

**SPIRITUALITY**

**Metro: Spirituality**

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

**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.)

**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.)

**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.pnaiorpd.org.)

**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.)

**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 Milwaukie Ave. 503-233-1595. www.eckankar.org.)

**Enneagram Community of Portland** offers mentoring, therapy, spiritual direction, classes, workshops and retreats. (enneagrampd@aol.com. www.enneagramportland.com.)

**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.)

**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.)

**First Congregational United Church of Christ of Hillsboro** is an open and affirming congregation explicitly welcoming everyone into its Christian community, fellowship and worship. Bible and book study groups, Sunday school and nursery care. (10:30 am Sunday, 494 E Main St. 503-648-4341. www.hillsboro-ucc.org.)

**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.)

**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.)

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

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

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

**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.)

**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.)

**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, Seasota, FL 34230-6375. 866-732-5677. office@sdakinship.org. www.sdakinship.org.)

**Soul Quest**—a men's group exploring soul, spirit, inner transformation and authentic living—will meet weekly starting this spring. (Lincoln 503-730-2347. info@soulquests.com.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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. 503-222-9811. www.trinity-episcopal.org.)

**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.)

**University Park United Methodist Church** is a small, diverse, open and progressive community of faith that extends a warm welcome to all people. (10 am Sunday, 4775 N Lombard St. 503-289-7843. www.upumc.net.)

**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.)

**Wyeast Unitarian Universalist Congregation** is an open and liberal religious community offering intergenerational 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. (5 pm Sunday, 3300 SE Woodward St. 503-777-3704. www.wyeast.pnw.uua.org.)

**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.)

**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. uccccongl@netcnc.net. www.forministry.com/usorucocucco.)

**Washington: Spirituality**

**Abundant Life Center** assists the community in spiritual growth. (10 am Sunday, 111 W 39th St., Vancouver. The Rev. Kathleen Verigin 360-573-2626. www.abundant-life-center.org.)

**First Congregational United Church of Christ** has been an open and affirming congregation since 1992, extending God's extravagant welcome to all people, no matter who they are or where they are on life's journey. (1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver. 360-693-1476. www.vancouverucc.org.)

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

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)



Edie Sedgwick pays homage to Julia Roberts and other celebs April 13 at Berbat's.

4-11 pm Friday, 2100 SE Belmont St. 503-872-9664. www.smyrc.org.)

**Eastern Oregon: Youth**

**Eastern Oregon Center for Independent Living** offers support and advocacy to gay, lesbian, bi, trans and questioning youth in Eastern Oregon. (1021 SW Fifth Ave., Ontario. 541-889-3119 or 866-248-8369. eocil@eocil.org. www.eocil.org.)

**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.)

**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.)

**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.)

**ADVICE**

**Dykes on dicks**

Lesbian with boyfriend tries to sort her feelings

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I'm a 20-year-old female who, after struggling with the eternal am-I-bisexual-or-lesbian question from ages 14 to 17, finally came out as completely gay. I'd been with guys, but they were screwed-up "relationships," and I was never satisfied, emotionally or otherwise.

Shortly before turning 18, I met a wonderful girl, and we had an incredible relationship for two years. We're now close friends. After we broke up, I went on a few dates, but no one caught my interest until "J."

Problem is, "J" is a guy. He asked me out, and I said yes for lack of anything to do. We got along well, and despite few shared interests, we clicked. I fell in love with "J."

I AM happy and I DO love "J" but don't feel like I'm bisexual. In my heart of hearts, I feel totally gay. I don't feel the emotional connection with him as I do women, but it's a good relationship. My friends don't understand.

I'm not trying to label myself so much as sort my feelings and figure out what to do. I love "J" and am happy...just confused. I'd never want to be with another man, and even now, despite my happiness, I still miss the emotional connection, the softness...everything about women.

Is this common? What should I do?

—*Lesbian* with Boyfriend

DEAR "LESBIAN" WITH BOYFRIEND:

Once in a while, a real dyke falls in love with a boy. So what? Eventually you'll view it as a momentary aberration, a strange part of your life, like writing with your left hand for a while.

It happens to straight women, too; they unwittingly fall for cute lesbians at work or on the next mat in their Pilates class. Usually the relationship lasts a few months, and then they wander back to their happy hetero lives (perhaps somewhat enriched by the scent of a woman).

Does this mean they're really bisexual and deluding themselves? Not necessarily. It means that human experience is broad and varied and can't be predicted.

If you're happy and in love with "J," why change anything? "Happy and in love" is a fantastic way to feel. Enjoy it while it lasts. If it starts to feel unfulfilling, you'll move on to the next right thing, probably a nice juicy woman. (You'll especially appreciate her breasts and her soft lips, having missed them for so long.)

You're not alone; even lesbian sextant and psychotherapist JoAnn Loulan—who happened to have coined the phrase "Lesbian Bed Death"—fell in love with a man recently. Do a Google search with her name, or check out



members.tripod.com/up\_sappho\_society/identity.html, and read her article, "Why I'm Still a Lesbian Despite the Man in My Bed."

DEAR MS. BEHAVIOR:

I've been seeing a woman for eight months. She'd never been with women before, but I ignored my fears and decided to "live in the moment."

Her family is conservative. It's hard for her not to tell them about us.

We have a good time cooking, gardening, watching movies or hanging out with my friends. She has told several friends but doesn't invite me to hang out with them, which hurts my feelings. She says she wants "alone time" with her friends.

She has a hard time dealing with her emotions, doesn't like to discuss hard issues and is very independent. I am honest, respectful and communicate. Cheating is not an option for me.

Last weekend was my birthday. She went with three friends to Tahoe to ski, which she didn't mention until a week before. It hurt me because I wanted to spend my birthday with her. She said that it was a difficult choice and that she was fearful of losing me. Lately, she doesn't acknowledge me as she used to and wants her independence.

Maybe I need to be with someone who wants to be in a serious, honest, caring relationship. But it's hard to think of anyone else because I love her. Am I settling?

—MT

DEAR MT:

Do you really need to ask if you're settling? This relationship will continue to hurt you because you and your girlfriend want different things.

It sucks to be with someone who is closeted. Closeted girlfriends don't like to do fun things, like make out on the beach or have sex in their childhood bedroom in their parents' house. They don't bring you to office parties or family weddings and pull you into the bathroom to kiss you. They usually lack a certain self-respect and self-acceptance, and that problem comes through in their work, their friendships and their relationships.

Your girlfriend doesn't seem capable of the three things you value: honesty, respect and communication. Lots of lesbians want what you want and would appreciate you. Ms. Behavior advises you to throw her back into the murky waters and find a better fishing hole. [X]

MERYL COHN is the author of *Do What I Say: Ms. Behavior's Guide to Gay and Lesbian Etiquette*. Signed copies are available directly from the author. Send questions or correspondence to msbehavior@aol.com.