

Nebraska Synod LGBTQIA+ Affirming Team

Materials and Resources

Website Hubs

- [Reconciling Works](#): A collection of videos, articles and trainings aimed to educate individuals and prepare congregations to publicly welcome people of all races, sexual orientations and gender expressions.
- [Queer Grace](#) by Emmy Kegler: Queer Grace is a curated encyclopedia of information and ideas around the life of LGBTQ+ people and Christian faith. The website offers a safe space full of resources for all those navigating their journey in the church.
- [Queer Theology](#): This website truly has it all. Find relevant articles, courses and community centering around three main topics: (1) Is it okay to be LGBTQIA+ and Christian? (2) How do we queer the Gospel? (3) What does a transgender theology look like?
- [Unclobber](#): Collection of online courses, videos and cheat sheets unpacking the “clobber passages” and arguing for the full inclusion of queer people within church life.

Books

- [Dear Church](#) by Lenny Duncan: Part manifesto and part confession, this book tackles racism, patriarchy and homophobia within the church while shining the light on a path forward that honors the dignity of all.
- [Shameless](#) by Nadia Bolz-Weber: This book shines a light on our obsession with sex and the shame this obsession often curates. Through stories and testimonies, Bolz-Weber urges her reader to reexamine patriarchy sex and power.
- [Unclobber](#) by Colby Martin: Martin unpacks the six traditional “clobber passages” -- the Bible passages most often cited to defend the exclusion of LGBTQIA+ people from the church while chronicling his transformation from a Christian fundamentalist to a welcoming and affirming pastor.

Devotions

- [Our Bible App](#) by Crystal Cheatham: A Bible app that features devotions, podcasts and online community. Many focus on LGBTQ+ spiritual experience. An anthology of these devotions, [The Deconstructionists Playbook](#), has just been published.

Memoirs

- [United States of Grace](#) by Lenny Duncan: Lenny Duncan chronicles his life as a queer Black man in the United States while addressing poverty, mass incarceration, white supremacy and LGBTQIA+ inclusion. Duncan claims that “God is present with us in the most difficult of circumstances, bringing life out of death.”
- [One Coin Found](#) by Emmy Kegler: Kegler’s exploration of the Bible as a queer woman reveals a God that never ceases to seek us out and inundate us with love when the world would rather push us aside.
- [Open](#) by Scott Jones: Scott Jones shares his journey of coming out as a gay man while discerning a call to ministry and the church. This memoir explores how one can live an open, authentic life when those around you push back.

Podcasts

- [Queerology](#): Every Tuesday, Matthias Roberts answers the question, “how might we live better as queer people of faith and allies?” This podcasts often features special guests to join in the conversation about belief and being.
- [Yass Jesus!](#): Every Sunday, this podcasts tackles the intersection of faith and sexuality, reminding listeners they do not have to pick one or the other.
- [Queer Theology](#): Each week, the hosts answer a question sent in from a listener and take turns queering the lectionary text for the week. Too often, the same 7 clobber passages” are all that’s discussed when it comes to LGBT lives and issues. The hosts share the message that queer people are more than what they are not.

For Working with Queer Youth

- [Welcoming and Affirming](#) by Leigh Finke: How should I respond when a teen comes out? Do I have to tell their parents? What does it mean to be transgender? And how do I talk to a trans youth? This text provides concrete tools to guide parents and leaders through the LGBTQIA+ landscape.
- [Made, Known, Loved](#) by Ross Murray: Murray explores how to make a youth program more welcoming and inclusive through our values and context while hammering home the inherent dignity and value of queer youth.

For Queer Youth

- [Queerfully and Wonderfully Made](#) by Leigh Finke: Are you LGBTQ+? Not sure? Whether you're queer or questioning, understanding sexuality and gender identity can be confusing. You'll walk away with a lot of answers, prepared with tools to help. But most importantly, you'll hear the good news: God loves

you exactly as you are. No matter your identity or where in your journey of self-discovery you find yourself, you got this.

Queer Theology

- [Radical Love](#) by Patrick S. Cheng: An introductory text to queer theology covering the history and conception of queer theology. From this foundation, the author takes a queer approach to all aspects of faith: God, creation, sin, sacraments, etc.
- [Rainbow Theology](#) by Patrick S. Cheng: An exploration of the intersections of race, sexuality and religion incorporation theologies of queer people of color with the hope of bridging the gaps of a divided world.
- [Queer Theology](#) by Linn Marie Tonstad: After summarizing the various apologetic arguments for full inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in faith life, the author draws connections between faith, sex and money that have previously gone missing in approaches to theology.
- [Our Lives Matter](#) by Pamela Lightsey: Explores the impact of oppression against queer women of color while providing a queer approach to theology and church processes, such as ordination and marriage.
- [Transformative Lutheran Theologies](#) edited by Mary J. Streufert: A systematic representation of Lutheran feminist, womanist, and mujerista theologies that is resoundingly constructive and relevant for the contemporary church. A continual process of reform is explored on topics from atonement theory to grace.