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Connection

A PUBLICATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST KINSHIP INTERNATIONAL, INC.

Happy New Year

What's coming up in 2022?

Introducing New Board Members

Get to know the new leaders!

European Kinship Meeting

Pictures & more from the 2021
meeting in the Netherlands.

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Seventh-day Adventist Kinship International, Inc. is a nonprofit support organization. We minister to the spiritual, emotional, social, and physical well-being of current and former Seventh-day Adventists who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex individuals and their families and friends.

Kinship facilitates and promotes the understanding and affirmation of LGBTQIA+ Adventists among themselves and within the Seventh-day Adventist community through education, advocacy, and reconciliation. Kinship is a global organization which supports the advance of human rights for all people worldwide.

Founded in 1976, the organization was incorporated in 1981 and is recognized as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization in the United States. There are also regional and population coordinators in specific areas. The current list of members and friends includes more than 5,000 people in over 90 countries.

Kinship believes the Bible does not condemn or even mention homosexuality as a sexual orientation.

Ellen G. White does not parallel any of the Bible texts that are used to condemn homosexuals. Most of the anguish imposed upon God's children who grow up as LGBTQIA+ has its roots in the misunderstanding of what the Bible says.

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Letter from the President

This New Year's, I'm thankful for Kinship's *Connection* magazine showing up in my email inbox. It's a wonderful escape from the world outside. It offers a time to reflect on our chosen family and the many blessings of Kinship friends around the world.

When I first joined SDA Kinship and before I became an active member, the *Connection* was my monthly lifeline to others who were like me. Most of them had grown up Adventist too, and they understood what it meant to be "different." That was many years ago now, but connecting with others who understand me is still a priority.

A lot has happened with SDA Kinship over the past 12 months. We have grown by leaps and bounds. I am

adding new members daily to our community. Through our website and social media, folks are receiving news and resources faster than ever. We have a top-notch team of leaders and support staff, and we could always use your help, too!

For so long, SDA Kinship has been a safe place for LGBTQIA+ folks with an Adventist connection. Joining the Kinship community has been a transition point for many to move on and live their authentic lives.

My desire is that Kinship becomes a movement—one that not only provides resources for understanding the balance of orientation/gender and spirituality, but also welcomes all who are marginalized for these issues, from LGBTQIA+ people and parents to supportive

allies. I want Kinship to be a place where folks can get the answers and support they need while interacting with others like them. Kinship can be an affirming place for everyone to be themselves and to grow and blossom on life's journey.

We have several exciting things in store for 2022. So please stay tuned! Read your emails, join the community Facebook and WhatsApp groups, and participate in the conversations (or start your own discussion on a topic that interests you). If you use any of the social media platforms, be sure to follow us and like posts and videos. Share them as much as you can. You are Kinship's greatest asset and only through you can our audience grow. Your clicks, likes, etc. are a big help.

On Twitter, follow me at @KinshipPrez. Check out our YouTube channel for the *Kinship Connects* podcast interviews that I'm doing. Our stories increase the commonality that we share. If you are out to your family, ask them to join SDA Kinship. We have other parents and family members who would love to interact with them. We have allies who are eager to stand up for us and speak out on our behalf.

For all of us, 2022 is going to be an exciting year. I encourage you to be safe and smart. Don't put yourself in harm's way. Whether it is with COVID-19 or taking the step to come out, do so wisely. Your physical health and mental health are of utmost importance. If you need to talk with someone, please reach out to us. We have folks available who can give you professional advice and listen to the challenges you are facing. You are not alone in your journey.

I have gotten to know many of you quite well over the years, but others I haven't. In some cases, there is a language challenge; send me a message in whatever language anyway and I will do my best to respond. There are nearly 4,000 members in Kinship, and I would be very happy to hear from each and every one of you in 2022. The more I understand and know you,

the better we can create a safe space for all of our members.

Lastly, our leaders and support staff are volunteers and don't get paid for the time they put into running Kinship. I want to thank each of them for their dedication. Whenever you see something that comes from Kinship, please know that donated time and effort was put into creating it for us. If you see someone from the Kinship team, tell them thanks and let them know you appreciate what they do.

Our programs, apps, etc. cost money. We are as frugal and conscientious as possible with the funds we raise, but we could do greater things if more members gave regularly. Even \$5 per month would be a big help! That's equal to one Starbucks drink per month that could be donated to Kinship to help create more programming. (If you are frustrated with the Adventist Church and want to divert some of your offerings, Kinship would be happy to put it to good use. ☺)

Please stay tuned for announcements of new projects in 2022. Feel free to contact me any time to say hello and let me know what is on your mind. I wish you a very happy and healthy 2022!

Floyd Poenitz, president



Save the Dates!

MINI-KAMPMEETING

Rehoboth Beach,
Delaware, USA
April 28-May 1, 2022

43RD | ANNUAL KAMPMEETING

Orlando, Florida, USA
July 14-17, 2022

EUROPEAN KINSHIP MEETING

Switzerland
September 1-5, 2022

For more information, visit sdakinship.org/en/events



Introducing New Board Members



FLOYD POENITZ
president

What do you do as President?

I represent SDA Kinship in dealing with other corporations and businesses, including the signing of contracts. I also sit in an ex officio capacity, without vote, on all committees except the Nominating Committee.

I coordinate and chair membership meetings, Board meetings, and Executive Committee meetings. I maintain communication with the Board between meetings. I report regularly to the membership.

I submit to the Board an annual work plan identifying the specific activities and collaborative ventures to be carried out during the forthcoming fiscal year.

What do you hope to accomplish as President?

Kinship has been around for 40+ years. We have established that we exist inside the church, that we belong as an equal with other members; and we have proven from the Bible that we are not broken or a mistake. I would like to see us move forward as an organization and take the next step in being relevant to all of our diverse membership.

How do you identify? (LGBTQIA+ or ally)

I am a cisgender gay man.

What do you love about Kinship?

I love that Kinship gives our members the space to be who they are without apology. We are a diverse community that creates safe spaces for all. I think we can do an even better job, and my goal is to turn up the needed support.

What is your favorite place that you've visited?

I love to travel, so almost any place I visit is my favorite place at the time. I love Germany each time I'm there because for me it is like being home. My family there is very important to me. But one of my favorite places is Iceland. I really enjoyed my time there. The balance of fire and ice is fascinating.

Best family memory?

Oh, the innocent memories as a child growing up and going to Keene, Texas, to attend the Texas camp meeting. I thought I was experiencing a taste of heaven.

Favorite Christian song or hymn?

Growing up, it was "Shall We Gather at the River" or "In the Sweet By and By."

Favorite book?

I love reading the book *Wicked* by Gregory Maguire...actually the whole series, too. I find so much truth and double meaning in there. It makes me feel good about humanity to see the musical and hear the songs.



CATHERINE TAYLOR

vice president

What do you do as Vice President?

I'm working on projects to better provide support, train, and cushion supporters, and offer community organizing, outreach, and education.

What do you hope to accomplish as Vice President?

I would like to build a process for listening to the needs of people who join us, no matter where in the "Rainbow Alphabet" someone lives, and provide additional ways to support them.

I would like to listen to people who want to contribute to our Kinship community in a variety of ways, learn their strengths, and provide training, support, and skills building. As our members reach out to others in various ways, I plan to offer debriefing and "Share Vision" times. I want our community to nurture our volunteers at whatever level they serve.

Finally, I want to continue to educate the world around us (ecclesiastical or not) about issues that face people who live on the margins and about ways all of us share aspects of our life (like living with grief or recovering from trauma). "Gender for Geezers" is an example of this.

How do you identify? (LGBTQIA+ or ally)

As far as I can tell at the moment, I am a cisgender female who is generally attracted to women. Like many of the young people with whom I work, I like having options. That said, 97 percent of my relationships have been with women.

What do you love about Kinship?

It's a place of sanctuary and a place to learn how to strengthen the skills to be in community. It's a place to give back a tiny bit for the gifts I have been given here.

With families, I learn to work and be with people I might never have known in any other way.

Something no one would ever guess about you?

People who know me well know I am an introvert.

Best family memory?

One Christmas, my single-parent mother managed to take a wooden packing container, cover it in brick-design wrapping paper, make it look like a fireplace, and fill it with packages. To this day, I remember being in awe at what seemed like a magical event.

Something that never fails to make you smile?

Rainbows, cats, dogs, otters, getting on a train, the windmills in the North Sea followed tulip fields as the plane reaches the Netherlands, the night sky, the unexpected amazing photograph.

Favorite Christian song or hymn?

"Be Thou My Vision"

Favorite book?

At the moment, *A Gentleman in Moscow* by Amor Towles.



STEVE CHAVEZ

director of church relations

What do you do as Director of Church Relations?

I am a liaison between Kinship and the Seventh-day Adventist Church and its institutions (conferences, colleges/universities, healthcare institutions, etc.). I chair the Kinship Advisory Council, a group of about 25 allies who work to make Adventist institutions more inclusive and diverse.

What do you hope to accomplish as Director of Church Relations?

I intend to build on the work done by Dave Ferguson (the former Director of Church Relations) over the last 20 years to build relationships with Adventist administrators and educators. One of my priorities is to change the public perception of Kinship from being an advocacy organization to being a ministry organization.

How do you identify? (LGBTQIA+ or ally)

I've been a Kinship ally for more than 20 years. It's one of the most rewarding relationships I've had in my years of personal and public ministry.

What do you love about Kinship?

Kinship provides a place where people are accepted unconditionally. We can be authentic and transparent.

What is your favorite place that you've visited?

We like to wander the streets and sites of Manhattan, Washington, D.C., Chicago, Paris, and Baltimore.

Describe your perfect meal.

For traditional family gatherings (Thanksgiving, Christmas), we fix what we call "Grandma's Enchiladas": tortillas dipped in taco sauce then topped with beans, raw tomato, raw onion, raw spinach, cheese, and covered with another tortilla dipped in taco sauce.

Favorite Christian song or hymn?

"I Lay My Sins on Jesus"

Favorite Bible Verse?

Psalm 90

Favorite books?

Mr. Jones, Meet the Master by Peter Marshall, *Home Country* by Ernie Pyle, *Thurber Carnival* by James Thurber.



JUSTIN MEZETIN

director of communications

What do you do as Director of Communications?

The communications team is focused on sharing SDA Kinship's message of love, affirmation, and community inward to current Kinship members and outward to our allies, collaborators, Adventist communities, and beyond.

What do you hope to accomplish as Director of Communications?

As Communications Director, I aim to streamline communications from the Board and leaders to Kinship members.

I will maintain and update the SDA Kinship app to be more helpful for members and for leaders to use and engage with members in a more streamlined way.

I want to use new technologies and platforms to spread our messages further into Adventist communities and encourage more engagement and action in Kinship projects.

What do you love about Kinship?

Hearing the stories of members who thought they were the only LGBTQIA+ person, or a family member who was going through the journey alone... then finding and connecting with Kinship people. When they share that story and you can see the love and acceptance in their eyes, it is always a beautiful moment. And I wish more people could see these moments.

How do you identify? (LGBTQIA+ or ally)

Gay

What is your favorite place that you've visited?

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico. A queer-friendly, walkable beach town, with great food and late-night street tacos. What else do you need?

Describe your perfect meal.

Anything grilled. Steak and veggies. Or tacos.

Best family memory?

One of my brothers joined some friends, including a boyfriend, and me at World Pride in New York.

Something that never fails to make you smile?

Puppies being cute and weird.

Favorite book?

This is How by Augusten Burroughs. Part memoir, part self-help, the author uses his stories, struggles and past steps in life to show people "how to" live and grow through life with all of its many ups and downs.

OPEN BOARD POSITIONS



- **Director of Development**
- **Director of Youth Interests**

Apply at info@sdakinship.org

Kinship Connects
podcast

Listen in at sdakinship.org/en/kinship-connects

Share your talents in

KINSHIP WORSHIP

An inspirational program for us, by us



We're looking for

- Speakers
- Singers
- Poets
- Dancers
- Instrumentalists
- and more

Contact us at info@sdakinship.org!

European Kinship Meeting Report

This year's European Kinship Meeting (EKM) was held about an hour and a half outside of Amsterdam in the Netherlands from September 2 to 6, 2021. EKM was made possible by the leadership and coordination of Ruud Kieboom and the financial support of an anonymous donor.

Cookies, late-night talks, and chosen family: this is what European Kinship Meeting (EKM) meant to me.



As someone who isn't out to most of my family, many of my friends, or at work, it's hard to find space to be my authentic self. So, in the midst of a pandemic, I made the crazy decision to meet my fellow Kinship members in Europe at EKM. As an American, I worried that I was encroaching on their territory, but everyone welcomed me warmly. I felt like I had found another family.

It was cozy. We stayed together at a conference center and shared meals in between meeting times. Our guest speaker introduced us to the idea of "Queering

the Bible," and we took another look at several Bible stories. We welcomed the Sabbath with praise and song. We were even blessed to have communion.

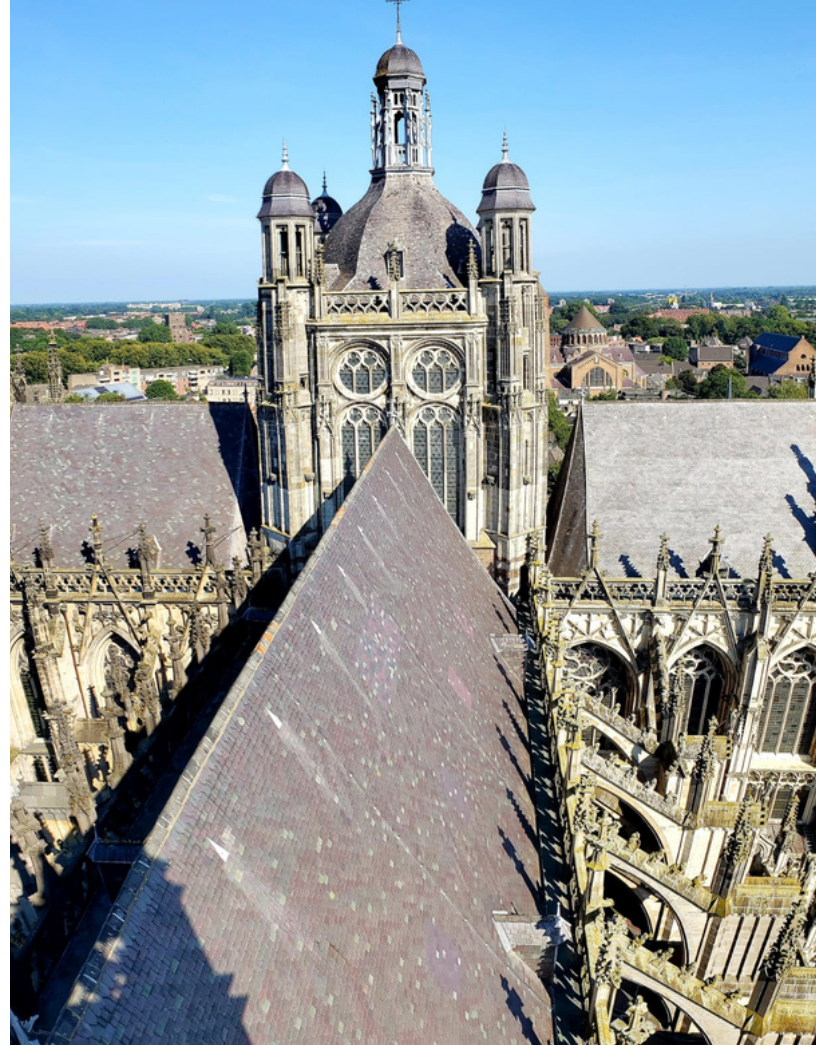
We spent a day at nearby Hertogenbosch. Wandering the cobblestone streets, we explored parks and Saint John's Cathedral, tried local desserts, and shopped. It was a beautiful city.

The best part of any Kinship Kampmeeting is the conversations—those soul-sharing, heart-rending stories we told each other, knowing that we were fully understood and loved. It's incredibly freeing to be in such a warm, lovely, safe space.



Ellen Henderson, Connection editor





What attendees had to say:

"To me, it was like meeting/seeing extended family even though I didn't know most of the attendees before. Everyone just embraced us with warm hugs and showered us in love! It was such a great experience and so incredible that age didn't matter at all, everybody had something to contribute to the conversation."

"Young faces! An inspiration and proof for me to continue Kinship efforts."

"I liked that there were more people around my age and that we started a WhatsApp group (for youth under 35 years old). Now I can connect with other young Kinship members in Europe."



"I loved seeing friends face to face again and experiencing the amazing hospitality of the Netherlands. I loved meeting folks whose pictures I have seen for years. I loved the speaker's presentations as well as everyone else's. I was blessed just spending time with great people. I miss everyone!"

"Hearing how queer the Bible can be read surprised me."

"Visiting Den Bosch (short for 's-Hertogenbosch) and exploring it with the group was a lot of fun; and, while sitting on the lawn, I enjoyed the conversations, touching on a variety of topics."

"I loved the speaker's rainbow shoes and socks."

"I enjoyed looking at familiar Bible stories and verses through a new lens, making them even more relatable for me."

"I loved the conversations around the tables during mealtimes and reconnecting with friends. Great to see new faces to add to our Kinship Europe family. I'm glad that (former SDA Kinship President) Yolanda was able to be part of EKM and experience Kinship in another country and setting."

"All the singing was a treat and a gift."

Connecting & Supporting LGBTQ+ Families

Kinship Families & Friends Zoom Roundtable

The SDA Kinship Families & Friends group desires to support all families working their way through emotional and, possibly, confusing times. We (Carolyn and John) conducted two Sabbath school evaluations. In one class, 42% shared that they had an LGBTQ+ family member, and in the other class, it was 45%. We also estimate that 5-10% don't know if they have an LGBTQ+ family member, while an additional 5-10% don't care to admit it.

We comfortably believe that at least 50% of the families in our congregations have an LGBTQ+ member—maybe a son or daughter, grandson or granddaughter, niece or nephew, brother or sister. It could even be a husband or wife. Varied gender desires and needs are more common than many families realize.

When a family discovers a variation, their feelings and emotions can be confused and unsure. Their actual decisions and responses can also cause unhealthy reactions and feelings throughout the family. There is excellent support information and experiences they can get so that, if a family desires to understand and learn more, *they can make the best loving decisions for their family.*

One activity is the Kinship Families & Friends Zoom Roundtable discussions that happen on the third Sunday of every month at 9:30 AM Pacific Time (PT). Families and friends from around the world join each session, sharing and connecting with each other. Often the roundtable has a keynote speaker, which allows more specific questions and sharing of helpful, accurate information. The roundtable has helped many families connect with other families and allies, helping them adjust and support their LGBTQ+ family member.

Please visit **<https://sdakinship.org/en/kinship-famfriends>** for the directions and link to join the roundtable. You can choose to be visible and share or you can be invisible and instead text your questions for the attendees to respond to. Each session normally lasts 90 minutes.

Additionally, we are available at any time to privately connect with you regarding your desires and needs. Remember: **JESUS NEVER LOOKED THE OTHER WAY — AND NEITHER SHOULD WE!**

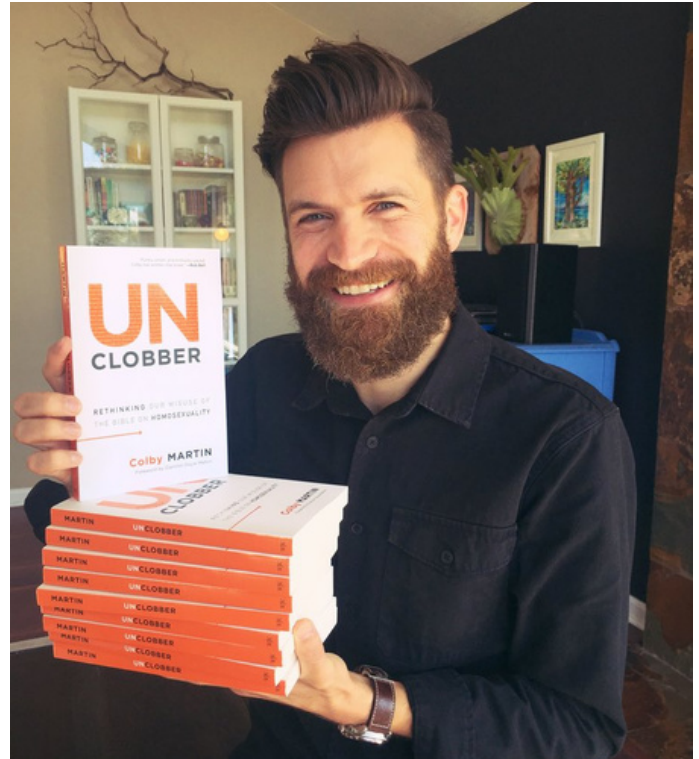
*Carolyn & John Wilt, Co-coordinators
SDA Kinship Families & Friends*



The *UnClobber* Project in 2021

UnClobber tells of the personal journey of Pastor Colby Martin as he researches the Bible's six "clobber texts"—the only places in Scripture that might plausibly address sexual orientation—and comes to a new understanding of how the church can relate to members of the LGBTQIA+ community from a biblical and compassionate framework. Pastor Colby isn't the first to learn this, but his story and biblical interpretation communicates the message in a deep, balanced, and accessible way.

In 2021, SDA Kinship sent over 1,000 paperback and ebook copies of *UnClobber* to people around the world. We have collaborated with the publishers to ship *UnClobber* in paperback, not just to the United States, but also to Canada, Europe, Australia, and New Zealand. The ebooks are provided through Amazon Kindle, and we can only send them to the U.S.-based accounts. We are not able to send books to other locations in South America, Africa, or Asia at this time, but we are looking for other resources that we may be able to share.



As we move into 2022, we look forward to sending out another 1,000 books. We are also looking into accessing the *UnClobber* online courses to see if that resource can be leveraged to support Kinship members as well.

We will provide the book FREE of charge for current Kinship members, their families, local congregations, and others in the community. Our aim is to educate members and leaders in Adventist communities, promote dialogue within Adventist spaces about LGBTQIA+ issues, and hopefully change some hearts and minds within local churches. We also want members and families who have LGBTQIA+ loved ones to get this book, so that they can learn how to read and interpret the Bible in a more affirming and loving way.

How you can support the *UnClobber* Outreach project:

- Pray that people will allow the Holy Spirit to open their hearts and minds and that it will result in more loving actions, within the local churches, schools, and communities, toward the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Send a free book to people in your family or pastors and teachers in your community who you think would receive value from reading the book.
- Order a free book for yourself.
- Books can be ordered at sdakinship.org/UnClobber
- Connect to our online Facebook group to share your thoughts and ask questions (bit.ly/unclobberfacebook).

Learn more about the project at sdakinship.org/unclobber.

Ellen's Bookshelf

Meet Ellen

Hi! I'm Ellen Henderson, a 30-something who loves to read. My favorite genre is queer YA (young adult fiction), but I dabble in other genres as well. I'm excited to keep sharing book recommendations with you. Even if reading isn't for you, tell your friends about these great books.

Have a comment about a book you read or want to suggest a book to review? I'd love to hear it! Email connectioneditor@sdakinship.org.



For the more mature

Book Rec #1: *Red, White & Royal Blue* by Casey McQuiston

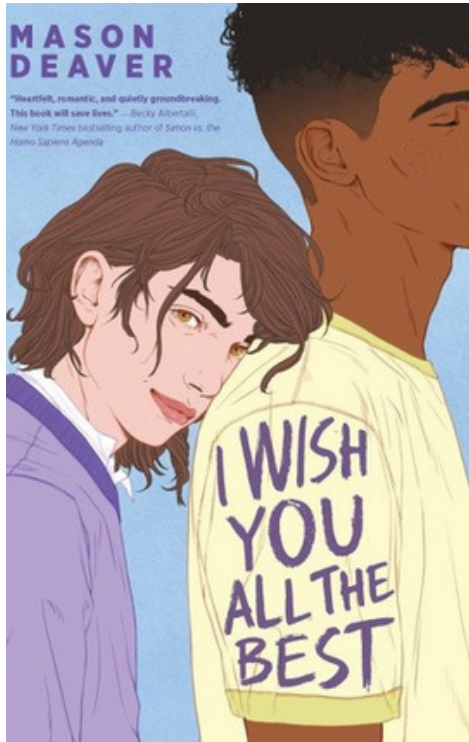
Red, White & Royal Blue is one of my all-time favorite books. We join Alex and Henry for an enemies-to-lovers secret tryst, romantic comedy. Meet Alex, the First Son of the United States. He has political dreams of one day serving the people. In the meantime, he'll work on his mother's reelection campaign (yes, the United States has its first female president!). He loves his life, work, and friends—there's just one thing that gets to him: the conceited Prince Henry of England.

Henry, on the other hand, secretly loves dogs and *Star Wars*—oh, and he's gay. This would be a scandal if it ever got out, and he's going to make sure it never does. When push comes to shove (literally), Alex and Henry find themselves in the midst of a public relations nightmare. Desperate to tidy up a disaster, the leaders of both countries make a decision: it's time for Alex and Henry to become best friends, if only to appease the cameras.

What happens next is the beginning of a genuine friendship. Alex can't believe he wants to text the Prince of England silly snippets of his day. It's absolutely nothing more than friendship—and Alex is straight...right?

This book is sweet and funny with a delicious slow burn romance. You'll find yourself smiling along the way. I recommend you grab a blanket and cuddle up with your soon-to-be favorite queer romance.

Warnings: Mature. Swearing and sexual content. 18+



For your education

Book Rec #2: *I Wish You All the Best* by Mason Deaver

I Wish You All the Best is the first novel I've read featuring a nonbinary character. The author is enby (non-binary or NB) themselves, so the book is written with an authentic voice. Ben is a high-school student who's just done a terrifying thing: they came out as nonbinary to their parents. And it didn't go well. Now, Ben finds themselves living with an estranged older sister in a new town and going to a new school.

Scared to come out again, Ben goes back in the closet at school. They don't even tell their new friend, Nathan, who does everything he can to get Ben to open up. As Ben navigates their family trauma and starts building a relationship with their sister, they find solace in painting. But what happens when a student art show leads to a confrontation with the parents who rejected them? And what if people find out who Ben really is?

This novel taught me a lot about enby folks. I feel like I better understand their struggle for acceptance and identity. It gave me a lot of practice using they/them pronouns. The author has posted on Instagram several times about getting misgendered even in promoting the book. *I Wish You All the Best* has a lot to teach each of us—if only we're willing to listen.

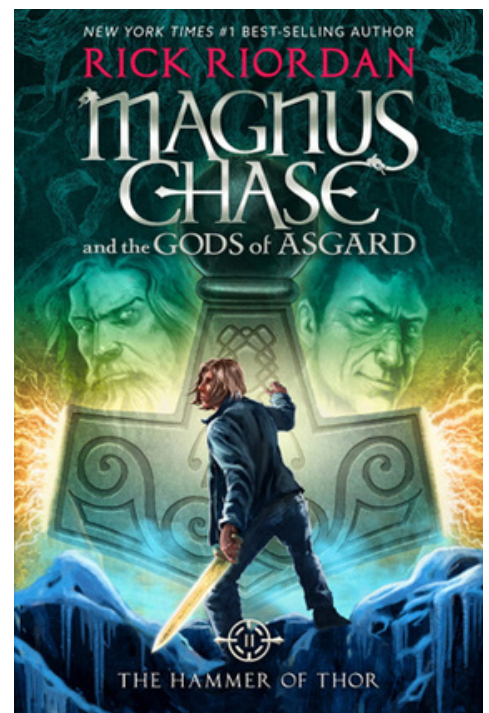
Warnings: Mature. Swearing and family rejection. 16+

For younger audiences

Book Rec #3: *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* by Rick Riordan

You can't go wrong with a Rick Riordan book. He's a phenomenal children's author and I highly recommend nearly every book he's ever written. They're that good. His *Percy Jackson and the Olympians* series is followed by *The Heroes of Olympus* and *The Trials of Apollo*, both of which include two gay characters as well as the chaotic bisexual/pansexual god Apollo. Granted, the queer characters are written in later, which is why I'm recommending the *Magnus Chase and the Gods of Asgard* series here.

Magnus rather reluctantly and unexpectedly finds himself living on after death as one of the god Odin's einherjar (warriors who prepare to fight in the eventual Ragnarök battle). With his new friends—including a Muslim Valkyrie, a deaf elf, and a fashionable dwarf—Magnus gets caught up in the gods' petty conflicts and has to save the day (repeatedly) to prevent major cataclysmic events.

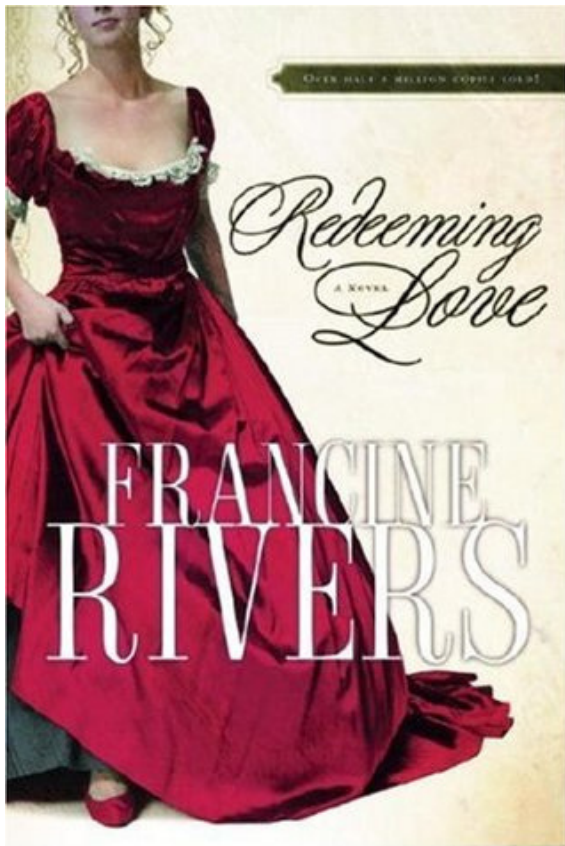


In book 2, *The Hammer of Thor*, we meet Alex, a genderfluid demigod, whose pronouns change daily. Alex is fierce and she/he and Magnus don't get off to a strong start. However, Alex gains the team's respect as a fearless warrior (not that she/he cares).

What I love about Alex is how strong she/he is. Alex has learned to depend only on herself/himself, and joining a team is hard. Magnus is rightfully scared for his life, but they eventually develop a friendship—and maybe more. I also appreciate that Magnus doesn't have a sexual crisis—he's just probably pansexual, no big deal.

This series is excellent for those seeking adventure. You'll learn a lot about Norse mythology and gain a deeper appreciation for the fluidity of gender and sexuality. But in the end, you'll just have a lot of fun too. It's guaranteed to leave you with a smile on your face.

Warnings: None.



For your spiritual life

Book Rec #4: *Redeeming Love* by Francine Rivers

Another one of my favorite books is *Redeeming Love*. This story is based on the biblical prophet Hosea's relationship with his wife, the prostitute God tells him to marry. Based in the 1850s in California, it tells the eventual love story of Michael, a farmer, and Angel, a prostitute with a traumatic past. God tells Michael to marry Angel when he sees her briefly in town.

After rescuing her from a near-fatal beating, Michael takes Angel home to his new farm. Angel decidedly rejects this new husband and his God and yearns to return to the city. Michael offers ceaseless compassion, patience, and love.

Just like the woman in the book of Hosea, Angel leaves Michael time and time again. Each time, God tells Michael to bring her back. Slowly, Angel opens herself up to being loved, not only by

Michael but also by God. But she knows she doesn't deserve it, just like she doesn't deserve her new life.

This book will make you cry, I guarantee it. But it will also leave you feeling hopeful and loved. It showed me the love God really has for me, and it's a book I've needed to read time and again.

Note: This book does not have queer characters.

Warnings: Mature. Sexual content and assault. 16+

Connect with Kinship

SDA Kinship continues to work to connect our members in communities where they feel most comfortable. In this time of quarantine and staying home, we continue to invest in various ways to stay connected. Here are a few options:

WhatsApp Groups

- Kinship Spiritual
- Kinship en Español
- Kinship Women
- Kinship Brasil
- Kinship France
- Kinship Russia
- & more!



Facebook Groups

- Kinship Main International Group
- Kinship Family and Friends
- Kinship Men
- Kinship Women
- Kinship Young Adults
- Kinship Seniors
- Local and Regional Groups
- & more!



Zoom Video Chats

Kinship asks members to use their knowledge and experience to engage, encourage, and enhance our community.

Email us to lead a webinar, discussion, or group chat for Kinship members. We can help you find a time and advertise it to our members.



If you would like sign up to lead a Zoom meeting or join our private Facebook or WhatsApp groups, please email info@sdakinship.org.

Find more information about the various Kinship groups and communities you can join at **sdakinship.org/community**.

Volunteer with Kinship

We need people to help us spread our message of acceptance, affirmation, and belonging for LGBTQIA+ people in Adventist spaces and beyond. Kinship is entirely volunteer-led and needs help from its members to successfully complete its mission.

Here are a few opportunities where you can invest your time and talent to support the mission.

Communications Team

Volunteer to support Kinship communications to our diverse membership around the world on any of the following teams:

- Social media
- Video production
- Writing articles for the *Connection* magazine and blog
- Translating content for our worldwide audience
- Web and app development
- Captioning videos to make them more accessible
- Organizing external content and resources to share with our members

Member Services Team

Volunteer to support specific member groups and communities within Kinship on any of the following teams:

- **Regional Coordination:** Host Zoom meetings to get to know other members in your area, demographic, or shared interest group.
- **Hospitality Team:** Send welcome emails to new members as they join Kinship.
- **Church Outreach:** Join an advocacy team to reach out to local Adventist churches and communities to encourage dialogue and create more inclusive spaces.
- **Community Outreach:** Connect with local organizations to find local volunteer opportunities.

For more information, visit sdakinship.org/volunteer.



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