

About the Exhibit You Are Seeing Today

You know me. I am your daughter, your pastor. You nurtured me, encouraged me, ordained me. Yet I cannot tell you my name. For me the risk is still too great. I work and pray for the day when I am free to say who I truly am.

- Anonymous stole

The Shower of Stoles Project is an extraordinary collection of over one thousand liturgical stoles and other sacred items representing the lives of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) people of faith. These religious leaders have served in almost forty denominations and faith traditions, and come from six countries on three continents. This collection celebrates the gifts of LGBT persons who serve God in countless ways, while also lifting up those who have been excluded from service because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. The Project bears witness to the huge loss of leadership that the Church has brought upon itself because of its own unjust policies. The collection tours constantly around the country, being exhibited in local congregations, universities and seminaries, and regional and national denominational gatherings.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

If you or someone you know is an LGBT religious leader, regardless of whether you have been driven from the Church or fully embraced by it, we would be deeply grateful to accept a stole in your honor (named or anonymous) and add your story to this Great Cloud of Witnesses. For information on how to donate a stole, visit www.WelcomingResources.org/sospstole.htm.

If you are passionate about the full inclusion of LGBT people in every aspect of the life of the Church, both at the congregational and denominational levels, there are many ways for you to get involved to create change. Host or attend BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH, a training where you'll learn powerful tools to help the Church be the Church it is meant to be — just, loving and extravagantly welcoming. Through faith-based community organizing skills, sound Biblical and theological education, meaningful worship, discussion of bisexuality and transgender issues, and strategic and faithful thinking about work you can do in your setting. For more information on how to host or attend training, visit www.WelcomingResources.org/communityorg.htm.



A program of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's
Institute for Welcoming Resources
122 Franklin Avenue West, Suite 210, Minneapolis, MN 55408
612.821.4397 • www.WelcomingResources.org



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