

## Registration Form

*Transforming Love—Philadelphia, PA*  
September 26, 2015

Name

Street Address

City, State ZIP

Evening Telephone

Day Telephone

Cell phone

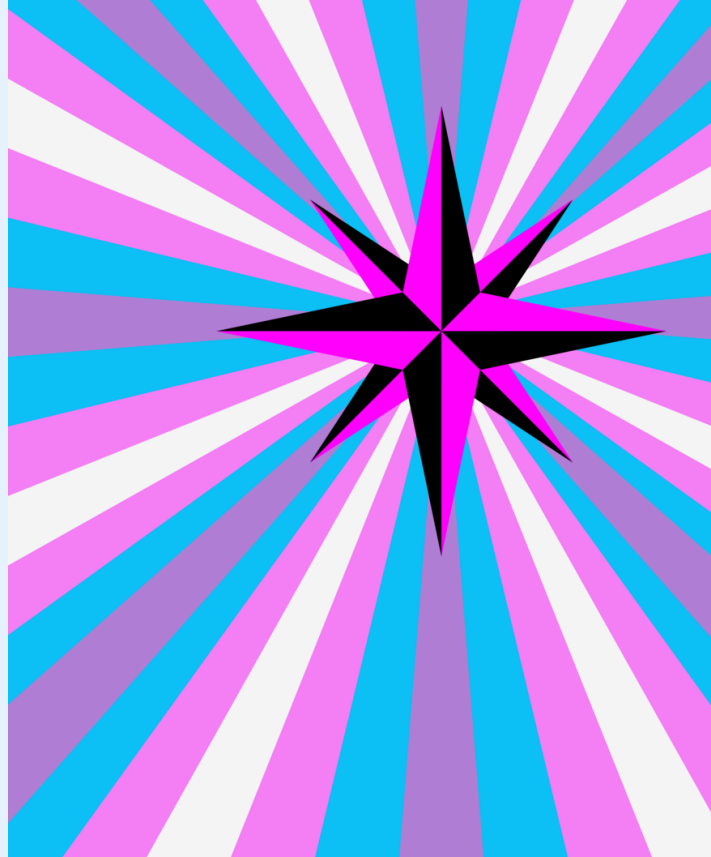
Email Address

**Donation:** \$15, which includes lunch  
*(more if you can, less if you cannot)*

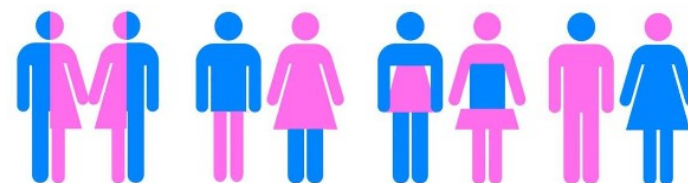
Make checks payable to  
"New Ways Ministry"  
and send with registration form to:

**New Ways Ministry**  
4012 29th Street  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

To use a credit card, call 301-277-5674  
or go to [www.NewWaysMinistry.org](http://www.NewWaysMinistry.org).



# Transforming Love



*Exploring Gender Identity  
from Catholic Perspectives*

Founded in 1977, New Ways Ministry  
is a gay-positive ministry of advocacy  
and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual,  
and transgender (LGBT) Catholics,  
and reconciliation within the larger  
Catholic and civil communities.



**New Ways Ministry**  
4012 29th Street  
Mount Rainier, MD 20712

**T: 301-277-5674**  
[info@newwaysministry.org](mailto:info@newwaysministry.org)  
[www.NewWaysMinistry.org](http://www.NewWaysMinistry.org)

**Saturday, September 26, 2015**

**8:30 am to 1:00 pm**

*(during the World Meeting of Families)*

**St. John the Evangelist  
Parish Center**

**1212 Ludlow Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19107**

*(between Market & Chestnut Streets,  
and between 12th & 13th)*



*Sponsored by:*  
**New Ways  
Ministry**

# Transforming Love

## Exploring Gender Identity from Catholic Perspectives

**Julie Chovanes**, a transsexual woman, was born into a conservative religious family in suburban Philadelphia. Joe (as Julie was called) played football in high school, did not dream of growing up to be a woman, but struggled with her trans identity all her life.



As a male, Julie met her wife in law school, transitioned six years ago, and is still married. They have four children, ranging in age from 23 to 15. Julie is beginning a trans legal clinic in the Philadelphia area.

**delfin bautista** is a native of Miami, Florida, and of Cuban and Salvadoran heritage. delfin identifies as trans\*, specifically as two-spirit or gender queer. delfin has graduate degrees in divinity and social work and is passionate about engaging the intersections of religion, sexuality, gender, race/ethnicity, and social justice.



delfin currently serves as the Director of Ohio University's LGBT Center and is on the Board of Directors for *Trans Bodies Trans Selves* and the Vision Council for *Call To Action*.

Over the last two decades, the Catholic community has become extremely supportive of lesbian and gay issues, including marriage equality. Now news organizations, the entertainment industry, universities and faith communities are giving more and more visibility to transgender, queer, and intersex persons, but knowledge of these realities and the social forces that affect them is almost non-existent among most Catholics.

The goal of the workshop is to gain some understanding about LGBTQI people through their personal and spiritual journeys so that all persons feel welcome in the Christian community. The panelists' stories will help us appreciate the challenges they experience and the gifts they offer to the human family.

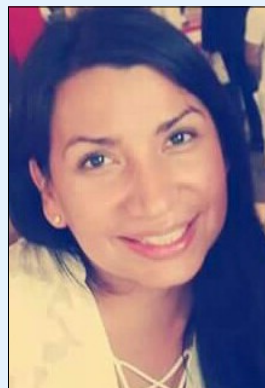
The workshop includes prayer, presentations, small group discussions, Q & A sessions, and informational handouts.

*Lunch will be provided.*

### Workshop Schedule

- 8:30 am Coffee & donuts
- 9:00 am Opening Prayer
- 9:15 am Gender Identity Definitions
- 9:30 am Presentations: Julie Chovanes and delfin bautista
- 10:00 am Small group discussion
- 10:15 am Large group discussion
- 10:45 am Break
- 11:00 am Presentations: Nicole & Vilma Santamaria
- 11:30 am Small group discussion
- 11:45 am Large group discussion
- 12:15 pm Closing Prayer
- 12:30 pm Lunch
- 1:00 pm Departure

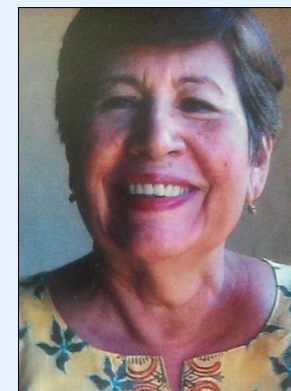
**Nicole Santamaria** is a Salvadoran intersex woman, a survivor of three attacks against her life, and an activist of *Women Human Rights Defender* and *LGBTI Human Rights Defender*.



Nicole's faith gave her the strength to address the *Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States* in Washington, DC on October 29th 2013.

She denounced the Salvadoran state for impunity of hate crimes against the LGBTI community. For this reason, her life is constantly at risk.

**Vilma Santamaría** is a teacher, sociologist, and mother of an intersex woman named Nicole (see above). Vilma was a student at the *National University* during the 1980s civil war in El Salvador, and she has been a follower of the liberation theology that Archbishop Oscar Romero preached.



Vilma was raised as a Catholic and raised her children as Catholics. Since 2010, she and Nicole have been members of the Anglican Church because of the openness and compassion they found there.