

journey with us.

Through Sharing of Stories

Our group members are available to tell their stories regarding church, family, friends and self around the experience of being or relating to a sexual minority person or a family member. These stories reflect the journey of doubt, pain, seeking, and understanding that many experience when faced with these issues.

Through Open Dialogue

In sharing our stories we are eager to respond to questions. We do not seek to convince and challenge your thinking, rather we seek to be transparent and vulnerable about our own feelings and how we've sought understanding through Biblical study and relationship.

Through Mutual Prayer

We will always seek to pray together and build up the Body of Christ.

The Welcoming Dialogue Group

...is an ad-hoc group of Christians supporting lesbian, gay, and other sexual minority persons and their families. We work to include all in an open and welcoming environment, especially in Mennonite and Anabaptist churches. We invite you to join us in this work.

With a Simple Vision

We provide support, resources, and opportunities for dialogue, in the Spirit of Christ, to create and encourage this welcoming and open environment.

And a Goal

We meet with groups such as Christian education classes, house churches, families, hospitality gatherings, as well as pastors and leadership groups to share stories with a message of welcome.

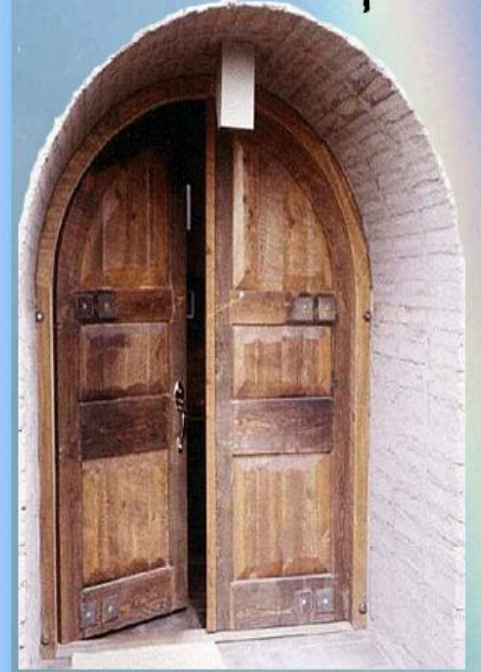
In this Brochure

... contact information for some members of the Welcoming Dialogue Group.
... a list of resources for families and others dealing with issues of sexual identity and their place in the church.
... an invitation to journey with us in discovering God's love for all people.

Visit our Website and Contact Us at:

www.welcomingdialoguegroup.org

Welcoming
Dialogue
Group



We invite you to...

Welcoming Dialogue Group

was founded by members of several Anabaptist churches in the Lancaster area, including Akron Mennonite, Community Mennonite, Neffsville Mennonite, and Pilgrims Mennonite; is supported by members of other churches, including Vision of Hope; and is open to all interested persons. Following are materials we have found helpful in promoting education and understanding in lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) issues.

Resources For... Families and Friends

From Wounded Hearts: Faith Stories edited by Roberta Kreider - ISBN: 0966482220

Prayers for Bobby by LeRoy Aaron - ISBN: 0062511238

Can Homophobia be Cured? by Bruce Hilton - ISBN: 0687046319

Hate Hurts: How Children Learn and Unlearn Prejudice by Stern-LaRosa and Hofheimer - ISBN: 0439211212

The Cost Of Truth edited by Roberta Showalter Kreider - ISBN: 0966482239

***Understanding Sexual Identity
Stranger at the Gate*** by Mel White - ISBN: 0671884077

Together in Love compiled by Roberta Kreider - ISBN: 0966482212

Pastor, I Am Gay by Howard Bess - ISBN: 0964412306

Coming Out Young and Faithful edited by Tigert and Brown - ISBN: 0829814140

Biblical Studies

Homosexuality and Christian Faith by Walter Wink - ISBN: 0800631862

Is the Homosexual My Neighbor? by Scazoni and Mollencott - ISBN: 00606707809

To Continue the Dialogue: Biblical Interpretation and Homosexuality by Norman Kraus - ISBN: 1931038015

Body and Soul: Rethinking Sexuality as Justice-Love by Ellison and Thorson-Smith - ISBN: 0829815619

Videos

Growing Up Gay – Brian McNaught
Visit: www.Brian-mcnaught.com

For the Bible tells me so – Daniel Karlslake
Visit: www.forthebibletellsmeso.org

Two videos from BMC, website listed below:

**- Body of Dissent:
Lesbian and Gay Mennonites and
Brethren Continue the Journey
- Coming Out Strong**

It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in School
Women's Educational Media; New Day Films.

Websites

Brethren Mennonite Council at
www.bmclgbt.org

Welcome Committee - Mennonite at
www.welcome-committee.org

Soulforce at www.soulforce.org

Vision of Hope (a local Metropolitan Comm. Church) www.visionofhopemcc.org

Silent Witnesses of Central PA – Helping LGBT community have peaceful events
www.silentwitnesspa.org

Email addresses for contacting members

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Welcoming Dialogue Group is a member of Supportive Communities Network (www.bmclgbt.org/scn.html)

A network of Mennonite and Church of the Brethren communities who welcome gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual members. SCN seeks to offer support, resources and opportunities for dialogue among welcoming individuals and congregations. The network also seeks to address denominational issues.