

**Highlights  
of the  
More Light Movement  
in the  
Presbyterian Church U.S.A.  
that Influenced My Life**

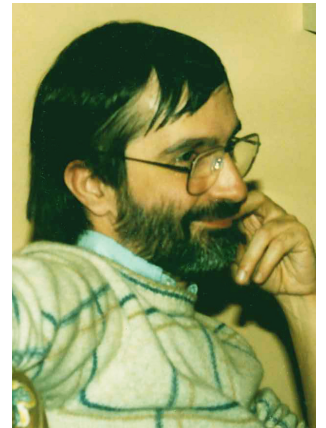
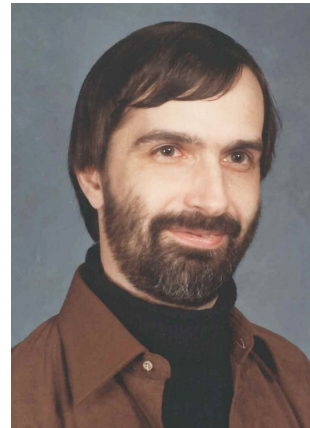
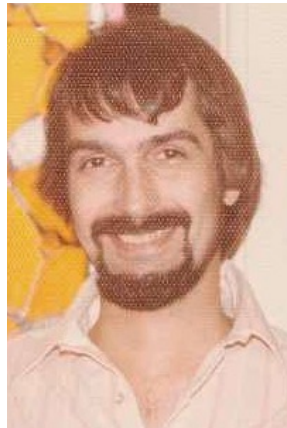
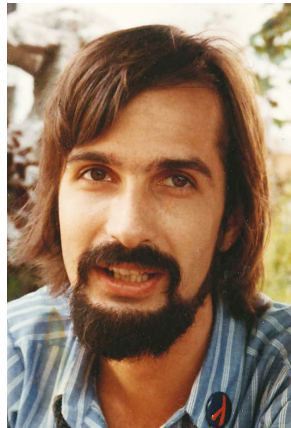
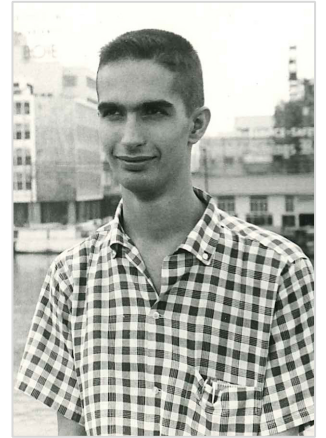
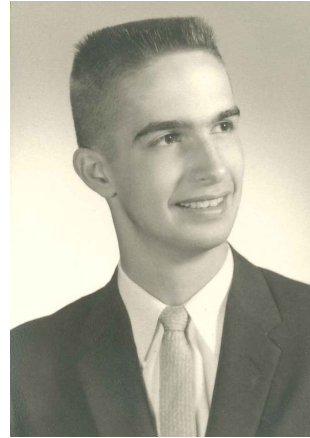
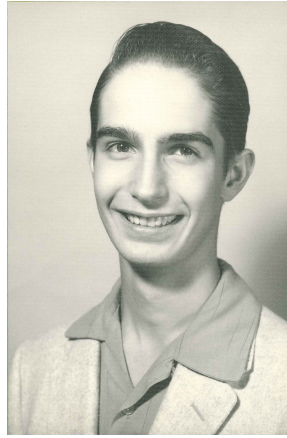
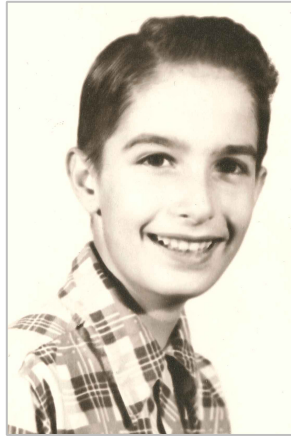


**MORE LIGHT**  
PRESBYTERIANS

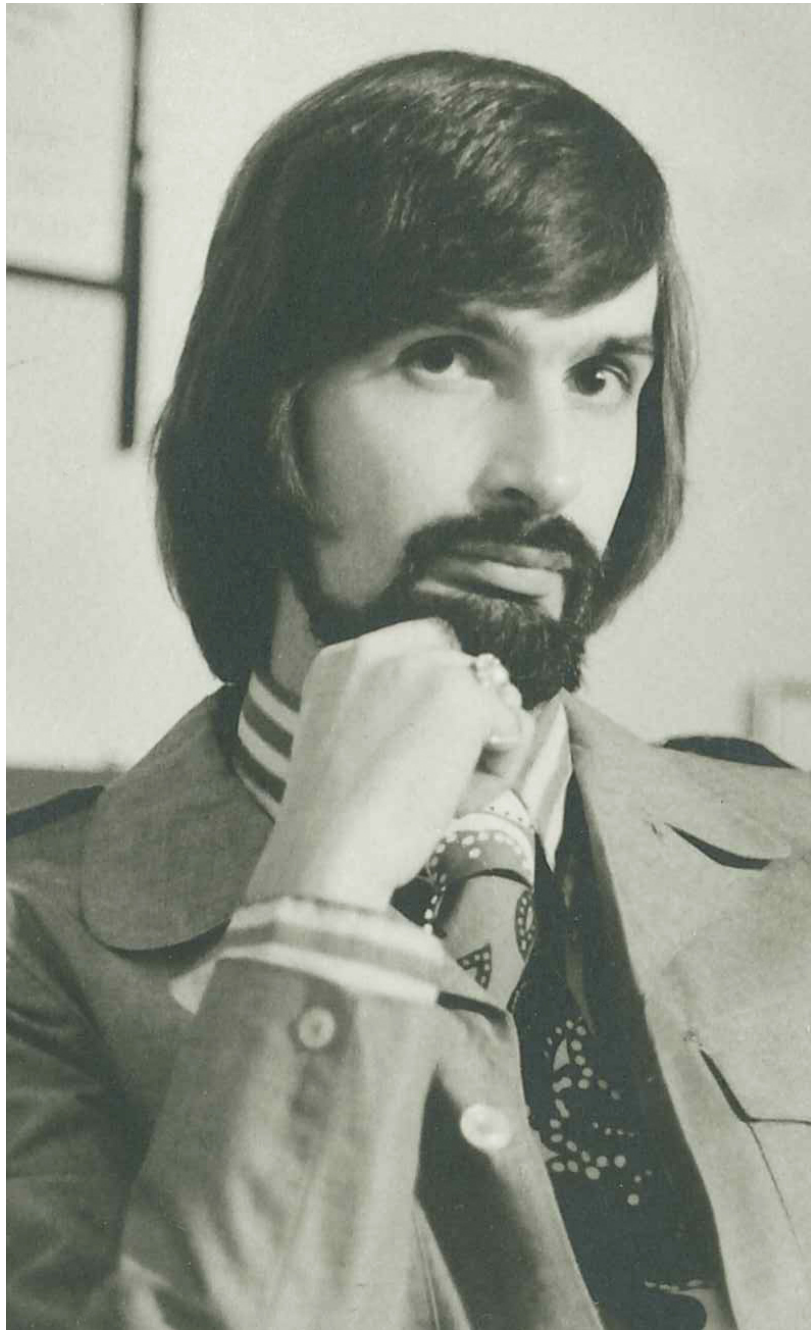


**That All May  
Freely Serve**

**Barry Smith  
Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago  
April 2015**

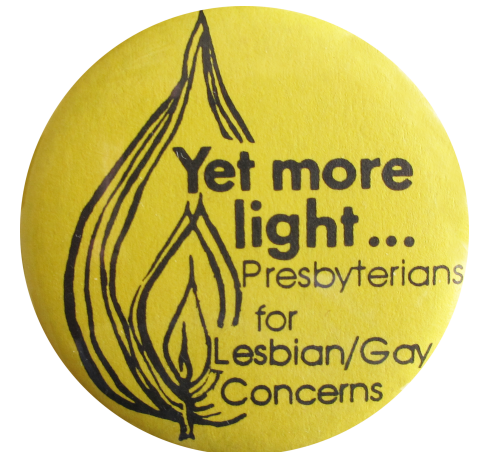
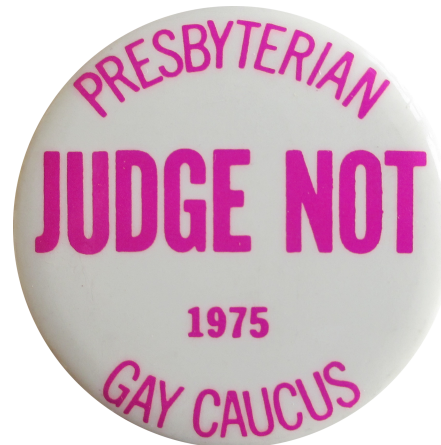


David B. Sindt (1940-1986), founder of Presbyterian Gay Caucus in 1974; later known as Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns, and More Light Presbyterians.



Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church in Chicago calls David Sindt as assistant pastor in May 1972. The Chicago Presbytery blocked the call in 1973.

This is believed to be the first call to an openly gay pastor by a local church.



David Sindt lobbying at General Assembly, Cincinnati, 1975, and early PGC/PLGC buttons. It was at the 1974 GA that David held up a sign asking: *“Is anybody else out there gay?”*

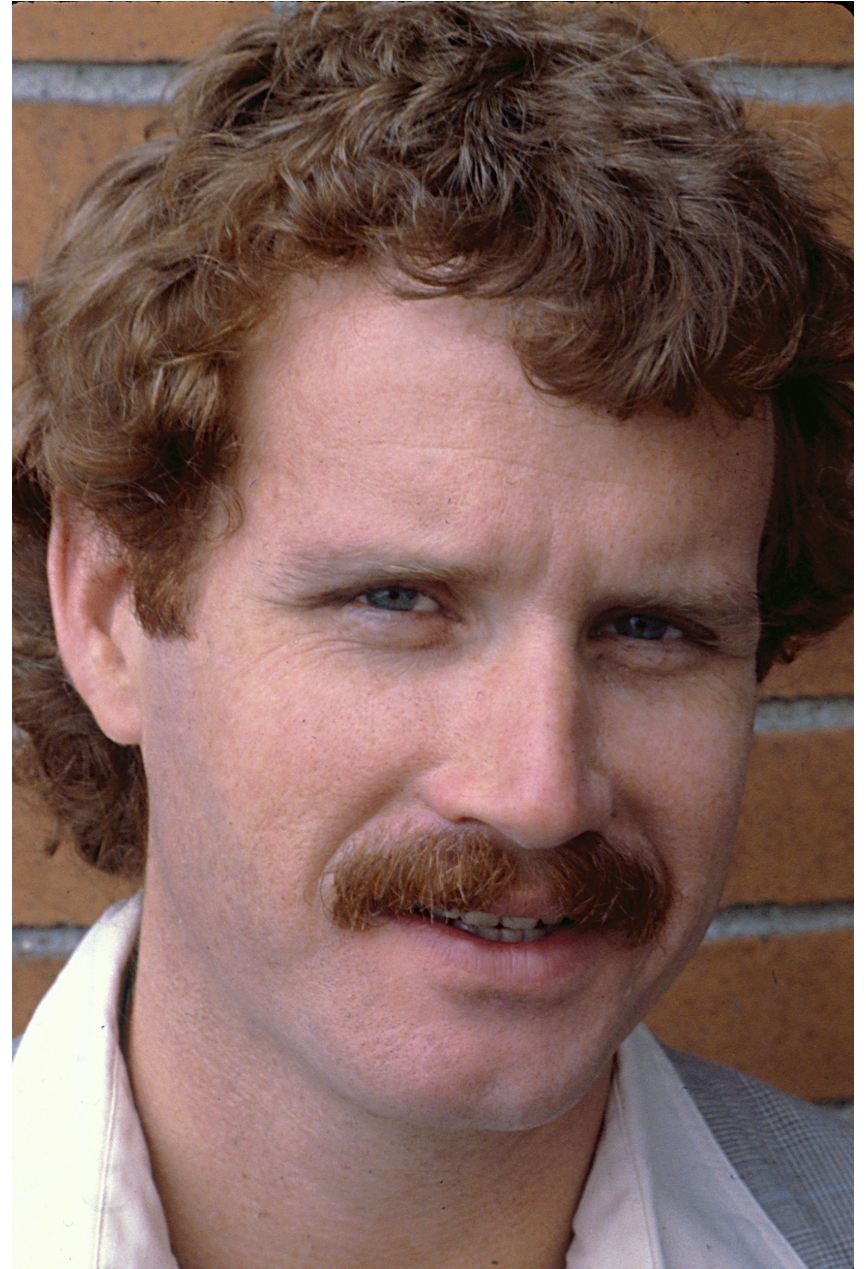


Rodger Wilson  
(1951-1999), at Detroit  
General Assembly, 1980.  
Rodger was present at the  
1974 General Assembly,  
and was an early Synod  
Coordinator, 1977, and  
an early officer of  
Presbyterian for Lesbian/  
Gay Concerns, 1985.



Bill Silver (1947-2007),  
at Detroit General  
Assembly, 1980. Bill  
was the first openly gay  
candidate for ordination  
in the UPCUSA, 1975,  
and an early officer of  
the Presbyterian Gay  
Caucus, 1977.

Chris Glaser, at the Detroit GA, 1980. He was the openly gay member of the GA Task Force on Homosexuality, 1976-78, an early officer of the Presbyterian Gay Caucus, 1977, and the first director of the Lazarus Project at West Hollywood Presbyterian Church, 1977-1987.





Chris Glaser, David Sindt, Sandy Brawders and Bill Silver, San Diego General Assembly at which the “Definitive Guidance” was adopted, 1978.



In 1979, at Lincoln Park Presbyterian, Chicago, Linda Benson (left) nominated David Sindt for the Session from the floor at the congregational meeting called to elect officers. The church's nominating committee had already chosen a slate for the Session, including Barry Smith. (continued...)



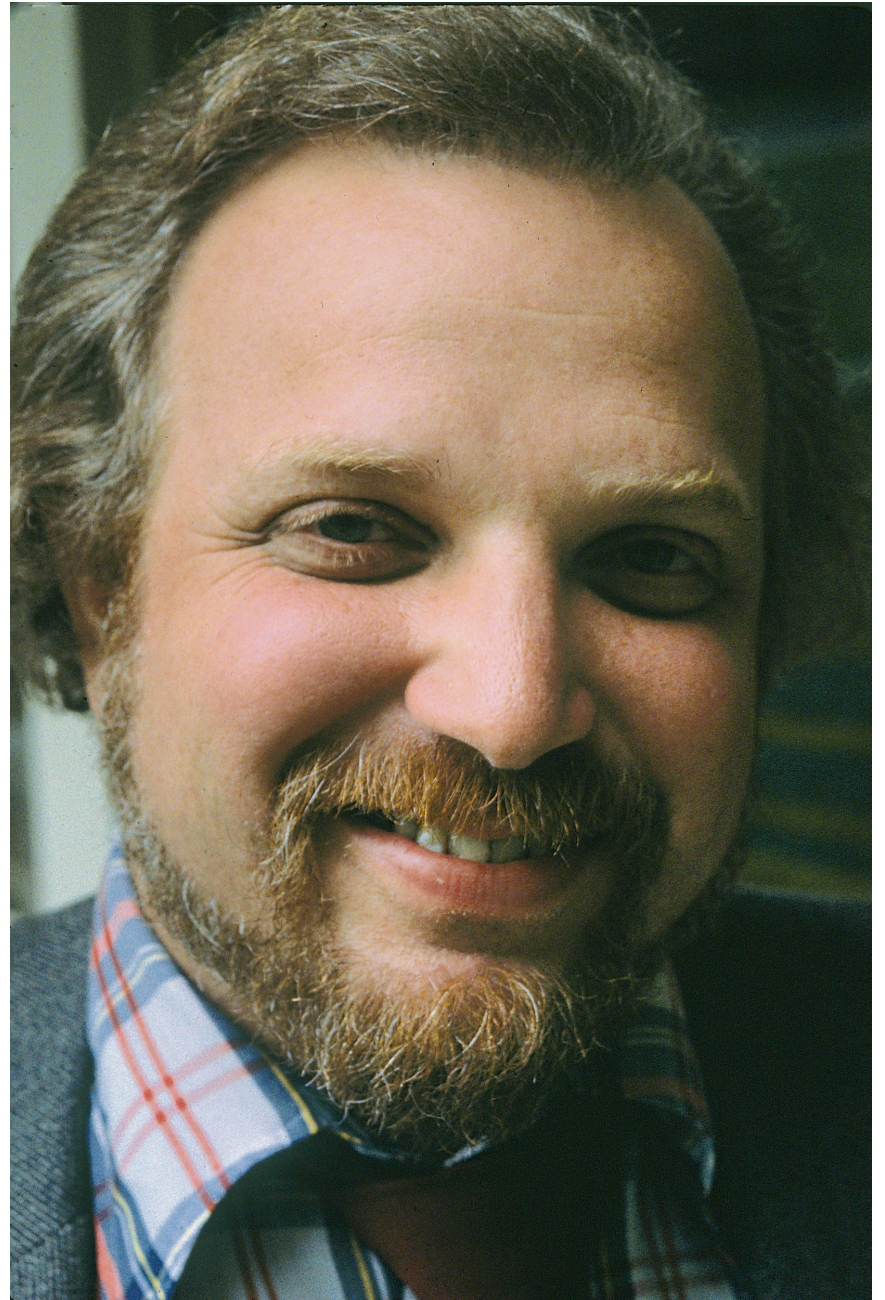
Thus, Barry Smith and David Sindt were both nominated for the Session. David, being openly gay, *was not* elected; Barry, staying silent, *was* elected.

In 1982, Barry was re-elected, this time as openly gay, and after 15 months of church judicial action was installed to Session, 1984.



Lorna Wuertz and Janie Spahr, Detroit General Assembly, 1980. Lorna, 1979, and Janie, 1980, were early officers of the Presbyterian Gay Caucus.

Bill Hirsch at the Detroit  
General Assembly, 1980.  
Bill oversaw PLGC Social  
Action efforts, 1980-1983.



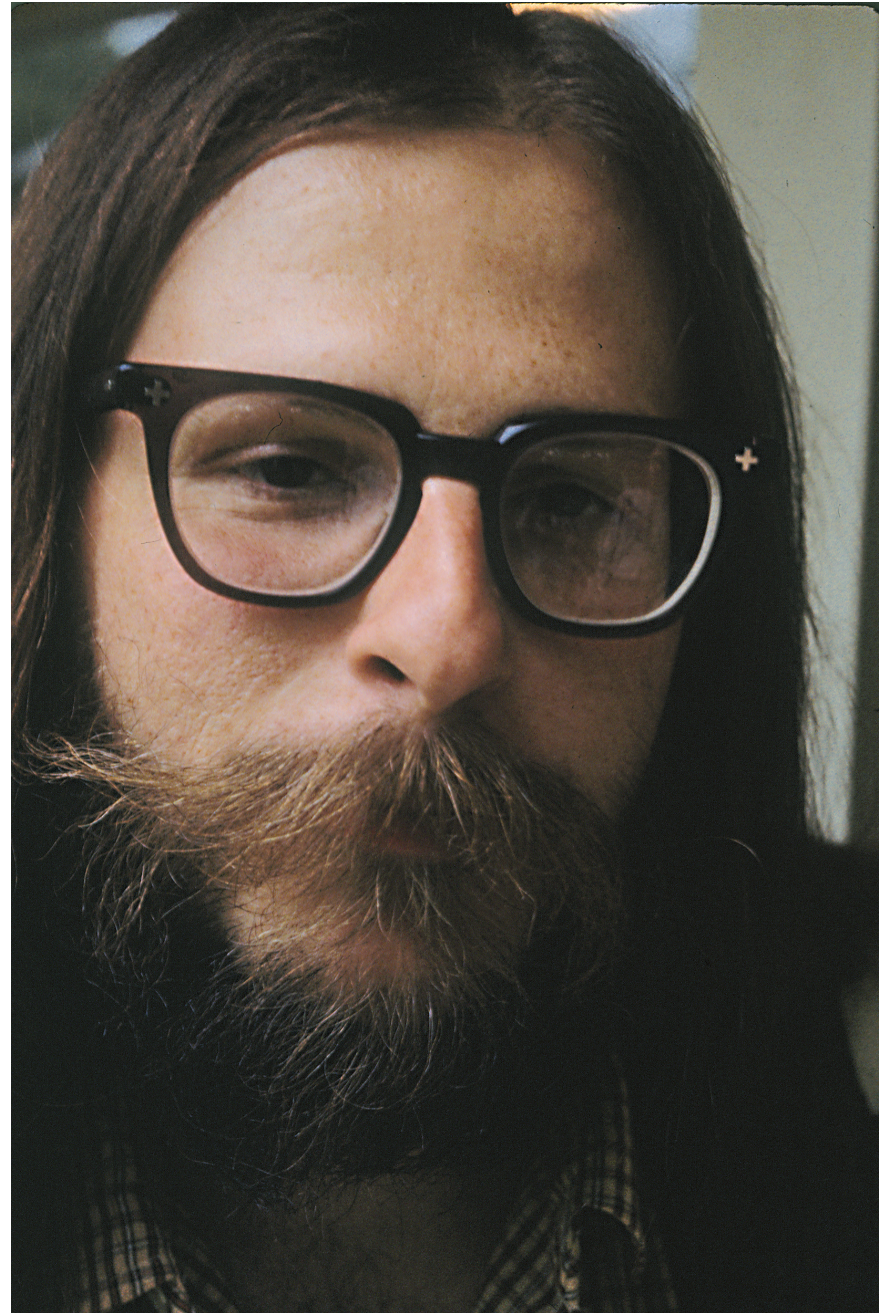


Cleve Evans at the Detroit General Assembly, 1980. Cleve was an early Synod Coordinator, 1980.



The late Bob and Evelyn Davidson at the Detroit GA, 1980. Bob was pastor of West-Park Presbyterian, the first More Light Church, 1978. Bob and Evelyn championed parents' concerns.

Jonathan Justice  
(1948-2014) at the Detroit  
General Assembly, 1980.  
Jonathan was an early  
Synod Coordinator, 1980.





Rafael Català and Jim Anderson at the Detroit GA, 1980. Jim was an early officer of PLGC, 1981, and long-time editor of *More Light Update*, 1980-1999.



Keith Herschberger at the Detroit General Assembly, 1980. Keith was an early Synod Coordinator, 1981, and an early officer of PLGC, 1982.

Sue Rostoni at the Detroit  
General Assembly, 1980.  
Sue was involved early on  
with PLGC family  
concerns, 1981.



Diane Engster at the  
PLGC Eastern  
Midwinter Conference,  
Washington, DC, 1982.  
Diane was an early  
Synod Coordinator,  
1981, and was the  
PLGC Corresponding  
Member to the 1981  
General Assembly.





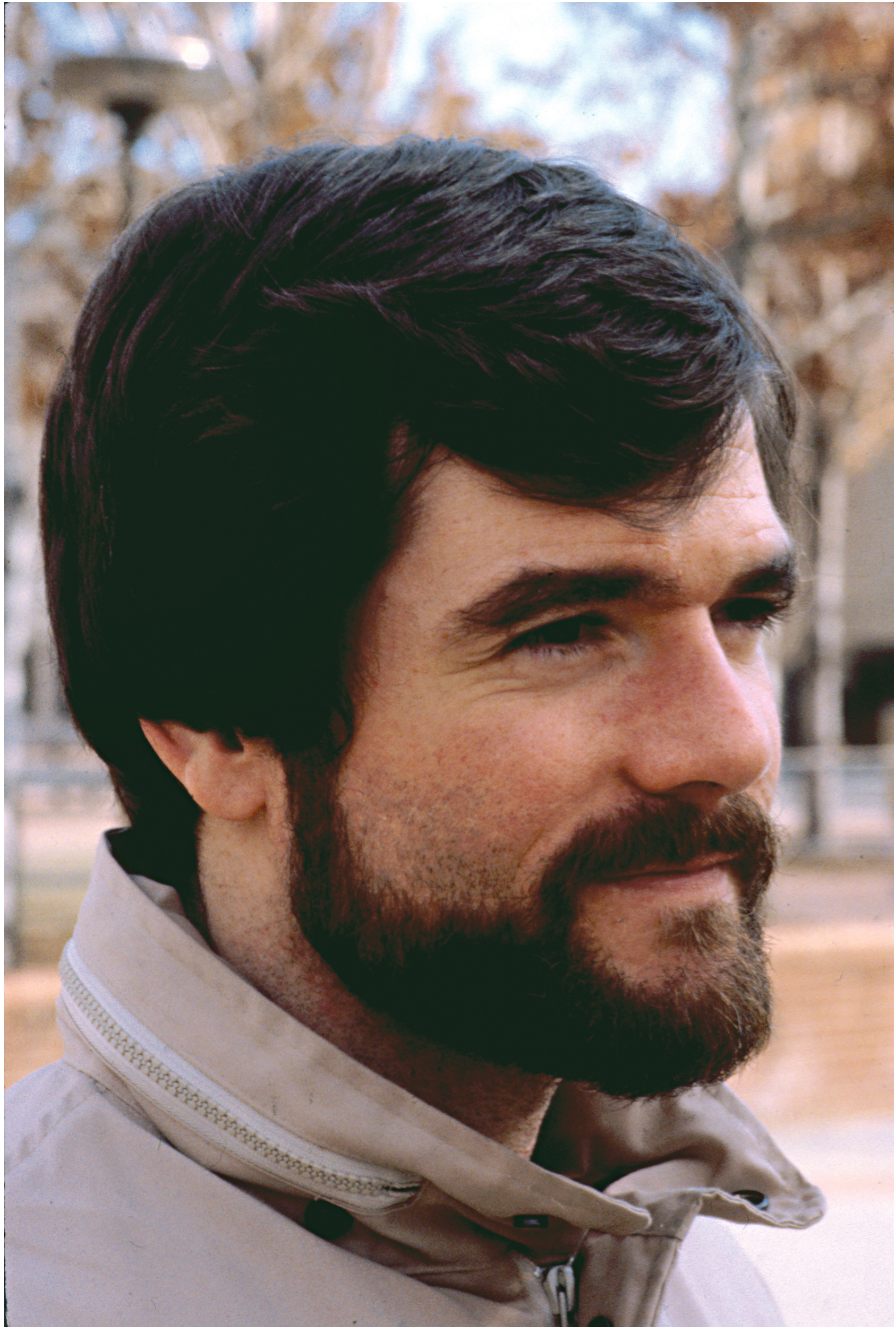
Dan Smith at the  
PLGC Eastern  
Midwinter Conference,  
Washington, DC, 1982.  
Dan was an early Synod  
Coordinator, 1982.

Bob Hasek (1941-1999)  
at the PLGC Eastern  
Midwinter Conference,  
Washington, DC, 1982.





Bob Hettrick at the  
PLGC Eastern  
Midwinter Conference,  
Washington, DC, 1982.  
Bob was an early Synod  
Coordinator, 1981.



Chuck Collins at the  
PLGC Eastern  
Midwinter Conference,  
Washington, DC, 1982.



Jane Adams Spahr, helped found the Ministry of Light in the San Francisco North Bay area. Later, the name was changed to Spectrum Center for LGBT Concerns. Janie served as Executive Director from 1982-1993.



Donna Prickett (1920-1999)  
at the Hartford General  
Assembly, 1982.  
A long-time PLGCer,  
she was most active in the  
Synod of the Northeast.

Virginia Davidson  
(1916-2009) at the  
Hartford General  
Assembly, 1982.  
Virginia chaired the  
GA Task Force on  
Homosexuality,  
1976-78. Virginia was  
an early officer of  
PLGC, 1982, and later,  
a towering force in  
That All May Freely  
Serve, 1992-2009.





Warren Zeh (1957-1996)  
at the Hartford General  
Assembly, 1982. Warren  
was later to serve on the  
national Presbyterian  
AIDS Network.



PLGC contingent marching in the New York City Pride Parade, 1982.

Shirley Hinkamp at  
the Phoenix General  
Assembly, 1984.  
Shirley was an early  
officer of PLGC.



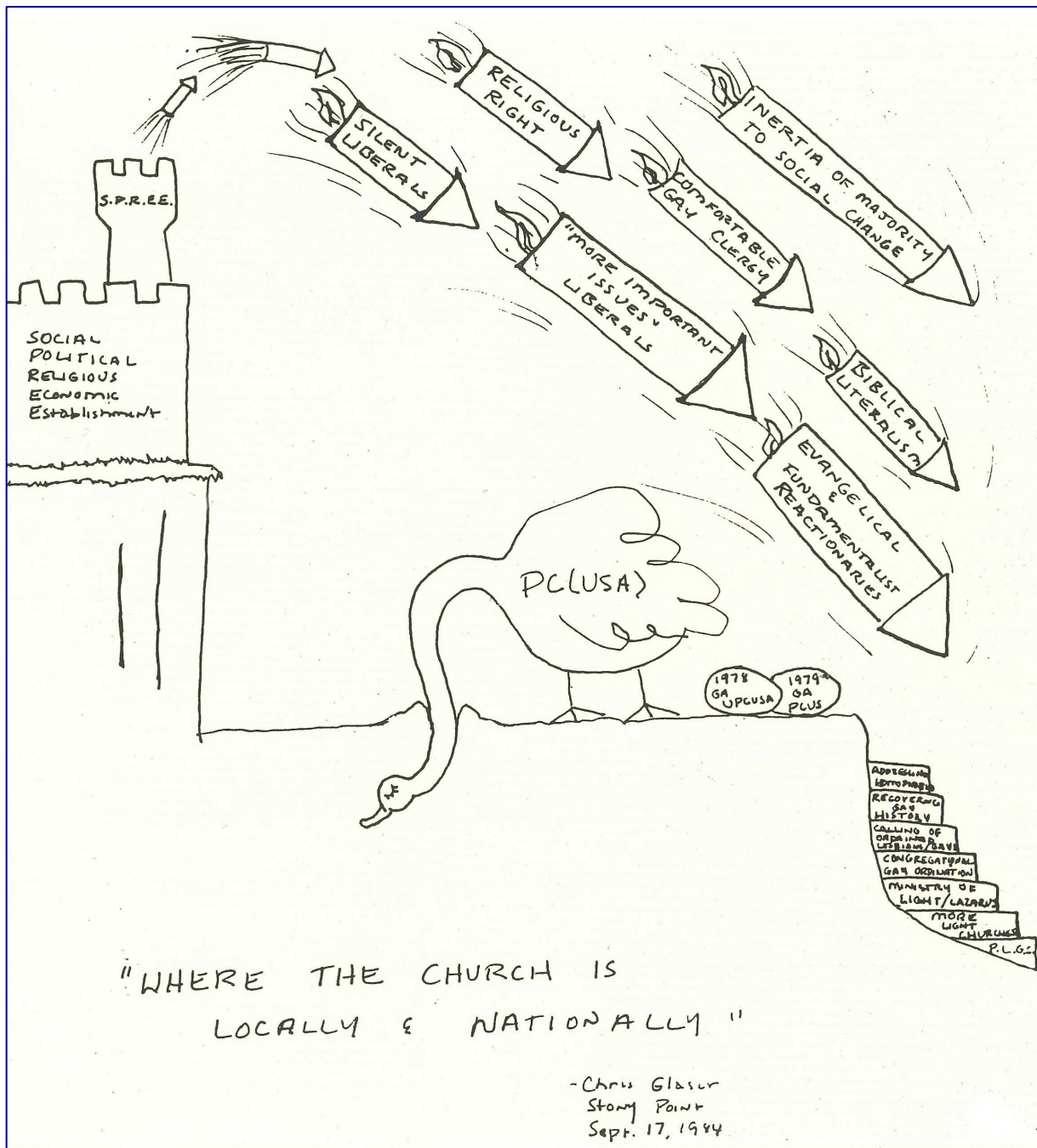


Mel Willard at the  
Phoenix General  
Assembly, 1984.

Mel was an early Synod  
Coordinator, 1981.

Robert Gwaltney at  
the Phoenix General  
Assembly, 1984.  
Robert was an early  
Synod Coordinator, 1982.





Cartoon by  
Chris Glaser,  
Presbyterian  
Consultation  
on Homophobia,  
Stony Point,  
NY, 1984.



First More Light Churches Conference at West Hollywood Presbyterian Church, 1985. 25 people from 11 churches met to discuss strategy following the GA Permanent Judicial Commission's decision against Westminster Presbyterian, Buffalo, NY.



Barry Smith, Chris Gernand, Doug Calderwood, Lisa Bove, needlepointing PLGC/Chicago banner, 1985. Not the most practical idea.



Keith Hershberger and Lisa Bove at the PLGC Eastern Midwinter Conference, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, 1985.

Merrill Proudfoot (1923-1998)  
at the PLGC Eastern Midwinter  
Conference, Lincoln Park  
Presbyterian, Chicago, 1985.  
Merrill wrote a resource guide  
on homosexuality, published by  
the United Presbyterian Women,  
1979. He was also an early  
Synod Coordinator, 1982.



HOMOSEXUALITY

*by the Rev. Dr. Merrill Proudfoot*



*Grateful for their witness:* Margaret Stoltman (1929-2008), Kathryn Wroblewski, Lily Joules (1921-2002) at PLGC Midwinter Conference, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, 1985. All from Rochester, they served faithfully in many capacities.



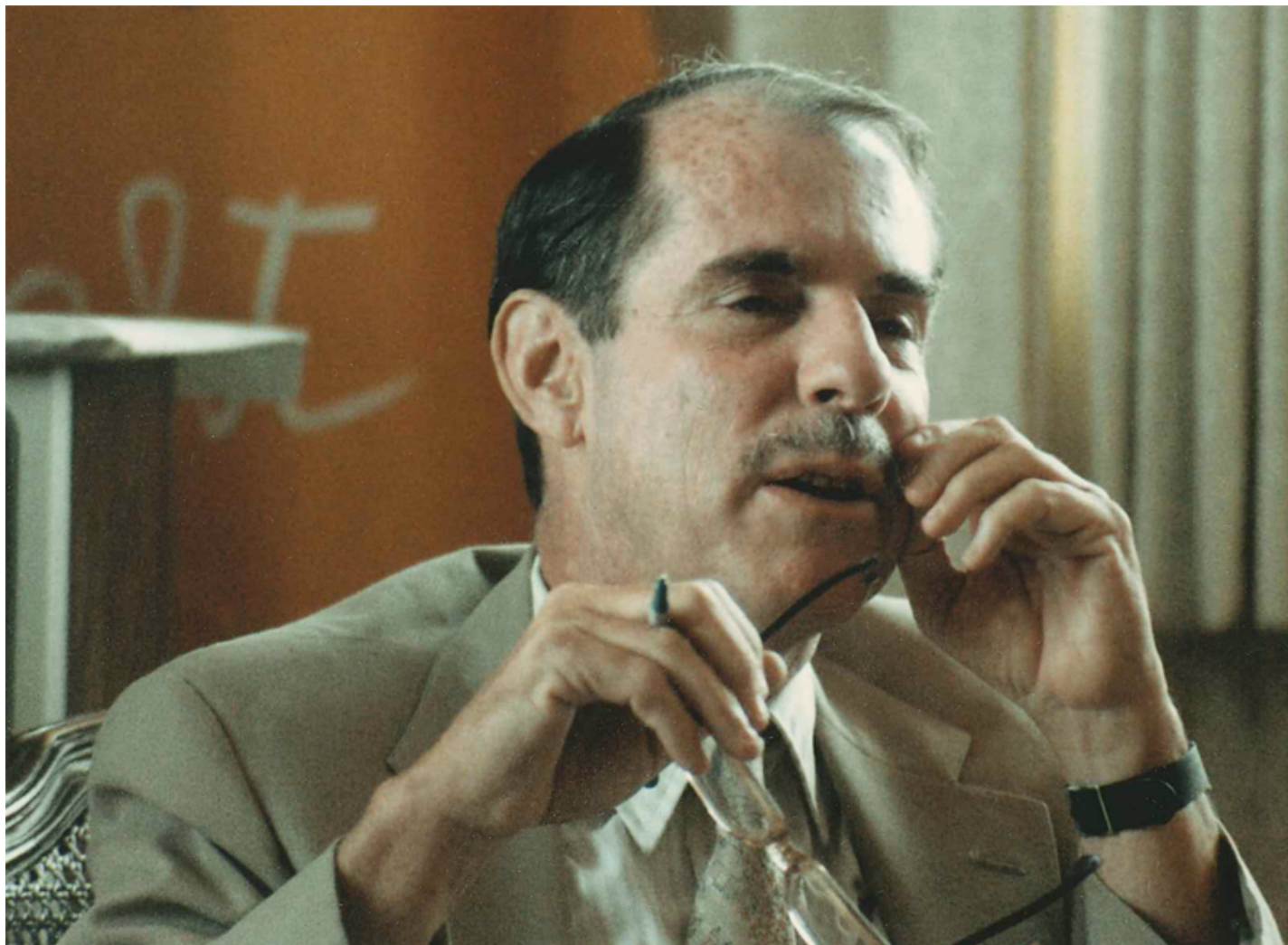
PLGC Officers at General Assembly, Indianapolis, 1985: Lorna, Lisa, Shirley, Jim, David, Rosemarie, Janie, Dan, Rodger, Chris.



Buttons made for the 1985 General Assembly:  
the top two buttons were designed at the first  
More Light Churches Conference, and the bottom  
button was created by PLGC/Rochester.

Rosemarie Wallace  
(1929-2004) at General  
Assembly, Indianapolis,  
1985. Rosemarie was an  
early officer of PLGC,  
1985.





The late Barry Williams at General Assembly, Indianapolis, 1985. Barry was an early Synod Coordinator, 1982.



PLGC Officers at head table at PLGC Luncheon, General Assembly, Indianapolis, 1985.



Chris Glaser presents Presby-Bear to PCUSA Stated Clerk James Andrews at the PLCG Luncheon, General Assembly, Indianapolis, 1985.



David Sindt, Chris  
Glaser, Bob Hasek,  
Chris Gernand, Barry  
Smith and Lisa Bove,  
Lincoln Park  
Presbyterian Church,  
Chicago, 1986



PLGC/Chicago presents gifts to Rev. Lisa Bove after her ordination service, DeKalb, IL, 1986.

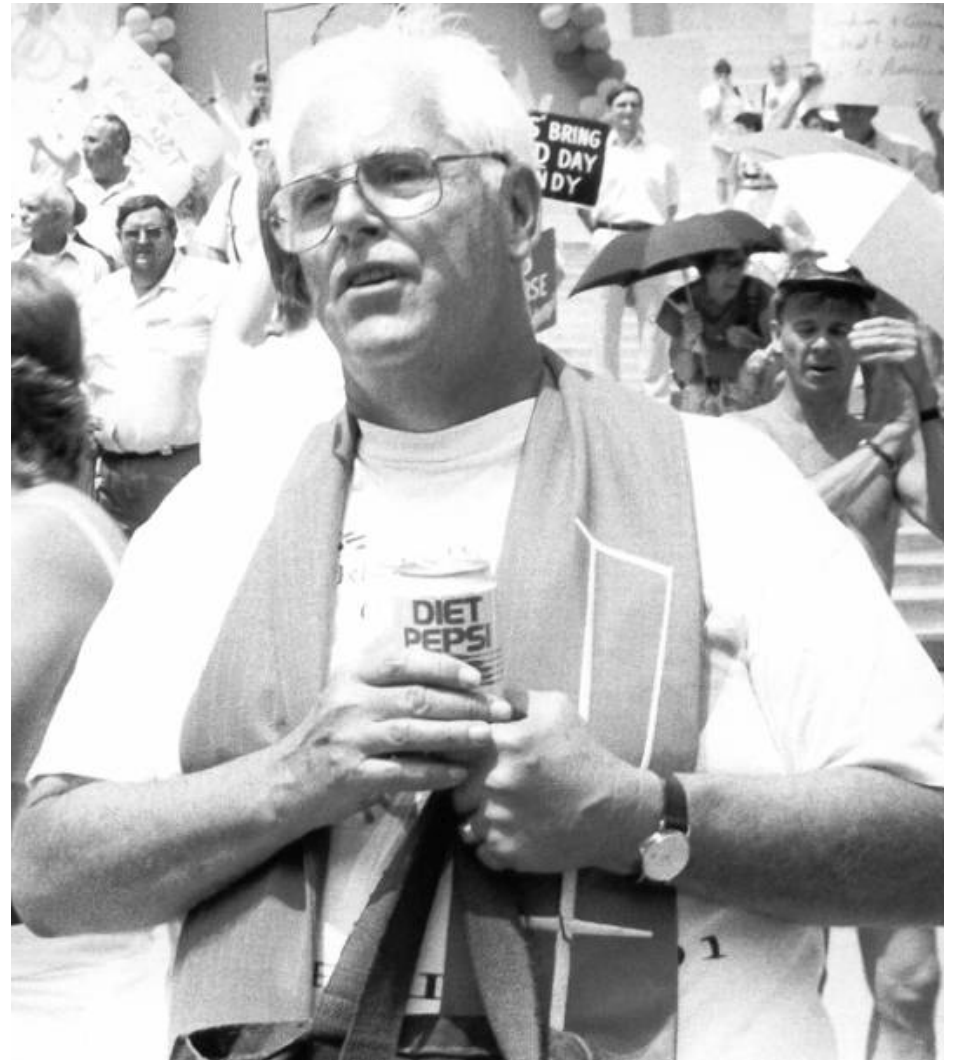


*"Zipper"*  
Hybridized by  
David, 1985

David Sindt's parents,  
Char and Gus, plant  
several of David's  
award-winning irises in  
his memory at Lincoln  
Park Presbyterian  
Church, Chicago, 1987.



PLGC/Chicago, along with Diana Vezmar-Bailey, presents Char and Gus Sindt a certificate naming them “Parents Emeritus” in 1987.



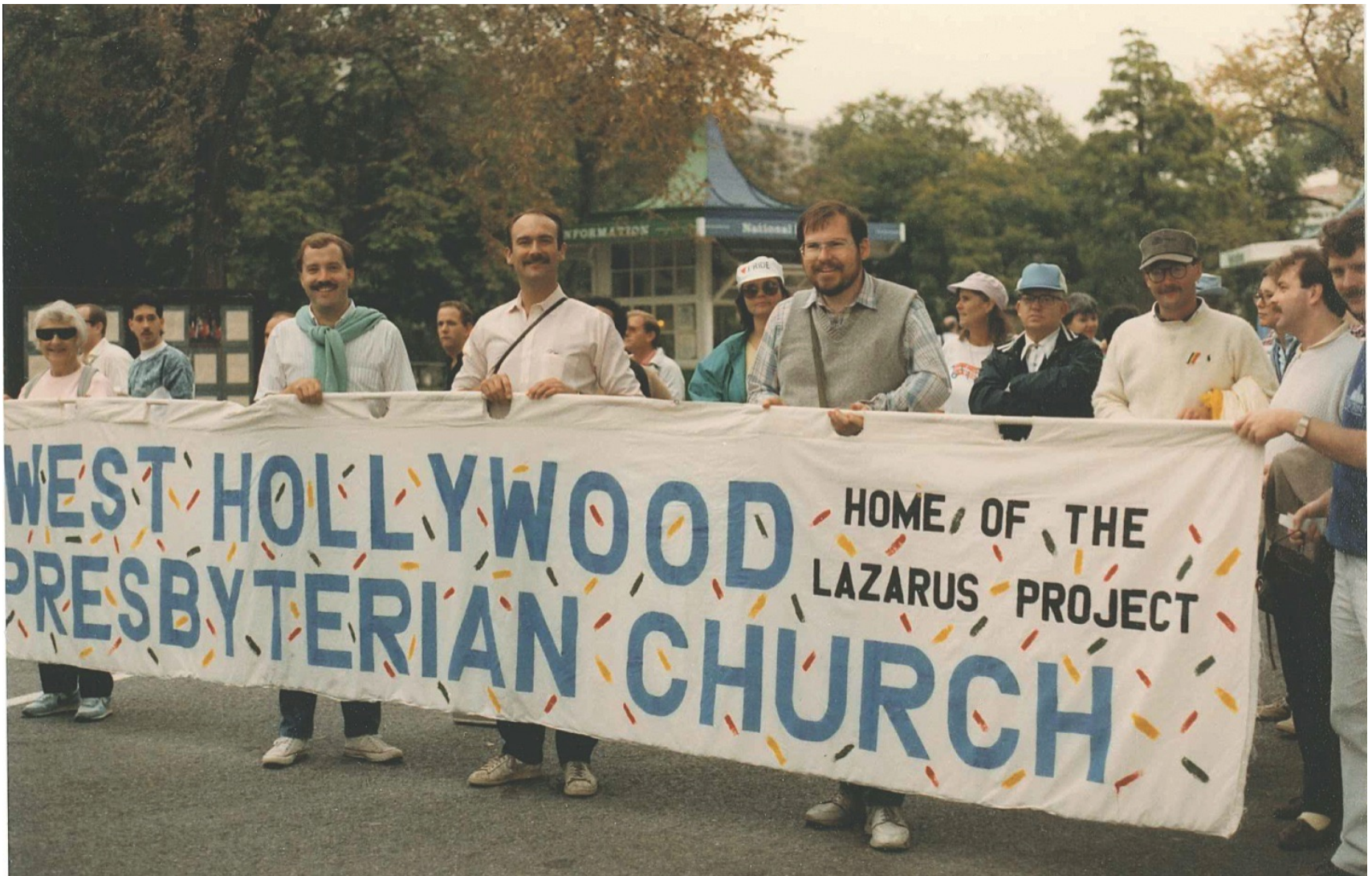
Howard Warren (1934-2003), God's Glorious Gadfly, founded Presbyterian Act-Up in 1987.



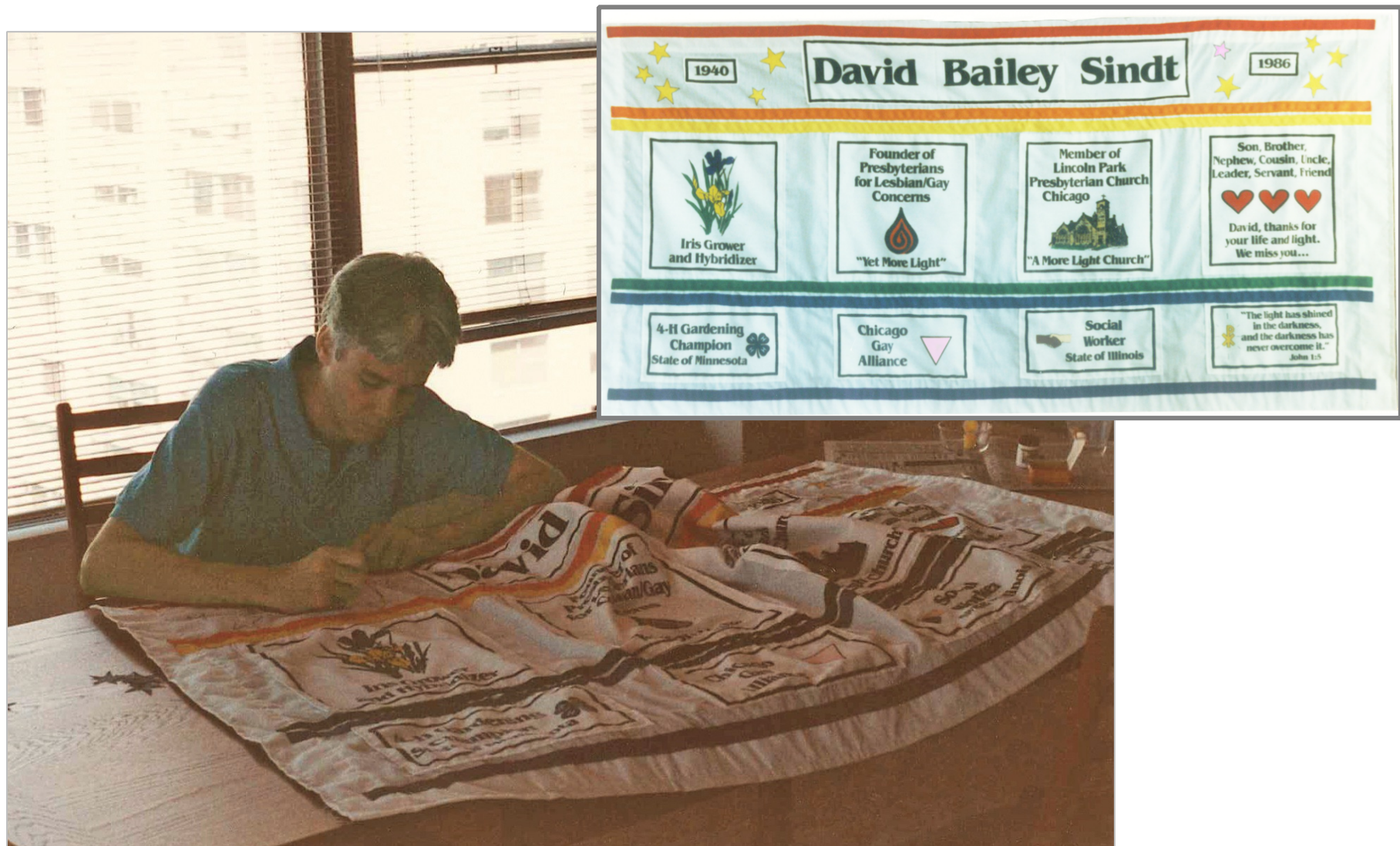
70 members of PLGC from across the U.S. at the March on Washington for Lesbian/Gay Rights, 1987.



Barry Smith,  
Stuart Smith and  
Mark Palermo  
represent Lincoln  
Park Presbyterian  
Church at the March  
on Washington for  
Lesbian and Gay  
Rights, 1987.



West Hollywood Presbyterian Church members at the March on Washington for Lesbian/Gay Rights, 1987.



Barry Smith makes Names Project quilt panel for David Sindt, 1988. One of four made for David.



Craig Machado and Dick Hasbany, long-time activists. They helped start the San Francisco Bay Area chapter of PLGC and have been involved in different parts of the country ever since.



David Hooker (1940-2004) prepares PLGC banners for Chicago's Pride Parade, 1991.



Rochester, NY representatives (with “Free Janie Spahr” T-Shirt) at More Light Churches Conference, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, 1992.



Jeanne MacKenzie, Mitzi Henderson, Mark Palermo, at More Light Churches Conference, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, 1992. The More Light Churches Network was formed at this conference.



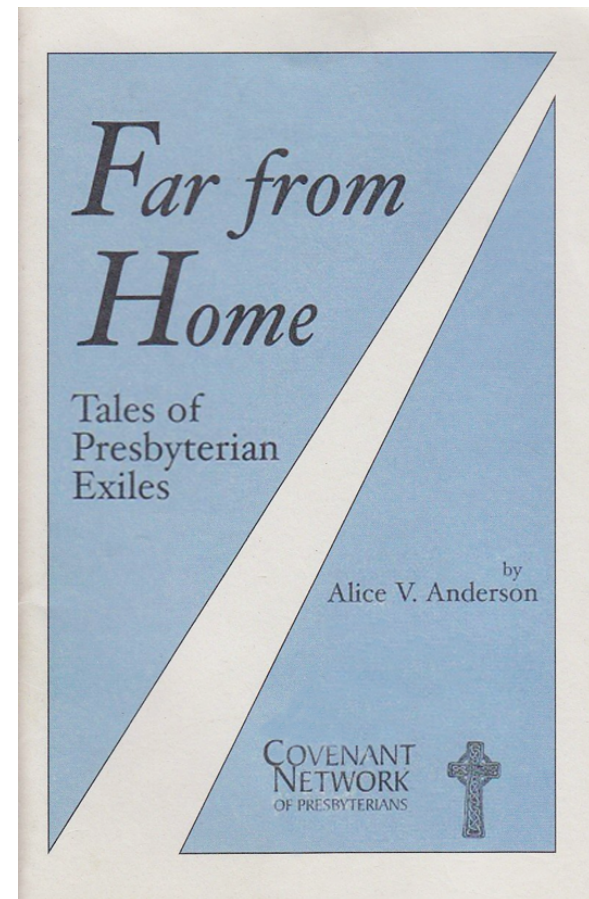
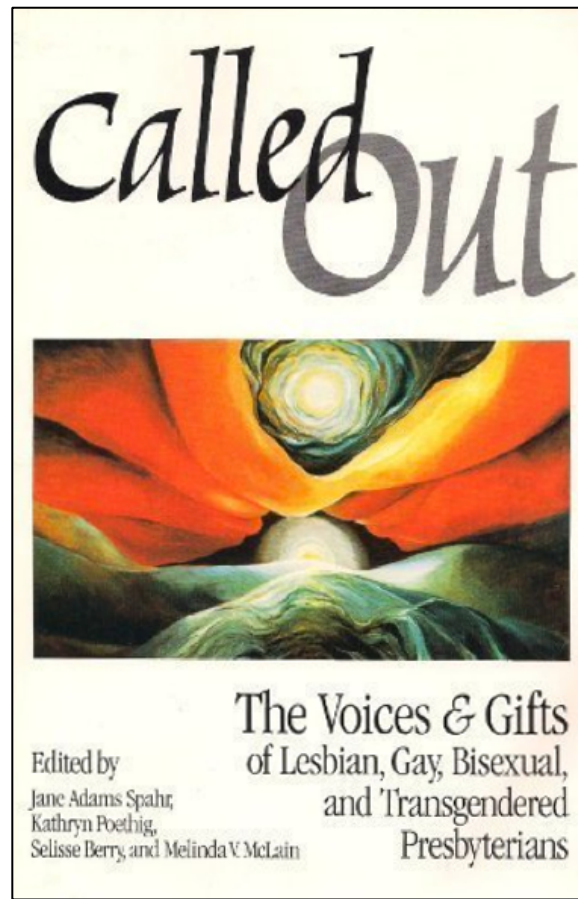
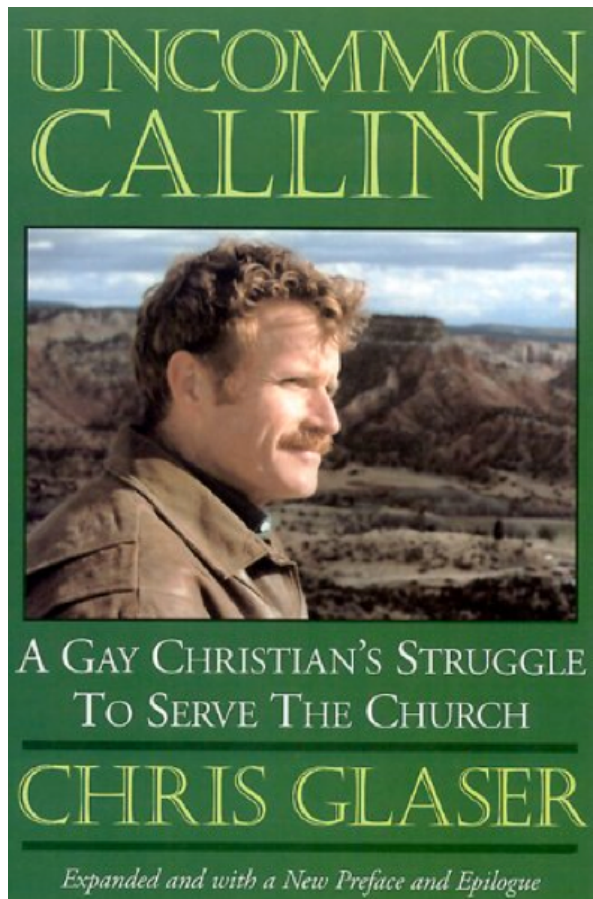
Barry Smith and Lisa Bove with stalwart supporters, Char Sindt (1912-2004) and Gus Sindt (1911-1999), at More Light Churches Conference, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, 1992.



Candles lit by each congregation attending the More Light Churches Conference, Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church, Chicago, 1992.



That All May Freely Serve, founded in 1992/93 when Rochester's Downtown United Presbyterian Church's call to Janie Spahr was denied by the GA-PJC. Janie was then hired by DUPC as a lesbian evangelist.



Some of the books that honestly told our stories and revealed our struggles and gifts: *Uncommon Calling* (1988), *Called Out* (1995), *Called Out With* (1997), and *Far From Home* (2004).



David Sindt is posthumously inducted into Chicago's Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, 1995. Jeffrey Doane, then pastor of Lincoln Park Presbyterian, accepts award on behalf of David's family and PLGC/Chicago.



PLGC/Chicago members at David Sindt's posthumous induction into Chicago's Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, 1995.



Members of Lincoln Park Presbyterian, Chicago, with former Seminary Intern Lisa Bove, at the More Light Churches Conference, Portland, OR, 1997.

John Hobbs, Carla  
Pridgen, Barry Smith  
at the More Light  
Churches Conference,  
Portland, OR, 1997.





Virginia Lewis at the Charlotte GA, 1998. Virginia was moderator of Hosed (1997-99), an online forum for dissent against Amendment B.



Shower of Stoles and David Sindt's stole at Lincoln Park Presbyterian, Chicago, 1998. The stoles were a 10-year labor of love by Martha Juillerat (left), assisted by her wife, Tammy Lindahl.



Members of Lincoln Park Presbyterian in Chicago at the More Light Churches Conference at McKinley Presbyterian in Champaign, IL, 1998.



Worley Inclusiveness Window  
at McKinley Presbyterian  
Church, Champaign, IL.  
First stained glass window in a  
U.S. church on an LGBTQ  
theme; dedicated in 1997.



Ellen Babinsky, Suze and Babs Miller at the Charlotte General Assembly, 1998.



TAMFS/Chicago members at  
TAMFS National Conference,  
DUPC, Rochester, 1999.



Presbyterian LGBTQ advocacy organizations prepare for Chicago's Pride Parade, 1999.

Erin Swenson, conducting an amazing workshop on “Becoming Acquainted with Transgender Christians,” TAMFS National Conference, North Decatur Presbyterian Church, GA, 2001.

In an historic action in 1996, Erin’s 23-year ordination was sustained by the Atlanta Presbytery (181-161).





Michael Adee served as Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians from 1999-2012. Michael was MLP's first staff person and traveled extensively throughout the country.



Susan Craig and Bear Ride witnessing at General Assembly, 2006.



Lincoln Park Presbyterian Church pastors and members, Chicago Pride Parade, 2007, with Jo Ann Reynolds (1940-2011), front row left.



Janie and Ginny (Thelma and Louise – without the cliff part), TAMFS traveling companions for 17 years, 2007.



How much more depressing would so many of the GAs have been without the Witherspoon Dance? The Witherspoon Society (now Presbyterian Voices for Justice) offered booth space at GA until PGC/PLGC was approved to have its own booth in 1980.



Janie Spahr sharing the Gospel with the Redwoods Presbytery Permanent Judicial Commission, 2010. In 2012, at the end of a tortuous judicial process, the Redwoods Presbytery voted 74-18 *not* to rebuke Janie as ordered by the GA Permanent Judicial Commission.



Chicago area More Light & TAMFS Presbyterians  
celebrate passage of Amendment 10-A, 2011.



Scott Anderson, first openly gay person to be ordained after the passage of Amendment 10-A, Madison, WI, 2011. Scott wears the stole he had donated to the Shower of Stoles that was last worn when he resigned his first ordination after being outed in 1990.



Janie Spahr doing what she does best: *living the Gospel*.  
With Barry Smith and John Hobbs, Chicago, 2012.



Lincoln Park Presbyterian, Chicago, calls openly lesbian Beth Buckingham-Brown as pastor, 2013.

Lisa Larges preaching at  
Beth Buckingham-Brown's  
installation at Lincoln Park  
Presbyterian Church,  
Chicago, 2014.

Lisa served as Regional  
Partnership Coordinator and  
Minister Coordinator for  
TAMFS, 2002-2012.





Ralph Carter, with a new generation of More Light Presbyterians, at the Detroit General Assembly, 2012. The PLGC/MLP/TAMFS booths at GA have always been welcoming oases.



Alex Patchin McNeill, Executive Director of More Light Presbyterians. He is the first openly transgender person to head a mainline Protestant group.



Don't mess with Texas...Presbyterians! Jim Rigby (left), long-time justice activist, and commissioners preparing for Babs Miller's ordination, 2014.

# An Abundance of Ordinations & Installations



John Russell Stanger  
Austin, TX, 2013  
Laurene Lafontaine  
Rochester, MN, 2013  
Layton Williams  
Austin, TX, 2014

# An Abundance of Ordinations & Installations



Pat Youngdahl

Rochester, NY, 2014

Babs Miller

Austin, TX, 2014

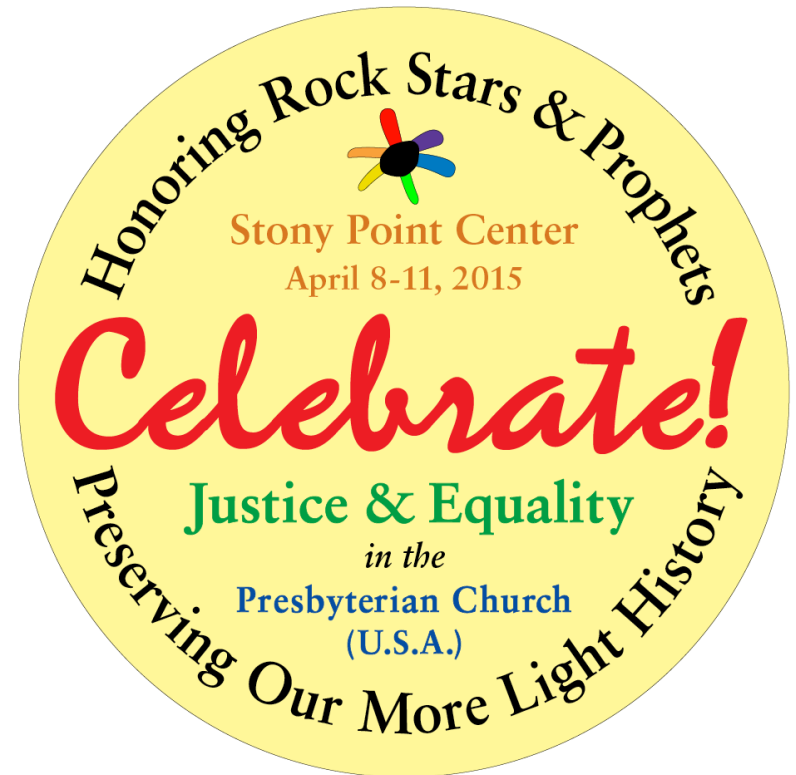
Kaci & Holly Clark-Porter

Wilmington, DE, 2015



Gail Russell and Gerri Mead  
wedding at Lincoln Park  
Presbyterian, 2014, officiated  
by Beth Buckingham-Brown  
and Janie Spahr.

At the pronouncement of  
this legal marriage, when  
Janie said, “by the authority  
of the Presbyterian Church  
USA,” a huge roar and  
sustained applause arose from  
the congregation!



Rock Stars and Prophets: Generations of Justice and Love, Stony Point Center, April 8-11, 2015. With thanks to Ray Bagnuolo, Minister Director, TAMFS.