



Faith Leaders Panel Discussion

These faith leaders are from accepting and affirming congregations and organizations. They will address questions concerning inclusion of transgender in faith communities and what is being done to further education. Comment/question cards are provided.



JUSTIN TANIS

Community Education and Outreach Manager, The National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE)

Justin has worked in the LGBT non-profit field for over 20 years as a community organizer, manager, educator and program specialist. He holds degrees from Mount Holyoke College, Harvard University, and San Francisco Theological Seminary, as well as certificates in graphic design and multimedia design. He is the author of *Trans-Gendered: Theology, Ministry and Communities of Faith and Opening the Door: Nine Keys to the Inclusion of Transgender People* (with Lisa Mottet), and is also published in *The Queer Bible Commentary* and *Take Back the Word*. Prior to working at NCTE, he served as Director of Leadership Development for Metropolitan Community Churches, an international organization serving the spiritual needs of LGBT people. He is now a member of a Unitarian Universalist congregation.

Justin Tanis email: jtanis@transequality.org



REV. VICKI GRAY

TransEpiscopal

A native New Yorker, Vicki is a Vietnam combat veteran and retired Foreign Service Officer. Now widowed, she was happily married to her wife Mimi for 33 years. She holds a BS from the U.S. Naval Academy, an MA from Boston University, a PhD in Political Science from the University of Maryland, and a BTS from the Episcopal School for Deacons in Berkeley. She is deacon at Christ the Lord Church in Pinole, CA; serves on the Executive Council and Commission on Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of California; is active in the diocese and beyond on a variety of peace and justice and LGBT issues; and has just been elected an alternate deputy to the 2012 General Convention of the Episcopal Church. Vicki has also been a community organizer and twice run for city council in Vallejo. She loves to travel, write poetry, and tend Mimi's garden.

Vicki Gray email: vgray54951@aol.com



BARBARA SATIN

Institute for Welcoming Resources & Faith Work Associate

Barbara Satin is a transgender activist whose energies are focused on LGBT faith and aging issues. She works part-time for the Institute for Welcoming Resources in Minneapolis. IWR is a program of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force which coordinates pro-LGBT efforts within faith communities throughout the U.S. Barbara is a member of Spirit of the Lakes UCC, Minneapolis. She currently serves on the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ, the first transgender woman to have a national leadership role in the denomination. From 2002 to 2006, she served as the Moderator of the UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns. In 2008, she received the Allan Morrow Award from The Task Force for her work on LGBT aging.

Barbara Satin email: Barbara@WelcomingResources.org



MARK MCKENZIE
Pacific School of Religion

Mark identified as lesbian before transitioning at the age of 54 in 2003. Mark was licensed in 1986 to pastor in the Metropolitan Community Churches and ordained in 1989. Mark pastored the MCC in Eugene from 1986 - 1994. From 1995 through 2003, Mark began a wilderness journey, leading him to find himself which ultimately lead him back to a spiritual life. After he transitioned in 2003, he decided to follow a dream to attend Seminary and enrolled at the Pacific School of Religion in 2007, where he is working on his Masters of Divinity degree. Mark married his wife, Kathleen Ellis in 2007.

Mark McKenzie email: mckenzied@yahoo.com



RABBI LEVI ALTER
President, Female-To-Male International

Rabbi Levi Alter is the spiritual leader of his congregation of elderly Holocaust survivors and the CEO of a health care corporation. His previous professional experiences include being on the clinical faculty of UCLA Medical Center, a university department chairman, and executive director of a television production company and a computer consulting firm. His current work for trans inclusion in religion, healthcare and other fields includes being a keynote speaker and organizer for major conferences and events, interviews on LOGO, MTV, MSNBC, Newsweek, BBC Radio and many other documentaries and media appearances. He is the fourth of five generations of intersex individuals in his family and is the President of FTM International, spanning 18 countries and 24 years of building FTM lives, families and communities (www.FTMI.org).

Rabbi Levi Alter email: transpirituality@yahoo.com



REV. SKY ANDERSON
Staff Member, Metropolitan Community Church (MCCSJ)

Rev. Sky graduated from Middlesex Community College in Massachusetts. He attended Boston College and the University of Mass. Rev. Sky graduated from the program "Leadership in Ministry/ Diocese of San Jose." He was licensed by the Metropolitan Community Church in the late 1970's. Rev. Sky has served in MCC churches in Boston, Worcester, Detroit and became Pastor of MCC San Jose in the late 1970's. He transitioned while in fellowship with MCC, and was ordained in 1979 as an open transgender F2M clergy person in front of the General Conference. While Anita Bryant was raving in Florida, Senator John Briggs call a meeting of 40 Evangelical churches to meet in downtown San Jose to prepare to drive out the queers! Rev. Sky rallied local church and community leaders to oppose the senator's efforts. Rev. Sky served at MCC San Jose until the early 80's. He married his wife Fay in 1980 and they have adopted 5 children with special needs. He has worked with homeless people at Tent City and on the staff at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Rev. Sky was Program Director for the Emergency Housing Consortium.

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