



Season For Nonviolence 2025

Week 8

Addressing LGBTQ+ Through Nonviolent Action

“All young people, regardless of sexual orientation or identity deserve a safe and supportive environment in which to achieve their full potential.”

Harvey Milk

To our friends on the journey of the nonviolent Jesus,

This acronym, LGBTQ+, stands for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and plus. The plus indicates a range of sexuality and gender rather than an either/or, male/female perspective. LGBTQ+ people are 9 times more likely than non-LGBTQ+ people to be victims of violent hate crimes. Andrew R. Flores stated, “The rise of extreme anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric and behaviors may embolden individuals to carry out hate crimes.” (UCLA School of Law, Williams Institute 12/12/2022)

WORDS MATTER!



Nonviolent resistance has been a key tactic in the LGBTQ+ movement, and LGBTQ+ people have been increasingly participating in nonviolent protests. [Nonviolent action, also known as civil resistance, can be a powerful tool for change.](#)

In the Know:

“Queer youth are being inundated with policies from their schools which are eliminating safe spaces and resources that validate their identities. They are facing threats to their fundamental right to affirming healthcare from politicians. Moreover, they are subjected to harmful messages stemming from generational, religious and peer influences, resulting in lasting harm to their self-esteem due to their LGBTQ+ identities.” ([Courage MKE](#)).

“LGBTQ+ youth are not inherently prone to suicide risk because of their sexual orientation or gender identity, but rather placed at higher risk because of how they are mistreated and stigmatized in society.” ([Trevor Project](#))

What does Scripture say?

For you created my inmost being, you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139:13-14

A Nonviolent Hero Addressing Acceptance:



In 1977, [Harvey Milk](#) was the first openly gay person elected to public office in California and one of the first nationwide. He was shot and killed one year and 19 days later.

Who to Contact to stand in solidarity with the LGBTQ+ Community in Milwaukee



[Gay and Straight in Christ](#) is a Christian-based fellowship group for LGBTQ+ persons, their families, and friends. There is a chapter at Our Lady of Lourdes.

[Courage MKE](#)

[Pflag and Pflag-Milwaukee](#)

[MKE LGBTQ Community Center](#)

Active Nonviolence Opportunities

Easy: Call or send a supportive note to a friend or family member connected to the LGBTQ+ community. Listen to parents or grandparents as they share hopes and fears for loved ones.

A Bit More: Attend a Gay and Straight in Christ Zoom session. Consider joining and becoming an ally! Contact Our Lady of Lourdes parish office at 414-545-4316 to get connected.

All In: Watch for policy changes that compromise the safety of LGBTQ+ people in our schools and communities. Resolve to attend school board and town hall meetings to voice your concerns.

Mark your calendar!

Join us for the concluding event of the Season For Nonviolence on Friday, April 4, 2025, from 6:15-8:15 pm in the hall at OLOL. We will view a short film and discuss the various issues raised through our exploration of the Season For Nonviolence.

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace: where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

Amen