

Subject: Update

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Conversation: Update

UPDATE – CHAT BIBLE STUDY

We have had two successful Bible Studies in the Chat Rooms on Sunday nights.

We would invite you to join us this coming Sunday for our next Bible Study on Matthew 2 under the leadership of Amy.

Please click on the "**New! Bible Study**" link near the top of any page for details - http://christiangays.com/chat_study.shtml

Hope to see you there.

NEW – EMAIL BIBLE STUDY

It's in the works. We're still figuring out how to do it, but it will be coming soon.

NEW – GLBT HISTORY MONTH

Check out the home page at <http://christiangays.com/>

On the right side of the page you will see a banner ad for **GLBT History Month**. Click it every day in the month of October to see a short video on the GLBT icon of the day. Until Oct 1, there will be an overview of each one.

These are the people who will be featured, and the day on which they will be featured.

- 1st DelMartin/Phyllis Lyon – Co-founders of the First Lesbian Organization
- 2nd Stephen Sondheim – Lyricist/Composer
- 3rd Gianni Versace – Fashion Designer

- 4th Sheila Kuehl - Politician
- 5th Tennessee Williams - Playwright
- 6th Alice Walker - Writer
- 7th Greg Louganis - Athlete
- 8th Bertrand Delanoë – Mayor of Paris
- 9th Margaret Mead - Anthropologist
- 10th Mark Bingham – Hero of 9/11
- 11th Cleve Jones – AIDS Activist
- 12th Jann Wenner - Entrepreneur
- 13th Harvey Fierstein - Entertainer
- 14th Margarethe Cammermeyer – Military Officer
- 15th Anthony Romero - Activist
- 16th Melissa Etheridge - Musician
- 17th Gene Robinson – Episcopal Bishop
- 18th John Waters - Filmmaker
- 19th Robert Mapplethorpe - Photographer
- 20th Georgina Beyer – Transgender Politician
- 21st Tony Kushner - Playwright
- 22nd Rosie O'Donnell - Entertainer
- 23rd Philip Johnson - Architect
- 24th E.M. Forster - Writer
- 25th Randy Shilts - Journalist
- 26th Allen Ginsberg - Poet
- 27th Troy Perry – Founder of MCC
- 28th Bill T. Jones - Dancer
- 29th Andy Warhol - Artist
- 30th Rachel Carson – Environmental Pioneer
- 31st Michelangelo - Artist

EVENT - FILM - "FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO" PLUS GUEST SPEAKER MARY LOU WALLNER – OCT 13, 14

Two Day Event at Unitarian Universalist Church, 2474 South Ballenger Hwy, Flint, MI

Monday Oct 13, 6 – 8:30 pm see the movie "***For The Bible Tells Me So***" and hear speaker **Mary Lou Wallner** (featured in the video).

Tuesday Oct 14, 6 – 8:30 pm Advocacy Training Curriculum supplements the video.

(<http://www.uuflint.org/>)

MAJOR MILESTONES – REV ELAINE SUNDBY

Some of you will be aware that we are honoured to be able to provide a link on our **Gay Links** page <http://christiangays.com/links.shtml> to Rev Elaine Sundby's ongoing work of providing a **Directory of Welcoming Christian Churches**. I am pleased to announce that she has just added the 5,000th church!

This is a major milestone in that when the directory was started some eight years ago they struggled to find close to 2,000 Christian churches world wide that had opened their doors to the gay and lesbian (GLBT) community. Since that time growth has steadily increased, even during a long stretch of anti-gay sentiment around the time of the last election.

Rev Sundby is also the author of "**Calling The Rainbow Nation Home**". The book has surpassed the 1,000th book sold this year. Another huge milestone for Rev Sundby. Congratulations Elaine!

Two reviews from readers are as follows:

" I wish I had found your book earlier...it would have led me to this realization and given such a boost of spiritual strength. Thank you so much for sharing you story with us and providing ammunition in defense of our spiritual place with God. I pray it continues to bring our lost brothers and sisters to His love."

"The first book that I have read on this subject that was so easy to read and understand and at the same time incredibly powerful and life changing. I always knew in my spirit that my partner and I were not wrong, but didn't have the knowledge of the scripture. It is a wonderfully powerful testimony backed with scripture and moving honesty. Where I live there is not a Christian gay church so this book helped so much. If you're gay or not you should read this book."

*For a link to Elaine's book, please go to any page on the website <http://christiangays.com/> On the left side of the page under the navigation links is the Search CG.com box. Elaine's banner ad for her book "**Calling The Rainbow Nation Home**" is directly under the Search CG.com box. Click on that ad to be taken to her website*

where you can read more about it.

HIV INFECTIONS 40% HIGHER THAN THOUGHT IN THE U.S.

In August, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that new annual HIV infections in the U.S. are 40 percent higher than previously thought. HIV rates are rising among gay and bisexual men, and an epidemic is surging among people of color. At the same time, funding for HIV/AIDS programs has been flat or shrunk for nearly a decade, and people living with or at risk HIV/AIDS increasingly face the challenges of poverty, low self-esteem and homophobia in their communities.

If you'd like to learn more, please visit APLA (AIDS Project Los Angeles) website <http://www.apla.org/index.html>

WORLDS AIDS DAY CAMPAIGN 2008 – NOV 30, NEW YORK CITY

The World AIDS Day 2008 Planning Committee for the NYC World AIDS Day invite you and your organization to participate in this years event.

The Event is Free and Open to the Public

The event will take place on Sunday, November 30th - 5:00 pm.

The site for the 2008 event will be in Harlem USA (Riverside Church)

Please view webstie www.wadnyc.org for all event details and ways for you and or your organization to participate.

FILM - "BOY I AM" ON here! tv - THE LGBT CABLE CHANNEL

After months of negotiations, **Boy I Am** is finally screening on here! tv, the LGBT cable channel. We're very excited to reach an even broader audience; we hope you can catch **Boy I Am** on here! and tell your friends. Screening times vary based on your cable provider.

See here!'s website for details: <http://www.heretv.com/index.php>

NEW ROOM IN CHAT FOR HIV/AIDS SUPPORT

I have added a new room in Gay Chat for **HIV/AIDS Support**. If anyone wants me to assign a special day and time to meet, please let me know or contact Michael at mteale7001@gmail.com to discuss it further.

JASON AND DEMARCO

- were featured in the September 10th issue of PEOPLE MAGAZINE. The article featured a personal interview with J&D about their SHOWTIME breakthrough film, *We're All Angels*, as well as the upcoming release of their new mainstream album, *SAFE*.



NEW INMATES

We are please to welcome Saniqua Perkins and Shonda Swarhout to our Prison Ministry. Please read about these women, add them to your prayer list, and write to them if possible.

You can read about these gals and the others at <http://christiangays.com/personals/prison.shtml>

This is a ministry that is very much in need of volunteers to write to people. Please, if God lays it on your heart, pick a few people and let them know that they're not alone. People care about them. God cares about them.

POWERFUL WOMEN'S MOTTO

Live your life in such a way that when your feet hit the floor in the morning, Satan shudders and says...

'Oh no.... she's awake!!'

SHORT HISTORY OF BIBLE TRANSLATIONS UP TO 1550

For centuries, parts of the Church have tried to prevent correct Bible translation reaching the hands of the people. The first hand-written English language Bible manuscripts were produced in the 1380's AD by John Wycliffe, an Oxford scholar. Some years after he died, the Pope ordered his bones dug up and destroyed.

The Roman church executed people found with a Bible written in any language other than Latin. One of Wycliffe's followers, Hus, was burned at the stake in 1415, and Wycliffe's Bibles were thrown in the fire. In 1517 seven people were burned at the stake by the Roman Catholic Church for teaching their children to say the Lord's Prayer in English rather than in Latin.

Johann Gutenberg invented the printing press in the 1450's. The first book ever printed

was a Latin language Bible. In the 1490's another Oxford professor, and the personal physician to King Henry the 7th and 8th, Thomas Linacre, read the Gospels in Greek, and was horrified at the difference between the original Greek and the Latin Vulgate. He wrote about the shocking Vulgate translation of the original Greek in his diary.

Erasmus was compelled to correct the vastly inaccurate Latin Vulgate. In 1516 he published a Greek-Latin Parallel New Testament. This was the first non-Latin Vulgate text of the scripture to be produced in over 1,000 years. The 1516 Greek-Latin New Testament of Erasmus further focused attention on just how corrupt and inaccurate the Latin Vulgate was.

In the 1530's Martin Luther published the entire Bible in German. Just prior to that Tyndale was forced to flee from England for translating the New Testament into English from the original Greek. In 1525 – 1526 the *Tyndale New Testament* became the first printed edition of the scripture in the English language. They were burned as fast as the Bishop could confiscate them. The church declared it contained thousands of errors. People found in possession of one of Tyndale's New Testaments were burned to death. Tyndale was imprisoned for 500 days and then strangled and burned at the stake in 1536.

Myles Coverdale and John Rogers (alias Thomas Matthews) were followers of Tyndale. They continued his English Bible project. Coverdale finished translating the Old Testament, and in 1535 printed the first complete Bible in the English language. However, instead of the original Greek, he translated from Luther's German text and the Latin. The first complete English Bible as printed on Oct 4, 1535, and is known as the *Coverdale Bible*.

In 1537 John Rogers under the pseudonym Thomas Matthew worked with Tyndale on the second complete English Bible. This was the first English Bible translated from the original Biblical languages of Greek and Hebrew. It was a composite made up of Tyndale's Pentateuch and New Testament (1534 – 1535 edition) and Coverdale's Bible with some of Roger's own translation of the text. John Rogers was burned at the stake on Feb 4, 1555, for refusing to renounce his translation work.

In 1539, Thomas Cranmer, the Archbishop of Canterbury, hired Myles Coverdale at the bequest of King Henry VIII to publish the "Great Bible". It became the first English Bible authorized for public use, and was distributed to every church and chained to the pulpit. A reader was even provided so that the illiterate could hear the Bible read in English. Cranmer's Bible, published by Coverdale, was known as the Great Bible due to its great size.

King Henry VIII had requested that the Pope permit him to divorce his wife and marry his mistress. The Pope refused so Henry renounced Roman Catholicism and declared that as he was the reigning head of State he was also the new head of the Church. This

new branch of the Church became known as the Anglican Church of the Church of England. King Henry took on the role of the Pope. His first act was to annoy Rome by funding the printing of the scriptures in English. This was the first legal English translation of the Bible.

*(Taken from **Study New Testament For Lesbians, Gays, Bi and Transgender** by Dr. Ann Nyland – available at http://christiangays.com/amazon/amazon_books_title.shtml)*

God bless,
Mary

Gay AND Christian? YES! It IS Possible!

<http://www.ChristianGays.com>

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Gay by God. Proud by choice!



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