Lesbian Religious: Community, Conversations, and Coming Out

A weekend conference for women religious who are lesbian, congregational leaders, and formation/vocation ministers

December 14, 5:00 p.m. – December 16, 2007, 12:00 noon

Racine Dominican Ministries
5635 Erie Street
Racine, WI 53402-1900
(outside of Milwaukee)
262-639-4100

- Experience an opportunity for leaders and formation/vocation ministers to share conversation, prayer, and laughter with lesbian religious.
- Reverence the personal stories of our lesbian sisters.
- Talk about why, when, or whether a lesbian religious comes out.
- Discuss how to create forums for conversation in religious congregations about lesbian and gay issues.
- Talk about sexuality and homosexuality from the head and from the heart.
- Enjoy storytelling, presentations, discussion, sharing of information, social and prayer times.

Marian Castelluccio, OP
Facilitator

Ann Citarella, SC
Storyteller

Phil Keithley, SNDdeN
Storyteller

Maribeth Graves, OSF
Storyteller

“As a newer member of my religious congregation, participating in the conference at Racine allowed me to talk with other sisters about issues important to me. The opportunity for dialogue, prayer, ritual and storytelling gave me renewed energy to return to my community and engage my own sisters and leadership on these sacred topics. I am delighted to have attended and plan to return next year.”

-Sr. Fran Fasolka, IHM
Conference Schedule

Friday, December 14
4:00 pm Check-in and Social
5:30 pm Supper
7:00 pm Welcome and Opening Session
   Introductions and Sharing
8:30 pm Evening Prayer
9:00 pm Free evening

Saturday, December 15
8:00 am Breakfast
9:15 am Morning Prayer
9:45 am Coming Out
   Phil Keithley SNDdeN
   Maribeth Graves OSF
   Ann Citarella SC
11:00 am Break
11:15 am Small Group Discussion
   Does homophobia or heterosexism play a role in the stories we heard?
12:00 pm Lunch
1:30 pm Large Group Sharing from morning’s groups
2:00 pm Conversations
   What has my community done to become more welcoming to lesbian women?
   (Small Groups structured according to “Congregational Leader, Formation/Vocation Minister, Lesbian Sister”)
3:00 pm Large Group Discussion—issues that surfaced in the small group conversations
3:30 pm Break
4:00 pm Ritual
5:15 pm Free Time
5:30 pm Supper
7:00 pm Report on New Ways Ministry Symposium and National Religious Vocation Conference workshop
   Maco Cassetta CND and Diana Rawlings ASC
Community
   What interaction can you propose with your community, other communities, LCWR, the Religious Formation Conference, the National Religious Vocation Conference, or other groups regarding the topic of lesbian sisters?

Sunday, December 16
8:00 am Breakfast
9:00 am Eucharist with Racine Dominican Community
10:15 am Future Conference Dates, Participants, Suggestions, Loose ends
11:30 am Closing Prayer
12:00 pm Departure

Registration ($125 by Sept. 30 or $145 after Sept. 30) includes accommodations, supper on Friday, meals on Saturday, and Sunday breakfast. Scholarships are available. Call (301) 864-3604, email NewWaysM@verizon.net, or write Womanjourney Weavings, 4012 29th St., Mt. Rainier, MD 20712.

Registration Form for Lesbian Religious: Community, Conversations, and Coming Out


I am (check one): ___ Community Member ___ Community Leader ___ Formation/Vocation Minister
Name ___________________________________ Congregation ______________________________
Address ________________________________ E-mail ______________________________________
City _____________________________________ State _________ Zip _______________________
Home Phone _______________________________ Work Phone ________________________________

Please mail to Womanjourney Weavings, 4012 29th St., Mt. Rainier, MD 20712.