



# CELEBRATING PRIDE COAST TO COAST

ReconcilingWorks is grateful to be in partnership with our 992 Reconciling in Christ communities across the US and Canada. Thank you for all the ways you share and celebrate the diversity of people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions. The public witness of people of faith is critical for advocacy, love, and celebrations. ReconcilingWorks wants to lift up and share some of the many images from RIC partners celebrating PRIDE across the US and Canada. If you have photos and stories about PRIDE you would like to share with ReconcilingWorks, we would LOVE to hear them. Email photos and stories to info@reconcilingworks.org.





\*Photo acquired from social media sites. Continued on Page 4. Today is a great day to ensure ReconcilingWorks is able to continue the holy ministry of welcome, inclusion, celebration, and advocacy of LGBTQIA+ people in the Lutheran church.



Make a gift online: www.reconcilingworks.org/donate/

> Mail in your gift: ReconcilingWorks P.O. Box 8070 St. Paul, MN 55108

Donor Advised Fund: If you have a ADF you can request distributions be made to ReconcilingWorks.

Employer Match: If your employer offers an employee match this is a great way to give.

Helpful Information: ReconcilingWorks IRS Tax designation: Tax exempt under IRS tax code 501 (c)(3) IRS Tax ID: 36-3209636 Address: P.O. Box 8070 St. Paul, MN 55108 Organization type: Human Rights, Social Justice, Advocacy, Educational, Religious

### UPCOMING TRAININGS



Aubrey Thonvold (she/her) Executive Director



Ashlei Buhrow (she/her) Director of Program & Engagement

# STAFF UPDATES

ReconcilingWorks is excited to share some important updates about our staff and their work.

June of 2022 marked Aubrey's eighth year in her role as executive director at ReconcilingWorks. To honor and express gratitude for her work, the Board of Directors has granted Aubrey a three-month sabbatical. This sabbatical will take place from July 1 to October 1, 2022. During her sabbatical, Aubrey will be spending time increasing her vegetable garden space, taking silversmithing classes, enjoying time with family, and focusing her reading on justice work. While Aubrey is out of the office, please email info@reconcilingworks.org for general questions.

"It is my joy and delight to be in my role with RecocilingWorks, and I am deeply grateful to the Board of Directors for the gift of my sabbatical. I look forward to time or rest and renewal and returning to this holy ministry recharged." - Aubrey Thonvold

The second update is the announcement of a title change for Ashlei Buhrow. Ashlei has been serving as the reconciling in christ program coordinator. Starting July 1, Ashlei's new title with ReconcilingWorks will be director of program & engagement. With this new title, Ashlei's scope of work will be expanding to ensure she can continue accompanying ministry partners in their journey to become RIC, updating their RIC partner commitments, and setting new RIC milestones.

"As someone who seeks to accompany others rooted in the core value of meeting people where they are and creating journeys that are authentic and unique for each individual in this holy ministry of welcome, it is a joy to be expanding my title and role with ReconcilingWorks!" - Ashlei Buhrow

ReconcilingWorks is committed to continuing the accompaniment and support of the Lutheran Church, knowing that supporting and caring for our staff is an integral part of this ministry.

#### www.reconcilingworks .org/trainings/



October 8, 2022 November 5, 2022



October 6, 2022 November 3, 2022







## EXPANDED RIC PARTNER PUBLIC COMMITMENTS UPDATE

ReconcilingWorks 992 RIC partners have been hard at work updating their partner commitments, learning ways to deepen and expand welcome in their faith communities, and setting new milestones to encourage ongoing education and growth. In addition, the 294 faith communities on a journey of discernment have been accompanying their community to learn what intentional and explicitly welcome will look like in their unique and diverse contexts.

RIC Partner Public Commitment:

To be recognized as a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Partner, your faith community will:

- 1. Explicitly state a welcome to people of "all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions" or "LGBTQIA+" and name its commitment to "racial equity" or "anti-racism" in its welcome statement.
- 2. Be open to calling an LGBTQIA+ and Black, Brown, Indigenous, Person of Color (BIPOC) Rostered Leader.
- 3.Allow community space/sanctuary to be used for LGBTQIA+ weddings and blessings.
- 4. Make a meaningful contribution annually to support the national RIC program.

#### <u>WELCOME</u> to our newest RIC Partners since January 2022:

Advent Lutheran Church (Mentor, OH) All Saints Lutheran Church (Cottage Grove, MN) **Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church** (Indianapolis, IN) Capitol Hill Lutheran Church (Des Moines, IA) Christ the King Lutheran Church (Tigard, OR) Emanuel Lutheran Church (Pleasantville, NY) Faith Lutheran Church (Cedarburg, WI) Faith Lutheran Church (Glen Ellyn, IL) Holy Family Lutheran Church (Yellowknife, NT) Kyrie Pub Church (Fort Worth, TX) 01/31/2022 Nativity Lutheran Church (St. Anthony, MN) Saint Anthony Park Lutheran Church (Saint Paul, MN) St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (Bellevue, WA) St. Andrew's Lutheran Church (San Diego, CA) St. John Lutheran Church (Dundee, MI) St. Luke's Lutheran Church (Dunellen, NJ) St. Paul's Lutheran Church (Wichita, KS) 01/31/2022 Trillium Lutheran Church (Waterloo, ON) Upper Dublin Lutheran Church (Ambler, PA)

A big "Thank You" to the following RIC partners who have updated their commitments since January 2022:

Christ the Servant (Louisville, CO) Columbia City Church of Hope (Seattle, WA) Divinity Lutheran (Towson, MD) Edina Community Lutheran Church (Edina, MN) **Embrace Ministries (Columbus, OH)** Faith Lutheran Church (Fairlawn, OH) Family of God Lutheran Church (East Grand Forks, MN) First Lutheran Church (Saint Paul, MN) Grace Lutheran Church (Apple Valley, MN) LCM - University of North Texas (Denton, TX) **Reformation Lutheran Church (Media, PA)** Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod (Philadelphia, PA) St. John United Lutheran Church (Seattle, WA) St. Mark Lutheran Church (Dunedin, FL) St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Itasca, IL) Treehouse Ministries (College Station, TX) Trinity Lutheran Church (Pembroke Pines, FL) University Lutheran Church (Eau Claire, WI) Wartburg College Spiritual Life & Campus Ministry (Waverly, IA)

### ELCA CHURCHWIDE Assembly 2022

The 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly will be taking place on August 8 – 12 in Columbus, Ohio.In preparation for Churchwide, you can order any item from the "PRIDE: Buttons, Pins, Stickers" category on the ReconcilingWorks eStore and receive 22% OFF using the code:



www.reconcilingworks.org /purchase/

### CONTINUE: PRIDE COAST TO COST









Thank you to all of our Reconciling in Christ partners for your ministry and witness in the church and world. Together we make a difference!