

SPIRITUALITY

Metro: Spirituality

Ainsworth United Church of Christ is a multi-racial, 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.) (7/04)

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 multiracial, and our children are valued members. (10:30 am Sunday, 621 NE 76th Ave. 503-258-0992. www.bridgeportucc.org) (7/04)

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 P'nai Or (Faces of Light) is a vibrant, egalitarian, Jewish Renewal congregation in Portland. Meets several times a month at Portland State University Campus Ministries. (PO Box 42187, Portland, OR 97242-0187. 503-248-4500. www.pnaicordx.org) (7/04)

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 6:30 pm. (27400 SE Stark St. 503-661-4520.) (7/04)

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 and 11 am. (1011 SW 12th Ave. 503-228-6389. www.firstunitarianportland.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

Gay Men's Labyrinth Project meets quarterly for a walking meditation and wisdom circle on the labyrinth. (www.gaylabyrinth.com) (7/04)

Integrity is a group of sexual minority Episcopalians and friends. Various locations throughout Oregon. (Bruce 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 potluck group for Jewish members of the sexual minorities community and their partners, spouses and supporters. Its purpose is to help build bridges with the larger Jewish community. Monthly social, religious and cultural events. (David or Laney 503-226-7079, ext. 14.) (7/04)

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) (7/04)

Longview United Methodist Church is welcoming and reconciling. (10 am Sunday, 2851 30th Ave. 360-425-4927.) (7/04)

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 service. (2400 NE Broadway, 503-281-8868. info@mccportland.com. www.mccportland.com) (7/04)

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 center for worship, growth and leadership that adheres to an all-inclusive spiritual philosophy similar to 12-step, Unity and Religious Science. Impromptu wedding ceremonies available. (503-777-0727. www.portlandcenter.org) (7/04)

Portland Radical Faeries meet twice a month with potlucks and circles at the full moon and the new

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, a welcoming and affirming congregation, invites all to worship services and ongoing programs in spiritual development, community outreach, music and arts education. (8 am Sunday Rite I chapel service, 10 am Sunday Rite II cathedral service, 147 NW 19th Ave. 503-478-1218. www.trinity-episcopal.org) (7/04)

University Park United Methodist Church believes in giving to the community, caring for one another and making a difference one person at a time. Come celebrate God's diversity with us! (10 am Sunday, 4775 N Lombard St. The Rev. Jeannie Knepper 503-289-7843.) (7/04)

Waverly Heights United Church of Christ 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 inter-generational services and religious education for youth and adults. We welcome gay, lesbian, bi and trans members and nurture spiritual growth living by Unitarian Universalist principles. (4 pm Sunday, 3915 SE Steele St. 503-777-3704. www.wyeast.pwvd.uua.org) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

Want to get hitched?

Multnomah County issues marriage licenses to all couples 8 am-4:45 pm weekdays in the Marriage License Unit of the Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland. The application fee is \$60 cash or certified check.

Both parties must sign any marriage license, and you do not have to be an Oregon resident to obtain a license.

Visit www.basicrights.org for suggested officiants (as well as up-to-the-minute info on the legality of your marriage in Oregon). Officiants may also be available at one of the churches in the Just Out Spirituality section.

A list of Multnomah County judges is available at the marriage license unit or at www.co.multnomah.or.us/dbcs/assess_tax/judges.pdf. The fee for an in-chamber appointment is \$25.

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@pccc.com) (7/04)

Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship is a support organization for queer 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)

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.) (7/04)

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. www.stjameslutheranportland.org) (7/04)

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, 1432 SW 13th Ave. 503-223-6424.) (7/04)

Central Oregon: Spirituality

United Church of Christ Congregational is an open and affirming congregation in The Dalles. (9:20 am adult Sunday school, 10:30 am Sunday worship, 111 E Fifth St. 541-296-2909. ucccong@netcnct.net. www.forministry.com/usonucocucc.org) (7/04)

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. The Rev. Kathleen Vergin 360-573-2626.) (7/04)

East Vancouver United Methodist Church is reconciling and welcoming. (10 am Sunday, 5701 MacArthur Blvd. 360-693-4761.) (7/04)

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.) (7/04)

Michael Servetus Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, a Welcoming Congregation, provides a home for the liberal religious spirit. (9:30 and 11:15 am Sunday, 4505 E 18th St., Vancouver. 360-695-1891.) (7/04)

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. (9:30 am Sunday learning hour, 10:30 am worship, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem. 503-363-3660.) (7/04)

Metropolitan Community Church Two Rivers is a Christian church with primary outreach in the sexual minorities community. (6:30 pm Sunday, 1166 Oak St., Eugene.) (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.) (7/04)

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 Hlyard 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)

Out 'n' About Youth meet every Thursday in Corvallis. (7 pm, 1165 Monroe Ave. 541-754-3906.) (7/04)

Rainbow Youth is a safe, confidential support group for young gay men, lesbians, bisexuals, transgender, questioning and friends. (6-8 pm Wednesday, Micha Building, 690 State St., Salem. www.salemrainbowyouth.org) (7/04)

Eastern Oregon: Youth

Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living offers support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Eastern Oregon. (541-889-3119 or 866-248-8369. ecol@ecol.org. www.ecol.org) (7/04)

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. (Kristy 503-228-3892. multiqueer@lmfamily.org) (7/04)

The **Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)** fights to end anti-gay bias in K-12 schools. (Suite 180, 12700 SW North Dakota St. #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 queer and questioning youth of color. (Kristy 503-228-3892. multiqueer@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)

ADVICE

Without the one

Please love me. Please, please, please, please, please.



Ms. Behavior by Meryl Cohn

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

After running into an incredibly hot "straight" friend from college at a gay bar, we began to date. I'd had a crush on this boy for three years. I always knew this guy was nice and oh-so-hot, but he totally surprised me with his funny, kind, sweet, thoughtful, open, mature, dedicated, sexy self. (Yes, he's Mr. Perfect.)

About three weeks ago, four months after we started dating, he ended our relationship, saying we were at different places in our lives, etc. He is still my best guy friend, and we continue to spend time together, talk every day and joke about the same things we used to.

We tell each other we miss each other, and he still apologizes for ending our relationship but fears if we get back into it, it will go the same direction it did before.

Ms. Behavior, my life is empty without this guy. Not being the drama boy so many guys in their early 20s are, I'm not about to crawl back to him crying and begging for him to take me back; I'm stronger than that. However, I want him back very badly—I don't feel like I want to date again because no one will compare to him.

How do I go about getting back the boy I lost, who still has a thing for me, without coming off as a desperate loser?

—Without the One

DEAR WITHOUT THE ONE:

It sounds like you didn't know what Mr. Perfect meant when he said that you and he were at "different places" in your lives. This could mean almost anything—from "I'm not really queer; I just had a dick-sucking slip, and I'm going to date women now" to "I have a job, and you don't" to "You're a great guy, but I don't feel that special something that makes me want to hump you" or "You have bad breath; please stop breathing in my face."

Don't you think you need more specific information before deciding if you should try to win him back?

The sad truth, which is perhaps unimaginable to you, is that your Mr. Perfect may not see you as his perfect match. If you feel compelled to know, ask him to tell you what he meant when he said you were at different places in your lives.

If it's something you can fix (like, say, halitosis), well then, good

for you. If not, maybe hearing the specifics will help you accept it and move on, rather than hanging around hoping that he'll change his mind.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Ever since I was a little boy, I've dreamed of getting married. Before I came out to myself, I dreamed of marrying a woman. And years

before I thought gay marriage would ever be possible, I dreamed about marrying a man.

With all the talk about gay marriage this and gay marriage that, it has me wondering where my Prince Charming is.

Lately, when I go on dates, I spend less time trying to figure out if this guy is fun to be with and more time trying to figure out if he's marriage material. With gay marriage rights in sight, why waste my time any longer?

Before, it was OK to mess around with relationships because, hey, it's not like I could get married anyway. But now, the race is on, and I want to cross the finish line with a good-looking, stable guy on my arm.

Unfortunately, no guys I've dated seem to fit the bill. Should I keep dating them anyway or focus my energy on searching for Mr. Right?

—Marriage Minded

DEAR MARRIAGE MINDED:

Ease up, Missy, and stop conducting your dates like job interviews. Finding the right person is no harder or easier than it was before; the only difference is your sense of

urgency. If you apply so much pressure to your dates, how do you expect to relax and have a good time?

It sounds like the intensity of your search for "Mr. Right" would interfere with your ability to recognize him even if he were sitting right on your face.

Regardless, take comfort in this: If you're only looking for a "good-looking, stable guy," your odds are better than those who are seeking, say, a smart, funny, wealthy, well-endowed top with a nice collection of Prada shoes. jmj

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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.