



crossbeams

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www.gladalliance.org

GLAD Event: Tapestry 2006

Plans are coming together for this year's GLAD event. Tapestry 2006 will be held at the University of Indianapolis together with the annual events of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists and the United Church Coalition for LGBT Concerns. The event, Tapestry 2006, will be organized around the theme "Live, Love, Laugh and Lead."

Scheduled throughout the event, keynote speakers, preachers and worship, small group gatherings and workshops are planned to lift up the empowering aspects of what it is to be a person of faith in an affirming Christian community.

More information about the event can be found at www.tapestry2006.org and at www.gladalliance.org.

Support...

GLAD members who are students, seminarians or low-income may apply for

scholarships from the Chuck Carpenter Leadership Development Fund to attend Tapestry in June in Indianapolis. Reimbursements up to a total of \$250 per person are available for registration, travel, lodging and meals. For more information, contact Randy Palmer, Development and Finance Team Leader, at rpalmer@gladalliance.org or 724-850-8918. .

... and Supporting

Those wishing to support student scholarships for Tapestry may donate to the Chuck Carpenter Leadership Development Fund at www.gladalliance.org/contribution.html.

Register now for Tapestry at www.tapestry2006.org

Registration for Tapestry is \$124. Late registration - after May 30 - is \$150. Shared rooms are available for \$75 and single rooms for \$120. Meals are \$60.

Nominations for GLAD Council

Last month the Nominating Committee announced that David Coatsworth and Vance Martin have been nominated for the GLAD Council. Nominations from the membership are also welcome. If you would like to nominate someone, please e-mail glad@gladalliance.org .

When nominating, please keep in mind that by the GLAD Design and Council policies there are demographic requirements for

the makeup of the Council. For this election, those elected need to include at least one male, at least one straight person and at least one lay person. We are also trying to increase the geographical diversity of council members. The South, Southwest and Southeast are currently not well represented on the council. Nominees must be a member of GLAD Alliance and must have agreed to be nominated. Biographical information needs to be provided and should be included with the nomination.

Open & Affirming Adds Two New States to List

Two congregations have recently registered as Open & Affirming Ministries with our O&A Team. Bethany Christian Church of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and Seekers Harbor of Billings, Montana, are the first churches from Oklahoma and Montana to declare themselves Open & Affirming.

At Bethany Christian Church's Congregational Meeting the following motion was approved:

Recognizing the unconditional acceptance of Jesus the Christ, Bethany Christian Church affirms that all people – regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability – are welcome to share fully in the life of our congregation. All members who qualify according to the requirements of our constitution and bylaws are eligible to hold the elected offices of elder, deacon, officer and trustee.

Seekers Harbor includes this statement in their list of Core Values:

Inclusiveness – We are intentional about welcoming, celebrating, and empowering all people as children of God – regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation.

For contact information on these or any of the O&A Ministries see the O&A page at www.gladalliance.org.

Just Added to the Tapestry Schedule

The film *Inlaws & Outlaws: Marriage from the Inside. And Out* will be shown at Tapestry. From the website:

Inlaws & Outlaws captures the stories of people who have struggled to make loving, committed partnerships inside marriage, outside of marriage, and sometimes, in spite of marriage. Transcending the current debate on "gay marriage" and its attendant arguments of legitimacy and legality, the film

creates an honest and compelling portrait of the state of modern marriage.

For more information see www.inlawsandoutlawsfilm.com.

First Congregational, Long Beach, CA, Seeking Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

The First Congregational, Long Beach, CA, is looking for a new Director of Youth and Children's Ministries. The job includes

serving as director for programs including youth group, church school, vacation church school, nursery/childcare for church events, wider church/community involvement, and program development. Qualifications include a bachelor's degree, 3-5 years related experience, and sharing the congregation's liberal theology, "open and affirming", social justice stance. For more information see www.firstchurchlb.org.

GLAD Alliance Inc PO Box 44400 Indianapolis IN 46244-0400

FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



crossbeams@gladalliance.org

Scams

From time to time we have to warn our membership about scams that have happened to some of our Open & Affirming Ministries. The scam usually begins with a collect phone call from someone who claims to be in distress and claims to be a part of GLAD. The person who calls always knows a few names, but of course is not known personally to the person who receives the call. It appears that this person gets these names from our website. We recently received an

e-mail from Ron Parker, the Regional Minister in Colorado, that their office received a suspicious call, and also from the Christian Church Foundation.

Unfortunately, we recommend that no money be sent as the result of such a call without certain identification of the person calling. You can call Randy Palmer, Development and Finance Team Leader, at 724-850-8918, or Mark Johnston, Communications Team Leader, at 617-536-8185, for help in identifying a distressed caller.

Do We Have Your E-Mail Address?

Send us your e-mail address and we'll let you know when the next Crossbeams is on-line—before it arrives in the mail.

The on-line version contains more information and more stories than we can fit into the print version.

We'd can also save a stamp and a tree and receive only the e-mail version of Crossbeams.

Drop us an e-mail at crossbeams@gladalliance.org.