

Dignity Houston

February 2012



Welcome to the February issue of the Dignity Houston Newsletter. Happy New Year everyone!

Mission/Vision Statement

Dignity Houston is a non-profit organization seeking to empower LGBT Catholics to live authentically in religion and sexual orientation. We have been established since 1974 as the Houston chapter of DignityUSA, and we meet for mass, song, discussion, and dinner every Saturday evening at the **GLBT Cultural Center, 401 Branard, Room 114, Houston, Texas, 77006.**

As a community, we seek to promote dignity, combat isolation, and effect social change for our members in all aspects of Church and Society. Our services, activities, and fellowship are infused with the values of justice, equality, and compassion, for we believe all people are created in the image of God, and all life has dignity.

Our mission is to serve as a premier resource of social support, interfaith dialogue, information, and social justice advocacy for LGBT Catholics, family, and friends. Our vision is full and active inclusion in the Church and Society for our brothers and sisters of all faith traditions, gender identities, and sexual orientations.

Announcements & Upcoming Events

We are now on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn! Follow us for the latest news.



Dignity Matinee:

Have some free time? Let's go to the movies! Every Friday our members get together for the latest matinee.

Showtimes/Locations: Contact George Wetzel

713-522-1603

gmwetzal@aol.com

Guitar Lessons:

Feeling musically inclined? See how our resident guitarist and vocalist, Lourdes Gonzales, whips us into shape!

Dates/Times: Contact Lourdes Gonzales

832-202-3626

lgonz35@hotmail.com

Dignity Membership:

Support Dignity USA and Dignity Houston

with your membership! National membership is \$50 annually, and this covers your Dignity Houston dues. Your support strengthens national and local Dignity programs and advocacy.

Membership benefits: join an expansive network of LGBT Catholics for regular contact and affirming ministry, receive Dignity's Quarterly Voice and monthly Dateline publications, and make a difference in the Church.

For more information, visit **www.dignityusa.org**

Religion & the LGBT Person

University of Houston

University Center - Lone Star Room 280

5:30pm - 7pm

The LGBT Resource Center is hosting a panel of religious leaders and LGBT advocates who will discuss how individuals can reconcile their religion with their LGBT identity and continue to develop spiritually. *Panelists: Rev. Janice Ladd, Resurrection Metropolitan Community Church; Rev. Ginny Brown Daniel, Plymouth United Church; James Evans, former ordained minister and reform camp survivor; Tierra Ortiz-Rodriguez, Dignity Houston Community Organizer.*

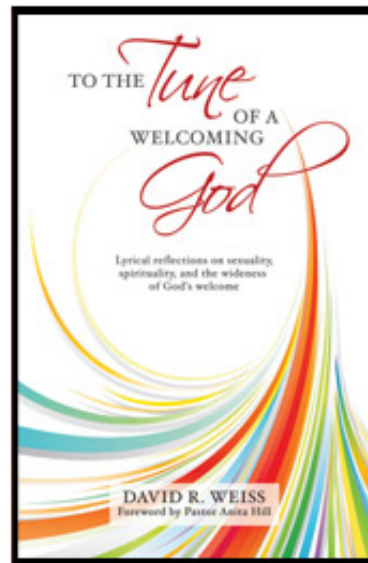
Visitor parking: \$3 permit available at Visitor Information Booth located on Entrance 1 (Calhoun and University Drive). Best parking is [Lot 1B](#).
Contact Community Organizer for questions.



Pancake Brunch

Who does not love a good weekend brunch?

Especially when it's FREE and hosted by Dignity Houston! Come enjoy pancakes, sausage, OJ, coffee, laughs, and love with us on Saturday, February 25th at 9am. Location: GLBT Cultural Center, Room 114, 401 Branard, Houston, TX, 77006. Please join our [Facebook](#) event and post any questions you have. You can also contact our Community Organizer (713-458-8083; community-organizer@dignityhouston.org).



Book Club

Dignity Houston is starting a book club!

Our first meeting is Saturday Feb 25 at 11am, after the pancake brunch. We are reading David Weiss' *To the Tune of a Welcoming God*, "a timely collection of essays and hymns...calling for a Christian faith that extends an affirming welcome to GLBT persons." Books will be available for purchase or loan at the Saturday meetings. Please RSVP and contact the community organizer for more information. Also, join this event on [Facebook](#).



Gen Silent Premiere

Thank you **Montrose Counseling Center** for bringing [Gen Silent](#) to Houston! We gathered to learn about the challenges our LGBT seniors face when navigating the elder care



Welcome Aboard

Introducing Tierra Ortiz-Rodriguez, our new Community Organizer! Tierra has a master's degree in



Dignity Houston is launching a volunteer campaign, and we are interested in hearing what organizations and causes matter to you. Relay your ideas to the community organizer via phone, email,

system. It was a profoundly moving, informative, and mobilizing documentary. Our LGBT seniors are at high risk of discrimination, isolation and insufficient social support. It is our responsibility to ensure their dignity and civil rights are protected in the health care system.

counseling and is enthusiastic about collaborating with Dignity Houston to promote its mission and values. If you have not met Tierra yet, come by and say hello!

or face-to-face.

"For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another" (Gal 5:13).

Community Organizer | Tierra Ortiz-Rodriguez
713-458-8083
community-organizer@dignityhouston.org



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