

dignity san francisco

Spirit

"Lord Send Out Your SPIRIT!"



Dear Members and Friends,

Thanks to all who donated so generously of their time and talent for our Same Sex Marriage celebrations this past month. They were wonderful successes, and Nora Johnson and Lisa Rodke and Toshi Kani and Neil Christensen extend their thanks to the many members and friends of our community who helped make them memorable. We also had a presence at the Gay Asian Pacific Association "Summer of Love 2004" rally in support of same sex marriage by Asians and their allies. Our banner was the most photographed and we proudly took our place among many communities of faith celebrating our love and sexuality as gifts from God. Pictures are on our bulletin board and will soon be posted on our website (which is new: www.sanfranciscodignity.org).

• Upcoming Soulforce San Francisco Opportunities

Thanks to Ross Blackstone of Soulforce San Francisco, we have a very special opportunity coming up next month... the founder of Soulforce, Rev. Mel White will be in the Bay Area! Mel is going to be speaking at the Methodist Conference, "Beyond Acceptance," in Palo Alto. The conference will be held from September 24-26 at the First United Methodist Church. Mel will undoubtedly share his wisdom about non-violent resistance and the fight for spiritual equality within religious organiza-

tions. Everyone is encouraged to attend. If you log onto our website, www.soulforcesf.org, you can get a schedule as well as registration information. You can also e-mail to find out when other Soulforce members are able to make it. Soulforce is also planning a prayer vigil in November for the Chancery of the Archdiocese of San Francisco, to pray for our Archbishop prior to his leaving for the National Bishop's Conference. We will post more information on this event on our website, but we encourage your support of Soulforce and its mission.

• Assumption Liturgy

Our special Assumption liturgy was held at 5:30pm on August 15th and included the rite of blessing of the fruits and flowers. Fr. Ralph gave a moving homily highlighting the special role of Mary in our lives, and our choir was fortified by two wonderful female voices belonging to cousins of Gino Ramos, both professional singers, who donated their time and talent to us. Thanks to all who participated!

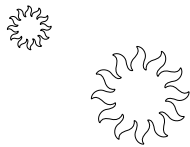
• Quarterly Membership Meeting

There will be a general membership quarterly meeting following liturgy on Sunday, September 26th. We will be giving a budget update, a review of our preliminary membership survey results and voting on our proposed bylaws changes. We hope everyone will join us for this important meeting.

JOHN BROWN
&
JOE CURTIN,
Co-CHAIRS



CELEBRATING
OUR SEXUALITY
AND LOVE AS
GIFTS FROM GOD



"The older I get the more I feel that faithfulness and perseverance are the greatest of virtues."

— Dorothy Day



☆
DIGNITY/SF PRESENCE AT THE GAY ASIAN PACIFIC ASSOCIATION "SUMMER OF LOVE 2004" RALLY IN SUPPORT OF SAME SEX MARRIAGE BY ASIANS AND THEIR ALLIES.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS +

Co-Chairs, John & Joe

Secretary, Marian Hernandez

Treasurer, Jack Fahy

At-Large Members,

Henry Chau

John Chavez

Neil Christensen

Gino Ramos

Victoria Valencia

Women's Group Coordinator,

{SEEKING VOLUNTEER!}

• **Summer and Fall Events**

In addition to our regular liturgy on Sunday at 5:30pm at Seventh Avenue Church, we will be having a Dignity group going to the Willows resort at Russian River for Labor Day weekend, September 3 – 6. Please contact Kevin at 510 595 1068 to reserve a tent space soon if you are planning to camp; contact the Willows directly if you wish to reserve a room. Make your plans early as this trip fills up fast!

The Lesbian and Gay Chorus of San Francisco is presenting an Adult Cabaret called "Somewhere Over the Top" on September 17th and 18th at the Center. You can find out more information by speaking with choir member and Dignitarian Henry Chau or by going to the website www.lgesf.org/tickets.html or calling 861-7067.

"Once we classify people as evil, it can lead us to do evil ourselves. In fact, we may easily think we are entitled to suppress them"

— Kofi Annan, Secretary General to the United Nations, May 2004

• **Your Help Requested**

The Family Link, a guesthouse that provides hospitality and housing for family members of persons who have AIDS or any life threatening illness in San Francisco is looking for volun-

teers to help at the Folsom Street Fair on September 26th. A short training session is required for all volunteers. Please contact Dignity member Richard Cardarelli at 415 861 1372 if you can help.

Dignity San Francisco will be setting up an information booth at the Castro Street Fair on October 3rd. Volunteers are needed to staff the booth from 10 a.m. until 6:00pm. We would appreciate it if you could donate a 2 hour block of time during that day to help spread the word about the Chapter. Please contact the Dignity office or John Brown at johnfbrown99@sbcglobal.net if you can help.

• **Other Reminders and Thank-Yous**

The Dignity Board meetings are now held on the Third Sunday of the month at 2:30 pm at Seventh Avenue Presbyterian to be more convenient for members (especially those who live out of town) to attend. Please come and bring your ideas with you! Your presence will improve our decision-making process and make it more responsive to your needs and desires for the future of the chapter.

We accept the challenge that the recent court decisions on same sex marriage bring us, and we look forward to your continued support as we advocate strongly for the rights (marriage and otherwise) of all LGBT persons and for change within our church.

Peace, John and Joe, your co-chairs



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