



crossbeams

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www.gladalliance.org

Recap: GLAD Events at General Assembly

The GLAD Alliance was busy at the General Assembly.

Pre-Assembly Event, held at University Christian Church on the edge of the Texas Christian University campus was attended by over 60 friends and members of GLAD. Event

coordinator Matthew Chastain led us all in making hats to help us introduce ourselves to one another. A brief

moment was used to introduce Carol Blakley, now promoted to GLAD's grandmother. The focus of the day was the anti-racism presentation from Jessica Vazquez.

Jessica spoke of the concept of 'New Found Land,' about our cultural myopia, the power of language, the myth of race and colorblindness - that to be colorblind is both impossible and not desirable. She pointed out that our fears often arise from a fear that the world is not an abundant place and she challenged us to understand the connections and intersections of all our issues: that ultimately we cannot work simply for the rights of gay men and women without working for the rights of others.

At the event, Moderator Patricia Case was present in spirit via DVD. Case spoke of the reasons for creating Jesus Diner, a place open to all, and she highlighted the accomplishments of the Alliance over the past year.



The GLAD Booth, designed and constructed by Roger Wedell, proclaimed 'Jesus Diner: All God's Children Served.' The booth sold an impressive assortment of books and DVDs covering topics from inclusive church to Bible study. The book sales were managed by Karen Barr. Most of the books on sale at the booth are also available on

GLAD's website. Mark Johnston reports that an impressive number of pastors and church leaders from all over the country, Wyoming to

Florida, Alabama to Missouri, came and were hungry for our materials.

The GLAD Banquet, attended by over 230 members and friends, included song from the Dallas women's choir MosaicVoice and a challenging presentation from Sylvia Rhue of the National Black Justice Coalition.

GLAD also hosted four Aftersessions, including time for Open & Affirming Congregations and, for the first time, one specifically for youth and young adults.

We can't say thanks enough to the people who made these events possible: Roger Wedell for booth design and construction, Cy Rowell for local event planning, Karen Barr for managing book sales, Casey Williams for managing the Open & Affirming materials and Aftersession, Wayne Sparrow and Steve Martz for managing our funds; Matthew Chastain for

planning the Pre-Assembly Event, and Mark Johnston for Banquet and Aftersession planning and managing the booth.

More on the Web

See pictures from the event, the video of Patricia Case's presentation and the GLAD Banquet, including Sylvia Rhue, at news.gladalliance.org.

GLAD Council Affirms Marriage Statement

From time to time persons contact GLAD asking our position on equal marriage. To enable response to these requests, the GLAD Council asked Maria Perez to lead the effort to write a statement reflecting the council's position. You can read the statement at news.gladalliance.org.

Not only does the council intend to publish this statement, but plans are in the making to use this statement proactively to forward marriage equality.

Crossbeams On-line

There's always more news at news.gladalliance.org.

- Links to GLAD mentioned in the news
- GLAD member Roger Wedell wins award
- Photos and videos of GLAD events at the General Assembly
- Job opportunities

Anita Bradshaw Selected as National Field Organizer

(ed note: don't miss the article from DisciplesWorld about Anita; find the link at news.gladalliance.org)

Anita L. Bradshaw, Minneapolis, Minnesota, has been selected as National Field Organizer for a consortium of Christian denominational programs within the Welcoming Church Movement.

The religious programs participating in this faith-based organizing effort are the Association for Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, the Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests, the Gay and Lesbian Affirming Disciples and the Welcoming Community Network. The group members are part of The Institute for Welcoming Resources (IWR), a program of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force. As part of the Welcoming Church Movement, IWR works for the full acceptance of lesbian,

gay, bisexual and transgender people in the congregations of their choice.

IWR worked with these church related programs to obtain funding from the Arcus Foundation, Kalamazoo, Michigan, to support the national field organizer position and its work.

In her new position, Rev. Dr. Bradshaw will utilize the tools of grassroots organizing and coalition building to increase the number of welcoming congregations in the Disciples,

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Baptist, Community of Christ, Church of the Brethren and Mennonite traditions.

Rev. Dr. Bradshaw is a trainer and consultant in non-profit leadership and development with a special interest in churches and faith-based organizations. She is an ordained pastor in the United Church of Christ and is a Minister-in-Covenant with Mayflower Community Congregational Church, UCC in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Rev. Dr. Bradshaw served as a faculty member of the theology department at The College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University in the 2006 – 2007 academic year. She served previously as director of supervised ministries and adjunct faculty at Yale University's Divinity School, as well as professional staff in several non-profit and governmental organizations. She has also served as adjunct faculty for the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities, Augsburg College, and the University of Saint Francis.

Rev. Dr. Bradshaw holds two advanced degrees from Yale University in theology and holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. She has served as a parish pastor, an interim pastor and an interim denominational executive.

(read more about Anita at news.gladalliance.org)

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