



Ignite 2022 Second Quarter – Engage! Open and Affirming (ONA)

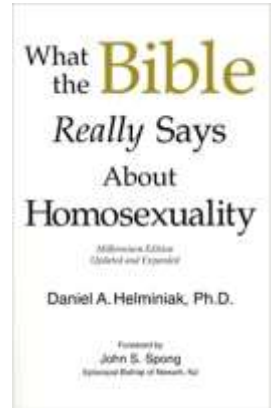
The Open and Affirming Team of Ignite 2022 invites you and your family and friends to engage what the Bible really has to say about homosexuality and engage Lighthouse Family Services to learn about and experience their LGBTQI+ homeless youth program and how St. John Church can be supportive of their work.

There will be four discussion sessions using the book, *What the Bible Really Says About Homosexuality*, by Daniel Helminiak. This small volume is packed with insight about how we might better understand the “clobber” passages of the Bible frequently used to condemn LGBTQI+ people. Helminiak offers the opportunity to engage with these sacred texts in new ways integrating faith, spirituality, religion and psychology.

**Zoom Discussion sessions: Thursdays April 21, 28, May 5, 12 - 6:30p to 7:30p.
Register for Zoom sessions at the ONA table in the rear of the Sanctuary.**

An online link to register is coming soon.

Books are available at no charge at the ONA table.



In addition, we will be engaging Lighthouse Youth & Family Services in Cincinnati. St. John Church's Pastor's Discretionary Assistance Fund supports its housing and food programs. Lighthouse provides a wide range

of support for families, children and youth around a variety of issues, including homelessness, education, foster care and adoption, outpatient mental health and resources for LGBTQI+ youth. LGBTQI+ youth are dramatically over-represented in the homeless youth population. We will be learning more about what Lighthouse Youth & Family Services offers and meeting some of their leaders. The date for this engagement is to be determined soon.

“Open and Affirming” is a United Church of Christ designation for congregations who intentionally welcome and embrace persons who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, plus.