

Rainbow Fellowship

A community for members of the LGBTQIA communities and its allies. We gather in faith and service to provide an environment of support, resources, and fun! As a proud member of the More Light Presbyterians, we welcome all who wish to join us in faithful service for justice, peace and love.

♥ Love Grows Here ♥

Upcoming Events:

Rainbow Fellowship Service – Sunday, June 10

Join us for our summer service at 9:30 am and enjoy a very special performance by OVation.



2018 Twin Cities Pride Festival – Saturday, June 23 & Sunday, June 24

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church will be represented at a booth in Loring Park by members of the Rainbow Fellowship, the Youth Group and Oasis! Volunteer to be one of those representatives by signing up in the narthex. Booth shifts are two hours in length from 10 AM – 6 PM (both Saturday and Sunday).



2017 OGPC Rainbow Fellowship Booth @ Loring Park

2018 Ashley Rukes GLBT Pride Parade – Sunday, June 24

Named in honor of the late Ashley Rukes, a transgender LGBTQ rights activist, the annual pride parade runs along Hennepin Avenue in Downtown Minneapolis beginning at 11 AM. The Parade route starts at 3rd and Hennepin and ends at Spruce and Hennepin. Take a free Metro Transit Ride to Pride by downloading your free pass at <https://www.tcpride.org/ride-to-pride/>



2018 Post Pride Potluck and Pool Party – Details to be Announced

Following all the hard work and fun everyone has put in for Pride, we can enjoy a little more celebration by getting together, enjoying a little food and some fun in the sun. Details will be shared via email.



Want to know more? Join our mailing list by emailing: Pride@oakgrv.org



12 easy (and we mean easy) things you can do to support the LGBTQ communities:

1. **Support LGBTQ owned businesses and restaurants.** I know you are thinking, “Amy, how do we know if a business or restaurant is LGBTQ owned?” Look for the rainbow! Almost all LGBTQ owned businesses display the rainbow flag. Also, the Twin Cities Quorum tracks LGTBQ owned and supportive businesses. You can visit them at www.twincitiesquorum.com.
2. **Check your employer and frequently visited corporations, such as your bank and stores you frequent, for their Human Rights Campaign Equality Index numbers.** You can find this information at <https://www.hrc.org/campaigns/corporate-equality-index>. Minnesota has many corporations headquartered here with 100% HRC Equality Index. These include but are not limited to: Best Buy, Ameriprise Financial Inc., Ecolab Inc., U.S. Bancorp, Xcel Energy Inc., General Mills, Hormel, Land O’ Lakes, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Minnesota, Medtronic, Allianz Life Insurance Co of North America, 3M Co, and Target.
3. **Keep up with current issues within the LGBTQ community to find where you can speak up, speak out and vote.** OutFront Minnesota (<https://www.outfront.org/>) actively engages our state legislature and governor to fight for LGBTQ rights and equality. The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) fights constantly on the national, state and local level throughout the USA (www.hrc.org).
4. **Like or Follow the following organizations on your social media so you can stay abreast of these organizations and be invited to their events and fundraisers:**
 - a. *Transforming Families:* Creating a better world for transgender youth and their families. <https://tffmn.org/home/>
 - b. *PFLAG MN:* Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gay people, <http://www.pflagtc.com/>
 - c. *The Minnesota Transgender Health Coalition:* Committed to improving health care access and the quality of health care received by trans and gender non-conforming people through education, resources, and advocacy. <http://www.mntransgenderhealth.org/>
 - d. *The Aliveness Project:* People living with HIV leading healthy and self-directed lives. <https://aliveness.org/>
 - e. *Family Tree:* Mission is to cultivate a healthy community through comprehensive sexual health care and education. <https://www.familytreeclinic.org/>
 - f. *RECLAIM!:* works to increase access to mental health support so that queer and trans youth* may reclaim their lives from oppression in all its forms. <https://reclaim.care/>



- g. *Avenues for Homeless Youth*: Provide emergency shelter, short-term housing and supportive services for homeless youth in a safe and nurturing environment. <http://avenuesforyouth.org/>
- h. *Out4Good*: With MPS is dedicated to creating safe and supportive schools for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender students, families, faculty and staff. <http://osfce.mpls.k12.mn.us/out4good>
- i. *One Heartland Camps*: Improve the lives of children, youth and families facing significant health challenges or social isolation. <http://www.oneheartland.org/>
- j. *MN Q Youth*: Supporting LGBTQ youth through advocacy, education, leadership & social opportunities. <https://mnqyouth.org/>
- k. *Bisexual Organizing Project*: Committed to building the bisexual, pansexual, fluid, queer, and unlabeled community. <http://www.bisexualorganizingproject.org/>
- l. *Calliope Women's Chorus*: Helping women's voices be heard and amplifying messages of social justice while providing a welcoming environment for LGBTQ women and allies to make music together. <https://calliopewomenschorus.org/>
- m. *One Voice Mixed Chorus*: LGBTQ and straight allies community chorus who are building community and creating social change by raising their voices in song. Our own CeCe Kleuh and Sarah Olson are members! <http://www.onevoicemn.org/>
- n. *Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus*: Through courage, authenticity, joy, respect and accountability, they create art, build community and advocate for justice and acceptance. <http://tcgmc.org/>
- o. *GLEAM (Gay & Lesbian Elders Active in MN)*. A group for the 50+ GLBT community that enhances quality of life by providing safe environments for socialization. <https://sites.google.com/site/l9god0skvd/>

This is not an exhaustive list. Seek out other organizations to follow on your social media!

- 5. **Volunteer at the OGPC Pride Booth!** Sign up is in the narthex! The shifts are two hours in length.
- 6. **Mark your calendars!**
 - a. Twin Cities Pride: 6/23-24/2018
 - b. Twin Cities Gay Men's Chorus Presents Queen: 6/15-16/2018
 - c. One Voice Presents Roots and Wings: 6/23-24/2018
 - d. HRC MN Dinner: 10/13/2018
 - e. OutFront MN Gala: 11/17/2018
 - f. Trans Day of Remembrance: 11/20 every year!
 - g. GLSEN Day of Silence: 4/12/2019
 - h. Trans Day of Visibility: 3/31 every year!
- 7. **Give money!!!!!!!!!!**
- 8. **Give time!!!!!!!!!!**



9. **Follow the advice from the Rainbow Fellowship's AFF in March:**
 - a. Be aware of how much space you take up.
 - b. Don't minimize someone's identity or lived experience.
 - c. Let LGBTQ people disappoint you.
 - d. Being an ally is about more than policy.
10. **Ask questions that are respectful! Never ask a question you wouldn't want to answer!!!!**
11. **Use the gifts you have to help!** Host a youth with Avenues. Mentor a young person through Oasis. Help with the shot clinic at the Minnesota Trans Health Coalition.
12. **BE PROUD OF YOU ARE AND CELEBRATE THOSE AROUND YOU!!!!!!!!!!**

Some reminders from April's Rainbow Fellowship AFF:

- ◆ Gender expression and identity are what matters.
- ◆ We spend our lives trying to either conform to our sex assigned at birth or resist it.
- ◆ Every gender journey is unique.
- ◆ Be brave enough to share YOUR story!

Gender Identity

- Female/Woman/Girl
- Male/Man/Boy
- Other Gender(s)

Gender Expression

- Feminine
- Masculine
- Other

Sex Assigned at Birth

- Female
- Male
- Other/Intersex

Physically Attracted to

- Women
- Men
- Other Gender(s)

Emotionally Attracted to

- Women
- Men
- Other Gender(s)

To learn more, go to:
www.transstudent.org/gender

Design by Landyn Pan and Anna Moore