

Be a visible sign of hope for LGBTQ inclusion in the church:

WEAR PINK!

Pink Menno Main Events

Thursday, July 2nd 12:30pm **Witness for Inclusion Press Conference** – Outside the main doors of the Convention Center – Wear your pink and stop by the hospitality room to make signs, banners, etc. We need you there!

Friday, July 3rd 6:45pm **Youth/Adult hymn sing** – Our culminating event! We need all supporters of LGBTQ inclusion to join us in wearing pink to this hymn sing celebration. Let's show the church how much fun we are!

Ongoing Activities

Midday prayer services 12:15-12:30 outside the adult worship hall by the green and pink banner

Pink Menno hymn sing outside the worship hall 30 minutes before every worship service

Join us in the Hospitality Room in the Muirfield Ballroom in the Crowne Plaza Hotel (attached to the convention center):

- Wed July 1** 3:15 - 5:15pm: seminar, Carol Wise "How Heterosexism Hurts the Church"
8 - 10pm: seminar, Sharon Waltner and Carolyn Schrock-Shenk "Agreeing and Disagreeing: Can we still talk when we disagree?"
9pm - 12am: *For the Bible Tells Me So*: documentary screening for youth followed by discussion
- Thur July 2** 4:15-5:15pm: seminar, Steve Goering and Marlene Suter "Learning to Agree and Disagree in Love: A Congregation Processes Membership Issues"
- Fri July 3** 4:15-5:15pm: seminar, Lin Garber "The Eunuch Trajectory in the Bible: Jerusalem to Gaza by way of Isaiah"
8-10:30pm: *For the Bible Tells Me So*: documentary screening for adults followed by discussion
- Sat July 4** 4:15-5:15pm: seminar, Sheri Hostetler "Sexual Ethics Beyond the Rules"

Pink Menno

@ Mennonite Church Convention
Columbus, OH
June 30-July 5, 2009



Introduction and Action Guide

"I dream of the day when young people will not associate their sexuality with self-destruction." – *pinkmenno.org* member

ONE HOPE

We are witnesses to the violence the church has done to LGBTQ people, especially young LGBTQ people, and many of us have personally experienced that violence. We dream of a church that confesses this violence and a community that is newly alive and vibrant through the healing of this violence. We have **HOPE** to continue being part of a church that allows us to learn more about these ideals and live them out.

What does the church we dream of look like? It's a place where LGBTQ people are people, just like everyone else. They (we) can be full members, marry, and minister as God calls.

ONE CHURCH

There is a lot of disagreement in the Mennonite church over these goals because many people view the sexual nature of LGBTQ people's relationships as inherently sinful. We know about this disagreement and are not afraid of it.

The **CHURCH** is Christ's body in the world. Where there are people speaking out for love and justice, they are being part of Christ's body. We'd rather be there, in Christ's living body, than in any sort of fearful avoidance of tension, disagreement, and conflict. What is there to fear?

ONE SPIRIT

How does change happen? How does the Spirit break through, and transform what appears to be a two-sided human conflict into an opening for God's love, power, and grace?

Jesus modeled nonviolent love. Many others have taught us about the path of nonviolent resistance. This is the path we use. We know that many might see any action around a controversial issue as a "dangerous" stirring up of divisions. We choose instead to hold onto the hope of the **SPIRIT'S** transforming, continuously alive presence in our midst. The **SPIRIT** uses us to do things we can't even yet dream of. That is the journey we're on.

PinkMenno GOALS:

- Full LGBTQ inclusion and participation in the Mennonite church (including full membership, ordination, and marriage).
- Apology from Mennonite church for silencing and/or committing spiritual violence against LGBTQ's.
- LGBTQ issues addressed at home congregations.
- Church statements revisited/issued on these (above) issues.

Join in online:

pinkmenno.org

LGBTQ. What does this stand for?

Lesbian, **G**ay, **B**isexual, **T**ransgender, **Q**ueer.

Queer: -a term encompassing one whose sexual orientation, identity, or expression does not conform to hetero-normative society. This word was once a derogatory and offensive term used to slander the LGBT community but has been reclaimed by many (but not all) in the LGBT community.

"Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection."

- **Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from a Birmingham Jail**

Are you lukewarm? Take Action!