

Plymouth Pride

HERALD

Summer 2009

Published by Plymouth Pride Fellowship

THE RAINBOW

"The rainbow will be in the cloud. I will look at it, that I may remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth." Genesis 9:16

I wonder if the designer of the rainbow flag knew the theological implications of the rainbow. There are only six references to the rainbow in the Bible. Four of them appear in Genesis. You probably know the story. God sent a flood to kill all of humanity except one righteous man, Noah, and his family. God made a clean sweep of creation in order to start over. Then God put a rainbow in the sky as a sign that God would never destroy humankind with a flood again. It was to serve as renewal of the blessing that God given at creation. The glory of God is likened to "the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain" in Ezekiel 1:28. And in Revelation 4:3, the rainbow forms a striking part of the vision: "And there was a rainbow round about the throne."

So whenever you see the rainbow colors, whether in the sky or in a flag, let it be a reminder that God is at peace with all of creation, that God honors all of creation and that where the rainbow is—God's glory is there also. • —Nancy Erickson
Associate Minister, First-Plymouth Church



IN BRIEF

Friday, July 10, the Nebraska Board of Mental Health moved forward a non-discrimination policy that includes both sexual orientation and gender identity and requires providers to make a referral when unable to provide a service.

Our work is not over yet. There is an additional board, the Nebraska Board of Health, and ultimately the Health and Human Services administration that must move this regulation forward. • —Tyler Richard
Lincoln Coordinator, Citizens for Equal Protection (tyler@cfep-ne.org)

11:59@FIRST-PLYMOUTH

Starting in September First-Plymouth will offer an alternative style worship at 11:59 AM. Instead of choirs, robes, organ and sermon, this service will be will feature eclectic and edgy music, casual dress, an interactive time of teaching, and a prayerful ritual of candle lighting. The service will be 30 minutes long, but will be followed by a catered lunch for those who want to stay for fellowship.

Senior Minister Jim Keck explains, "While there are lots of 'contemporary worship styles,' these days, 11:59@F-P is going to be unique, and organic, to who we are as a spiritual community. The exciting challenge we face is to include the basic DNA of First-Plymouth – intellectual depth, high-quality music and inclusive Christianity – in a radically different worship package. Tammy Alvis, Tom Trenney, Annette Murrell (singer), Mike Hillis (event designer) and I have already begun to develop a service, and "look," that will be dramatically different yet completely authentic to our core spiritual values. 11:59@F-P is going to be something else!" •

PROFILE

New Minister of Music

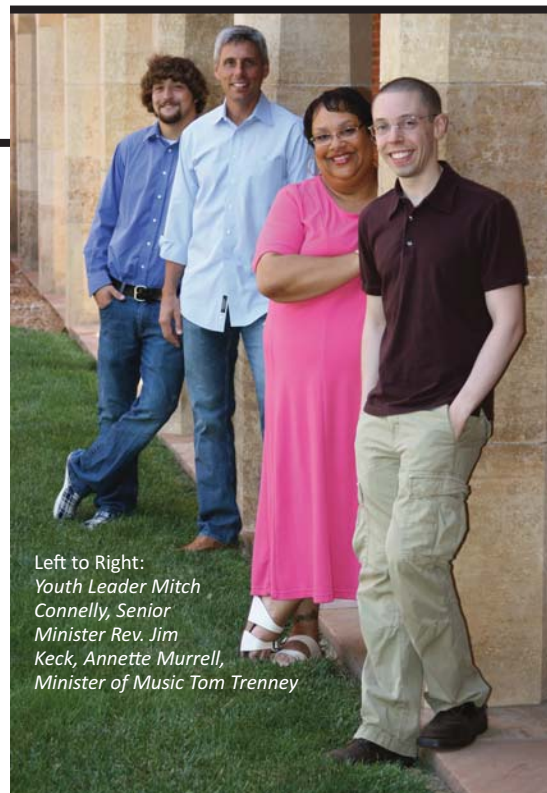
Tom Trenney

For the past seven years, Trenney has served as Director of Music Ministries and Organist at First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, Michigan. He is also founding artistic director of "Many Voices...One Song," a community-wide music outreach organization not unlike First-Plymouth's "Abendmusik." He holds the Master of Music degrees in both Choral Conducting and Organ Performance from the Eastman School of Music.

He has won national competitions in organ performance, including first prize and audience prize in the American Guild of Organists' national competition in organ improvisation in 2006, and is in frequent demand as a concert organist all over America.

He has recently performed on the new Schoenstein organ at the Schermerhorn Symphony Hall in Nashville, and for the organ dedication of Loyola University in Chicago. Tom has also served as organ and choral clinician for conventions of the American Guild of Organists, the Organ Historical Society, and the Presbyterian Association of Musicians.

Tom and his partner, Brent Shaw, recently moved to Lincoln. Tom will begin his work at First-Plymouth in August. •



Left to Right:
Youth Leader Mitch
Connelly, Senior
Minister Rev. Jim
Keck, Annette Murrell,
Minister of Music Tom Trenney

PLYMOUTH PRIDE CALENDAR

AUGUST:	Chili Taste-Off
SEPTEMBER:	Movie: Stonewall
OCTOBER:	First-Plymouth Ministers Panel
NOVEMBER:	TBA
DECEMBER:	Nancy's Christmas Party!

Rainbow Group

Alcoholics Anonymous® (AA) is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. There are two (2) LGBTQA open AA meetings available to those who might be interested in attending: •

St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

2325 S. 24th St.

Every Monday 7:30-8:30

Every Friday 7:00-8:00

"Real & Surreal"

Fine art by Debi Smith & Valerie Knobel

The show is a blend of the real such as landscape/skyscape by Valerie Knobel and surreal as represented through various sculptures by Debi Smith. There is a fine line between the real and surreal and this two person exhibit shows such blurring of lines. •

First Friday Opening

August 7th, 2009
6:30 to 9:30pm

Exhibit Duration

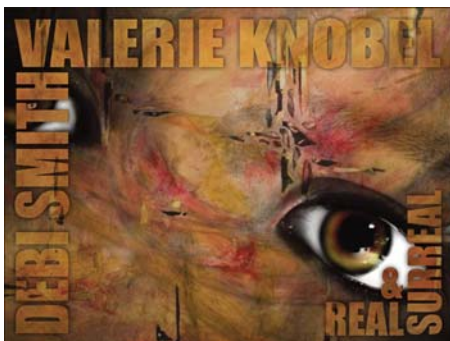
August 5th-30th

Gallery 9

124 S. 9th St.
Lincoln, NE

Regular Hours

Wed-Sat: 10am-5pm
Sun: 12noon-5pm



LGBTQA History Month Events

October 2, 3: Kick off LGBT History Month with an Art and film celebration!

Enjoy great food, wine, and fine art at Gallery Nine & the Noyes Gallery for a First Friday kickoff of LGBTQA History month! More information on this event will be available soon.

Also on Friday, join special guest screenwriter Barry Sandler at the Ross theater. The Ross will be showing both of Barry's films, the director's cut of "Crimes of Passion" and "Making Love." Mr. Sandler will be hosting a workshop that weekend as well about the state of LGBT representation in films. Date and time TBA.

If you can't make Friday's films, there will be an encore performance and reception on Saturday, Oct. 3 at The Ross Theater. Afterward, Barry will answer any questions from the audience about the films.



October 23: History Month Dinner

The annual LGBT History month Dinner with keynote speaker and public policy expert, Nathaniel Frank, author of "Unfriendly Fire: How the Gay Ban Undermines the Military and Weakens America." Frank is senior research fellow at the Palm Center at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and teaches history as an adjunct faculty member at New York University's Gallatin School. Dr. Frank's publications on gays in the military and other topics have appeared in the New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, Huffington Post, Lingua Franca and others. He has been interviewed on numerous television and radio programs, including "The Daily Show with Jon Stewart," CNN's "Anderson Cooper 360," and MSNBC's "Rachel Maddow Show."



The History Month Dinner event will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$25, with UNL student discounts available. You can also reserve a table for 8 for \$185. Contact Pat Tetreault at ptetreault@unlnotes.unl.edu to reserve your tickets.

Other events for the month will include a showing of the films, "Before Stonewall" and "After Stonewall." Details about the films will be forthcoming.

On October 5 (Monday), 13 (Tuesday), 21 (Wednesday) and 29 (Thursday), 11 am – 2 pm, an opportunity to learn about and contribute to the LGBTQA history at UNL and in Lincoln will be available. Information, symbols and history will be provided and participants will have the opportunity to respond!" On the Nebraska Union Plaza (outside), weather permitting (the Nebraska Union alcove is the alternate location).

Information about other programming is coming soon! •

Louis Crompton Scholarship Fund

The Louis Crompton Scholarship Fund is the first permanently endowed scholarship providing much needed support to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) students with financial need at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Established in December 2008, the fund is a tribute to Professor Emeritus Dr. Louis Crompton, a longtime English professor at UNL and a pioneer in gay and lesbian studies. In 1970 he began teaching one of the first multidisciplinary courses in the nation on homosexuality. He also developed one of the earliest courses exploring gay and lesbian literature.

For more information, and to join in this historic and important effort by contributing, visit www.nufoundation.org/crompton. •

(note: Louis Crompton passed away Saturday, July 11, 2009).