

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH

Help your parish community specifically welcome people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions

A one-day workshop offered by
St. Richard's Episcopal Church
5151 Lake Howell Rd.
Winter Park, FL 32792

Saint Richard's Episcopal Church is offering a unique and special opportunity to any parishes in the Diocese of Central Florida to participate in a nationally known and acclaimed workshop toward specifically welcoming LGBTQ+ people to participate fully in the life of our congregations.

Saturday, October 5, 2019

St. Richard's Parish Hall

9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

(gather for morning snack at 8:30 a.m.)

- Snacks and lunch provided by St. Richard's
- No workshop charge! This is St. Richard's gift to the Diocese and all others who participate.
- This Building an Inclusive Church workshop will be facilitated by nationally trained leaders of the Reconciling Works Central Florida Chapter located in Clearwater, FL.

While Building an Inclusive Church is offered specifically to parishes of the Diocese of Central Florida by St. Richard's as a pastoral invitation, the workshop will also be open to congregations of the United Methodist Church, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, United Church of Christ and Presbyterian Church USA.

Contact the Saint Richard's Church Office to register for this workshop. It is best that you bring a group from your parish, at least 3-5 persons. Participants must commit to the entire day. Deadline for registration is September 20. Call 407-671-4211.

This workshop is not about conducting a discussion of whether or not it is appropriate to welcome LGBTQ+ people into a parish's life and ministry, or whether same-sex marriages should be performed, or whether LGBTQ+ persons in or out of committed relationships or marriages should be serving in called or appointed positions in our

parishes. St. Richard's is happy to have those conversations at other times in other contexts. This is a workshop for parishes that are ready or who would like to explore becoming ready to express a specific welcome and to work toward that goal. We deeply and sincerely welcome you if you are ready to explore becoming an affirming and inclusive community of faith.

Building an Inclusive Church is a workshop based on a Toolkit published originally in 2009 and revised in 2017. It is created by the Welcoming Church Programs of a number of denominations working together: Integrity USA of the ECU-SA, Reconciling Works of the E.L.C.A., More Light Presbyterians of the Presbyterian Church USA, The Disciples LGBTQ+ Alliance, the National LGBTQ Task Force, Welcoming Community Network in the Community of Christ, the GLAD Alliance in the Christian Church, Disciples of Christ, Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble in the United Church of Canada, Open and Affirming Program of the United Church of Christ Coalition for LGBT Concerns, the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists in the American Baptist Church and the Alliance of Baptists, Room for All in the Reformed Church in America, Brethren Mennonite Council for LGBT Interests in the Church of the Brethren, Mennonite Church USA and Mennonite Church Canada, among others.

St. Richard's Episcopal Church is a parish of the Diocese of Central Florida of the Episcopal Church USA. We have been granted DEPO, Designated Episcopal Pastoral Oversight by Bishop Gregory Brewer and placed under the pastoral care of Bishop Terry White of the Diocese of Kentucky for all matters relating to Pastoral Visitation, Sacraments and Holy Orders. We value and treasure our continuing relationship to the Episcopal community of faith that is our Diocese of Central Florida. We offer this workshop as well as our continuing witness and ministry as brothers and sisters in Christ realizing that we do not always agree on some of these issues, but that we trust that the love of Christ and his Gospel covers us all.

