



New Ways Ministry

Experiencing the Call to LGBTQ Ministry

Some Questions for Reflection, Planning, and Journal Writing

- 1) How did you experience the call to LGBTQ ministry? Was it something you read? Someone you met? Did it come during a time of prayer or new awareness?

- 2) Who were the people involved in your personal call to LGBTQ ministry? How did they support you or bring you to an awareness of this call? Was there anything, in particular, that they said to you?

- 3) What phases has your encounter or call gone through? What did you feel like during each of those phases? If you didn't recognize it first as a call, what did you think it was—a guilty conscience, a misguided notion, an escape? How did you recognize it as a call?

- 4) What role did your faith community play in this call? Were they a help or a hindrance? From whom do you find support in this ministry? Who challenges you to grow in this ministry?

- 5) What emotions do you experience when you think about God calling you to this ministry?

- 6) Realistically, what are your limits for this ministry? How firm are those limits? Are there some limits or constraints from which you would like to grow out?

- 7) Frederick Buechner, a 20th century Christian writer and preacher, wrote: "The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet." How do your deep gladness and other people's deep hunger meet when you think about LGBTQ ministry?

- 8) Anne Lamott, a Christian author, is fond of saying: "God loves you just the way you are... and loves you too much to let you stay that way." What challenges exist in your call from God to LGBTQ ministry? In what ways will you have to risk and grow? Are you looking forward to that growth?

- 9) Are there images, symbols, saints, scripture passages, or other sacred stories that reflect your call? What are they?