

Community College, Eugene. (541-741-4501, ext. 2336.) (12/00)

Gay Men's Discussion Group meets Mondays from 7:30 to 9 pm at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid, Eugene. (Hank 541-484-6259. Trent tseager@hivalliance.org.) (12/00)

Lane County Men's Health Network offers social events, retreats, workshops and training for bi, gay and trans men. Community calendars and mailings. Training and networking men to build community from a grassroots perspective. (1966 Garden Ave., Eugene. 541-342-5088, ext. 23. tseager@hivalliance.org.) (12/00)

Marionberry Salon, formerly the Coalition to End Bigotry Book Group, meets monthly in Salem for potlucks and discussions of books touching on lesbian, gay or bisexual experience. (Cary 503-363-6036. caryandken@aol.com.) (12/00)

The Lesbian Connection (TLC) Lunch Bunch meets at 11 am every Sunday at the French Horn and on the second Friday of the month from 5 to 8 pm at the Fifth Street Market food court in Eugene. All women welcome. (Bonnie 541-683-2793.) (12/00)

SPIRITUALITY

Metro: Spirituality

Ainsworth United Church of Christ is a multicultural, multicultural, open and affirming church. Sunday worship is at 10 am, and church school for children runs concurrently. (2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-284-8767. aucc@teleport.com.)

The **Anawim Community** of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday. 503-281-0722.) (6/01)

Bridgeport Community Church (UCC) is a growing community of progressive, political people exploring and celebrating the Christian faith. We are multicultural, lesbian, gay, bi and straight, and our children are valued members. (10:30 am Sunday. 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-258-0992.) (12/00)

Community of St. Andrew invites all to join a diverse Catholic faith community for prayer and fellowship. (9:30 am Sunday. 806 NE Alberta St. 503-281-4429.) (12/00)

Dignity Portland meets for Mass Sundays at 4 pm at St. Stephens Episcopal Church followed by a social. (Southwest 13th Avenue at Clay Street. dignitypdx@aol.com.) (12/00)

Directions NorthWest (ECWR) helps gay and lesbian Christians integrate faith and sexuality through Bible study and fellowship. (PO Box 86383, Portland, OR 97286-0383. 503-727-3387.) (12/00)

Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service at 10:30 am. (1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham. 503-665-2628. eastrose@teleport.com.) (6/01)

Estacada United Methodist Church Reconciling Congregation, where we really mean everyone is welcome. Sunday worship at 10:30 am. (204 SE Main St., Estacada.) (12/00)

First Congregational United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation in the liberal Christian tradition. Sunday worship is at 10:25 am, and church school for children runs concurrently. (1126 SW Park Ave. 503-228-7219.)

Full Circle Temple is a place of worship for women of all ages offering workshops, song and drum circles, meditation rooms and altars of celebration, incorporating what you bring to share. (10 am-10 pm Tuesday-Sunday. 3125 E Burnside St. 503-238-0675.) (12/00)

The God Connection Center for Worship, Growth and Leadership invites you to celebrate your spirituality with the Revs. Berdell Moffett and Casey Chaney. Liberal, practical; all are welcome. (10 am Sunday. 4828 NE 33rd Ave. 503-481-7591.) (12/00)

Grace Space, a newly formed multidominational spiritual center led by the Rev. Stephanie Torres, holds Sunday evening celebrations. (5 pm. Unity Church, 4525 SE Stark St. 503-287-3216.) (12/00)

Integrity, the gay and lesbian ministry of the Episcopal Church, meets on the second Friday of each month in the Morrison Room at Trinity Cathedral. Eucharist is celebrated at 6:45 pm followed by a potluck and fellowship. (147 NW 19th Ave. 503-289-1687.)

Interfaith Spiritual Center. Gay men's spirituality groups form every other month. Spiritual directors from various world religious traditions are available for guidance, classes and retreats. (Second Floor, 3910 SE 11th Ave. 503-233-2026, ext. 3. www.hometown.aol.com/djrho5/webpage.html.) (12/00)

Lesbian and gay meditation group. "Compassionate Heart Sangha," meets for meditation in the Buddhist Vipassana tradition. (7:30-9 pm Wednesday. Flanders House, 2926 NE Flanders St. Jon 503-239-5539.) (12/00)

Metanoia Peace Community (United Methodist) is a "house church," bringing gay and straight together.

(Daily prayer 7:20 am, Sunday gathering 6 pm. 2116 NE 18th Ave. 503-281-3697.) (12/00)

Metropolitan Community Church of Portland holds ecumenical Sunday morning worship services at 9 and 11 am. Sunday school for children is held during the 11 am worship service. (2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868. mcccpx@aol.com.) (12/00)

Potter's House Ministries Life Center. Evangelical and charismatic Christian. (3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (12/00)

SisterSpirit offers women's spirituality celebrations, discussion groups, a drumming circle, workshops and classes. Schedule of events available. All women are welcome. (3-6 pm Tuesday-Friday. Suite 102, 3430 SE Belmont St. Mailing address: PO Box 9246, Portland, OR 97207. 503-736-3297. sistersp@teleport.com.) (6/01)

Southminster Presbyterian Church is a challenging, supportive community that welcomes all people. It is the first More Light Presbyterian Church in Oregon. (10 am Sunday summer, 9:30 and 11 am Sunday winter. 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073.) (12/00)

St. Philip Neri gay and lesbian outreach. A gay/lesbian-positive community for Catholics and their friends. Mass at 7:30 pm on Fridays followed by a social. (Paulist Center, 2408 SE 16th Ave. 503-231-4955.) (12/00)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, the new home

worship and church school. Child care provided. Wheelchair accessible. (10 am Sunday. 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (12/00)

The **Gay-Straight Alliance** of the **Unitarian Universalist Congregation** of Salem meets on the third Sunday of each month for a potluck. (6 pm. 5090 Center St. NE. 503-363-8716.) (12/00)

Interfaith Spiritual Community meets every Sunday at the Heart Center for inspirational messages, children's celebrations and joy. We honor and celebrate all sacred paths, recognizing each person's divine gifts and supporting spiritual growth, healing and enlightenment. (6-7:30 pm. 1578 Commercial St. SE, Salem. 503-763-6030.) (12/00)

Morningside United Methodist Church is a reconciling congregation where everyone is welcome to participate in the full life of the congregation. (8:30 and 11 am Sundays. 3674 12th St. SE, Salem. 503-364-5013.) (12/00)

Sweet Spirit Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) holds worship at 11 am Sundays followed by coffee and fellowship as well as potluck lunches every second Sunday. (American Legion Hall, 4774 Lilac Lane NE, Salem. Mailing address: Pastor Ken Kerr, PO Box 12753, Salem, OR 97309. 503-315-7923.) (12/00)

YOUTH

Metro: Youth

Outside In operates a clinic for anyone who can't qualify for the Oregon Health Plan as well as a needle exchange service. It also has some transitional housing for youth 20 and younger as well as for youth who are HIV-positive and younger than 23. It also plays host to **VOICES** (Voices of Individual and Community Empowerment from the Streets), a self-support group for queer youth. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday. 1236 SW Salmon St. 503-223-4121.) (12/00)

Pride Project brings together Washington County lesbian, gay, bi, trans and questioning youth to plan and attend monthly social events. Also information, referral, support and advocacy services for Washington County. (Molly 503-260-5792.) (12/00)

Rainbow is a multicultural peer support and activity group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, trans and questioning youth. (4:30 pm Monday. Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, 2400 NE Broadway. 503-281-8868.) (12/00)

Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center (SMYRC) offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Also plays host to weekly youth support groups including Windfire, Trans Youth Group and Personal Deity Proxy (a creative group). (4-8 pm Wednesday, 4 pm-midnight Friday and Saturday. 424 E Burnside St. 503-872-9664. www.smyrc.org.) (12/00)

S.M.I.L.E. is a free education/support group for GLBT youth 13-18. Learn, grow and have fun! Meets from 5 to 6:30 pm Thursday beginning Jan. 11. Sponsored by Roots and Branches. (Jonathan 503-238-0780, ext. 244.) (6/01)

Youth HIV/STD Prevention Project provides fun and educational programs along with counseling and testing to queer youth in a friendly, relaxed environment. (503-872-9664.) (12/00)

YouthNet, a program of Love Makes a Family, offers tutoring and mentoring for lesbian, gay, bi and trans youth as well as for children of LGBT parents. (503-227-1981.) (12/00)

Southern Oregon: Youth

The **Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Group of Klamath Falls** provides support for gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth and their allies. (boytoy22@hotmail.com.) (12/00)

Southern Oregon Youth Outreach (SOYO), a group for gay, lesbian, and bi youth aged 14-20 meets on the first and Thursdays of the month in Ashland. (541-488-6990.) (12/00)

Washington: Youth

Triple Point Youth Program is a social/support group for gays, lesbian, bi and trans youth between 13 and 22 in Vancouver, Wash. Meets 6-8 pm Tuesdays and 3:30-5:30 pm Thursdays at 1104 Main St. Suite M-100. (Amanda 360-693-1188.) (12/00)

Willamette Valley: Youth

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning Youth Group for ages 13-18 offers support, information and fun. Free, confidential, drop-in. (4-6 pm Friday. Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St., Eugene. 541-684-3466.) (12/00)

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender youth group for ages 25 and younger meets every Monday. (5 pm Monday. Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St., Eugene. 541-346-1134.) (12/00)

Willamette Valley: Spirituality

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is an open and affirming congregation offering

Cock-and-bulldike story

Is it worth sacrificing fidelity for fertility?

DEAR MS.

BEHAVIOR:

I'm a 38-year-old lesbian in a long-term relationship, and I've been trying to get pregnant using a known donor for a year and a half. My girlfriend, Abby, inseminates me each month with my friend Joel's sperm after he masturbates in the next room.

I recently read that the odds of

getting pregnant during sex are higher than during insemination. I mentioned this to Joel (who has been tested for every disease known to mankind), and he reluctantly consented to have sex with me in service of my conception.

He said he would bring his boyfriend to make sure he can perform. The problem is that when I mentioned having sex with Joel to Abby, she flipped out.

I want to respect her wishes, but I also desperately want to get pregnant. I've been thinking about having Joel come over secretly on ovulation day to have sex with me when I'm home alone, then also keeping our regular evening appointment to have Abby inseminate me with his sperm, so she won't suspect anything.

I should clarify that my motives are pure. I have no sexual feelings for Joel.

This just would be about increasing the odds of having a baby. But would it be wrong to omit this information from Abby?

—Desperate to Conceive

DEAR DESPERATE TO CONCEIVE:

Do you think the fact that you don't actually want to screw Joel makes your deceptive plan more noble? Sexual desire isn't the only ingredient necessary for betrayal.

A weird, furtive connection with Joel and a secret you'll have to keep from Abby forever don't seem like the best way to start a family. Try talking about it again with her; explain your motivation for your proposed sexual encounter, and offer to let her hold your hand during the act.

If she still shudders at the notion of Joel slipping you his salami, there are other ways to increase the odds of conception. Consult with an open-minded fertility clinic, a physician or even an experienced midwife, if you need that homey feeling.

Or perhaps Abby would be more open-minded about another method

known to increase the odds. Orgasm increases the likelihood of conception, so maybe next time you ovulate, she'd be willing to go down on you just before slipping you the turkey baster.

DEAR MS.

BEHAVIOR:

We're a hip straight couple planning a small wedding, and we don't know

where else to turn. We've invited two gay male couples who don't know one another, and we're not sure whether we should make any special seating accommodations for them at our reception. We've thought about seating them together because we think they'd enjoy one another's company, but we don't want them to think we're segregating them.

We're cool for straight people. Really, we are. What should we do?

—Ted and Lucy

DEAR TED AND LUCY:

It's sensitive of you to worry about ghettoizing the queers. Really, it is.

Think of it this way: If you had heterosexual friends who shared hobbies like investing, dog breeding or golf (God forbid), you'd think nothing of seating them at the same table. But on the other hand, if two couples among your friends had nothing in common other than being African American, you probably would hesitate to seat them together, unless they also had shared interests.

Use the same criteria with your gay guests that you'd use for the rest of your friends. Ms. Behavior assumes when you go over your list, you'll try to match people who have similar work or hobbies (whether it's shopping, litigious behavior or running through hundreds of psychotherapists).

So, if your gay friends have anything in common, seating them together probably would be fine and perhaps even a relief, because heterosexual unions, regardless of how allegedly hip, sometimes can be maudlin for homos. If, after thinking about it, you realize their only shared interests are, say, makeup and sodomy, it probably would be just as well to mix them in with the rest of your friends and relatives. **JN**

Write your confused and conflicted heart out to MS. BEHAVIOR at MsBehavior@aol.com.

ADVICE



Ms. Behavior