

Rolling the Stone Away Conference Call

Jim Mikulski, Chris Glaser, Rick Huskey, Larry Rodriguez, Carl Foote, Dr. Imani Woody, Jeannine Gramick
June 9, 2017, 1pm EST

Agenda:

Opening Prayer/Reflection: Rick opened in prayer at 1:08

Introductions: (Mark) (15 mins.)

1. Name, location & organization or historical connection
 - a. Carl Foote: Chicago, Methodist Church and LGBT RAN, Friend
 - b. Imani: Washington, DC, MCC, program officer for older adults, communal housing in DC
 - c. Carl Bean: LA, Archbishop of Unity – recorded “I was Born this Way” in 77
 - d. Rick: PA, Affirmation for Gay/Lesbian UMs, now in Episcopal Church and is an MD – became doctor after being de-frocked
 - e. Jim: MCC and UCC, steering committee
 - f. Jeannine – Catholic sister, community assigned to LGBT community in Catholic church, Pope didn’t like it but since Pope Francis no longer had issues with service
 - g. Larry: north of LAX, in 1969 left Catholic Church and started going to MCC, COE, Outreach to LGBT Students
 - h. Chris G.: Atlanta, founding member and leader of More Light Preby.;
2. Where did your energy/passion come from?/ What do you want to be remembered for?
 - a. Jeannine: Met a young gay man – want to be remembered for making a dent in the Catholic Church
 - b. Chris G: Didn’t want younger people to go through what he did, Spirituality and Sexuality
 - c. Carl B: Fight for true liberation as a Black man in American, and spirituality made available to everyone in society – bringing about the Beloved Community
 - d. Rick H: History John Wesley 1732 in Oxford – Cramner were incarcerated same place as Thomas years later did an outreach to Thomas Blaire, teach first LGBTQ+ program to teach as a seminary discipline
 - e. Imani: Grew up strict Pentecostal – sign that it is always sun, help with folks who are downtrodden as a Black, lesbian
 - f. Larry: Lay people in the church

Goals/schedule (Judith) (5 mins.)

Review document attached with goals and program outline. Any general questions on this?

REFLECTIONS ON CONFERENCE (30 mins.)

1. Looking at the program outline—what excites you about this?

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2. Where do you see yourself participating or contributing in some way? What is missing? What might you add?

- a. **Chris G.:** What's missing spiritual dimension – what has been keeping one together
- b. **Jeannine:** Interest is in moving institutions, changing structures, love celebrations, meeting others who have contributed in their own religious settings, happy to contribute wherever
- c. **Larry:** Excited it's being doing – in 2012, LA did a "Pioneer day" had an interview that was tapped
- d. **Rick H:** Preserve and remember people
- e. **Carl Bean:** Show connection to young folk who may identify differently
- f. **Rick:** Wants to use this to open to seminaries – storytelling
- g. **Jeannine:** How to become mainstream?
- h. **Imani:** Ageism ought to be a topic, and aging; youth participation
- i. **Larry:** How to incorporate what we've learned from being marginalized and how to continue to include those who are now being outcast
- j. **Imani:** Nothing has been said of politics – is that intentional? I.e. removal of LGBTQ people in the census
- k. **Jeannine:** Interested in Session 6
- l. **Chris:** Ritual of remembrance – invite folks to bring photographs or other things – Shower of Stoles on display

3. Anyone else you recommend to be an invited guest & presenter?

- a. **(Chris):** Comment on 43+ with the diversity
- b. **(Jeannine):** Bishop Thomas Dumbleton (sp?) Detroit
- c.

Logistics (Lauren) (10 mins.)

Send Mark titles of your books in print or sale in bookstore.

Send Mark a childhood pic and some pics of early activism (with descriptions).

We will book travel and hotel for you—details coming in a few weeks.

- We will contact you
- In your invitation you will be covered for your travel
- Roommate – if you don't have a roommate

Like our page on Facebook and share with your friends!

Organizations to Expo – Shower of Stoles etc.

- Jeannine's organization

CLOSING PRAYER/REFLECTION

The meeting was closed in prayer at 1:58

Debreif notes:

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- What we learned and how it supports us forward – looking ahead throughout the conference
- Might need to change program to be more integrative
- Invited Guests – 6-10 modern leaders (William Barber, Tony Sanders)
- Session 1 – 20 sec. video clip of each invited guest – context of past 50 years
- Session on Intersection/Racism
- Peterson Toscano – arts for Session 1
- Burnout – spiritually sustains us for pre-conference – planning team members
- Table conversations – organize to get diversity in each
- Pay attention to us/them dynamic and interplay between pre conference and conference