

# ***Reconciling in Christ***

**Gustavus Adolphus Lutheran Church Educational events**

## ***FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO--DVD Documentary***

### **FILM SYNOPSIS - *For the Bible Tells Me So***

Can the love between two people ever be an abomination? Is the chasm separating gays and lesbians and Christianity too wide to cross? Is the Bible an excuse to hate?

Through the experiences of five very normal, very Christian, very American families -- including those of former House Majority Leader Richard Gephardt and Episcopal Bishop Gene Robinson -- we discover how insightful people of faith handle the realization of having a gay child.

Informed by such respected voices as Bishop Desmond Tutu, Harvard's Peter Gomes, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg and Reverend Jimmy Creech, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO offers healing, clarity and understanding to anyone caught in the crosshairs of scripture and sexual identity.

### **What's the "buzz" from GA Church viewers?**

So far, this film has been viewed by more than 30 members and friends of GA Church. Here's what a few GA Church viewers have to say:

This may be the most valuable 90 minutes you've ever spent in front of a TV screen. You need to watch this film.

*It is a very well done and thought-provoking movie. I rate it as a "must see."*

*Thought-provoking! What does the Bible really say?*

*I want to learn more about Christianity and how I fit in.*

We've had a wonderful response to the viewings of this movie so far. If you have not seen it yet, there are still more opportunities. See the listing below or in the Gazette or Sunday bulletin. If you have seen it before, join us again -- and bring a friend who might not have seen it yet!

### ***TESTIMONY TIME: A Positive Perspective on Homosexuality presented by Bishop Emeritus Lowell O. Erdahl --DVD Documentary***

**Film Synopsis:** This DVD presentation is from a Sunday Church Forum (20 April 2008), sponsored by the Hospitality Plus Committee of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. Bishop Erdahl tells about his personal journey learning about sexual orientation and how his mind changed as his understanding of homosexuality grew. Erdahl's meeting and learning from gay and lesbian people, his study of biblical texts, countless books and new scientific evidence makes for an excellent educational DVD viewing and discussion opportunity.

Lowell O. Erdahl is Bishop emeritus of the Saint Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). In addition to 12 years as a bishop, Erdahl served for 20 years as a parish pastor and spent 5 years on the faculty of Luther Seminary. Erdahl is a graduate of Saint Olaf College, Luther Seminary, and Union Theological Seminary. Following retirement as Bishop, Pastor Erdahl served for 19 months as the Interim Senior Pastor at Gethsemane.

### **GALATIANS BIBLE STUDY**

Free in Christ to Serve the Neighbor: Lutherans Talk about Human Sexuality  
(see other side of sheet for more about this study)

This 10-session scripture study is designed to compliment the ELCA's Proposed Social Statement on Human Sexuality, and Report and Recommendations on Ministry Standards. The participant will be introduced to the first century context in which Paul wrote his letter to the churches in Galatia, why Luther loved this little book so much (he endearingly named Galatians his "little Katie" after his wife), and how the wisdom of scripture and our faith tradition can help us to reflect on the complexities of life in the 21st century.