



# crossbeams

A publication of the Gay, Lesbian, and Affirming Disciples Alliance, Inc.  
Issue #85 April-May 2008

[www.gladalliance.org](http://www.gladalliance.org)

## GLAD Retreat: LET'S WIDEN THE WELCOME!

GLAD will gather this August at Pilgrim Pines, located in the San Bernardino National Forest in Southern California. We will celebrate, sing, worship, laugh, and reflect on what it means for our GLAD community to be part of the Disciples' "movement for wholeness in a fragmented world."

GLAD is working to Widen the Welcome among Disciples' and within GLAD itself, and we will continue to explore this theme and challenge ourselves at this retreat.

A mile high in elevation, Pilgrim Pines is located on 160 acres in the San Bernardino National Forest. Neighboring towns Oak Glen & Yucaipa are well known for their apple orchards, cider mills, curio shops and magnificent scenery. Nearby wine country features numerous tasting rooms of various vineyards. Tall stands of pine trees, mountain streams & clean air provide the perfect environment to gather, celebrate & be at peace. Dormitory style cabin accommodations will take you back to your church camp days!

Registration, which includes food and lodging, will cost \$150. A limited number of single or double private rooms are available for an additional \$50. Low income registrations are offered at \$85 and scholarships for travel will be offered based on need and availability. Donations to the Chuck Carpenter Leadership Development fund are being accepted to fund scholarships.

### Register Now!

Registration for the 2008 GLAD Event August 15-17 at the Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Center in California is now open at [www.gladalliance.org](http://www.gladalliance.org).

Registration, which includes food and lodging, will cost \$150. A limited number of single or double private rooms are available for an additional \$50. Low income registrations are offered at \$85 and scholarships for travel will be offered based on need and availability.

You can register at [www.gladalliance.org](http://www.gladalliance.org) or by sending a check and your contact information to

GLAD Alliance  
2008 Event Registration  
PO Box 44400  
Indianapolis IN 46244-0400

Pilgrim Pines Camp and Conference Center is located in Yucaipa, CA, near San Bernardino.

Event registration begins at 1pm on Friday, August 15. The event runs through lunch on Sunday, August 18.

For scholarship information please contact [glad@gladalliance.org](mailto:glad@gladalliance.org).

## Upcoming Community Organization Training: Towards a Welcoming and Inclusive Church

Anita Bradshaw, National Field Organizer working with our Open & Affirming Ministry Team, has been hard at work scheduling Community Organization Trainings across the country.

These trainings have been designed specifically with congregations and their leaders in mind. The events will explore topics which will help you to become a more effective leader in working with congregations on issues related to human sexuality and gender identity for the purpose of helping a congregation discern God's call to become more welcoming and inclusive, particularly of lgbt persons.

These trainings are for both clergy and lay persons, those in leadership positions and those interested in knowing more.

The next three trainings are:

- June 6-8, 2008 LaVerne, CA
- September 19-21, 2008 Winston-Salem, NC
- Oct 24 - 26, 2008 Goshen, IN

More information about these events can be found at [www.welcomingresources.org/welcomingchurchtraining.htm](http://www.welcomingresources.org/welcomingchurchtraining.htm)

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## New Video: Transgender Basics

Transgender Basics is a 20 minute educational film on the concepts of gender and transgender people. Two providers from the Gender Identity Project discuss basic concepts of gender - sex, identity and gender roles - as three transgender community members share their personal experiences of being trans and genderqueer. The film targets service providers and others working with the LGBT community, but it also provides a fascinating glimpse into gender and identity for the general public.

The film can be seen on the web at [www.gaycenter.org/transgenderbasics](http://www.gaycenter.org/transgenderbasics).

More information on the Gender Identity Project is available at [www.gaycenter.org/health/gip](http://www.gaycenter.org/health/gip).

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FORWARDING SERVICE REQUESTED



[crossbeams@gladalliance.org](mailto:crossbeams@gladalliance.org)

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## Chuck Carpenter Fund

The Chuck Carpenter Fund is used to support participation by students, seminarians and low income persons in GLAD Alliance activities. The money provided by this fund has enabled many to participate in GLAD activities who otherwise could not afford to attend our events and activities. Some of those participants have become active leaders in GLAD, and all have returned to their home congregations to share our work for inclusive church.

Last year, for our events at the General Assembly, the funds in the Chuck Carpenter Fund were used to support several seminarians, students, and ministers who otherwise would not have been able to join us.

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## Also on the Web: A Witness for these "In Between" Times

On the web Rev. Nancy E. Brink of Omaha, Nebraska, writes for us about the story of Jorge Lockward who seeks ordination in the United Methodist Church. Nancy points out that it is easy for us, in our own real struggles for equality and complete acceptance, to forget that the majority of US denominations are still a long way behind even the Disciples of Christ.

As a gay man working for his denomination's national office, he has all of the necessary credentials for ordination. Yet according to the policies of the UMC he cannot be ordained.

Read more about his story at [news.gladalliance.org](http://news.gladalliance.org).

To continue the tradition of offering support so that all can participate in our events regardless of need, your donations to the fund are needed. You can donate to the fund via the GLAD website at [www.gladalliance.org/contribution.html](http://www.gladalliance.org/contribution.html).

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## Crossbeams on the Web

Did you know that Crossbeams is also available on the web? The on-line version includes more stories and information than we can fit onto this piece of paper. You can also download resources for your congregation, including this month's paper version of Crossbeams, all at [news.gladalliance.org](http://news.gladalliance.org).

And you can save a stamp and a tree by subscribing to the e-mail only version of Crossbeams. Just e-mail us at [crossbeams@gladalliance.org](mailto:crossbeams@gladalliance.org).