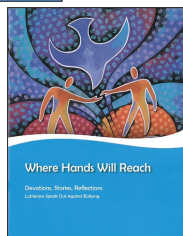


Saving LGBT refugees and asylum seekers explores what it takes to make a global village, and the building of that village starts here with *Rainbow Bridges*. The result of enormous effort by the Organization for Refugee, Asylum & Migration, this booklet reflects the gathered information which enables it to be a practical tool usable by all.

Where All Can Safely Live



Where All Can Safely Live is a guide to understanding bullying in our communities, how to talk about it, and how to prevent it.



Where Hands Will Reach

Continuing the anti-bullying theme, *Where Hands Will Reach* is a collection of devotions, reflections, and personal stories.

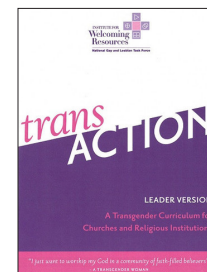
Building an Inclusive Church



Building an Inclusive Church: A Welcoming Toolkit 2.0, is a step-by-step guide to help facilitate an ONA process in your local congregation. Biblically and theologically based, it uses tools of relational organizing, congregational assessment, conflict management, and change theory.

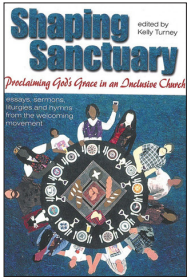
**No matter who you are,
no matter where you are
on life's journey,
you're welcome here!**

transACTION



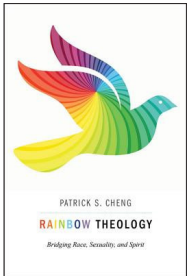
transACTION is a curriculum designed to help churches and institutions address the welcome of transgender people, and to encourage understanding by providing step-by-step training about the needs, apprehensions, and fears of transgender people. The wealth of gifts and graces transgender people bring are explored.

Shaping Sanctuary



A collection of essays, sermons, liturgies, and hymns from the welcoming movement – from ten denominations. These justice-oriented worship resources were created by a diversity of voices. Includes a study guide.

Rainbow Theology



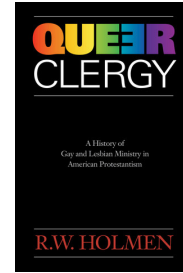
Patrick S. Cheng does what no one else has done to date: he systematically examines the theological writings of “Queer” people of color in order to reflect upon the theological significance of the intersections of race and queer sexuality across multiple ethnic and cultural groups.

Our Whole Lives



Our Whole Lives helps participants make informed and responsible decisions about their sexual health and behavior. It equips participants with accurate, age-appropriate information in six subject areas: human development; relationships; personal skills; sexual behavior; sexual health; and society and culture.

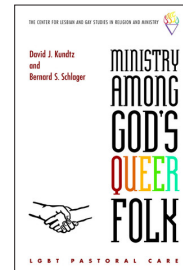
Queer Clergy



Queer Clergy: A History of Gay and Lesbian Ministry in American Protestantism provides a detailed history of the ways in which the following denominations have dealt with the issue of ordaining gay clergy: United Church of Christ; Episcopal Church; Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; United Methodist Church; Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). *Queer Clergy* provides an important historical reference for continuing dialogue.

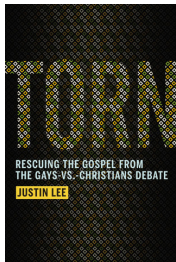
Change the Church
Change the World
Change the Church

Ministry Among God's Queer Folk



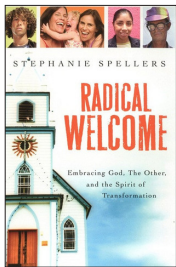
This practical handbook, written by two self-described “queer people of faith,” covers the basic skills religious caregivers and ministry students need in order to be effective, enlightened, and supportive pastoral care providers to LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer) persons within, as well as outside, their congregations and communities.

Torn



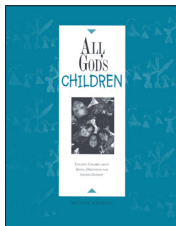
Torn radiates a genuine concern and belief in progress through slow personal evolution. Christians will benefit from the modeling of a kinder – more accommodating navigation of this culture war. (Publisher’s Weekly)

Radical Welcome



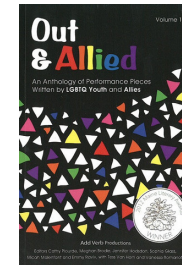
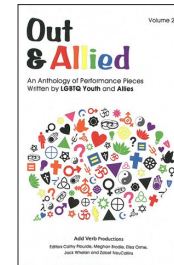
Radical Welcome is a theological, inspirational, and practical guide for congregations that want to move beyond diversity and inclusion to present a vision for the church of the future: one where the transforming gifts, voices and power of marginalized cultures and groups bring new life to mainline churches.

All God’s Children



All God’s Children is an essential guide to open conversations with young children about gender and sexual orientation – it includes children’s sermons and classroom activities.

Out & Allied vol. 1 and vol. 2



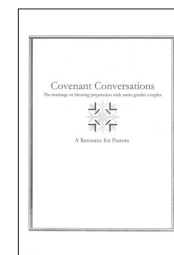
Each volume of *Out & Allied* is a resource filled with short plays, poems, spoken word, and monologue. Primarily written by and for youth.

The God Box



The God Box, by Lambda Literary Award-winning author Alex Sanchez, tackles a subject ripped from headlines in this exciting and thought provoking exploration of what it means to be both religious and gay.

Covenant Conversations



Covenant Conversations is a resource designed for Christian clergy meeting with same-gender couples prior to a blessing or marriage ceremony.

Colorful Coalition Favorites

New for 2015! Coalition T-Shirt

Love is a Family Value



This explosive new tee design is available in grey v-neck up to date style in 5.5 ounce, 100% ring spun cotton. The traditional crew neck (purple) shares the shoulder to shoulder taping with a double needle sleeve and hem.

Thank You Notes



White glossy cards with elegant "Thank You" and rainbow ribbon on front. Pack of 12 cards & envelopes.

LOVE Mugs



Drinks tastes better with love! Rainbow colors on white mugs.

More Rainbow Favorites



Rainbow Lanyard

Bright rainbow lanyard to hold ID, etc.

Rainbow Comma Lapel Pin

Pin is 1" long, 5/8" wide



Rainbow Bracelet



Bracelets are 8" length, imprinted with "PRIDE" or comma.

Rainbow Decal

3" x 5" decal sticks anywhere



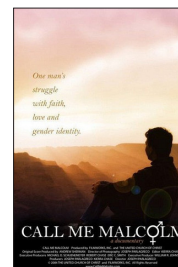
Rainbow Flag

Made in the USA, this nylon flag is a large 3' x 5'.



See more rainbow items at UCC Resources: www.uccresources.com/collections/lgbtq

Call Me Malcolm DVD



Call Me Malcolm is a story of the human spirit and God's Spirit, and the liberating struggle to realize and express with confidence the marvelous gift of one's truest sense of self. *Call Me Malcolm* is a journey of discovery, through Malcolm's own story and through the stories of those we meet along the way. DVD and Study Guide.