



Newsletter

January 2008



Happy New Year!

Dignity & St. Ignatius Liturgy Schedules

Ravenna United Methodist Church	5751-33 rd Ave NE	Seattle
Every Sunday	→	10:30 a.m. St. Ignatius (UPSTAIRS)
Jan 11, Feb 8	→	6:00 p.m. Dignity/Seattle

A pancake breakfast following Mass is held every 4th Sunday (January 25th), a shared fellowship with our host congregation, Ravenna UMC.

A Diocese of Olympia (Episcopal), Integrity Puget Sound and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church press release.

Rt. Rev. Robinson, First Anglican Gay Bishop to Visit Seattle

Monday - Tuesday, January 12-13, 2009

The Rt. Rev. Gene Robinson, Episcopal bishop of New Hampshire and the first openly Gay bishop in the Anglican Communion, will visit Seattle January 12 and 13. On January 12 he will lead the Eucharist for the Feast of St. Allred at St. Mark's Cathedral, 1245 10th Ave. E. on Capitol Hill, starting at 4:30 p.m. At 7:30 p.m. at Town Hall, 1119 8th Ave., in downtown Seattle, Bishop Robinson will give a speech on the topic "Civil Rights in the 21st Century: Why Religion Matters." The Town Hall event will be a benefit for the feeding program at Lambert House and for scholarships for low-income counseling at the Center at St. Andrew's. Tickets for the Town Hall event are \$15 general or \$10 for seniors and students, and may be ordered online: <http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/50391>, or contact 206/579-6606 for more information. On January 13 at 7:30 p.m., Bishop Robinson will give the Choral Evensong sermon at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 111 NE 80th St., in the Green Lake neighborhood.

Bishop Robinson was elected bishop and confirmed at the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in 2003. His election was ratified by a vote of 62 to 45 by the other bishops with voting privileges. After his election, a controversy has raged within the Episcopal Church and the worldwide Anglican Communion. Theologically conservative parishes have aligned themselves with bishops outside the Episcopal Church in the U.S. and three of the 110 dioceses of the church have voted to leave its jurisdiction.

The ordination of Robinson as bishop in 2003 has led to a near schism within the worldwide Anglican Communion. The New York Times reported his ordination, "lit a slow-burning fuse within the Anglican fold that has crept ever closer to the dynamite that could blow the worldwide communion apart." The Anglican Communion comprises 77

million Christians around the world who all have historic ties to the Church of England.

Because of the controversy, the Archbishop of Canterbury did not issue Bishop Robinson an invitation to this past summer's once-a-decade Lambeth Conference, a gathering of all Anglican bishops. In response Robinson said, "At a time when the Anglican Communion is calling for a "listening process" on the issue of homosexuality, how does it make sense to exclude Gay and Lesbian people from the discussion? Isn't it time that the Bishops of the Church stop talking about us and start talking with us?"

Both before and after his ordination, Robinson has been a staunch supporter of the civil rights of Gay and Lesbian people. He is an internationally recognized advocate and passionate speaker. Robinson is co-author of three AIDS education curricula for youth and adults, and has done AIDS work in the United States, Uganda, and South Africa. He also has been an advocate for anti-racism training in his own diocese and the wider Anglican Church, advocated for debt relief for the world's most impoverished nations and lobbied for socially responsible investment within and beyond the Anglican Church. Robinson has won numerous awards, including the 2008 Elizabeth Birch Award of the Human Rights Campaign and the 2004 Gay and Lesbian Task Force Leadership Award. He is a sign and an instrument of the creation of a church where all are welcome.

Bishop Robinson will bring his message of inclusion and share his personal story at each of the public events.

Editor's Note: Bishop Robinson was the guest homilist for DignityUSA's 2005 Convention Liturgy in Philadelphia. ▼

Board Members & Contact Info

Dignity/Seattle Board Members

Paula Lavallee	President
Michael Linden	Vice-President
Delia Vita	Treasurer
Denise Arceneaux	Secretary
Alan Scott	Member, Social chair

DignityUSA Board Member from Seattle

Leo Egashira At large (Publications)

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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.



Board Minutes Summary, November 6, 2008

(Edited; for complete minutes, see Secretary.)

Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. at Delia Vita's house. Dignity prayer was read. All board members were present.

Minutes were read.

M/M/S/C: To amend the October 9th, 2008 meeting minutes as follows: to change the "Beginning Balance" of the Checking Account from "\$3,3331.83" to "3,331.83."

President's report: (Paula Lavallee)

- Sent out copies of the 35th anniversary brochure to all members not there. Also thanked Pat Roche and Jim Weston for assembling them as well as Jim Rankin for doing the printing.
- E-mail from Leo regarding Angela Lutzenburger's request for more counseling information was presented before the Board. All resources available to gay Catholics in the Northwest regarding counseling services were discussed. Denise is unaware of any counseling per se from Archdiocese though some parishes like St. Therese seem to be supportive of gay Catholics more than others.

Vice President's report (Michael Linden)

- Mail: Jim R. checked P.O. Box in October: Most of the mail consisted of advertisements. Delia will check with the bank regarding automatic transfer of funds for Qwest and the SGN as well as time-sensitive material. The mail was sorted. The board determined which mail to request getting off their list.
- Possible presiders: Michael is investigating people who can possibly be asked to be presiders in addition to Philip Knowles, i.e., Pat Callahan.
- Membership: Michael asked if we should divide up the roster of all past Dignity members five ways and invite them to church? Also, he said that we should contact them and tell them why it's important to be a member.
- Researching ways to reach out to various groups: Michael indicated that youth groups should be targeted through the UW. Perhaps also through contacting Boston and the other groups as well as minority groups and the Lambert house.
- Michael also did research into where our money from the Pride Breakfast should go now that Verbena effectively no longer exists. He looked into Bailey Boushay, the Gay Lesbian Medical Association, the National Lesbian Health Program, among others.

M/M/S/C: The Board decided to donate half the money allocated for Verbena (\$450) to the Pride Foundation and half the money to the Scholarship Fund for the upcoming Convention in San Francisco next July.

Treasurer's report: (Delia Vita)

Checking Acct.

Beginning Balance:	\$3991.60
Deposits	
Collection	100.00
Anniversary dinner/dance	250.00
Silent auction	288.00
Membership	50.00
Sub-Total Deposits	688.00
Ending Balance:	\$4679.60

Expenses:

Newsletter mailing	30.00
SGN ad	75.00
RUMC Rental: November	75.00
Telephone	42.45
35 th Anniversary Dinner & Dance	1214.00
35 th Anniversary Printing	61.26
Membership Fee for Paula H/	50.00
Sub-Total Expenses:	\$1472.71

Ending Balance: **\$3206.89**

The fund for Verbena currently has \$900.00
The Scholarship fund still currently has \$250.00.

(Minutes continued next page)

(Minutes continued from previous page)

At the Dinner Dance, 22 people showed up and we needed 40 to break even. Thus we lost approximately \$200 from our Checking Account for the dance. (This includes the \$61.26 for Printing of the Anniversary Brochures.) We had seven items at the Silent Auction and the \$288 earned will go to the Scholarship Fund.

Total Available Funds: \$2056.89

Savings Acct..

Beginning Balance: \$1599.13

Interest income 0.33

Ending Balance: \$1599.46

M/M/S/C: To accept financial report as submitted.

Social Committee: (Alan S. and Delia V.)

The board thanked Delia for the dinner. Approximately 11 people attended the quarterly luncheon in Queen Anne.

New Business:

- An IOU for a gift certificate for Jim Rankin, who is retiring from the Board, for \$50 will be made out.
- A possible idea for a fundraiser for the scholarship fund was brought up by Michael in the form of a Virtual Garage Sale. Someone would need to take a picture of the item that they want to donate. This person would be eligible for a possible tax write-off from Dignity. He raised some questions with regard to this possible event should we undertake it: How can we make it as easy as possible for anyone who wants to donate an item? How can we inform our family and friends of this? Where can we find the physical space to store such items? Can we restrict such items? One possible item which could be sold are old cell-phones. These questions should all be considered for our next meeting.

**Next Board Meeting: Thursday, February 5
7:00 p.m. at Delia's home. Everyone is welcome!**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.
Respectfully submitted by:
Denise Arceneaux, Secretary

35-Year History of D/S Available

All Dignity/Seattle members who were not able to attend the 35th Anniversary Celebration in October should have received a commemorative history booklet in the mail. A downloadable copy of the 5½ by 8½ booklet is available at <http://www.dignityseattle.org>.

Reflections on Vatican II

Sunday, January 25, 2009, 4:00 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

Seattle University: Student Center, Room 130

Program includes: Vespers, No Host Dinner, Sharing of Catholic Ministers for Church Renewal's "Statement on the Forthcoming 50th Anniversary of Vatican II."

Presenters: Patti Repikoff (Coordinator, Eastside Catholic Community Hispanic Ministry, former Pastoral Life Director at St. Therese and Christ the King Parishes, Seattle) and Fr. Patrick Howell, SJ (Vice President for Mission and Ministry, School of Theology and Ministry former Dean, Jesuit Community Rector).

Registration form on www.catholicministers.org.

Fee: \$10, payable at event.

1st Quarter 2009 Brunch

Dignity/Seattle's First Quarterly Celebration for the New Year has been tentatively scheduled for Valentine's Day, Saturday, February 14th, at Rosebud Restaurant & Bar. Invitations will be sent out by e-mail and telephone. If you are not on the Social List, please contact Dignity/Seattle (see the red-outlined information panel on Page 2).

Dignity/Vancouver BC/Dignité

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Monday, January 5, 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting at Kevin/Don's. 604/874-3428.

Friday, January 16, Worship Liturgy at Vincent/Peter's. 604/325-1554.

Saturday, January 24, 7:30 p.m., Potluck Supper at Gerry/Cym's 604/435-1950.

Monday, February 2, 7:30 p.m. Business Meeting at Dennis L-H's. 604/430-3466.



Save the Date!

Equality Day is March 12

Equality Day will be an opportunity for all Washington State residents to gather together in Olympia to lobby our legislators in support of full marriage equality, safer schools, preserving HIV/AIDS services and prevention funding, and other issues of importance to the GLBT community. As in years past, there will be a noontime rally.

Details will be published in the next Newsletter, but current information and registration may be viewed at http://equalrightswashington.org/events/equalityday_09.html, or call Equal Rights Washington at 206/324-2570.



December 10, 2008 Vigil at St. James Cathedral, Seattle

The DignityUSA January 2008 *Dateline* provides extensive coverage of the seven Dignity vigils held nationwide, including the one in Seattle. Please refer to the *Dateline* for more photos and transcripts of Leo N. Egashira's and Pat Roche's speeches. Special thanks go to: Judy Osborne, National Board Member of SoulForce, who recounted Soul-Force's history of non-violent activism; Paula Hills, for playing music and leading us in song; Gregg from Ravenna United Methodist Church and Bev Coco, for arranging and bringing Dignity/Seattle banners and candles to & from the vigil; Sisters & Associates of St. Joseph of Peace, Catholic Parents' Support Group, Call To Action—Western Washington and the many other individual attendees who support the rights of their fellow gay and lesbian citizens. The *Seattle Times* published a same-day story. KIRO-TV, KING-TV and KCPQ-TV provided both live and late news coverage, and the December 12th issue of the *Seattle Gay News* published Leo's speech and a photo of the vigil.



↓ Photo by Louise McAllister



← Photos by Nick Ardizzone, Seattle Gay News ↓

