



Dear **sibling in Christ**, [*Pancake Pride Ecumenical Celebration*](#) this year was an evening filled with such immense grace, beauty, healing, joy, love, solidarity and courage. None of this was possible without your participation, support and the amazing ecumenical spirit of Christian service modelled by all who volunteered their time, efforts, and resources to make it possible - Thanks be to **God for You!**

Here's a favour I'd like to ask of you: In order for us to learn from the organising of these ecumenical events, we need your feedback. Here's a very short [Survey](#) that would help do that, take a brief few minutes to fill [THIS](#), thank you. These events are organised for *Sydney's Mardi Gras/Pride* season under the helpful ecumenical banner of '**Rainbow Christians Together**' for our communal benefit. This is done initially to try to attract sustainable resourcing/funding support from church institutions, governments and funding bodies, of which is left wanting. We need proper sustained resourcing and support to keep doing this.

Aside from completing the brief survey above, your continual visible (+audible) support in spreading the Good News that **we** are here is so important. That you - alongside fellow allies, Sista-girl, Brotha-boy, Transgender, Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Asexual, Queer, Intersex (LGBTQIA+SB & allies) siblings can no longer be invisible, erased, silenced, edited-out, marginalised in our families, workplaces, schools, communities, churches - that God's glorious image is fully alive in all our flourishing lives!

As promised for those attending **Pancake Pride**, here's some resources for you and your communities to share for the coming **Transgender Day of Visibility** (annually 31st March), used (and acknowledged) in our churches and communities on Sunday 30th March [HERE](#). This as well as Claude's part in the service as requested by so many of you is as attached.

Do also check out [Australian Women Preach](#) that highlights so many amazing women and gender minoritised voices in our community. Sadly, they are concluding their weekly recording ministry, compounded in no small way by the injustices of under-resourcing women and gender minorities fighting for equality in many of our institutional churches.

It is my deep hope that the spirit of ***Pancake Pride*** and all '*Rainbow Christians Together*' events will continue to grow from strength to strength every *Mardi Gras and Shrove Tuesday* to keep that ecumenical spirit of our community vibrantly alive, flourish and bear fruits. As we reflected last night - so that all may know of our discipleship by the way we love another. (*John 13:34-35*)

Much of these organising over the past few years haven't been possible if not for the unflinching supportive auspicing platform of [Equal Voices](#) - our national grassroots ecumenical movement. So, if you're interested in continuing these ecumenical efforts of *Rainbow Christians Together* beyond just Sydney's Mardi Gras / Pride season and haven't yet connected, please do so!

Once again, do connect with some of our diverse Christian communities whose LGBTIQ+SB & ally members and leaders have been supportive of our ecumenical efforts via the ***Rainbow Christians Together*** banner. We hope you'll connect up with these faith communities and organisations making the Christian community a genuinely flourishing place for LGBTIQ+ Christians and our loved ones:

[St Stephen's Uniting Church](#)

[Crave MCC](#)

[Acceptance Sydney LGBTIQ+ Catholics](#)

[Leichhardt Uniting Church](#)

[Equal Voices](#)

[Rainbow Catholics Interagency Australia](#)

[Pitt Street Uniting Church](#)

[Metropolitan Community Church Sydney](#)

[ABBI Ambassadors & Bridge Builders International](#)

[Revesby Uniting Church](#)

[Good Shepherd Metropolitan Community Church Western Sydney](#)

[Wayside Chapel](#)

[South Sydney Uniting Church](#)

[New City Church](#)

[Kiama Jamberoo Uniting Church](#)

[Illawara Rainbow Christians](#)

[Gosford Anglican Church](#)

[St James King Street](#)

[St Andrews Uniting Church Glenbrook](#)

Benjamin Oh

*on behalf of **Rainbow Christians Together****

Founder, co-Chair (with [Josephine Inkpin](#)) of [Equal Voices](#)

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Rainbow Christians Together is proudly organised with members and leaders from Sydney's Metropolitan Community Churches, Uniting, Catholic, Anglican, Evangelical, Pentecostal, Baptist, Quaker, Presbyterian, Orthodox, Eastern Christian, Lutheran, etc Christian traditions, as well as LGBTIQ+ led faith communities and organisations such as Acceptance Sydney LGBTIQ+ Catholics, MCC Sydney + MCC Good Shepherd + MCC Crave, Uniting Network, Equal Voices Sydney, Rainbow Catholics Interagency Australia, ABBI and others.

Our events this year have been held on First Nations' lands of the **Gadigal People** of the **Eora Nation**. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging. We acknowledge that these lands we have now come to call Australia - ***always was, always will be Aboriginal Lands.***

Rainbow Christians Together & **Equal Voices events that we lead or sponsor are safe spaces for LGBTIQ+SB persons and our loved ones, welcoming all who defend universal human rights, safety, protection, wellbeing and the flourishing of all people, and especially LGBTIQ+SB members of our communities, their loved ones and supporters who have been historically and sadly still being harmed, abused, discriminated and marginalized in society and in many faith spaces.*