

## Walking the Talk of Welcome

Is an opportunity to hear the stories of some of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered members of congregations of the ELCA, New England Synod. It is also an opportunity to learn about the Reconciling in Christ process through which congregations work at becoming more open and welcoming to all people.

- ❖ Many members have felt left out or unwelcome in their congregations because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.
- ❖ They feel uncomfortable and not fully accepted in their own congregations.
- ❖ Some have left Lutheran congregations in search of more accepting congregations, or have left the church altogether.

The New England Synod is a Reconciling in Christ Synod—one that welcomes Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered people.



*Living in God's amazing grace*

The Synod Task Force for Gay and Lesbian Understanding *and* Lutherans Concerned North America encourages individuals and congregations interested in becoming more open and welcoming to all people to attend **Walking the Talk of Welcome**.

For more information on **Walking the Talk of Welcome:**  
Julie Reuning-Scherer  
(860) 645-0683  
[jirs@aya.yale.edu](mailto:jirs@aya.yale.edu)

Inquiries concerning  
The Synod Task Force for Gay and Lesbian Understanding may be addressed to  
[PastorPipho@aol.com](mailto:PastorPipho@aol.com)

## Walking the Talk of Welcome:

When: June 14, 2008 (Saturday)

Time: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church  
73 Lancaster Street  
Worcester, MA

Lunch will be provided

Your team will:

- Pray and laugh
- Hear from GLBT Lutherans
- Meditate on scripture
- Learn about the RIC process
- Consider the experience of congregations that have made a formal affirmation of welcome to the GLBT community
- Be directed to additional resources that can help your congregation understand GLBT concerns

Registration: Send form and \$20 (per congregation) to  
New England Synod  
PO Box 13  
Worcester, MA 01614-0013

The Synod Task Force for Gay and Lesbian Understanding is dedicated to helping the congregations of The ELCA New England Synod become more open and welcoming to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and questioning members of their congregations and the general population.

**Walking the Talk of Welcome  
Registration Form**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Congregation \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

The Synod Task Force for Gay and Lesbian Understanding  
New England Synod  
20 Upland Street  
Worcester, MA 01607-1624

# Walking theTalk of Welcome

Developing  
Reconciling in Christ  
congregations in  
The New England Synod  
of the ELCA



June 14, 2008  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
Worcester, Massachusetts