



Labor Day Retreat 2012

By Charlie Robison

Courageously Challenge!

In Section 163:3b of the Doctrine and Covenants we are admonished, "Above all else strive to be faithful to Christ's vision of the peaceable kingdom of God on earth. Courageously challenge cultural, political, and religious trends that are contrary to the reconciling and restoring purposes of God. Pursue peace."

As we move toward the USA National Conference in 2013, we are lifting up as a theme for this year's retreat "Courageously Challenge!" You are invited to



come and share your gifts and perspectives as we consider how together we can pursue the direction that's been given to us in this section of the Doctrine and Covenants. The challenges before us are monumental and sometimes daunting, but the Spirit calls us to come and spend time with our Creator as a group of his beloved sons and daughters.

This year's Labor Day retreat (August 31-September 3) will be on the beautiful grounds of Camp Doniphan in Excelsior Springs, Missouri. Our special guest minister will be Presiding Evangelist Dave Brock, who brings a sensitivity of ministry and spiritual presence that will minister to all who come. We will have a special get-acquainted-and-sharing session with him one evening, when those who have not had an opportunity to know him before will come to appreciate the ministry that he offers.

We're also looking forward to having a representative from World Church International Headquarters to update us on preparations and procedures for the 2013 Conference, which is eagerly anticipated by all of us. It's a session you won't want to miss!

This year's banquet theme is "It's Not Easy Being Green," and the color...what else but green?! Think fun...and Kermit the Frog.

Also, be sure to bring items for the silent auction, and plan on sharing your talents at the talent show.

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GALA

Executive Board

Saundra Merth, President

smerth_coc@yahoo.com

**Clyde Phillips-Frey,
Secretary**

cfrey@onairaudit.com

**David Woosley, Under
Secretary for Publications**

dwoosley@sbcglobal.net

Chuck Hewitt, Treasurer

galatreasurer@gmail.com

Charles Robison, Chaplain

lazaruscomeout@gmail.com

Members At Large:

Allan Fiscus

acfiscusrn@comcast.net

Erin Cavanaugh

erincolleencavanaugh@yahoo.com

Stephen Donahoe

sjydonahoe@gmail.com

Visit us on the web

at:

galaweb.org

President's Message

by Saundra Merth

If you haven't watched President Veazey's address of "Good News" to the church then take time out to do it right now. Search for it on the church website www.cofchrist.org. It is easy to watch the video or read the transcript directly from the website. It is an important message to the whole body of Community of Christ where he states our diversity is a gift! The fact that this message is part of a sermon titled "Hearing Good News - Being Good News" is not lost on me.

Becky Savage presented information about the various national conferences being held worldwide over the next year and a half. The church's draft statement of sexual ethics and reflection questions are located on the website and everyone is encouraged to have open and honest discussions. Please keep Australia and Canada in your prayers as they are having their national conference in June 2012 with the national conference here in the United States in April 2013 right after World Conference and then the British Isles in October of 2013. The question of ordained ministry for the LGBT community and recognizing our relationships will be discussed.

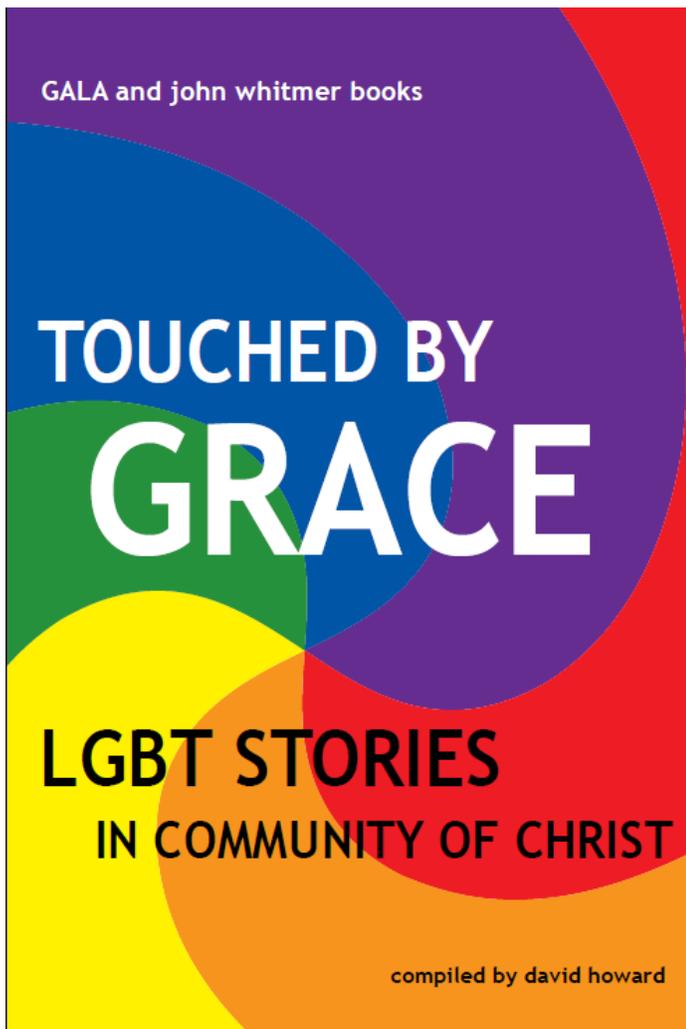
Part of Steve Veazey's message is based on the scripture from Galatians 3:28 and our call to be One in Christ. Our community of Oneness does not mean we all agree on everything but it does mean we learn to live with respect with the differing viewpoints throughout our larger community. Not just tolerate, but gracefully embrace each other and focus on the many things that we have in common. President Veazey's call to refuse to label and assign worth to people based on these labels is something I have wanted to hear from our church all my life.

A community of Oneness while celebrating our diversity is something that has got me so excited that this is being spoken from World Church leadership to the worldwide church I can barely contain myself. The telling of the story of Peter going to the home of Cornelius which can be found in Acts 10 and 11 is a brilliant connection to our story today. This story shines a light on how the Jewish people viewed the Gentiles of their day. Jewish people wouldn't break bread with a Gentile because of their disgust or even hatred. Peter was given a vision and was tested on this long held belief and they came together in a type of national conference at the time and thru much discussion came to accept and include Gentiles. I encourage you to read the story and see for yourself how it relates to us today.

Veazey states that in a community that upholds the worth of all persons the majority should not decide for the minority without first listening to them. He is calling for a time of ethical discussion and I would ask that as we go forward into this time of discernment and hopeful change that we pray for the minds of all the members of Community of Christ to be open to this message of Oneness and full inclusion of all our brothers and sisters in Christ.

If you make a purchase from Amazon, don't forget to go to the GALA website first, then click on the Amazon logo. GALA receives a percentage of all purchases this way. Here's a trick: Create a bookmark for Amazon and then go into the properties of the bookmark and change the address to the GALA website.

amazon.com



Touched by Grace is another wonderful compilation of life stories from GALA members, family and friends. After months of work collecting stories, reading stories, editing stories, designing covers, finding pictures, the final proof reading and implementing the corrections, the GALA Board and John Whitmer Books is proud to announce, *Touched By Grace!*

Approximately 200 books have been ordered to date.

Check out the GALA website and order your copy today!

New Opportunity for Creating Local GALA Affiliates

GALA has adopted guidelines for local groups who would like to become official affiliates. This is a wonderful opportunity to share in your local area with other GALA members who are interested in furthering the aims and goals of the organization.

The requirements have been kept to a minimum in order to encourage participation by local groups. These are:

- Have a minimum of five (5) local members who are members of GALA.
- Appoint a person as the affiliate liaison.
- Request affiliation in a written statement by completing the affiliate application and mailing to GALA headquarters.

For the complete adopted guidelines, please visit the GALA website and click on "Affiliate Guidelines." The application may also be downloaded and--when completed--mailed to GALA headquarters.

Among the benefits of sponsoring a local GALA affiliate will be the fun and fellowship from associating together, working to support the broader aims of the parent organization, and the opportunity to sponsor local gatherings for building community and support for the local members. (Affiliates may apply for seed money to help sponsor local events. This application form is also available on the GALA website.)

Questions? E-mail President Sandra Merth at smersh_coc@yahoo.com.

Summer Reunions 2012

by Sandra Merth

The reunion initiative that was mentioned in the last newsletter has really taken off. GALA members have been welcomed to speak at approximately 15 different reunions around the country this summer. We welcome more invitations and participation by any member out there who is willing to spend an afternoon at your local reunion sharing your story with those in attendance. If you are already planning to attend a reunion please speak to the organizer ahead of time to get permission to lead a group discussion and seek out a board member for any guidance or direction you might need.

WCN hosted a "Graceful Engagement" webinar on June 12 and the link to listen to that at a later date will be made available to anyone who wishes to listen. Look on the GALA website after the 12th to get more details about how you can find it. Those of us already planning to attend reunions were on this call and found the information invaluable. Besides the webinar we are hopeful that one chapter of the study guide for Touched By Grace will be available to those attending reunions. The full study guide will be available sometime this fall and available thru the GALA website.

As the board president I have been in discussions with Apostle Ron Harmon about how best to put a face on the issue before the 2013 USA National Conference and having chat sessions seems the best way to do that. It requires that those of us willing to put ourselves out there go prayerfully and full of grace. Understand that those that have differing views than our own have been taught what they believe by people they love. I ask that before you lead one of these discussion groups that you take the time to listen to President Veazey's message "Hearing Good News - Being Good News" via the link on Community of Christ website (<http://www.cofchrist.org/presidency/AprilAddress/041512/default.asp>).

The only thing keeping us from going to more reunions is the lack of funds and people with time available. We have considered putting together a video that visiting Apostles and other ministers can

take with them to reunions but don't have the funds to put this together either. I ask that anyone who has time, money or the skills needed to put together a DVD for this use please reach out to me personally at smarth_coc@yahoo.com. I also want to thank all those who are participating on GALA's behalf this summer. Some of you are facilitating the discussion and others are the organizers of various camps. None of this would have been possible without you - so thank you from the bottom of my heart.

Temple Planting 2012



Candidates for GALA Board Positions

President—Saundra Merth



I grew up in Independence, MO in the RLDS church until I came out as a lesbian and left the church for many years. My story is in TBG - "Left Twice, But Still Here" for more background. I have been a member of GALA since my first retreat in 2000 at Samish Island and a board member since 2005 when I was asked to join the board as a member-at-large by David Howard. When David died in January just one day before our annual board retreat I was elected as the President

pro-tempore. Although David and I had talked before the retreat about me taking on a larger role I was looking forward to his mentorship. Even though I did not get this invaluable time to learn from one of the best leaders GALA has had I have felt a strong call to this position and ask for your support.

Vice President—Clyde Phillips-Frey



In my personal story, "Does it Matter? Yes, we are made in God's Image!" found in *Touched by Grace*, at the ending of the poem quoted on the first page, the question is posed: "My God asked me, "Do you love yourself?", I said, "Does it matter?", He said, "Yes." I said, "How can I love myself? I am gay..." He said, "That is the way I made you.". Nothing again will ever matter." The point being that what matters most is that we are loved by God,

our creator, everywhere we go, anyone we become, whenever we least expect it and no one can change these facts.

I was searching Google Images the other day for pictures that I might be able to use in a power point for a church service and I came across a stunning photo of a field of yellow tulips that practically ran for as far as the eye could see, with something in the horizon for definition, and one, solitary red tulip about one-third of the way into the picture sticking up about six inches or so above the all the others. I was struck with the beauty of the scene and then struck with the caption: lonely, not alone.

Exactly! Many are fearful of being, living, existing alone. Where do they go, who can they meet, where can they find a God that loves them? From an open letter to WNY congregations that extends an invitation to join a group [Network of WNY Open and Affirming Congregations] that my husband and I helped form a couple of years ago that aspires to provide direction for those individuals that are seeking a place to worship in a fully inclusive setting that is open and affirming, it says: "We offer the WNY – LGBT community, as well as the greater WNY community, resources identifying congregations with safe, loving, fully inclusive worship opportunities. We strongly believe that everyone has a place at the table and that we are called together to stand as one...**so that none need stand alone!**" (emphasis added)

Yes, no one needs stand alone in this life, regardless of who, where, what or when! In a number of our weekly bulletins at Community of Christ, Buffalo-Clarence congregation we include the statement: "Whoever you are, or wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!" Our journey continues each week as we worship, when bright new faces grace our sanctuary, when we find a way to recognize a need and help, and when we offer love and support to help heal and raise up someone in need.

It seems to me that I've spent enough time as GALA Secretary as I complete my second two-year term and so I've decided to stand for election to Vice President. Although this is a one-year term and someone new will follow me next year, I think it is important to maintain continuity as we continue our forward momentum. I look ahead to an exciting year with the upcoming World Conference followed by the US Conference and continue to pray that we, as a people, will listen and follow the movement of the good spirit as our institution seeks to move in concert with our God.

Cindy Campbell—Secretary



I live in Gainesville, FL, am the Florida Mission Center Young Adult Minister and hold the priesthood office of High Priest. I am a Licensed Mental Health Counselor, a Brain Gym Instructor/Facilitator, a member of PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), a member of Dining for Women (a giving circle which funds education and medical services to empower women in poverty), and with Mark Dixon and Peter Smith, co-planned the first Florida GALA Retreat last February which was held at our

Florida Deerhaven Campgrounds. All my life I have been very involved in our church camping program. I am a retired Elementary School Counselor. I have a B.S.

degree in Food and Nutrition from Iowa State University and M.A. and Ed.S. degrees in Counselor Education from the University of Florida.

I have been married to Ken Campbell for 45 years and we have 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren; Elena and her family live in Huntsville, AL, and Jenny and her family live in Chula Vista near San Diego, CA, at present. David Howard was my brother. Since retiring, Ken and I spend part of each year in Colorado.

I love gardening with native plants, hiking, yoga, reading, cooking, going to the beach, advocating for human rights issues and the environment, traveling, spiritual growth retreats, watching documentaries, learning new things, and keeping connected with friends. I have a budding spiritual practice.

Mike Hewitt—Member-at-Large

Grew up in Marion Michigan and graduated from High School in 1973. I received a BS in Horticulture from the University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, MN and a BA in Child Psychology from

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Metropolitan State University, Saint Paul Minnesota. I worked for Abbott NW Hospital, Minneapolis, MN in Neuropsychology, working with severe brain injury patients, stroke patients and patients with Epilepsy. While in Minnesota I tested positive for HIV in the mid-eighties. I have supported HIV and Aids programs through the years with Aids walks. It was in the mid-eighties that I was diagnosed with HIV and have been a long term survivor.

I moved back to Michigan where I spent years remodeling an old farm house which we turned into a cozy little B&B. I also worked as a gardener for prominent lakeshore families. It was here that I became acquainted with GALA and attended my first GALA retreat outside of Chicago. At the GALA retreat in 1999 was where I met my spouse Chuck. I now live in Independence. Chuck and I have attended most GALA retreats since we met.

I have been a member of the Community of Christ since I was 8. Chuck and I are very active with the Cornerstone congregation where we teach Sunday school and Bible school. I have headed worship committee and been in charge of community outreach. I have been a counselor for children's camp. Chuck and I cook a Thanksgiving meal for the immediate neighborhood and have cooked for various retreats in our two immediate mission centers. I serve as the horticultural advisor for the Stone Church community gardens and provide gardening instruction. I have designed the Temple planters which GALA has planted for the last 3 years

GALA has been an important part of my life over the years. I look forward to serving GALA and being an active part of its future. I ask for your vote to be member-at-large on the GALA board.

Mike McFall—Member-at-Large



I grew up in Burton, Michigan, a small town, just outside of Flint, where I attended the University of Michigan - Flint. I am the Communications Manager for the Williams Syndrome Association, a national nonprofit based in Troy, Michigan just north of Detroit. I have several years of experience working for nonprofit organizations, both as a volunteer and employee, and I currently serve as the

Compassionate Ministries coordinator for the Troy Oaks Congregation.

I would like to run for the Member-at-large position because I believe this is a critical moment in the life of the Church and I would like to do everything I can to help it move forward in a progressive and welcoming direction.

Della Mowrey—Member-at-Large

My life began in Willoughby, Ohio where I was given a unique foundation in the RLDS church now Community of Christ. As a child, many wonderful memories were established for me as I worshiped in the Kirtland Temple always cherishing the history and dedication



of my ancestors. My love for God and humanity was instilled by my loving family and my church. At nine years old I was uprooted by my parents to Florida where my family was the support of keeping the Clearwater church thriving. Eventually, we established a mission about two hours north in Spring Hill that existed for a number of years until unforeseen happenings disbanded it. I grew up attending all the

church camps and reunions, which ingrained my heart with a need for more. At twenty, I married a minister in the church and in southern California I became a pastor's wife for a few years. During periods of my life I took a hiatus from the church, looking for other answers, discoveries and acceptance. One thing, that never left me, was my loving God or the Holy Spirit, who has always been my inner guide and comforter.

During my early twenties I discovered my sexuality, but it was not until 15 years of marriage and three children, I did something about it. Years after my divorce in 2001 I was welcomed at my first GALA, a life changing event, making such an impact on my life that I vowed then and there to do everything within my power to attend every retreat thereafter. Eleven years later, I have kept my promise to myself except for the GALA event in Canada where my personal finances were restricted. Not only have I found this organization as a stepping stone for my own awareness in my sexuality, but an unconditional well of love and acceptance from a group of like minded people. As a long term member of this affiliation, my desire is to welcome others with the same love and compassion given me. My educational majors includes law, criminal justice, art and photography. I have been trained and certified as a Mediator and my work history consists of legal, managerial, health care, public relations and business ownership. I am ready to bring my experience, education, and talents to the forefront so that I can be an asset to this foundation as we work in unity through Christ. I pray as a collective body GALA will be a huge resource amongst the people at large, resulting with positive change for all. I thank you for your consideration to become a board member. God bless each of you in your decision making!

Nathan Phillips-Frey—Member-at-Large



Nathan has been an advocate and active volunteer for numerous HIV/AIDS organizations over the past 22 years. In the 90's, he was one of the first educators in NYS to develop a middle school directed HIV/AIDS education curriculum. During this time, Nathan share his unique teaching techniques for promoting awareness and prevention of the HIV/AIDS virus. In 1992, two of his closest friends were diagnosed with HIV. Feeling the urge to do more to

help prevent this epidemic, Nathan began volunteering time to raise much needed funds to battle the disease.

In 1993, to pay honor to his friends who lost their battle with AIDS, Nathan discovered a "hidden talent" and began to perform in

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Blessed Beyond Our Wildest Hopes!

By Cindy Campbell

"Blessed beyond our wildest hopes!"

"We went deeper, sooner than I ever hoped we could!"

"For the first time ever, I felt free to share openly (about my LGBT family member) without fear of judgment, and without having to be secretive."

Laura Mueller from Jacksonville, FL, shared, "This is the first church event I've been to where I felt I could fully share how God made me, which is bisexual. It was a freeing experience to be able to share that 'secret' with members of the LGBT community and supporters, some of whom, I have known much of my life."

Kristin Amaral from Gainesville, FL, noticed, "What stood out to me was the openness and willingness for people of all ages and groups, some more unlike than others, yet a space of safety and love that was very unexpected!!"

Those are some of the comments heard during and after our first FL GALA retreat last weekend, Feb 24-26, 2012, at Deerhaven Campgrounds in FL.

Peter Smith, Co-Director of the Retreat: "Our intention was to create a sacred space where diversity was celebrated, stories were shared and honored, and new friendships were developed and nurtured. Beyond our wildest dreams, God's presence settled among us and blessed every moment we spent together. I left Sunday morning filled with hope for what God has in store us, when we truly embrace the blessings of our amazing diversity."

Thirty of us LGBT and allies met and had a lot of fun and fellowship while we shared, cried and laughed in small and large groups, played volleyball and Pictionary, cross dressed, ate in colorful surroundings, and sang and worshipped together.

Our closing service was a beautiful Communion service with the visual and musical Arts intermingled with evangelist messages, a hand washing ceremony, sacramental ritual, and testimony.

We were richly blessed and inspired to be advocates and to stay connected. Some are now planning local

(Candidate's Continued from page 7)

the alter ego, Gladys Over. Gladys has become one of Western New York's most respected and admired drag queens; awarded "Best Drag Performer" by Art Voice in Buffalo for 2012 and 2011. For the past six years, Gladys has been the hostess of Buffalo Gay Bingo, whose proceeds benefit the charities of the AIDS Plus Fund of Western New York and are distributed to local AIDS/HIV agencies that have lost state funding. Over \$100,000 has been raised for local HIV/AIDS organizations and he pledges to continue to do what he has to do, "until this crisis is over!"

Nathan earned his B.S. in Elementary Education/Special Education from D'Youville College and a M.S. in Deaf Education from Canisius College. A professional educator for nearly three decades, Nathan is currently a 6th grade teacher in the Amherst Central School District. He has received numerous professional awards in his tenure as an educator. Nathan received the New York State Excellence in Teaching Award from the Council for Exceptional Children, awarded an Outstanding Mentor Award from Canisius College, and has been recognized as Teacher of the Year at Amherst Middle School. He served on the D'Youville College Alumni Board of Directors, the Boards of the Buffalo Historical Bowling League as well as the Queen City Softball League, served as a marriage

ambassador for the Empire State Pride Agenda, and currently serves as a delegate to the New York State Teacher Retirement System and is a proud member of both the Buffalo Gay Men's Chorus and the Imperial Court of Buffalo.

Nathan is an author whose personal story, "I Am A Whosoever!", was published in GALA's recent book, *Touched by Grace* (books can be ordered on the GALA website: www.galaweb.org). He and his partner of thirteen years, Clyde Frey, were legally married on the Niagara Reservation State Park, Niagara Falls, NY on July 25, 2011, on the first day it was legal for same-sex couples to marry in NYS. The Phillips-Frey's reside in downtown Buffalo and are actively involved in Community of Christ, Buffalo-Clarence congregation.

I believe that volunteerism is a 'core value' upon which our country, our church and our very lives depend. I ask for your vote when you cast a ballot for Member-at-Large! Thank you!

Additional nominations may be made by submitting names to the Secretary of the Board of Directors, Clyde Phillips-Frey, 339 Lakefront Boulevard, Buffalo, NY 14202, cfrey@onairaudit.com; submissions must be received no later than July 1 (Bylaws, Article IV: Board of Directors, Section 3: Elections, paragraph 3).

MY JOURNEY WITH GALA

by Melba Jean Dixon

I suppose I was more than a little apprehensive as I boarded the plane in Michigan and began a Labor Day weekend flight to Los Angeles where I was to attend my first GALA Retreat. The year was 1996, and there was a lot I didn't understand about my middle son Mark's disclosure that he was gay. However, Mark had purchased a ticket for a non-stop flight, and there was no turning back. What I was about to experience would forever change my life.

Not many parents and supporters attended in those days, thus I wasn't prepared for the genuinely enthusiastic welcome I received on my arrival—simply because I came. I met a group of individuals who were finding joy in being their true selves, while, at the same time, finding a safe sanctuary in which to unburden themselves of their tremendous pain and suffering. As I listened, I heard stories of rejection by parents, by society, and by the church. I listened to a weeping young man who forfeited his priesthood in order to share his life with the person he loved. Another whose daughter's call to the priesthood had been blocked because of her sexuality. There were stories of heartbreak and despair, but there were games and joyous laughter. There was applause as I introduced my comedy act, "The Unknown Grandma" during our talent show. There was no doubt that the Spirit was present as we worshipped together in oneness. After all these years, I remember the young elder who knelt at my feet and whispered blessings as he offered the communion emblems. Sitting next to me was a young man who had recently lost his mother. As I held his hand, an incredible Spirit washed over me. Years later, he shared with me that, during our time together, he had felt that I was his mother, bringing comfort to him as he grieved.

Since my first GALA retreat, I have been "hooked" on GALA. Each retreat has been uniquely different, yet I can always rely on a wonderful experience. I have had many opportunities to meet persons who are struggling with their sexuality, to assure them of God's unconditional love for them, and to encourage them to accept their true sexuality. It has been difficult to hear the deep regret of a parent who initially rejected a child, or placed them in therapy in an effort to change their

sexuality. I also treasure the enlightenment I've received at retreats where I have met transgender persons. Their transformation is a joy to behold!

GALA members have experienced many highs and lows as we have worked and waited for full acceptance within the church we love. I believe it is worth the struggle to remain faithful. I have chosen to work within the church to bring about greater understanding. I believe the spirit of love is more powerful than we can imagine.

A woman from my home congregation in Michigan asked to meet with me about a matter of concern. I invited her to my home. As we sat, she informed me that she had heard that my son Mark is gay and that I was supporting him by going to GALA retreats. She and her husband had composed a letter to be sent to church officials requesting that our priesthood be removed. She wanted to hear from me that the accusation was true before they sent the letter. I assured her it was true. I began by telling her I understood her concern. If I had not been the mother of a gay son, I too, may not understand. I spoke of her gay nephew. She acknowledged that he is a good person but admitted she had not invited him to family gatherings because he is gay. She began to see that her problem was prejudice. We embraced as she departed in the spirit of peace. The ending may have been quite different had I reacted with resentment for what she was about to do. Love and the Holy Spirit saved the day!

Discrimination within the church has been painful and I deeply regret the loss of many LGBT members. I hope and pray for the day when no child will live in fear of expressing who God created them to be. I dream of a future when we celebrate the beauty of diversity in all its many forms. Only then, will we proudly embrace the name, Community of Christ. Many years ago Mark told me if we receive full acceptance and lose those who disagree, we have no victory. The thought weighs heavily upon us. The Holy Spirit can change hearts. I believe that once again in our history, "a marvelous work and a wonder is about to come forth." May we join in the preparation, and share in the joy it brings!

GALA Membership Approves Amending the Bylaws

by Clyde Phillips-Frey, GALA Secretary

The GALA Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to extend thanks to our members for participating in the Bylaw Amendment process and for concurring in approval of the recommended changes.

One hundred nineteen Ballots with an 'Official Issue Date' of April 18, 2012 were mailed to those members whose dues were currently recorded as being 'paid'. The packet included five pages of the proposed changes and a ballot page. The ballots were marked such that they needed to be postmarked no later than May 8, 2012. Sixty-three ballots (53%) were returned by the balloting deadline; all ballots were in the affirmative.

One of the resulting changes is the addition of the office of Vice President. The GALA Nominating Committee was advised of the change and has been seeking individuals interested in standing for election to the office of Vice President for a one-year term (2013). Next year the committee will again look for an individual interested in standing for election to this office, but going forward from that point the term will be two-years (2014 – 2015).

The Vice President shall be a signor on the banking instruments of the corporation, shall perform such duties assigned by the President or the Board of Directors, and shall serve in the capacity of President whenever the President shall temporarily be unavailable or unable to perform their duties as prescribed in the Bylaws. In a perfect world the person that serves as Vice President could subsequently stand for election and become elected President-elect, transition to President, and then serve a year as Immediate Past President, providing an important continuity for the organization.

The other resulting change is the conversion of fiscal year to coincide with the calendar year. The

change will be effected by a 'transitional three-month fiscal year' of October 1, 2012 through December 31, 2012 creating a bridge between the current twelve-month fiscal year and a calendar fiscal year that begins on January 1, 2013. Basically, the office terms that are currently in effect will be extended by three months; the terms of office will also move to a calendar year basis.

The Bylaws have been updated to reflect the approved amendments and are available on the GALA website:

www.galaweb.org

> 'About Us' tab
> Bylaws.

Please take a look the next time you visit the site!



(Labor Day Retreat 2012 Continued from page 1)

The registration form found on the GALA website may be downloaded and sent to the listed address. It may also be found on page 9 of this newsletter.

Registration will be Friday evening, 4-7 pm. All fees are due at this time. Cost for the retreat is \$175 per person. A limited number of scholarships are available for those needing assistance.

Come and experience the blessings of community anew by joining us at Camp Doniphan this Labor Day weekend where we'll make new friends, renew old, and create memories to last a lifetime!

Have questions? E-mail Chuck Hewitt at galatreasurer@gmail.com.



Courageously Challenge

GALA RETREAT 2012
REGISTRATION FORM
August 31-September 3
Camp Doniphan
12856 Doniphan Lake Rd.
Excelsior Springs, MO 64024



David Brock, Presiding Evangelist, Guest Minister

Please complete this form and return it by August 15 so that we have an accurate count and can prepare for you. Payment is due at the beginning of the Retreat on August 31.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ E-mail: _____

Special Dietary Needs: _____

Medical/Special needs: _____

For Airport pickup, please contact Chuck Hewitt for arrangements;
(816) 616-5883 or galatreasurer@gmail.com

Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Fees:

Adults: \$175.00, kids 5-12 \$115.00 (under 5 free)

(Limited sponsorships available contact smerth_coc@yahoo.com)

2 people per room; Roommate Preference: _____

(Each room has a bath; pillows, bedding and towels provided)

Mail Registration to:

GALA RETREAT

P.O. Box 2173

Independence, MO 64055

For more information: Contact Chuck Hewitt, (816) 616-5883, galatreasurer@gmail.com



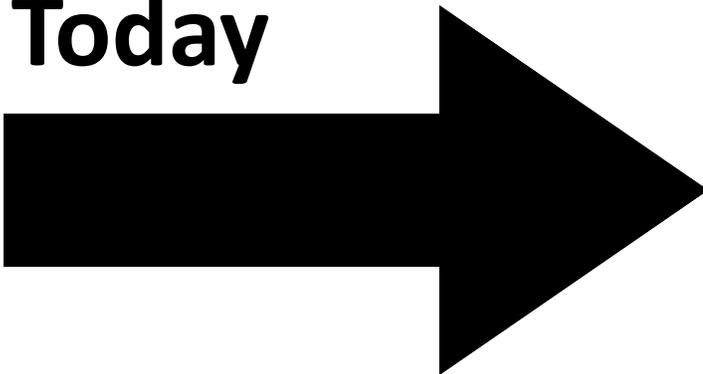
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2012 GALA Membership

Name(s): _____

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YES; send me the newsletter by e-mail

Address: _____

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Membership Level (U.S. dollars):

Individual(\$25) Family(\$40)

Limited Income(\$10)

I would like to make an additional contribution to advance GALA's outreach and educational goals:

\$50 \$100 \$200 or \$ _____

Contributions to GALA are tax deductible.

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