



*A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*



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**“Rainbow Connection” LGBTQIA+ Ministry Meets Sunday, June 5, 2022**

**Blacksburg, Virginia** --- On June 5, 2022, at 4 pm, Luther Memorial Lutheran Church and The Well Campus Ministry will hold a gathering of the “Rainbow Connection” ministry, a safe, non-judgmental space for LGBTQIA+ persons and allies. This gathering will take place in the Fellowship Hall at Luther Memorial, located at 600 Prices Fork Road in Blacksburg. The Rainbow Connection is intended to be intergenerational, open to anyone in the Blacksburg area aged 18+ who wishes to socialize, network, and share their concerns and experiences. Students, faculty, and staff from Virginia Tech are encouraged to participate in this ecumenical, interfaith community.

Reverend Monica Weber, lead pastor at Luther Memorial, says “Our congregation voted in 2003 to become a Reconciling in Christ body, to provide an accepting, affirming, inclusive faith community in Blacksburg that reflects God’s embrace of all persons, just as they are. In 2021, The Well Campus Ministry at Luther Memorial also became a Reconciling in Christ body, and together we partner to provide a safe space for the LBGQTQIA+ population and their allies and

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families in the New River Valley area. We intend for this ministry to become a community where all are accepted as God created them, where like-minded folks can make friends, find support and encouragement, and speak freely about the challenges they face in a world that is often hostile.”

The Rainbow Connection meets on the first Sunday of each month at 4 pm in the Luther Memorial Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, with the possibility of more frequent meetings in future.

**About Luther Memorial Lutheran Church:** Luther Memorial Lutheran Church is a Reconciling in Christ congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ([ELCA](#)). Founded in 1886, the church serves the Blacksburg community and residents of Southwest Virginia’s New River Valley. The [Well Campus Ministry](#), hosted by Luther Memorial, offers regular opportunities for fun, food, and fellowship in Christ for students at Virginia Tech. Luther Memorial offers worship services, faith formation, and Christian education studies throughout the week, and enjoys a long-standing tradition of mission and community service in the New River Valley. For more information, contact Reverend Monica Weber, (540) 951-1003, or visit [www.lmlc.org](http://www.lmlc.org).

**About Reconciling in Christ:** Since 1974, ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation has advocated for the full welcome, inclusion, and equity of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and asexual/aromantic (LGBTQIA+) Lutherans in all aspects of the life of their Church, congregations, and community. As Lutherans working together, we recognize that racism, sexism, ageism, able-ism, heterosexism, homophobia, and all the other artificial distinctions that seek to raise one group into privilege and preference over another, conspire together to diminish our world and church. Visit <https://www.reconcilingworks.org/> for more information.

**About The Well Campus Ministry:** The [Well Campus Ministry](#), hosted by Luther Memorial, offers weekly opportunities for fun, food, and fellowship in Christ for students at Virginia Tech. Luther Memorial offers worship services, faith formation, and Christian education studies throughout the week, and enjoys a long-standing tradition of mission and community service in the New River Valley.

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