



WELCOME TO OLD SAINT MARY'S CATHEDRAL

Fr. CHUCK'S COLUMN

I hope that in this week's column you will allow me to indulge in a personal piece of business. As many of you know, my Mother, Bernice Kullmann, passed away on December 21, 2007 at the age of 86. I was fortunate to be there in St. Louis with her, and am grateful that she died very peacefully.

I want to thank Fr. Peter Shea and the other priests in the house here who covered a wedding, a baptism, the Christmas Masses and other services for me. I also thank the many of you who have either personally or by a card or note expressed your condolences and your concern. It has been very helpful to feel such support and compassion in this time of grief. The support of a community of faith really makes a great deal of difference in the experience of loss. Of course it still hurts, but the warmth and care exhibited by so many helps me to focus beyond the loss to the message of our Faith, which is of course all about Resurrection.

My Mother made an anatomical donation of her body to St. Louis University Medical School. So we had no coffin at her Memorial Mass. I was able to preside and preach, for which I am very grateful. It was a wonderful service, with a great turn out and very good music, and I am sure that Mom was happy with it.

Having presided at a good number of funerals previously, I have always been struck by the difference in the atmosphere and feeling of a funeral when the immediate family are people of faith as opposed to when they are not. Sometimes the only person with any lived connection to the church is the deceased!



It makes such a difference, I believe, whether we approach death (and life!) from a faith perspective or not. And at my Mother's Memorial I am happy to say that a sense of faith was very evident. In a case like that the funeral is not only, or even primarily about loss. Rather it

becomes a Mass of the Resurrection, a celebration of hope and God's mercy. And that is a BIG difference!

I want to share with you a thought from the Indian poet and philosopher, Rabindranath Tagore, that a friend of mine in South Carolina had found helpful when she experienced the loss of a child, and shared with me:

"Death is not extinguishing the Light.

It is putting out the Lamp,
Because the Dawn has come."

God bless! Fr Chuck

Ecumenical Prayer Service to mark the 100th Anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. Right here at Old St. Mary's! Rev. James DeLange, retired Lutheran Minister, will preach. Reception to follow. All are welcome!!! Sunday, January 20th at 5:00p.m., Old St. Mary's Cathedral, San Francisco, CA. **Please join us!**

BIBLE STUDY

WHEN : Monday, January 14, 2008

TIME : 6:30—7:30 P.M.

WHERE : Bookstore, Room 2

WHO LEADS IT? Fr. George Fitzgerald, CSP



TOPIC: THE BIBLE OF COURSE!! Oh! More specifically, the readings for the following Sunday. On Monday, January 14, we will discuss readings for Second Sunday in Ordinary Time, January 20

Isalah 49:3, 5-6; 1Cor 1:1-3; John 1:29-34

Fr. George will give a brief cultural, religious and historical context out of which the specific readings were written, and then the participants will offer their own insights and reflections as to how these passages speak to them.

Please check the bulletin for the next scheduled session. In order to get some idea of how many plan to attend, please sign up at the Sacristan's Desk at the entrance to the Church, or call **(415) 288-3800**. You are welcome to attend even if you haven't signed up for the Bible Study. **ALL ARE WELCOME.**

Celebrating 153 Years as California's First Cathedral



Old St. Mary's Cathedral Parish commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity with an ecumenical prayer service Jan. 20. "Old St. Mary's has been staffed by the Paulists since 1894," said Paulist Father Charles Kullmann, pastor, noting the prayer service was "in keeping with the Paulist commitment to ecumenism." Prayer leaders included, from left: Rev. James deLange, retired pastor, St. Francis Lutheran Church, who preached; Rev. David Mote, Presbyterian Church in Chinatown; Rev. Maggi Henderson (foreground), Old First Presbyterian Church; and Father Kullmann.

Ecumenism at Old St. Mary's?

The item at left was in the February 8, 2008 issue of "Catholic San Francisco," the newspaper of the Archdiocese of San Francisco.

Some research would have shown the writer of this blurb that Fr. James deLange is the founder of "Lutheran Lesbian and Gay Ministries" (see following pages) and that Rev. Maggi Henderson, Pastor of Old First Presbyterian Church has this on her website:

"Due to the policy of the the PCUSA, we are unable to make our space available for same sex marriages. However, as a congregation we long for the day when our church will be able to equally recognize the covenant relationships of all people. Same sex couples who wish to to recognize their relationship are encouraged to seek the advice of our pastor.

Learn more about our commitment to gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning individuals."

The Ecumenism is "denominational only," apparently. No Ecumenism allowed on the morality of the homosexual agenda.



the mission

THE NEWSLETTER OF LLGM



Ray and Betty Workin present scholarship award honoring their son Joel to seminarian Jen Rude

LLGM funds Canadian Lutheran internship

by Erik Christensen

At its January meeting Lutheran Lesbian and Gay Ministries (LLGM) approved a \$12,000 grant to fund an internship for ECP seminarian Lionel Ketola at Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Newmarket, Ontario, Canada.

Lionel is an endorsed candidate for ordained ministry with the ECP who began his candidacy process with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) in 1985. After coming out to his bishop in 1986 Lionel's internship site was cancelled and he faced the prospect of being dropped from the master of divinity program at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Saskatoon. While Lionel was eventually allowed to finish his degree, his progress towards approval for ordination was halted.

For the next fourteen years, Lionel worked in the non-profit sector with a variety of church-related organizations, and retrained to work as an art therapist. After learning about the ECP through a friend, Lionel, who'd been "sensing the spirit's nudge to once again risk pursuing [his] calling to ministry," made application to the ECP and was endorsed in April, 2004. Having already completed his seminary education, all that remained was completion of an internship in order to advance to the approval phase of the ECP candidacy process. Finding a placement became a two-year project for Lionel, who spoke with many congregations to find one that would be willing to serve as an internship site for someone not currently in an ELCIC candidacy process.

In 2005 Lionel approached Holy Cross Lutheran Church just north of Toronto, Ontario. In the process of consideration, the

First Workin Memorial Scholarship awarded

Seminarian Jen Rude was named the first Joel R. Workin Scholar at a gala celebration in January. The Joel Raydon Workin Memorial Scholarship Fund was established in 1995 to support and encourage sexual minority seminarians who have been admitted into the Extraordinary Candidacy Project (ECP) candidacy process. The endowment was created to honor the memory of Workin who was an exceptionally gifted young Lutheran seminarian. (See page 2.)

Jen was chosen to be a Workin Scholar because of her outstanding academic skills and strong essay and application (to read Jen's essay, go to llgm.org). Jen received a master of divinity degree from Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California in 2005. She is currently completing her internship year, a requirement for ordained ministry in the Lutheran Church, by serving as vicar at Resurrection Lutheran Church

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Our web site: <http://www.llgm.org>

LUTHERAN LESBIAN & GAY ▼ MINISTRIES

Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministries empowers openly identified sexual minority people called to God's mission of ministry and witness.

CONTACT INFORMATION

152 Church Street
San Francisco, CA
94114-1111
<http://www.llgm.org>
info@llgm.org

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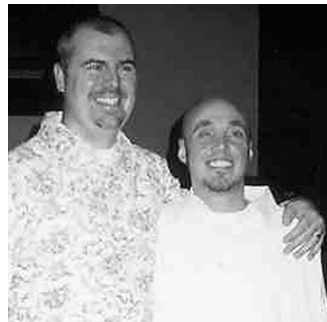
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Lynn Mickelson
St. Paul, MN

New Canadian Mission Partner continued from page 1.

congregation realized its commitment to justice extended beyond Lionel's internship. Their grant application to LLGM stated: "The Council of Holy Cross sees our congregation's efforts as a witness to the ELCIC as well as to the communities in which we serve. It is our hope that Lionel's internship at Holy Cross will mark the beginning of a Canadian ECP. However, as a small mission congregation, these hopes would go unrealized without the external financial support needed to enable Lionel to set aside a year to complete his internship."

Following notification in January that LLGM approved funding, Holy Cross immediately moved ahead with plans for Lionel's internship. On Sunday, February 12, the congregation took its final vote to call Lionel to a one-year internship beginning April 1st. "Without the support of LLGM our internship proposal could not have become a reality," said Lionel. His internship marks the first time an ECP rostered candidate has been called to an ELCIC parish.



Lionel Keotola and husband, Steven Loweth at their 2003 wedding

Lionel lives with his spouse, Steven Loweth, a 41-year-old music publisher. They were married New Year's Eve 2003. They make their home in York Region north of Toronto. ▼

Other 2006 LLGM Mission Partnerships:

- ▼ East Bay Lutheran Youth & Pr. Craig Minich, Oakland, CA - \$4,000
- ▼ Hollywood Lutheran & Pr. Dan Hooper, Hollywood, CA - \$5,852
- ▼ Bethany Lutheran & Pr. Jay Wiesner, Minneapolis, MN - \$11,000
- ▼ Inclusive & Affirming Ministries & Pr. Pieter Oberholzer, Capetown, South Africa - \$2,000
- ▼ Grace University Lutheran & Intern Jodi Barry, Minneapolis, MN - \$6,000
- ▼ Extraordinary Candidacy Project

Joel Raydon Workin



Joel (right) and his spouse Paul

Joel Raydon Workin was a pioneer in the movement to recognize and endorse out sexual minority persons as pastors and ministers in the Lutheran Church. His sense of call and passion for proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ is a source of inspiration despite his untimely death from AIDS in 1995.

Born in Fargo, ND, Joel grew up on a farm in nearby Walcott. He received a bachelor of theology degree from Carlton College in Northfield, MN, and a master of divinity degree from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, CA.

In the fall of 1987, Joel came out publicly as a gay candidate for the ordained ministry and was certified for call by the American Lutheran Church (a predecessor body to the ELCA). Following this courageous and faithful act, Joel's certification was vacated when ELCA bishops refused to place his name on the roster of approved candidates waiting for call. However, Joel continued his ministry in Los Angeles at the AIDS Healthcare Foundation and as the director of Chris Brownlie Hospice.

On December 30, 1988, Joel and Paul Jenkins married. Joel was a member of St. Matthew's Lutheran Church, North Hollywood. He and Paul were active in Lutherans Concerned/Los Angeles and Dignity/Los Angeles. Paul died of AIDS on June 6, 1993. Joel died on November 29, 1995.

In the last weeks of his illness, Joel gave his friends and family permission to sponsor an endowment fund in his name through LLGM. In keeping with Joel's wishes, awards from the fund will be used to provide seminary scholarships for sexual minority students and interns in process with the ECP. ▼

LLGM founders Irvin & DeLange retire

After more than 15 years of extraordinary service, LLGM pioneers Pr. Jim DeLange and Dr. Mari Irvin have retired from the LLGM Board of Directors. They were honored at a gala event in San Francisco on January 15, 2006. 'Each of these remarkable leaders have left their mark on LLGM,' says co-chair Greg Egerton. 'Their vision and willingness to take risks have made LLGM what it is today,' agrees co-chair Pr. Jane Ralph.

Under Pr. DeLange's leadership, St. Francis Lutheran Church called Ruth Frost and Phyllis Zillhart in 1990 to serve as associate pastors and staff the newly formed LLGM. Pr. DeLange passionately believes that the gifts for ministry of sexual minorities should be honored and not unjustly denied because of the institution's lack of political courage.

In 1994, Pr. DeLange proposed that LLGM reorganize as a "National Mission Society" in order to provide financial, pastoral, and legal support to the growing number of gay and lesbian



Dr. Mari Irvin and Pr. James DeLange honored for their service to LLGM

ELCA pastors who were coming out. Since 1995, Pr. DeLange has served as LLGM's director of placement, been a leader of its Emergency Response Team, and served on several committees. Over the years, he has represented LLGM at ordinations and installations from Key West, Florida, to California.

Until her retirement this year, Dr. Mari Irvin has been the longest

continuous serving LLGM board member. In February 1990, Mari was asked to serve on the board of directors of the newly organized LLGM. Mari agreed and was one of the charter members who signed the Articles of Incorporation in July 1990. Since then Mari has served LLGM in various capacities — treasurer, co-chair, and Mission Partner coordinator. Mari is also a founding member of the ECP and now serves as its director of candidacy.

Mari is passionate about LLGM's mission to do ministry now, while recognizing, paradoxically, that the work of LLGM has a powerful "pushing" influence on the larger church. Mari has been a "connecting" person for LLGM as it has developed its relationship with other Lutheran advocacy groups. She was instrumental in the process leading to and wide distribution of Pam Walton's film *Call to Witness*. Mari has initiated and nurtured collaboration with Soulforce in witnessing at the last three Churchwide Assemblies of the ELCA. ▼

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Attention closeted LGBT pastors

by Ellen Maxon, LLGM Emergency Response Team

If you are thinking of coming out or you have been outed LLGM has some valuable advice and support for you. DO NOT agree to anything with your bishop or council until you talk to our Emergency Response Team.

Many former ELCA pastors have unknowingly caused irreversible damage to their called ministry because they have acted quickly after the synod or congregation has found out about their sexuality. Over 15 years of experience of dealing with the ELCA and GLBT pastors has taught us valuable lessons that we want to share with you

When a bishop is confronted with an allegation or the reality of a *Vision & Expectations (V & E)* sexual orientation violation, s/he mostly wants the situation to go away as quickly and quietly as possible through a resignation or a leave of absence. Consequently, a number of pastors have lost their roster status when

they thought they were only resigning from their congregation. Through resignations, the ELCA can dispose of many LGBT pastors without the wider church realizing the realities and costs of the ELCA's policies and procedures to the LGBT pastors, their congregations, and the church as a whole. This use of resignations has helped entrench the ELCA's current *V & E* policy and practices towards sexual orientation.

Keep the following things in mind if the bishop wants to talk with you because you have recently come out or been outed.

- 1) Do not agree to *ANY* action or settlement—take a deep breath and say you need a while to respond.
- 2) Contact us to talk through the logistics of your situation.
- 3) Contact us so we can connect you with emotional support from other

LGBT pastors—many of whom have been in your situation.

- 4) Generally, you should be present at any meeting that the congregation or council has—you need to hear what is being said about you. Take a support person with you.
- 5) Remember, the bishop is an agent of the ELCA institution and has promised to uphold the constitution of the institution. There may be one or two bishops who are exceptions to this, but if a bishop asks you to resign s/he are not among those select few.

Please feel free to call the LLGM Emergency Response Team at ANY time (509) 293-2677. Or e-mail info@llgm.org. All information is treated as confidential. Please share this information with others. ▼

LLGM seeks development director

The passion of LLGM is to create and support ministry opportunities for sexual minority pastors. We are moved and inspired by seeing the gifts of these pastors celebrated and utilized in gospel-centered communities. Because of the success of the *One Voice* major donor campaign, LLGM is moving forward with its plan to greatly expand Lutheran ministries led by sexual minority pastors from the ECP. To help make these ministries happen, LLGM is currently seeking to hire a director of development. (See www.llgm.org for a full position description.)

Send introductory letter of interest to:
Rev. James DeLange
Lutheran Lesbian & Gay Ministries
152 Church Street
San Francisco, CA 94114

Make ministry happen now

Pr. Jim DeLange has always likened the mission of LLGM to that of 19th century European Mission Societies who funded pastors to serve immigrant populations in America when state churches refused to do so. "Today," according to Pr. Jim DeLange, "LLGM is doing the same for ECP pastors and seminarians because of the 'refusal' of the ELCA to honor their calls and gifts for ministry."

With the seeming arrogance and intolerance associated with mainstream Christian churches in the U.S., these institutions are losing credibility and relevance for growing numbers of people. LLGM funds ministries that break the mold. Communities and congregations that call ECP pastors offer a different vision—one of justice not judgment, and inclusion not condemnation.

"LLGM," says Dr. Mari Irvin, "makes ministry happen now." The impact of these ministries is profound and the potential for ECP expansion is dramatic.

Help us respond to the Spirit's call and make this ministry happen. Send a generous contribution today. ▼

Scholarship continued from page 1.

and working with homeless youth at The Night Ministry in Chicago. As the 2006 Workin Scholar, Jen received a \$1000 scholarship presented by Joel's parents, Betty and Ray Workin.

While attending Augustana College in Sioux Falls, SD, Jen considered seminary and pastoral ministry, but after coming out in college, she thought this was no longer an option. However, Jen experienced a strong call to ministry so she enrolled in the Pacific School of Religion.

Jen is in a committed relationship and therefore is not in compliance with *Visions and Expectations (V&E)* the ELCA policy requiring celibacy for persons in same sex relationships. Jen's Sierra Pacific Synod candidacy committee decided to defy this policy and endorse her internship for Fall 2005. Jen is simultaneously going through the ECP candidacy process with the Bay Area panel. ▼

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January 27, 2008

Old First Presbyterian Church

San Francisco, CA

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WELCOME

Historic Old First Church, home of California's oldest Protestant congregation, is located at the corner of Sacramento and Van Ness. Couples of any faith or no particular faith are invited to be married here.*



The sanctuary is known for its excellent acoustics, as audiences and performers at Old First Concerts can attest. It seats around 450 people. The main floor of the sanctuary is handicapped-accessible by way of an elevator that opens onto the Sacramento Street sidewalk.



The charming chapel at one side was created to be an intimate setting for small weddings.

Old First's historic pipe organ dates from 1910, with a major refurbishment completed in the mid-1990's.



Your guests will enter and leave the church through the distinctive exonarthex under a stunning decorative ceiling painted in jewel tones and accented with gold and silver leaf.

The design was based on the deep blue starry sky often seen in early Christian house-churches.

The descending dove is the symbol of the Holy Spirit, and the sacrament of Communion is represented by grape and wheat motifs.

The sanctuary has been recently repainted and redecorated, with new carpeting and flooring, refinished pews and woodwork. The hanging light fixtures have been restored to their original 1915 appearance.

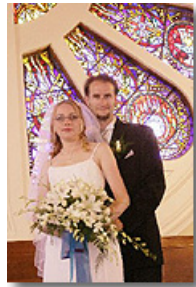
Top 5 Reasons to have your wedding at Old First:

- Beautiful sanctuary, recently refurbished
- Seating capacity of up to 450 guests
- Stained glass windows
- Historic Pipe Organ
- Convenient Parking

Contact Us

Old First Presbyterian Church
 1751 Sacramento St,
 San Francisco, CA 94109
 Phone: 415-776-5552
 Fax: 415-776-2809
 Email: marne@oldfirst.org

[Parking](#) | [Directions](#) 



The vivid stained glass windows date from the 1940's and 50's. The enormous Rose Window is the focal point of the sanctuary and fills the back wall of the balcony.

"Due to the policy of the the PCUSA, we are unable to make our space available for same sex marriages. However, as a congregation we long for the day when our church will be able to equally recognize the covenant relationships of all people. Same sex couples who wish to to recognize their relationship are encouraged to seek the advice of our pastor."

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