

Oriented to Love:
A Dialogue on Sexual Diversity in the Body of Christ
Participant Application Form (updated 8/19)

**(PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL INFORMATION/APPLICATIONS
ARE KEPT COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL)**

Name: _____

Birth date: _____ **Profession:** _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

How did you learn about the dialogue? _____

What are the dates of the dialogue you are applying for? _____

If we are unable to accommodate you for this particular dialogue (because of balance, numbers, etc) are you interested in being contacted for a future dialogue where we may be able to accommodate you? _____

Family information: Check all that apply.

Married _____ (How long? _____)

Divorced _____

In committed partnership _____ (How long? _____)

Single _____

Dating _____

Celibate _____ (Celibacy means different things to different people, but for our purposes here we define it as a vocation one embraces—refraining from romantic/sexual relations in order to embrace a life of service, hospitality, etc. Within this definition, one can be a celibate couple, a celibate single, a celibate member of an intentional community, etc.)

Children (please list ages) _____

Other _____

EMERGENCY CONTACT (in the event we'd need to reach someone while you're at the dialogue—please provide cell phone number and email address of someone you are OK with knowing you're at the dialogue): _____

Ethnic identity: _____

Educational background: _____

Profession: _____

Gender identity: _____ (please specify your pronouns _____)

Sexual orientation: _____

What you would most like to gain from being involved in the Oriented to Love dialogue?

If you are applying for the People of Color-only dialogue, please share why you are interested in that dialogue specifically.

Please list any involvement(s) you may have in your spiritual community and/or church:

Please list any involvement(s) you may have in any other community groups or activities:

Have you ever participated in support groups, listening circles, or anything that requires you to listen open-heartedly to someone with different views from yours? Explain.

Describe who Jesus Christ is to you.

If you are a sexual/gender minority: What kind of support do you have from other LGBTQIA people?

If you are NOT a sexual/gender minority: Do you have any close friends or family members who are LGBTQIA? If so, how would you describe your relationship with them?

If you are selected for the dialogue, are you able to respect the privacy of others and agree to keep confidential everything shared within the group?

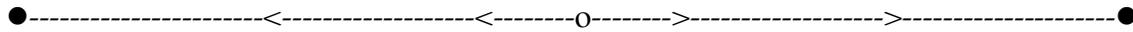
If you are selected for the dialogue, are you willing to commit to a handful of pre-dialogue preparation exercises and to hand them in by the requested deadlines? (These include submitting a bio, some dialogue questions, and a very brief reflection on your own hopes and fears; it is generally no more work than it takes to complete this application, and 5-7 days are given to complete each assignment.)

What, in your view, is the role of sexuality in the life of a Christian?

What do you believe are the most important elements of a Christ-centered marriage?

How do you view non-heterosexuality?

Place an X on the continuum below at the point that best expresses your understanding of how God views sexual relationships. (Please understand that we are limited by space and language and cannot express here the incredible complexity that real life implies! This is just to get a general gauge of where people are coming from theologically.):



I believe that God views same-sex **sexual** relationships as morally and spiritually equivalent to male-female sexual relationships.

I believe that celibacy and marriage between a man and a woman are the only godly paths God provides for our sexuality.

What, in your view, is the role of gender in the life of a Christian?

If you are cisgender (you identify with the gender written on your birth certificate): How do you view people who ...

... transition to a different gender (transgender)?

...are intersex (“a general term used for a variety of conditions in which a person is born with a reproductive or sexual anatomy that doesn't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male”)?

...do not identify strongly with one gender or another (gender queer/nonbinary)?

Which best describes your church or spiritual community?

___ LGBTQ people are not welcome to attend.

___ LGBTQ people are welcomed but not offered leadership roles unless celibate or in an opposite-sex marriage.

___ LGBTQ people are welcomed into all aspects of church life (both lay and leadership roles) regardless of their relationship status. Same-sex weddings are performed and blessed by the pastoral team, and same-sex unions are affirmed in the same way and to the same extent that opposite-sex relationships are.

In what way(s) do you feel that God is calling you specifically to this dialogue?

What do you consider your personal gifts or strengths, especially as it pertains to this dialogue? What can you see yourself bringing to it?

What do you consider your personal challenges, especially as it pertains to this dialogue? What do you anticipate might be particularly difficult for you in the context of the dialogue? (This is an opportunity to practice the kind of vulnerability that will serve you and others well at the dialogue, so we encourage you to resist the temptation to dismiss or downplay this—it's an important aspect of the process.)

What part has suffering played in your faith journey? (In what ways has suffering entered into your life? How have you processed that suffering? What has God done with your suffering?) Specific examples are helpful here.

References: These should be people who can vouch for your genuine desire to dialogue (listen to others and share yourself), your ability to keep confidentiality, and your faith in Christ. They should be people that you are comfortable with knowing about this dialogue.

Character reference: (name) _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Character reference: (name) _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____