RISE UP CONVERSATIONS: LGBTQ+ PRIDE

The Summit Church exists to BELONG to God and each other, to BELIEVE in the unconditional love of Jesus for all, and to strive to BECOME known for our compassion and acceptance of people as they are. During the month of June, The Summit celebrates the image of God in the queer community by taking part in community events and encouraging education to LGBTQ+ allies. We encourage you to choose resources to dig into and deepen your understanding of allyship with the LGBTQ+ community.

“There is neither Jew nor Greek; there is neither slave nor free; nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” Galatians 3:28 (CEB)

“I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. Psalm 139:14 (NIV)

On the list below, you’ll find recommendations that relate to LGBTQ+ history, justice movements, key figures, foundational information, and stories that speak to the identities and personal experiences of the queer community. These items are a collection of both educational and entertaining resources that touch on struggle and discrimination, but also joy and authenticity. This is certainly not a comprehensive list - and there is greater representation now in pop culture and “real life” than ever before - so we encourage you to seek out additional content related to topics of interest and continue to diversify the content you consume to build more inclusive habits.

Amanda’s Note: I have read/reviewed/listened to much of this content, but not everything. These are all resources that have been vetted or otherwise recommended on reputable forums, but you may want to screen for appropriateness, especially when sharing with children. I’d recommend sharing this content with a conversation or additional educational resource.
Non-fiction/Articles
- **Tomboyland: Essays** by Melissa Faliveno
- **Untamed** by Glennon Doyle
- **The Stonewall Reader** by Jason Baumann
- **How to Survive a Plague: The Story of How Activists and Scientists Tamed AIDS** by David France (There’s also a documentary by the same name)
- “**Living Nonbinary in a Binary Sports World**” (Sports Illustrated) by Britni De La Cretaz
- “**The Radical Queerness of Dolly Parton**” (The Bitter Southerner) by Cory Alberson
- **Stand By Me: The Forgotten History of Gay Liberation** by Jim Downs

Young Adult Fiction & Non-Fiction
- **Carry On** (#1 of Simon Snow series) by Rainbow Rowell
- **Red, White & Royal Blue** by Casey McQuinston
- **Cemetery Boys** by Aiden Thomas
- **You Should See Me in a Crown** by Leah Johnson
- **Beyond Magenta: Transgender Teens Speak Out** by Susan Kuklin
- **The House in the Cerulean Sea** by TJ Klune

Kids Books
- Here Wee Read’s [LGBTQ+ Bookshop list](#)
- **Perfectly Norman** by Tom Percival
- **Peanut Goes for the Gold** by Jonathan Van Ness
- **And Tango Makes Three** by Peter Parnell
- A kids book about gender by Dale Mueller
- A Kid’s Book About…”**GenderCool” collection**
  - A kids book about being inclusive
  - A kids book about being non-binary
  - A kids book about being transgender

Informative Videos
- The Origin of Everything series (PBS)
  - “The origin of gender”
  - “History of the word ‘gay’”
  - “How did Pride become a parade?”
  - “Why does ‘straight’ mean heterosexual?”
- “The Necessity of Normalizing Queer Love” (TedxDublin)
- **Ted Talk LGBTQIA+ playlists**
  - “On Coming Out”
  - “Love is Love”
TV
- **Pose** (scripted, Seasons 1-2 on Netflix, 3 on FX)
- **Schitt’s Creek** (scripted, Seasons 1-5 on Netflix)
- **Queer Eye** (reality TV, Netflix), especially:
  - “Preaching Out Loud” S5, E1
  - “God Bless Gay” S2, E1
- **Prideland** (docuseries, PBS)
- **Pride** (docuseries, FX)
- **Equal** (scripted historical, HBO Max)

Film
- **A Secret Love** (documentary; Netflix)
- **It’s a Sin** (miniseries; HBO Max)
- **Pride** (movie; rent on Amazon, Apple TV)
- **The Death and Life of Marsha P. Johnson** (documentary; Netflix)
- **Disclosure** (documentary; Netflix)
- **Paris is Burning** (documentary; rent on Amazon, Apple TV)
- **Angels in America** (miniseries; HBO Max)

Podcasts
- **Blue Babies Pink**
- Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness (Earwolf), specifically episodes:
  - “How can we raise the bar on trans rights”
  - “How grateful are we to live beyond the gender binary”
- “Before Stonewall” episode of Throughline (NPR)
- Jen Hatmaker’s **For the Love podcast**, specifically episodes:
  - “A call to openness & affirmation: A panel discussion with LGBTQ+ faith leaders”
  - “Queer Eye’s Bobby Berk and the Fire Inside Us All”
- **Celebrate Pride with NPR** playlist (Spotify)
- Storycorps’ “Stonewall Outloud” collection
- “Navigating the coming out conversation - from both sides” episode of Life Kit (NPR)
- **Nancy** (WNYC Studios)

Social Media Accounts (many are duplicated on multiple platforms, so search the app you use most - Facebook, Twitter, Instagram etc.)
- **Equality NC** (IG)
- **ALOK** (IG)
- **Trevor Project** (IG)
- **Free Mom Hugs** (IG)
- **Sylva Queer Support and Education** (FB group)
- **Blue Ridge Pride Center** (FB)
- **Charlotte Pride** (FB)
Upcoming Pride Month Events for The Summit Church

- **Saturday, June 12, 10-11 a.m. // Love is Love Flashmob** -- Wear your rainbow swag and bring an affirming, loving sign to the downtown Sylva Fountain to show some inclusive love to our community.

- **Wednesday, June 23, 6-8 p.m. // Rise Up Theater** -- Join us at the Fairview building to watch an episode of *Queer Eye* and discuss the intersection of faith and LGBTQ+ identity and inclusion. Snacks will be provided! RSVP to thesummitsylva@gmail.com.

- **Friday, June 25, 3-5 p.m. // Fire & Flood Streaming & Conversation at SCC** - SCC’s Holt Library is hosting a streaming event to view and discuss a documentary about “queer resilience in the era of climate change.” [RSVP HERE](#) by June 23.

- **Sunday, June 27, 10-2 p.m. // Safe Zone Training** - Amanda Allen & friends will host an educational workshop to learn about inclusive language, issues facing the LGBTQ+ community, and becoming a better ally. This is a great session for new and experienced allies. RSVP to thesummitsylva@gmail.com.