



Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. **April 9th, 2014** marks the **International Day of Pink**.

It's a day where communities across the country and across the world unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop homophobic, transphobic and all other forms of bullying. Each year on the second Wednesday of April, millions of people wear pink to remember that positive actions make a difference and that the change starts with each one of us.

As congregations of an Affirming Presbytery within the United Church of Canada, we are called by Christ and empowered by God to love all people and affirm the sacred worth and dignity of each individual. We invite into the full life and ministry of our church all people, recognizing no boundaries of age, race, education, ethnic origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability or economic circumstance.

We embrace our diversity of thought and scriptural understanding, and we respect and honor all who seek to be in covenant with us as we share in the joys and responsibilities of our church family.

We invite you to share the Prayer for the Day of Pink (on the reverse) in your congregations this Sunday, in honour of the International Day of Pink, and in solidarity with all who face bullying and discrimination in our world.



Bullying is a major problem in our schools, workplaces, homes, and over the Internet. **April 9th, 2014** marks the **International Day of Pink**.

It's a day where communities across the country and across the world unite in celebrating diversity and raising awareness to stop homophobic, transphobic and all other forms of bullying. Each year on the second Wednesday of April, millions of people wear pink to remember that positive actions make a difference and that the change starts with each one of us.

As congregations of an Affirming Presbytery within the United Church of Canada, we are called by Christ and empowered by God to love all people and affirm the sacred worth and dignity of each individual. We invite into the full life and ministry of our church all people, recognizing no boundaries of age, race, education, ethnic origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability or economic circumstance.

We embrace our diversity of thought and scriptural understanding, and we respect and honor all who seek to be in covenant with us as we share in the joys and responsibilities of our church family.

We invite you to share the Prayer for the Day of Pink (on the reverse) in your congregations this Sunday, in honour of the International Day of Pink, and in solidarity with all who face bullying and discrimination in our world.

Prayer for the Day of Pink

Leader: Gracious and loving God, who hates nothing that you create and desires that all would come to know your love, help us to remember the things that your Holy Spirit teaches us, and those things that we know to be right and just.

As we recognize the International Day of Pink, make us ambassadors of your reconciling goodness as we work to heal the oppression of homophobia and the scars it has inflicted upon so many individuals and families, institutions and communities.

Help us remember, O God, that you created us in your image and that all that you created is good.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That you call us to be sisters and brothers of Christ and of one another.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That we have not readily welcomed all our sisters and brothers, especially those who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That homophobia distorts the spiritual message of God's love for all people.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That we help to end homophobia by opening our hearts and minds to see Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people are our sisters and brothers.

People: Help us to remember, O God.

Leader: That we can participate in healing our homes, our neighborhoods, our communities and churches by creating a space where all may find safety, respect and acceptance. Be with us as we continue proclaiming your grace for the entire world through our actions and lives. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

Adapted from: *A Litany for Healing Homophobia* Copyright © 2009 by the Rev'd Joseph A. Harmon, Pastor, Church of the Incarnation, Jersey City, NJ

Prayer for the Day of Pink

Leader: Gracious and loving God, who hates nothing that you create and desires that all would come to know your love, help us to remember the things that your Holy Spirit teaches us, and those things that we know to be right and just.

As we recognize the International Day of Pink, make us ambassadors of your reconciling goodness as we work to heal the oppression of homophobia and the scars it has inflicted upon so many individuals and families, institutions and communities.

Help us remember, O God, that you created us in your image and that all that you created is good.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That you call us to be sisters and brothers of Christ and of one another.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That we have not readily welcomed all our sisters and brothers, especially those who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That homophobia distorts the spiritual message of God's love for all people.

People: Help us to remember, O God,

Leader: That we help to end homophobia by opening our hearts and minds to see Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people are our sisters and brothers.

People: Help us to remember, O God.

Leader: That we can participate in healing our homes, our neighborhoods, our communities and churches by creating a space where all may find safety, respect and acceptance. Be with us as we continue proclaiming your grace for the entire world through our actions and lives. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.

Adapted from: *A Litany for Healing Homophobia* Copyright © 2009 by the Rev'd Joseph A. Harmon, Pastor, Church of the Incarnation, Jersey City, NJ