

AFFIRMING NEWS

October 2020

One Coin Found

Emmy Kegler is a pastor, author, and speaker who has been called to ministry at the margins of the church, especially among LGBTQ2S+ Christians. Emmy has a Master's in Divinity from Luther Seminary and is an ordained pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America serving at Grace Lutheran Church in Northeast Minneapolis. She was raised in the Episcopal Church and spent some time in evangelical and non-denominational traditions before finding her home in the ELCA.

“Her first book, *One Coin Found: How God's Love Stretches to the Margins*, tells her story as a queer Christian called to ordained ministry and how it formed her relationship with Scripture. As a pastor and writer, she is passionate about curating worship and theological practices that dismantle barriers to those historically marginalized by Christian practice. She believes in and works for a church rooted in accessibility, intentionality, integrity, and transformation, knowing that God is already out ahead of us creating expansive space for those most hungry for the good and liberating news of Jesus.”

<p>Question 1: Is <i>LGBTQ2S+</i> the only way to refer to the whole community?</p>	<p>Question 2: What is the difference between <i>drag queens</i> and <i>drag kings</i>?</p>	<p>Question 3: What does it mean to be <i>gender fluid</i>?</p>
<p>Answer 1: Some adopt umbrella terms like '<i>queer</i>' to reflect the community's diversity while others eschew labels altogether. Some use different types of acronyms or other terms such as <i>SOGI</i> (Sexual Orientation & Gender Identity). There is no universally accepted term so use the one that works best for you.</p>	<p>Answer 2: A <i>drag queen</i> is a person, usually male, who uses drag clothing and makeup to imitate and often exaggerate female gender signifiers and gender roles for entertainment purposes. <i>Drag kings</i>, who are often female performers, do the same but with male gender signifiers and gender roles. Drag queens and kings can be of any gender and sexual identity.</p>	<p>Answer 3: <i>Gender-fluid</i> people are people whose gender changes over time. A gender-fluid person might identify as a woman one day and a man the next. They might also identify as agender, bigender, or another nonbinary identity.</p>

Gender Inclusive Language

Gender-Neutral language is used to avoid implied sexism, heteronormativity, cisnormativity, & binary genderism. Gender-neutral language or gender-inclusive language is a language that avoids bias towards a particular sex or social gender. In English, this includes the use of nouns that are not gender-specific to refer to roles or professions, as well as avoidance of the pronouns he, him, and his to refer to people of unknown or indeterminate gender. Inclusive language is not meant to be censoring or restricting in speech. The goal is to change and modify our language so that the meanings and symbols we attach to those words change. Once our meanings change, the way we interact with others and society will shift greatly by reducing the amount of stigma, prejudice, and hatred in our world.