



PHOTO BY OWEN CORNELL
lesbian, bi, trans and straight. Everyone welcome! (11 am Sunday, 7 pm Thursday Bible study and prayer, 1500 NE 49th St., Vancouver, 360-885-9461, gmbear68@netzero.net.) (11/02)

Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a home for the liberal religious spirit. (10 am Sunday, 4505 E 18th St., Vancouver, 360-695-1891.) (11/02)

Willamette Valley: Spirituality

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation offering worship and church school. Child care provided and wheelchair accessible. (9 am Sunday learning hour, 10 am worship, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem, 503-363-3660.) (11/02)

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 Sunday, 3674 12th St. SE, Salem, 503-364-5013.) (11/02)

Sacred Souls honors all sacred paths, promotes peace and strives to create an environment that supports and promotes interfaith dialogue. Meets at the Oregon School of Massage. (6:30-8 pm Sunday, 440 Ferry St. SE, Salem, wholth@aol.com, www.sacredsouls.org.) (11/02)

The Broadway Rose Theatre Company "brings to life" the guys of *Forever Plaid* through Aug. 18

Marionberry Salon meets monthly in Salem for potlucks and discussion of books touching on the lesbian, gay or bi experience. (Cary 503-363-6036, marionberrysalon@aol.com.) (11/02)

Team Oregon organizes athletes to participate in the Gay Games Nov. 2-9, 2002, in Sydney, Australia. If you want to participate in the opening and closing events, you must be part of Team Oregon. (www.teamoregonusa.com.) (11/02)

SPIRITUALITY

Metro: Spirituality

Ainsworth United Church of Christ is a multicultural, open and affirming church. Sunday worship is at 10 am; church school for children runs concurrently. (2941 NE Ainsworth St. 503-284-8767, aucc@teleport.com.) (11/02)

Anawim Community of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday, 503-281-0722.) (11/02)

Compassionate Heart Sangha plays host to weekly sittings in the Vipassana Meditation Tradition at Flanders House. (7:30-9 pm Wednesday, 2926 NE Flanders St. Jon 503-239-5539.) (11/02)

Congregation Neveh Shalom, an open and progressive Conservative Jewish synagogue, extends a warm welcome to all sexual minorities. Shabbat services 8:15 pm Friday and 9 am Saturday. (2900 SW Peaceful Lane, 503-246-8831.) (11/02)

Congregation P'nai Or (Faces of Light) is a vibrant, egalitarian, Jewish Renewal congregation in Portland. Meets several times a month in various locations. (PO Box 42187, Portland, OR 97242-0187, 503-248-4500, www.pnaiorpxd.org.) (11/02)

Dignity Portland meets for Mass on Sundays. (503-262-6947.) (11/02)

Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service and children's religious education at 10:30 am. (1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham, 503-665-2628, eastrose@teleport.com.) (11/02)

Faith United Methodist Church is a welcoming community of Christians in Troutdale that values and encourages all people in finding a place of belonging in the family of God. Sunday worship at 10:15 am; Adult Education at 9 am; children and youth at 10:30 am. Wednesday Prayers 6-6:30 pm. (27400 SE Stark St. 503-661-4520.) (11/02)

First Unitarian Church of Portland is an open and affirming liberal religious community offering a wide range of programs to nurture spiritual growth, community and social justice. Sunday service 10 am. (1011 SW 12th Ave. 503-228-6389, www.firstunitarianportland.org.) (11/02)

First United Methodist Church of Portland, a welcoming and reconciling congregation, believes no one is left out in God's family. Sexual minority potlucks held monthly. (10:30 am Sunday, 1838 SW Jefferson St. 503-228-3195, www.fumcpdx.org.) (11/02)

Grace Space is a New Thought spiritual center dedicated to offering ways to experience Spirit. Sunday evening celebrations with Rev. Stephanie Torres, Conscious Breathing experiences, Chanting, Healing Services, Meditation classes and a miracles study group. (5 pm, Bridgeport Community Church, 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-287-3216.) (11/02)

Integrity is a group of GLBT Episcopalians and friends. Various locations throughout Oregon. (Bruce Mason, Regional Director, 503-286-9111 or brucepdxor@attbi.com, www.integrityusa.org.) (11/02)

Interfaith Spiritual Center. 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.interfaithspiritualcenter.com.) (11/02)

Metanoia Peace Community United Methodist Church is a "house church," bringing gay and straight together. (Daily prayer 7:20 am, Sunday gathering 5 pm, 2116 NE 18th Ave. 503-281-3697, www.tearsoup.com/metanoia.) (11/02)

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, info@mcportland.com.) (11/02)

Portland Center for Spiritual Growth in the Unity Church building invites you to celebrate your spirituality with the Revs. Casey and Berdell Moffett-Chaney. Liberal, practical; all are welcome. (5 pm Sunday service; 7:30-9 pm Monday Spiritual Principle Gab Group; 4-4:40 pm Sunday Rescuing the Bible from the Right Wing Discussion Group, 4525 SE Stark Ave. 503-777-0727.) (11/02)

Portland Church of Religious Science is a liberal, open, progressive New Thought community welcoming everyone to discover the spirit within. Change your thinking, change your life! (10 am Sunday meditation, 10:30 am service and junior church, 6:30 pm Wednesday prayer circle, 3983 NE 112th Ave. 503-261-0677.) (11/02)

Portland Radical Faeries meet twice a month with potlucks and circles at the full moon and the new moon. Open to all men seeking alternative spiritual growth and community. Coffee hours start 9:30 am Saturdays at 3 Friends Coffeehouse, 201 SE 12th Ave. (503-235-0826, otter@pcez.com.) (11/02)

SisterSpirit offers women's spirituality celebrations, discussion groups, a drumming circle, workshops and classes. Schedule of events available. All women are welcome. (Suite 102, 3430 SE Belmont St. Mailing address: PO Box 9246, Portland, OR 97207, 503-736-3297, sistersp@teleport.com.) (11/02)

Southminster Presbyterian Church is a challenging, supportive community that welcomes all people. It is the first More Light Presbyterian Church in Oregon. Sunday school and nursery care. (10 am Sunday, 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton, 503-644-2073, staff@southmin.com.) (11/02)

Gay and Lesbian Outreach (GALO) of St. Philip Neri Catholic Church celebrates an affirming Mass followed by a social. (7:30 pm Friday, Paulist Center, 2408 SE 16th Ave. 503-231-4955.) (11/02)

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church has been welcoming all people since 1863. (12:10 pm Wednesday and 7:45 and 10 am Sunday, Sunday school and child care at 10 am, Southwest 13th Avenue at Clay Street, 503-223-6424.) (11/02)

Waverly Heights Church (UCC) is open and affirming with worship, children's school and child care. (10 am Sunday, 3300 SE Woodward St. 503-238-1337, www.waverlyucc.org.) (11/02)

Wyeast Unitarian Universalist Congregation is an open and liberal religious community offering inter-generational services and religious education for children. It welcomes gay, lesbian, bi and trans members. Nurtures spiritual growth and promotes living by Unitarian Universalist principles. (4 pm Sunday, 3915 SE Steele St. 503-777-3704, www.wyeast.pnwd.uua.org.) (11/02)

Zion United Church of Christ, an open and affirming congregation, is open to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and heterosexual people who wish to worship in a Christ-centered, warm, caring, multiage/race/cultural faith community. (11 am Sunday, 2025 NE 23rd Ave., Gresham, 503-665-8741.) (11/02)

Washington: Spirituality

Abundant Life Center. A New Thought Community for spiritual awakening, transforming lives through love. A safe place where children learn to embody spiritual principles. (10 am Sunday, 10009 NE Ninth Ave., Vancouver, 360-573-2626.) (11/02)

East Vancouver United Methodist Church. Reconciling, welcoming. (10 am Sunday, 5701 MacArthur Blvd. 360-693-4761, ourclarkcounty.columbia.com/273/) (11/02)

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. Two Sunday services, traditional and "less traditional" in an open and affirming congregation. (1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver, 360-693-1476, vanucc@aol.com.) (11/02)

God's Holy Territory. A spirit-filled worship experience, seeking God for holiness and wholeness. For gay,

YOUTH

Metro: Youth

Flavors, a program of MultiQueer and Brother to Brother, is a social support group for sexual minority youth of color 24 and younger. Meets every other Sunday for food and socializing. Regular events and activities. (Des 503-228-3892 or des@mfamily.org, Stephan 503-417-7991 or hey_stephan@hotmail.com.) (11/02)

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) fights to end anti-gay bias in K-12 schools. (12700 SW North Dakota St., Suite 180, #129, Tigard, OR 97223, 503-525-1177, glsen@glsenoregon.org, www.glsenoregon.org.) (11/02)

MultiQueer, a program of Love Makes a Family, provides advocacy to sexual minority youth. Offers resources and support in the community and the school systems, with a focus on support for youth of color. (Des 503-228-3892, des@mfamily.org.) (11/02)

Outside In operates a clinic for anyone who can't qualify for the Oregon Health Plan as well as needle exchange services that include those who inject hormones. Can provide transitional housing for youth 20 and younger as well as for those HIV+ and younger than 23. Also plays host to VOICES (Voices of Individual and Community Empowerment from the Streets), a self-support group for queer youth. Needs volunteers of all ages. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday, 1132 SW 13th Ave. 503-535-3801, www.outsidein.org.) (11/02)

Vanguard Youth Services, a program of Cascadia Behavioral HealthCare, offers support and recreation to gay, lesbian, bi and trans kids 23 and younger. Programs include: **Clackamas County Sexual Minority Youth Connection (COSMYC)** provides opportunities for queer and questioning kids to get together for free, fun and supportive social activities. Also one-on-one support and referrals to Clackamas County service providers. (503-969-0060, cosmycyouth@yahoo.com.)

Expression is a free art/expression support group in Gresham for queer youth. Hang out and have fun every Friday! (Jonathan 503-872-9664, ext. 28.) **Pride Project** brings together Washington County queer and questioning youth to plan and attend monthly social events. Also information, referral and advocacy services in Washington County. (Molly 503-260-5792, molly@prideproject.org.) **Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center (SMYRC)** offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Weekly youth support groups includes Trans Youth Group and Personal Deity Proxy (a creative group). (4-8 pm Monday and Wednesday, 4 pm-midnight Friday and Saturday, 2100 SE Belmont St. 503-872-9664, TTY 503-231-9286, www.smyrc.org.) **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.) (11/02)

Washington: Youth

Triple Point offers education, support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Vancouver, Wash. Meets 6-8 pm Tuesdays in the basement of Youth House, 1112 Columbia St. in Vancouver. (John 360-695-1325.) (11/02)

Willamette Valley: Youth

Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Transgender and Questioning Youth Group for ages 13 to 18 offers support, information and fun in Eugene. Free, confidential, adult-facilitated. (Drop in 4-6 pm Friday, Amazon Community Center, 2700 Hilyard St. 541-684-3466.) (11/02)

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Youth Group for ages 25 and younger meets every Monday in Eugene. (5 pm, Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. 541-346-1134.) (11/02)

ADVICE

Another think coming

Are fantasies cheating?
Age-old question answered.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Is it OK to fantasize about other people while making love to my partner of four years? I'm not cheating, am I? I mean, don't fantasies about others help keep couples together?

—Far, Far Away



Ms. Behavior
by Meryl Cohn

DEAR FAR, FAR AWAY:

You're not giving away much information, are you?

There's probably no harm in making love to your partner while fantasizing about someone famous, like, say, Sarah Michelle Gellar or Venus Williams or even Russell Crowe, for that matter. There's not much chance that you'll meet one of these people or that the focus you place on these fantasies will harm your real-life relationship.

But if you happen to have a real-life crush on a friend

or co-worker, you should try not to think about that person while you're in bed with your partner. Thinking of your crush at the wrong time—the moment of orgasm, for example—will only enhance your feelings for that person and create distance between you and your partner. It's not exactly "cheating," but having a private scenario—about tying up your next-door neighbor and licking honey off her breasts, for example—in your head while your girlfriend's face is between your thighs might be an obstacle to feeling close.

Of course, you can always tell your partner what's going on in your head, reciting what's happening as if you're reading subtitles on a movie screen. This could be sexy and help you stay connected to your partner physically, emotionally and romantically.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

What do you think of a man who demands monogamy before even being in a relationship?

I met Joel at the gym, and we've had several dates that have, surprisingly, not resulted in sex. He is great and sexy and smart, but he refuses to sleep with me...unless I promise not to sleep with anyone else while we date.

I am capable of monogamy but don't see why I should agree to it without knowing whether Joel is the one for me. (Isn't sex one of the ways you decide if someone is right for you?)

Joel is not pushing for an emotional commitment before getting to know me, but he insists on fidelity if our relationship becomes sexual. I asked him if this is a fear-of-AIDS issue, but he says no.

He's not willing to compromise about it. He says: "If it's not worth it to you to give up anonymous sex for a few weeks to check it out with me, fine. Don't have sex with me."

If I did agree to Joel's terms and stopped having sex with others in order to date him, wouldn't it be dishonest? I'd be agreeing to be faithful under false pre-

tenses, i.e., not because I love him but just to get him to have sex with me.

I don't really understand the point. On the other hand, I guess there's no harm in giving myself a rest for a few weeks.

I'm confused about whether it's wrong to agree to something I don't really believe in. I've also considered telling Joel I'm not having sex with anyone else but doing what I want to do anyway since it won't harm anyone.

Besides, what if I have sex with Joel and it sucks? What should I do?

—Tony

DEAR TONY:

You're making this way too complicated. If you find that sex with Joel

sucks, don't do it again.

It's not like he's asking you to sign up to have him be your only sexual partner for life; he's just asking you not to have sex with others while you and he are being intimate. Here's the cool part: If you have sex with Joel once and don't like it, you can blow every racquetball player at your gym the next day, if you want.

You don't need to "believe in" his premise or even pretend to think it's a good idea. The question is only whether you're willing to play by his rules.

If you're willing to check things out with Joel and give yourself "a rest" from your usual tricks, that's fine. If you're not, that's also OK. There's nothing wrong with passing up the opportunity to date Joel.

But don't be a rat and pretend to be monogamous when you're not just because you believe it "won't harm anyone." Ms. Behavior's powers do not extend to clearing anyone's karma. ☐

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MERYL COHN is the author of *Do What I Say: Ms. Behavior's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Etiquette* (Houghton Mifflin). Her Internet site is www.msbehavior.com. Send questions or correspondence to msbehavior@aol.com.