

SPIRITUALITY

Metro: Spirituality

Ainsworth United Church of Christ is a multiracial, 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) (7/04)

Anawim Community of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday. 503-281-0722.) (7/03)

Atkinson Memorial Church is a Unitarian Universalist welcoming congregation in Oregon City. (710 Sixth St. 503-656-7296. www.atkinsonchurch.com) (7/03)

Bridgeport United Church of Christ is a community of progressive, political people exploring and celebrating the Christian faith. We are sexual minority and straight, multicultural and multi-racial, and our children are valued members. (10:30 am Sunday. 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-258-0992. www.bridgeportucc.org) (7/03)

The City Church, Portland's "oldest gay-affirming Christian church," offers a spirit-driven church for today's diverse generations. (10 am Sunday communion and worship service, 6:30 pm Sunday worship service. 3830 SE 62nd Ave. 503-775-5024.) (7/04)

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.) (7/03)

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) (7/03)

Dignity Portland meets for Mass on Sundays. (503-262-6947.) (7/03)

Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service and children's religious education. (10:30 am Sunday. 1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham. 503-665-2628. eastrose@teleport.com. www.eastrose.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/03)

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 9 am and 11 am. (1011 SW 12th Ave. 503-228-6389. www.firstunitarianportland.org) (7/03)

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) (7/03)

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.) (7/03)

Gay Men's Labyrinth Project meets quarterly for a walking meditation and wisdom circle on the labyrinth. (Dale 503-233-2026, ext. 3. www.interfaithspiritualcenter.com) (7/04)

Integrity is a group of sexual minority Episcopalians and friends. Various locations throughout Oregon. (Bruce Mason 503-286-9111. brucepdxor@attbi.com. www.integrityusa.org) (7/04)

Interfaith Spiritual Center houses spiritual directors from various world religious traditions, who

are available for guidance, classes and retreats. (Second Floor, 3910 SE 11th Ave. 503-233-2026, ext. 3. www.interfaithspiritualcenter.com) (7/04)

Keshet Portland is a group for Jewish members of the sexual minorities community and their partners, spouses and supporters. Monthly social, religious and cultural events. (David or Laney 503-226-7079, ext. 14.) (7/03)

Koinonia Catholic Community is a progressive, small faith community that gathers weekly to celebrate Eucharist at Bridgeport United Church of Christ. A welcoming congregation, Catholic in tradition and Ecumenical in membership. (6 pm Sunday. 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-699-0473. www.koinoniacommunity.org) (7/03)

Lesbian Christian Fellowship meets for study and social outings. Committed Christians and still-unsures welcome. (Barbara 503-760-5791.) (7/04)

Longview United Methodist Church is welcoming and reconciling. (10 am Sunday. 2851 30th Ave. 360-425-4927.) (7/03)

Metanoia Peace Community United Methodist Church is a "house church" that brings gay and straight together. Daily morning prayer and Sunday evening worship. (503-281-3697. www.tearsoup.com/metanoia) (7/04)

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@mccportland.com) (7/03)

The **Nichiren Buddhist Temple of Portland** offers several weekly gatherings. Everyone welcome! (10 am Sunday. 7:30 am Tuesday and Thursday. 7:30 pm Wednesday meditation. 2025 SE Yamhill St. 503-232-8064. www.nichiren-shu.org/portland) (7/04)

Peace Church of the Brethren is a welcoming congregation. (11 am Sunday. 12727 SE Market St. 503-254-6380.) (7/04)

Portland Center for Spiritual Growth is a New Thought, uplifting, refreshing and exciting place of worship. Become a minister in our ministerial program. (10 am Sunday. Call for location. 503-777-0727.) (7/03)

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.) (7/03)

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) (7/04)

Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship is a support organization for LGBT people, their families and friends. (PO Box 7320, Laguna Niguel, CA 92607. 7320. 866-732-5677. office@sdakinship.org. www.sdakinship.org) (7/04)

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) (7/04)

Southminster Presbyterian Church is an active member of the Community of Welcoming Congregations. Sunday school and nursery care. Classes, community service activities and events for all ages and interests. (9-9:30 am Sunday chapel service, 10 am Sunday community worship service. 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073. staff@southmin.com. www.southmin.com) (7/04)

Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center, a program of Cascadia Behavioral HealthCare, offers support and recreation to gay, lesbian, bi and trans youth 23 and younger. Offers drop-in computer access, pool tables and an informal place to hang out. Weekly support meetings include Trans Youth Group and the creative group Personal Deity Proxy. (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) Other programs include:

Clackamas County Sexual Minority Youth Connection (COSMYC) provides opportunities for queer and questioning youth ages 23 and younger to get together for free, fun and supportive social activities. Offers one-on-one support, referrals and information on HIV and STD prevention and resources for adults who work with LGBTQ youth. (503-969-0060. cosmycyouth@yahoo.com) **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) (7/04)

Eastern Oregon: Youth

Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living offers support and

St. Andrew Catholic Church invites all to join a diverse faith community for prayer and fellowship. (9:30 am Sunday. 806 NE Alberta St. 503-281-4429.) (7/03)

St. James Lutheran Church, a Reconciled in Christ congregation, welcomes all people for traditional, liturgical worship where we experience God's reconciling love that sets all people free. (9 and 11 am Sunday. 1315 SW Park Ave. 503-227-2439.) (7/03)

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.) (7/03)

Trinity United Methodist Church is an open Christian community where faith and life intersect. All invited! (10:30 am Sunday. 3915 SE Steele St. The Rev. Wendy Joy Woodworth 503-777-3901.) (7/03)

Waverly Heights 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) (7/04)

Wyeast Unitarian Universalist Congregation is an open and liberal religious community offering intergenerational 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.prnwd.uua.org) (7/03)

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.) (7/03)

Washington: Spirituality

Abundant Life Center is a New Thought Community for spiritual awakening and transforming lives through love. A safe place where children learn to embody spiritual principles. (10 am Sunday. 10006 NE Ninth Ave., Vancouver. 360-573-2626.) (7/03)

East Vancouver United Methodist Church is reconciling and welcoming. (10 am Sunday. 5701 MacArthur Blvd. 360-693-4761. ourclarkcounty.columbia.com/273/) (7/03)

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, holds services in an open and affirming congregation. (10 am Sunday worship, 11:15 am adult education. 1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver. 360-693-1476. vanucc@aol.com) (7/04)

Metropolitan Community Church of the Gentle Shepherd in Vancouver welcomes you. (10:30 am and 6:30 pm Sunday worship, 9 am Sunday Bible study. 2200 Broadway. The Rev. Harriet Barshofsky 360-695-1480.) (7/03)

Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a Welcoming Congregation, provides a home for the liberal religious spirit. (9-15 and 11 am Sunday. 4505 E 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (7/03)

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.) (7/03)

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.) (7/03)

advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Eastern Oregon. (541-889-3119 or 866-248-8369. ecocil@ecocil.org. www.ecocil.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/03)

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 Hilary St. 541-684-3466.) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

Rainbow Youth of Salem for kids 21 and younger meets twice weekly. (6-8 pm Tuesday, 4-6 pm Thursday. 600 State St. Dani 503-930-7260.) (7/03)

ADVICE

Strange behavior

Sometimes you are a nut,
sometimes you're not

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

My anti-virus software recently located a virus on my computer that my boyfriend, Jonathan, accidentally downloaded. Jonathan was very sheepish and apologetic, since this particular bug is only activated by visiting porno sites.

I had the computer fixed and now it works fine. I'm not mad at Jonathan for signing on to porno sites, but I'm disturbed that he got the virus from a hetero porno site.

Why would my boyfriend get off on straight porno? I'm not saying he should be repelled by straight people screwing, but why would he seek it out? Does this mean something?

—Jonathan's Confused Boyfriend

DEAR JONATHAN'S CONFUSED BOYFRIEND:

Oh, come on. You're not worried that your boyfriend is a closet hetero, are you?

You know the range of human sexual expression is vast. You know that curiosity or fascination or even excitement at watching hetero coupling means nothing.

Lots of men who consider themselves straight occasionally have gay fantasies or stop and get a blow job from another guy on their way home from a long, hard day at the office. (In fact, some readers would have Ms. Behavior believe that's what most straight

dudes do for relaxation.) So why can't a homo (OK, your boyfriend) watch a man and a woman do the nasty without you getting your panties in a twist?

If Jonathan were getting off on watching illegal or immoral acts (e.g., people hurting children or animals) or just plain gross ones (please fill in the blank yourself, because Ms. Behavior doesn't want indignant mail from cow manure fetishists), you might have reason to dial 911 or at least worry about visiting Jonathan in the slammer after his computer is seized and searched.

If you're truly concerned that his watching a little guy/girl copulation means he'll end up eloping with the girl next door, you might bring it up as a topic of conversation. But the Internet peep show was probably just an exciting novelty for your still-queer-as-ever boyfriend.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

How do you know whether to betray a friend's secret? My friend Fran told me something horrible. She recently went to visit our mutual friend Theresa in another state. Theresa lives in an attic apartment above her parents because she is a grad student and can't afford her own place.

Recently, Fran told me that during her last visit, she went out drinking with Theresa's mother, Barbara, and ended up having sex with her! They continued their affair all week long while Theresa



Ms. Behavior
by Meryl Cohn

was in classes and Barbara's husband was at work. I know Fran was telling the truth, because she told me all kinds of disgusting details about Barbara's sex toys.

Isn't this the worst betrayal you've ever heard? What kind of person fucks her friend's mother? Should I tell Theresa what Fran told me?

—Concerned Friend

DEAR CONCERNED FRIEND:

A person who fucks her friend's mother is probably quite twisted and/or sexually compulsive. She needs help but probably not from you. It also seems unlikely that you can help or control the situation by playing tattletale.

Is there any reason, other than vindictiveness, that you'd get involved? Would it really help Theresa to know that her mother had sex with Fran?

Ultimately, Fran will slip up and lose Theresa as a friend. Motherfuckers always get caught eventually.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I'm responding to your recent column about a woman in doubt about her "fag hag" status. Though I have learned to live with the negative connotation of being labeled a fag hag—there isn't a positive term for a straight woman who prefers the company of gay men—I do take exception to the label of "pathetic" when describing a straight woman who makes a life choice.

All the important people in my life are gay. My first relationships developed when I was a young and naive 18 and continue to the present, as a 55 year-old. There are no guidebooks to address this lifestyle, but I would not have wanted to live any other way. I still have some friends I made in those early years and treasure the depth and beauty of those relationships. And I continue to make new friends—gay and straight.

I have poked around in my psyche to determine possible reasons and will perhaps agree to some "intimacy issues." And there was, at the beginning, something to be said for that statement by Roseanne: "If it weren't for gay men, who would fat women dance with?"

So, this aging fag hag diva will continue to happily pursue her life and hope there will someday be a more positive recognition for this alternative-alternative lifestyle.

—ML

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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). Signed copies are available directly from the author. Send questions or correspondence to msbehavior@aol.com.

YOUTH

Metro: Youth

Flavors, a social support group for sexual minority youth of color 21 and younger, meets on weekends for food and socializing. Regular events and activities. Flavors is a project of Love Makes a Family's MultiQueer program and is supported by Brother to Brother. (Jaye 503-228-3892 or jaye@lmfamily.org) (7/04)

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) (7/04)

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 LGBTQ youth of color. (Jaye 503-228-3892 or jaye@lmfamily.org) (7/04)

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. Needs volunteers of all ages. (10 am-6 pm Monday-Friday. 1132 SW 13th Ave. 503-535-3800. www.outsidein.org) (7/04)