

For Immediate Release

San Anselmo, August 2018

The Center for Innovation in Ministry at the San Francisco Theological Seminary is pleased to announce a new pastoral care conference called, **Beyond Pink & Blue – Transitions and Transgender Care.**”

This conference will launch both in-person, running October 21st-23rd in-person at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Charlottesville, Virginia, and online, running October 22nd-24th, for those who cannot be there due to travel distance. The online seminar will be hosted using video-conference provider Zoom and moderated by a trained teaching assistant in the area of pastoral care.

Why you should register:

- **You identify as Transgender** and seek a deeper spiritual connection with God, other lay-people, or your spiritual community.
- **You are a Chaplain, Pastor, or other Church leader** and wish to better understand the complexities of dealing with gender equality issues in your area of expertise.
- **You are a hospital case worker, or therapist**, who wants to deepen your knowledge of the dynamic tension surrounding this hot-button topic.

“The Center is always looking for ways to be on the growing edge of ministry, across all areas and issues in the United States. This is not an outlier issue. Statistics of abuse and suicide are alarming and pervasive. Our Christian faith requires us to always care for people who are being marginalized,” states Floyd Thompkins, Director of the Center for Innovation in Ministry.

Indeed, forty-percent of persons identifying as transgender have attempted suicide at least once. This is a staggering figure, and one that should spur action. We are an organization of discourse – and action.

We hope to provide avenues for spiritual discourse – in a respectful way – both in person and in the “cloud.”

Speakers include luminaries in this field and will be sure to excite spirited discussion.

You can join the in-person conference [here](#), or the conference “in the cloud” [here](#). Cost is only \$150 and \$30, respectively.

To Contact: innovation@sfts.edu