

L & L #7 September 20, 2023

Gender, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation

Welcome: Marg – Some may already be very familiar with our topic and others perhaps starting a new learning path. We're all here to learn!

Today we begin to address Gender, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation as we move along the path to becoming an Affirming congregation.

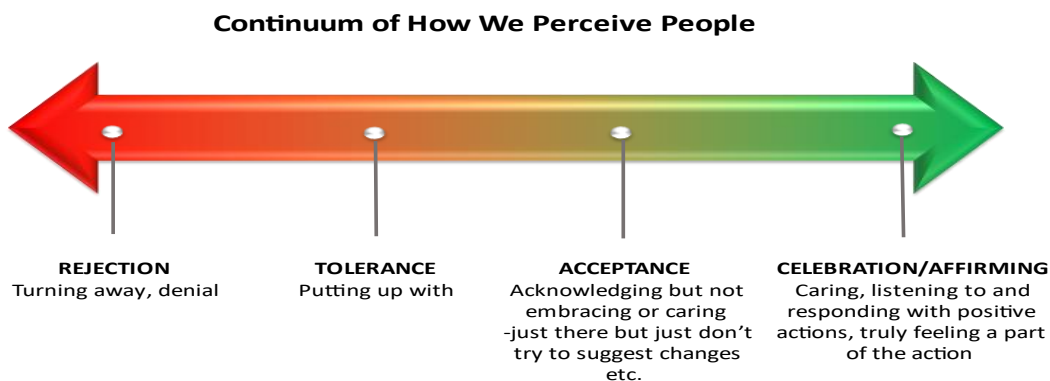
Opening Prayer: Bob

Holy Manners: this can be a sensitive/ controversial topic so we will review our Manners 😊

1. Why are we traveling this path? Riverside UC in London has prepared a video sharing their journey of becoming affirming. You will hear from people on the path who have moved to the celebration end and others who are making their way through tolerance and acceptance.

Riverside UC video: https://youtu.be/10CSf08IFvk?si=O4y_lqtKCmSZ-rpx 8.43

2. We use **the Continuum** to gauge our progress as we move to celebration of everyone.



- Silent Reflection? Where do you find yourself when we look at today's topic?

3. **Video: Learning About Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity & Expression**

<https://youtu.be/-CrjaFBF5dY> 6:34

Large group Discussion: Gender, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation - 5 slides



Reflection on the Continuum – At our Lunch & Learns we are all about learning and growth. Where are you now on today’s topic? Have you seen growth; deeper understanding; looking for more information or need clarification?

4. **Coming Out Star Activity & Discussion:** <https://affirmunited.ause.ca/wp-content/pdf/resources/ComingOutStars.pdf>
 - How did you feel as the activity progressed? How realistic is this activity?
 - What is the long-term impact of these losses for someone who is LGBT+?
 - What kind of support do LGBTQ+ people need in order to come out? Where can this support come from?
5. **St Theresa’s Prayer** https://youtu.be/eqVbLQh-IT0?si=kxmkLC_wN0MRwllf
6. **Handout – Reading Homework** 😊 Glossary of Terms – pg 69-73 of CG Diversity doc
<https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/gender-sexuality-glossary.pdf>
7. **Lunch**