



REFLECTIONS ON FAITH AND SEXUAL IDENTITY

Sundays: January 22 , February 12, March 25, April 15

12:30–2:00 p.m. | Harlan Room

Idlewild Presbyterian Church | 1750 Union Ave in Midtown Memphis

A four-part series exploring same-sex relationships in light of our Biblical faith and Reformed tradition, along with the latest scientific and medical perspectives. A light lunch (\$5) will be served at 12:30 p.m. followed by the presentation. Lunch reservations are helpful but not necessary. Childcare is available (if possible, please call before that Sunday: Brenda Harris, 726-4681 ext. 35).

If you need more information please contact Associate Pastor Gayle Walker, 726-4681 ext. 46 or gwalker@idlewildchurch.org.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 22 | SCIENTIFIC AND MEDICAL PERSPECTIVES

This lecture/discussion will speak to two questions. First, where does our sexual identity come from? What are the sciences telling us about the origins and nature of an individual's sexual identity. Second, what effects on health and wellbeing are created by living in a community where one can be honest about who one is? Led by Dr. Jenny Vaydich, Assistant Professor of Psychology at Rhodes College.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12 | BIBLICAL PERSPECTIVES

The first of two presentations will be focused on the biblical texts and how we use the Bible in the Reformed tradition for moral deliberation and decision-making. Led by the Rev. Dr. Kendra Hotz, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, Rhodes College; Senior Scholar in Religion and Ethics, Methodist Le Bonheur Healthcare.

SUNDAY, MARCH 25 | ETHICAL PERSPECTIVES

This second presentation by Dr. Hotz will focus on setting forth a spectrum of Christian ethical perspectives on same-sex relationships building on the biblical texts and theological reflection from the previous session.

SUNDAY, APRIL 15 | THEOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVES

This final presentation will address the question: what is the mission and calling of the church with regard to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender folks in its midst? We will look theologically at why we should be a church that commits itself to inclusion and what that might entail for our life as a community. Led by The Rev. Dr. Stacy Johnson, Professor of Systematic Theology, Princeton Theological Seminary, NJ. He is author of *A Time to Embrace: Same Gender Relationships in Religion, Law, and Politics* (Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company, 2006).