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Those who are members of sexual or gender minorities are often condemned by society and the church for living a sinful "lifestyle". Yet the only sinful lifestyle that Paul recognizes is living under the law.

--from *Lectionary Tools*,  
on Romans 3:19-28

## Also see:

- [The Biblical Word and the Reconciling Ministry](#)
- [The Bible and the Language of the Heart](#)

# Reconciling in your preaching

As part of its efforts to fully include bisexual and transgendered persons in the ministry of the church, Lutherans Concerned/North America has begun the development of several resource materials.

Among them is the first installment of *Lectionary Tools for the Inclusion of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Themes in the Dialogue of the Church*, a 16-page guide by John Caron.

With an Introduction, this resource presently contains discussion of appointed pericopes for the five Sundays of Cycle "B" (with a synopsis of the theme):

- **The Day of Pentecost:** Unity in diversity, life from death, grace as truth-telling
- **The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost:** Restoring the outcast, Uniting those who are outwardly different
- **The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost:** Hope given to the outcast, the rejection of all distinctions, and the healing of foreigners
- **Reformation Sunday:** Justification through faith apart from works of the law, Christian freedom
- **The Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost:** The Lord our God, the Lord is One, Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

Read the [16-page booklet](#) included on this CD.

Part of a reconciling ministry is to bring the light of the Gospel, through the challenges and comfort of preaching, to the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people.

Not every liturgical day has readings which are particularly significant for ministry with LGBT people. But it is easy to see from the above sample that numerous occasions do arise, throughout the church year, when drawing the perspectives and concerns of LGBT people into the Sunday sermon, or accompanying adult study class, is neither artificial nor forced.

If your congregation permits and encourages guests and lay preachers from time to time, you may wish to plan ahead to invite someone who is gay/lesbian, bisexual or transgender to speak on one of these days.

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John Caron received his M.Div. from Trinity Lutheran Seminary and an M.A. from the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. He is involved in Lutherans Concerned, has served in various offices of his local chapter, as well as being chairperson of the 2000 Lutherans Concerned National Assembly in Columbus, Ohio. John also authored Resolution 6 at the 2002 Assembly, which called for the full inclusion of Bisexual and Transgender/Transsexual persons in the mission and ministry of LC/NA. He is currently Vice President of Operations for a local software company. He and his partner, Chad Eberle, are members of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Columbus, Ohio.

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