



Newsletter

December 2006

Advent Blessings
Christmas Joy!

Dignity/Seattle Liturgy

Reminder

Liturgy is at 6:00 p.m. every 2nd Sunday: Dec. 10, Jan. 14
Ravenna United Methodist Church 5751-33rd Ave NE Seattle

Successful Dignity/Seattle 33rd Anniversary Party & Auction

On Saturday, November 4, 2006, several Dignity members and supporters enjoyed a delicious dinner supplied by the board of directors.

A silent auction and raffle netted \$905 for the national organization, DignityUSA. Thanks to all the generous donors! Combined with an extra \$600 donation from the treasury, approved by the board, Dignity/Seattle sent \$1505 to DignityUSA.

DignityUSA Convention 2007 Austin TX, Thu-Sun, July 5-9

Have you made your plans to attend and celebrate DignityUSA's 18th Biennial Convention? Look for convention information and registration materials in your mailbox early next year. The DignityUSA website will also have convention-related materials posted soon: <http://www.dignityusa.org>.

Dignity Conventions are a great time to meet new friends and renew old friendships in a convivial, rejuvenating atmosphere that bespeaks the inherent spirituality and hopefulness of GLBT Catholics.

The Austin Convention Committee is planning a whole range of fun, exciting, spiritual and inspirational events for attendees. And, if the 'round-the-clock convention activities weren't enough, the City of Austin, being a government and university town, and thus, uniquely liberal for Texas, offers a plethora of sightseeing venues and entertaining nightlife.

Among the one dozen-plus speakers and presenters are inspirational and prominent leaders, such as:

Sister Jeannine Gramick—One of the founders of New Ways Ministry, she has been on the world stage

by refusing Vatican directives to be silenced in her ministry to gays and lesbians, practicing a form of civil disobedience while remaining a religious sister. The co-author of several books on living as a Catholic and GLBT person and the focus of the movie "In Good Conscience", Sister Gramick is a well-known part of the Dignity family.

Bishop John Shelby Spong—Retired Episcopalian Bishop of Newark and author of 14 books, Bishop Spong is known in the GLBT community for his "Catechesis on Homosexuality" and is a dynamic speaker. His determined emphasis on the gospel of Jesus being a message of love makes him powerful in the fray of political church bickering. Bishop Spong will be both a keynote speaker and breakout speaker.

John McNeill—Well known for his books on Catholicism and homosexuality, John is a beloved member of the Dignity family and a speaker at almost every national Dignity convention. John is author of "The Church and the Homosexual", "Taking a Chance on God", and "Freedom, Glorious Freedom", and "Homosexuality and Spirituality". A Jesuit priest for many years, John remains a model of a "contemplative in action."

Linda Pieczynski—A former president of Call to Action, Linda is deeply connected to the reform movement in the Catholic Church, including issues such as women's ordination and the effects of the sex abuse crisis. Linda, who will celebrate her 35th wedding anniversary during the weekend of the convention, is dedicated to making the institutional church stretch in reaction to the real lives of people.

Daniel Helminiak—Although Daniel is the author of many scholarly works in academic theology, he is perhaps best known in the GLBT community for his much simpler but necessary book written while he was living in Austin, "What the Bible *Really* Says about Homosexuality." ▼

Official Business

Dignity/Seattle Board Members

Jim Rankin	President
Steve Kearney	Vice-Pres., Social Chair
Denise Arceneaux	Secretary, Liturgy Chair
Delia Vita	Treasurer
Paula Lavallee	At-large, Membership Chair

DignityUSA Board Members from Seattle

Paula Lavallee	Secretary
Leo Egashira	At-large, Communications

Dignity/Seattle **206/325-7314**
P.O. Box 20325 **Seattle WA 98102**
Website <http://www.DignitySeattle.org>
E-mail mjrankin2000@att.net

Newsletter Editor: Leo N. Egashira
206/723-4759 Legashira@yahoo.com

We provide a safe environment for people to reconcile our God-given gifts of sexual orientation and our Catholic faith through gay-affirming liturgies. Being part of the Dignity/Seattle family means claiming ownership of our faith and living up to the responsibilities of that ownership.

Treasurer's Report, November 16, 2006

The Board Meeting scheduled for November 15 was cancelled. Dignity/Seattle Treasurer Delia Vita submitted monthly financials and submitted two motions, which were subsequently approved by the board via telephone voting.

Treasurer's report: (Delia Vita)

Checking Acct.

Beginning Balance	\$2,575.46
Collections November	154.00
Raffle proceeds	105.00
Total Deposits	\$259.00
Sub-total	\$2,834.46

Expenses

Telephone	37.45
Advertising	30.00
Liturgy	90.00
Newsletter printing/ mailing	43.89
Rent: RUMC	75.00
Supplies	16.25
33 rd Anniversary Dinner	129.12
DignityUSA (raffle proceeds)	105.00
Total Expenses	\$526.71
Ending Balance	\$2,307.25

Savings Acct.

Beginning Balance	\$2,087.88
Interest income	0.37
Ending Balance	\$2,088.25

Total raised funds for DignityUSA \$905.00

M/M/S/C: In addition to funds raised during our 33rd Anniversary Celebration, that Dignity/Seattle donate \$600 to DignityUSA.

M/M/S/C: Dignity/Seattle donate an additional \$75 to Ravenna United Methodist Church for using the facility for our 33rd Anniversary Celebration on November 4th.

Dignity/Vancouver BC/Dignité

Dignity/Vancouver BC

604/432-1230

Saturday, December 9th. 6:00 p.m. Annual Advent Service hosted by Integrity Vancouver (GLBT Anglicans), at St. Margaret's Anglican Church, 1530 E 22nd Ave (at Dumfries), Vancouver.

Events of Allied Organizations

New Ways Ministry Symposium

Friday - Sunday, March 16-18, 2007

Minneapolis MN

New Ways Ministry will sponsor a symposium entitled "Outward Signs: Lesbian/Gay Catholics in a Sacramental Church." The symposium will highlight the essential role the sacraments play in the lives of lesbian/gay Catholics and how we understand ourselves as an inclusive Church. The symposium brochure and registration form can be downloaded: <http://mysite.verizon.net/~vze43yrc/2007SympBroWEB.pdf> or contact: 301-277-5674, www.NewWaysMinistry.org.

West Coast Call to Action Conference

Friday - Sunday, April 13-15, 2007

Sacramento CA

The theme is "Embracing Radical Jesus in a Changing World." Speakers include: Matthew Fox, Edwina Gately, and Patty Hawk, Breakout session topics include Gospel Justice; GLBT Issues; Women in the Church; Fear and Insecurity; Institutionalized Injustice; Immigration; Ecology; Interfaith Relations; Informed Consumerism; and more. The conference brochure and registration form can be downloaded: <http://www.Saccta.org/pdf/ctaregformweb.pdf>, or contact Caryl Callsen at 209/295-2151, graycall@volcano.net