

SPIRITUALITY

Metro: Spirituality

Anawim Community of gay men meets weekly for Christian meditation and prayer. (7:30 pm Thursday. 503-281-0722.) (7/05)

Atkinson Memorial Church, a Unitarian Universalist church, provides a spiritual home for those looking for a liberal-minded, supportive and caring congregation in Oregon City. (10:30 am Sunday. 710 Sixth St. 503-656-7296.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.pnaipdx.org.) (7/05)

Eastrose Fellowship Unitarian Universalist, a welcoming congregation, offers Sunday service and children's religious education. (10:30 am. 1133 NE 181st Ave., Gresham. 503-665-2628. office@eastrose.org. www.eastrose.org.) (7/05)

Eckankar—Religion of the Light and Sound of God holds worship services and maintains a library of materials. Learn how the Divine Spirit works throughout your own life in today's world. (10 am Sunday. 7904 SE Milwaukee Ave. 503-233-1595. www.eckankar.org.) (7/05)

The **Enneagram Community of Portland** offers mentoring, therapy, spiritual direction, classes, workshops and retreats. (enneagrampdx@aol.com. www.enneagramportland.com.) (7/05)

Faith United Methodist Church is a welcoming congregation that values and affirms the sacredness of all people. We invite and encourage everyone to find a place in the family of God. (10:15 am Sunday. 27400 SE Stark St., Troutdale. 503-661-4520.) (7/05)

First Congregational United Church of Christ is an open and affirming congregation in the liberal Christian tradition. Church school and nursery care. (10:25 am Sunday. 1126 SW Park Ave. 503-228-7219.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

Integrity is a group of sexual minority Episcopalians and friends. Various locations throughout Oregon. (Fr Steven Norcross or Bruce 503-286-9111. brucepdxor@comcast.net. www.integrityusa.org.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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 503-226-7079, ext. 14.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.learnsoup.com/metanoia.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

Peace Church of the Brethren is a welcoming congregation. (11 am Sunday. 12727 SE Market St. 503-254-6380.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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@pceaz.com.) (7/05)

Seventh-Day Adventist Kinship is a support organization for former and current Adventists who are queer as well as their family and friends. (PO Box 49375, Sarasota, FL 34230-6375. 866-732-5677. office@sdakinship.org. www.sdakinship.org.) (7/05)

Southminster Presbyterian Church is an active member of the Community of Welcoming Congregations. Sunday school, nursery care, classes, community service activities and events for all ages and interests. (9 am Sunday chapel service, 10 am Sunday main worship service. 12250 SW Denney Road, Beaverton. 503-644-2073. staff@southmin.com. www.southmin.com.) (7/05)

St. Andrew Catholic Church invites all to join a diverse faith community for prayer and fellowship. (9:30 am Sunday; Noon Spanish language service. 806 NE Alberta St. 503-281-4429.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, a welcoming and affirming congregation, invites all to worship services and ongoing programs in spiritual development, com-

munity outreach, music and arts education. (8 am Sunday Rite I chapel service. 10 am Sunday Rite II cathedral service. 147 NW 19th Ave. 503-222-9811. www.trinity-episcopal.org.) (7/05)

Unitarian Universalist Community Church of Washington County is an open and affirming liberal religious community offering a variety of enrichment programs in addition to community and social action opportunities. (9 and 11 am Sunday. 22785 NW Birch St., Hillsboro. 503-648-1720. www.uuccwc.org.) (7/05)

Waverly Heights United Church of Christ is open and affirming with worship, children's school and child care. (10 am summer, 11 am school year. 3300 SE Woodward St. 503-238-1337. pastor@waverlyucc.org. www.waverlyucc.org.) (7/05)

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.pnwd.uua.org.) (7/05)

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 [10:30 am summer]. 2025 NE 23rd Ave., Gresham. 503-665-8741.) (7/05)

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 worship [9:30 am summer]. 111 E Fifth St. 541-296-2909. ucccngl@netnet.net. www.forministry.com/usorucfucuccc.) (7/05)

Washington: Spirituality

Abundant Life Center is a Community for Spiritual Living, transforming lives with love. (10 am Sunday. 10006 NE Ninth Ave., Vancouver. The Rev. Kathleen Vengin 360-573-2626. www.abundant-life-center.org.) (7/05)

Longview United Methodist Church is welcoming and reconciling. (10 am Sunday. 2851 30th Ave., Longview. 360-425-4927.) (7/05)

Metropolitan Church of the Gentle Shepherd in Vancouver welcomes you. (10:30 am and 6:30 pm Sunday worship. Bible study follows morning worship. 2200 Broadway St. The Rev. Harriet Barshofsky 360-695-1480.) (7/05)

Michael Servitus 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.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

Washington: Youth

Triple Point offers education, support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Vancouver. Meets every Tuesday in the basement of Youth House. (6-8 pm. 1112 Columbia St. John 360-695-1325.) (7/05)

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. 541-684-3486.) (7/05)

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.) (7/05)

Listings of up to 50 words are provided free of charge to organizations and groups specifically serving the sexual minorities community. All listings are subject to editing, and inclusion is subject to space limitations, relevance and receipt by deadline. Listings expire once a year (in July), and submissions run from the date received until the next scheduled expiration date. Listings are automatically deleted upon expiration. To ensure uninterrupted listing, please submit updated information at least a month prior to the expiration date.

ADVICE

Into thin air

Internet once again proves the bane of the dating world

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I met a woman online. We e-mailed and talked on the phone every day for three months, and she said she was moving to the city I live in. I felt very close, and I think she did, too.

She kept saying she was moving in a few weeks—it was always in a few weeks. After a while, I thought she wasn't really ever going to get here. Then, finally, she did move and, just like that, stopped calling and writing.

I guess she moved because I don't have her number, and there's no answer at her old place. I feel really upset, but I also don't understand what happened. How can I make sense of this? I feel betrayed, but also I feel like I miss her.

—Lonely Again

DEAR LONELY AGAIN:

You can't make sense of what happened because you don't really know this woman. If she had time to e-mail you and call you every day without ever meeting you, she was probably pretty lonely, too. Or else she had a big hole in her life and was using you to fill it, and maybe now the hole is sealed up with someone else.

You say you felt "very close" and you think she did, too, but since you never met in person, most of what you feel about her is based on your own wishes and projections. That's just the nature of these invisible relationships, where you can't even rely on the other person's facial expressions or mannerisms to help you understand who she is. For example, someone may sound very affectionate in an e-mail but curl up into a little hands-off clamshell when you're in the room.

Since you'll probably never know what really happened, maybe you should try to pick your own resolution so that you can move on with your life. So here are some multiple choice answers to why your online friend disappeared. Pick the one you like best and then just try to forget her.

a) Maybe she is not who she says she is and didn't want you to find out the truth.

b) Maybe she met someone else and is now e-mailing that person constantly.

c) Maybe she is in a committed relationship and was using your correspondence as a distraction, but now she is in couples therapy and is trying to work it out with her girlfriend, and you're lucky that her girlfriend never found out about you because she could crush your skull with her bare hands.



Ms. Behavior®
by Meryl Cohn

d) Maybe she's really a man, and it strained her voice to talk in a falsetto on the phone every day, so she had to give you up to save her career as a talk show host.

In the end, someone who is a constant presence and then just disappears without discussion is not likely to be a stable person. So you are better off without her. Besides, you'll

probably soon hook up with another obsessive person, perhaps one who is more stable and sincere.

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

Pete and Joe, two of my friends from college, are new fathers. They adopted Daisy, a little girl from a South American country.

The problem is that Pete and Joe are always asking me if I know any good baby sitters, if I can give them the name of my niece's friends, etc. I feel like they are really waiting for me to volunteer. Needless to say, I'm no fan of the rug rat. But I feel bad about it, which pisses me off.

Why do they have to be so passive-aggressive? If they'd just come out and ask me to watch the kid, I could tell them: "No. Ain't gonna happen." Should I bring the topic up myself? Is it OK for me simply to tell them I don't like kids and will never want to baby-sit?

—No One's Uncle

DEAR NO ONE'S UNCLE:

Maybe you're just being paranoid and Pete and Joe can already tell that you find children rather distasteful, and they really are just asking for names of baby sitters. Of course, it's also possible that they are blind to your revulsion with their snot-nosed kid and are secretly trying to manipulate you into caring for Daisy until she turns 25.

Rather than living with the anxiety that they want to turn you into a child care slave, just sit them down

and tell them that you will have no interest in Daisy until she can carry on an intelligent conversation and hold down a job. This should clear up any potential confusion. **JN**

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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.

Send your outreach

listings to: just out (attn: Calendar)
P.O. Box 14400
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Fax submissions to 503-236-1257 or e-mail justout@justout.com
Submissions cannot be accepted over the phone.
Please type your announcements and include full contact information.