SESSION #1 (4-5pm)

Understanding Consent from the Inside Out
Consent is foundational to the safe and healthy practices of both sex and religion. However, factors such as shame, silence, and institutional power often work against open conversations around consent and bodily autonomy, especially in the church. In this session, we will offer an interactive and somatic experience to help participants understand how consent feels in their body, unpacking the ways in which internalized cultural messages can sometimes inhibit expressions of bodily autonomy. We will then move to discuss the importance of engaging in ongoing, relational consent conversations both in our churches and our broader cultural context.

Facilitators:
Shawn Warner-Garcia: Scholar of language, sexuality, and religion at UC Santa Barbara (Pronouns: she/her/hers)
Morgan Caruthers Fletcher: Pastor at Calvary Baptist Church of Denver; Adjunct Faculty at Iliff School of Theology (Pronouns: she/her/hers)

Adapting “Our Whole Lives (OWL): Comprehensive Sexuality Curriculum” in church and community
You may have thought: “I want to spark conversation about sex and sexuality that might even lead to eventual action. Where do I start?’ ‘I want to broach sexuality and sex with a group at my church--youth, young adults, or adults--but I need help. What are the best resources like curriculum, practices, and colleagues who can help me?’ ‘My church or organization wants to open up community conversations in a bold, thoughtful way. Who has walked this road before, and how do we share best practices?’ “ This practical breakout session will discuss the “Our Whole Lives” Comprehensive Sexuality Curriculum and Faith Supplement that brings sex and sexuality into the light of honesty and can be adapted to a wide variety of contexts.

Facilitator:
Rev. Jennifer Wilder: Pastor, Broadview Baptist Church; OWL Facilitator (Pronouns: she/her/hers)

Moving Through Shame Toward a Better Sexual Ethic
Over the past twelve years, I have been on a quest that took me across the country and into the lives of scores of women and others raised in conservative evangelical Christian communities like the one I grew up in to talk about sexual shame. I found a lot of it. But in time, I came to see it’s not just evangelical girls who are experiencing shame. It’s not just Christian girls. It’s not just girls! The shame-based sexual ethic my peers and I were raised on is our nation’s default sexual ethic. It is taught in faith-based organizations, grassroots organizations, and public schools across the country, and has touched almost all of our lives. In fact, it is the only sexual ethic most of us will ever encounter. This is not good news for us, or our partners, as shame disconnects people from their best selves and from the people they care most
about. In this workshop, we will deconstruct the purity ethic and what makes it inherently shaming, and discuss alternative ethics and how they may—or may not—work for us.

**Facilitator:**

**Linda Kay Klein:** Author of *PURE: Inside the Evangelical Movement that Shamed a Generation of Young Women and How I Broke Free*; Founder of Break Free Together (Pronouns: she/her/hers)

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**Building Braver Spaces: Welcoming Trans and Gender Non-Conforming Folks**

This workshop will be an intersectional, reflective, practical exploration of what it takes to really build communities that welcome folks in their complex identities. Building spaces that are truly open and affirming for transgender and gender non-conforming folks might start with pronouns and all-gender bathrooms, but takes a lot more than that! Together we will learn practices and frameworks for building “brave” spaces that invite people to show up as their fullest, most authentic selves. We’ll unearth the connections between the personal, political, spiritual, and communal, and walk away with skills we can use in our congregations and beyond!

**Facilitator:**

**Roberta Nelson:** Assistant Director of the Office of LGBTQI Life at Vanderbilt University; Founding member of the Religious Anarchist Collective (Pronouns: they/them/their)