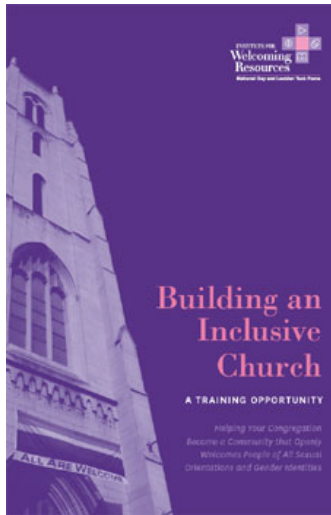


Building an Inclusive Church Training



Would you like your church and the whole Bay Area religious community to be more welcoming of lesbian, gays, bisexual, and transgender individuals and their families?

Would you like to lead your congregation through a thoughtful and well-planned discussion of how to become “welcoming” both officially and in daily practice?

Is your church already ONA and wondering how to more intentionally live out your inclusive identity?

On April 9 to 11, the Institute for Welcoming Resources (IWR) will bring an ecumenical “Building an Inclusive Church” training to Eden United Church of Christ in Hayward to explore these issues and to talk about the step-by-step process to facilitate a welcoming process in your local congregation. The seminar is Biblically- and theologically-based and uses tools of relational organizing, congregational assessment, conflict management and change theory. Topics include:

- Faith-based community organizing techniques
- Congregational conflict theory and resolution
- Managing change in congregations well
- Effective strategies for helping congregations discern the call to be welcoming
- Building relationships for change
- Dealing with difficult conversations around biblical material, stereotypes, and the "b" and the "t" questions,
- Opportunity to build relationships with others who share your concerns
- Personal spiritual enrichment
- Opportunity for growth and challenge
- Intense few days of hard work, laughter, and fun

Training Schedule

The training begins with lunch at 12:00 PM on Friday, April 9 and ends at 3:00 PM on Sunday, April 11. The trainers ask that you plan to arrive for lunch on Friday (it sets the stage for the training) and stay until the end on Sunday. The cost of the training is only \$85, which includes training, all materials, and meals (3 lunches/2 dinners), which are being provided by Eden UCC.

Registration Deadline is March 26, 2010. For an information packet and to register, please go to:

www.welcomingresources.org/communityorg.htm