



online: www.RoomforAll.com

by phone: (201) 364-4538 • (641) 780- 7584

by mail: PO Box 11495 Albany, NY 12211

Marilyn Paarlberg
Executive Director

Cam Van Kooten Laughead
Associate Director

Rev. Debra Jameson
Bookkeeper

Rev. Dr. Tricia Sheffield
President

Rev. Chad Tanaka Pack
Vice President

Deb Tiemens
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Dr. Jerry Van Es
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Mary Kansfield
Historian & Archivist

Beloved friends of Room for All,
As the year winds down, I've been reflecting with joy and gratitude on some of the 2018 highlights of RfA's ministry of **support, education and advocacy**.

Support involves listening and responding to:

- LGBTQ people experiencing the pre-anxiety or aftermath of coming out, or who are looking for connections with other LGBTQ people of faith, or who are searching for a welcoming *and* affirming church where they can be married, or serve, or where their children may be baptized and nurtured in faith.
- Affirming pastors or elders who long to encourage a wider welcome than "Don't ask, don't tell" in their anxious congregations.
- Educators or youth group leaders seeking a safe space to ask questions about sexual orientation or gender identity in order create welcome for LGBTQ youth.

Education has included:

- Creating "Room for All Sunday" liturgical resources for congregations, and modeling vibrant inclusive worship at General Synod and the Orange City Pride Festival.
- Fourteen personal visits to congregational or classis gatherings in Michigan, Iowa, New Jersey and New York, providing an overview of RfA's work, sharing educational resources, or conducting workshops.
- Sponsoring national LGBTQ advocate Justin Lee to speak in Orange City, IA.
- Creating or recommending biblical and other resources related to the ministry of welcome.

Advocacy within the Reformed Church in America involves:

- Continuing to build the roster of "Room for All" churches (36 congregations) and welcoming and affirming ministers (243).
- Meeting with representatives of The Gospel Alliance and RCA General Synod leadership.
- Conducting an opening meeting with supporter delegates at General Synod.
- Sharing a collection of responses to the "Great Lakes Catechism on Marriage and Sexuality" with the Commission on Theology and the wider RCA.
- Respectfully engaging with those who differ.

Friends, all of this and more was possible by generous shared commitment to RfA's mission. We recently achieved our \$100,000 "Connection Challenge" goal; THANK YOU! As charitable foundations are increasingly less willing to fund faith-based organizations, we rely more and more on our community of supporting churches and individuals. Certainly, your help this month will enable us to meet our budgeted income goal for 2018. **Of far greater importance, though, your financial support will help us to sustain and grow Room for All's ministry for the full affirmation of LGBTQ people in the life and ministry of the RCA in the coming year.** To that end, I invite you to review the enclosed, "Creative Ways to Make Room for All," and consider a year-end gift.

On behalf of the RfA Board and staff, thank you!