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Affirm United / S'affirmer Ensemble works for the full inclusion of people of all gender identities and sexual orientations in the United Church of Canada and in society.

Nous puisons force et espoir dans les histoires bibliques de libération; de l'appel prophétique à vivre justement, à aimer tendrement et à marcher humblement avec Dieu; et du témoignage de Jésus à l'amour inclusif de Dieu.

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We couldn't be more excited for our first ever dual event with Student Christian Movement of Canada (SCM)!

Toronto Area Folks- join us for a moving tour of Toronto's Gay Village with some important education and history about the spaces we see. The tour will include stops such as the 519 Community Centre, the Alexander Wood statue, and we will end up on the X University Campus. In the coming months, our goal is to have an event on the different campuses around the Greater Toronto Area. (This will be made available **online** after the tour!)

Register for the (free) event here:

<https://airtable.com/shrPJWDxvJm78Pkm3?fbclid=IwAR0Fbeoj6jEi4pp6WyQstGh29G87kEOEXuTgFAwYjP42h0XYbKTqRtnNn3U>

Are you interested in having an SCM chapter at your school/campus, not in the Greater Toronto Area? Send an email to divy@scmcanada.org to get information on how that would be possible!

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Are you a 2S-LGBTQ+ person in Canada who has been harmed by pressures to change, deny, or suppress your sexual orientation or gender identity-expression?



Take the Survey by September 30!

Survivors of SOGIECE/CT (conversion 'therapy') are invited to:

- Take a Survey
- Join a Focus Group
- Request an Interview
- Respond by Email

Help inform the development of an advocacy plan for strengthening survivor supports in Canada!

www.noconversioncanada.com/survey

Housed by the Community Based Research Centre. Partners: No Conversion Canada, and Simon Fraser University. Funded by WAGE LGBTQ2 Community Capacity Fund

Are you a 2S-LGBTQ+ person who's been harmed by subtle or blatant pressures to deny, suppress, or change your sexual orientation or gender identity-expression? You are invited to participate in the SOGIECE/CT Survivor Support project.

We welcome participation from diverse communities and experiences, including youth 15+, non-binary, trans women, trans men, Two Spirit people, immigrants, people of the global majority/BIPOC, non-religious and religious.

Take the survey, join a focus group or interview, by September 30, to help develop survivor supports. Learn more at www.noconversioncanada.com/survey.

Queer Vespers is back on Sunday September 26!

A space to bring to the table of Christianity our whole selves: all genders, all romantic and loving ways. A place to see how the presence of a queer and loving God can breathe hope and renewal into our faith.

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How does it point us toward clarity and peace in these turbulent times? What is queer about this familiar cornerstone of Christian faith and practice?

Queer Vespers

Sunday September 26, 2021 at 7:00 pm-8:30 pm Pacific time

Zoom Link:

[https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87673493302?
pwd=SEh0QWFoNIRMZmhQZzMzVVY5ZEtiUT09](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87673493302?pwd=SEh0QWFoNIRMZmhQZzMzVVY5ZEtiUT09)

If you have trouble accessing the Zoom meeting, you can use the Comox United Church website / Events page.

<https://www.comoxunitedchurch.com/events/queer-vespers--347/2021-09-26>

AUSE 2021 AGM Minutes

AUSE's AGM took place on July 24, 2021 via ZOOM.

You can access the approved Minutes by clicking the below link:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1za4V9AT3H8Rer08cfyep2kOr1z0MrE0R
stVEYF-Sn_Q/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1za4V9AT3H8Rer08cfyep2kOr1z0MrE0RstVEYF-Sn_Q/edit)

Call for AU/SE Treasurer &

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AFFIRM UNITED / S'AFFIRMER ENSEMBLE

CALL FOR:

TREASURER

Treasurer: 1 position available 3 year term. The Treasurer is responsible for the finances of the organization, oversee the bookkeeper, prepare a budget for the annual meeting
(no bookkeeping involved)

communications@ause.ca

Is God calling you to share your gifts by serving [Affirm United/S'Affirmer Ensemble](#)? From time to time, AUSE seeks volunteers and staff to assist the organization in its work. If you are interested in working with the Council, we would appreciate you completing this form outlining your experience and the reason(s) you are interested in this opportunity.

The council, through a process of discernment, will select the person who is best suited to fill the position. We will prioritize those who are marginalized within the LGBTQ+ community , Indigenous folks, Black folks, and other folks of colour and disability. Every applicant will receive a response. Fill out the [form HERE](#) and return to communications@ause.ca

Or fill out your online Expression of Interest NOW here:

<https://forms.gle/mWBSac1o3UVL3pVf9>

Time commitment is approximately 5-10 hours per month for council activities and projects, which includes: monthly Council meetings either virtually via Zoom, or post-Covid in-person i.e. AU/SE Annual General Meeting was hosted

Some Queer Religious news from our neighbours to the South!



The Rev. Megan Rohrer has been elected as a bishop in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, becoming the first openly transgender person in the U.S. to do so in a major Christian denomination.

Rohrer will serve as bishop of the Sacramento-based Sierra Pacific synod, which [encompasses](#) close to 200 congregations in Central and Northern California and northern Nevada.

"I am humbled and honored, and aware that this call is bigger than me," Rohrer [said in a speech](#) after the ballots were counted on Saturday. "My hope is that your grandkids will call you, and your kids will call you, and your friends will call you, and ask you about your faith. And when they call, tell them how much you love Jesus and why Jesus' faith in you meant why you could have faith in me."

Bishops are elected to [six-year](#) terms.

Rohrer, 41, currently serves as a pastor at San Francisco's Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and as a community chaplain coordinator for the city's police department. They are also well-known for their advocacy work with homeless

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Rohrer's church welcomed them to some degree.

After coming out as lesbian while attending a Lutheran college in Sioux Falls, Rohrer [told KALW](#) in 2014, they were harassed by their peers, who would treat their identity as something to be cured.

"The people who were in my religion classes with me would sing hymns when I walked by, to try to get rid of my gay demons. And I would just sing harmony. I didn't know what to do," they said.

For a [2017 profile in Cosmopolitan](#), Rohrer spoke about how the abuse directed at their identity strengthened the resolve to pursue religious education "to vocalize what I knew in my gut was OK."

After college, they began to identify as transgender, and later found acceptance at a progressive Lutheran seminary in Berkeley.

In 2006, at a time when the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America banned LGBTQ pastors from serving openly, Rohrer was ordained through an "extraordinary candidacy process." Their ordainment was officially recognized by the church in 2010 after the ELCA changed its policy.

Last year, Rohrer gained some celebrity for an appearance in the fifth season premiere of *Queer Eye*, in which they lent support to an openly gay pastor in Philadelphia who was on an emotional journey to self-acceptance.

Rohrer told NPR: "I am honored and humbled by the Synod's affirmation of my leadership skills. And, I am delighted that my election points to the unending love God has for Their fabulously diverse creation."

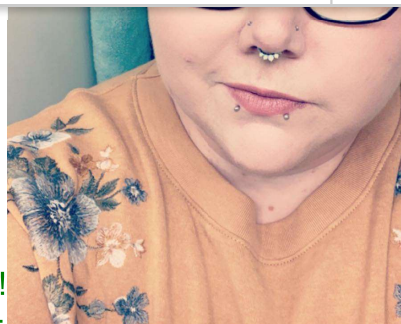
Article here: <https://www.npr.org/2021/05/09/995271758/megan-rohrer-elected-as-1st-openly-transgender-bishop-in-u-s-lutheran-church>

Communications Update for AU/SE!

Hi everyone! My name is M Chorney, and I work part time out of Winnipeg / Treaty 1 territory as AU/SE's NEW Communications and Marketing

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farm outside of the city. I have been involved in the Church since I was very young, and have an honours degree from the University of Manitoba in Political Science, with a minor in Women and Gender Studies. My partner and I live in downtown Winnipeg, and will be getting married next summer! I am excited to start this new role and assist AU/SE with their work. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions at communications@ause.ca, and I look forward to working with all of you!



[Affirming celebration for East Central Ontario Regional Council!](#)



**East Central Ontario
Regional Council**
of the United Church of Canada



All are welcome to a celebration of becoming an Affirming Ministry for East Central Ontario Regional Council!

225 50th Avenue, Lachine QC H8T 2T7

Date: September 29, 2021

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Zoom – people need to register beforehand using this link:

[ECORC Fall Meeting Registration! – East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada \(ecorcuccan.ca\)](#)

[Website https://ecorcuccan.ca/](https://ecorcuccan.ca/)

Phone Contact Number: 1-800-268-3781 Ext. 6152

Email: for sending congratulations: emacd@kos.net

[Affirming celebration for Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council!](#)

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Affirming celebration for Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council!

21 Wright Street, Sackville NB E4L 4P8

Date: September 29, 2021

All are welcome to a celebration of becoming an Affirming Ministry for Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council – Everyone is welcome!

Time: 4 pm AST

Location: Celebration will be on Zoom. To attend, please register with the Regional Council Office, sending your name and email address.

Website : <https://ucceast.ca/fundy-st-lawrence-dawning-waters-regional-council-14/>

Phone: 1-800-268-3781 Ext. 6137

Email: for sending congratulations info4rc14@united-church.ca

Êtes-vous une personne 2S-LGBTQ+ au Canada qui a subi des pressions pour changer, nier ou supprimer votre orientation sexuelle ou votre expression d'identité de genre ?



Répondez au questionnaire avant le 30 septembre !

Les survivants de la "thérapie" de conversion sont invités à :

- Répondez à un sondage
- Se joindre à un groupe de discussion
- Demander une entrevue
- Répondre par courriel

Contribuez à l'élaboration d'un plan de plaidoyer pour renforcer le soutien aux survivants au Canada !

www.noconversioncanada.com/survey-fr

Hébergé par le Centre de recherche communautaire. Partenaires : No Conversion Canada, et l'Université Simon Fraser. Financé par le Fonds de capacité communautaire LGBTQ2 de FEGC.

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supprimer ou modifier votre orientation sexuelle ou votre expression d'identité de genre ? Vous êtes invité(e) à participer au projet de soutien aux survivants de la "thérapie" de conversion.

Nous accueillons la participation de diverses communautés et expériences, y compris les jeunes de 15 ans et plus, les personnes non-binaires, les femmes trans, les hommes trans, les personnes bispirituelles, les immigrants, les personnes de la majorité mondiale/BIPOC, non religieuses ou religieuses.

Participez au sondage, participez à un groupe de discussion ou entretien, d'ici le 30 septembre afin d'aider à développer le soutien aux survivants. Pour en savoir plus www.noconversioncanada.com/survey/fr



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L'Église Unie du Canada

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