

Dear Friend and Supporter of Comunidad,

At this moment, the principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are being challenged, and it's important for us to remember the voices that have paved the way. Activists like Marsha P. Johnson, Harvey Milk, and Barbara Gettings helped bring LGBTQIA+ rights to the forefront. Similarly, Comunidad has been blessed with passionate advocates like Marilyn Pires and David Kennedy, who worked tirelessly for our rights.

As we continue this journey, we all have a role to play. It's easy to find ourselves in conversations with friends and family who may accept us, but still view our lives through outdated or narrow lenses. The term "queer" once used as a slur, now holds the power of reclaiming our pride. Let's continue to work toward helping others understand that our love and lives are worthy of respect.

Comunidad has always been a powerful voice for LGBTQIA+ individuals within the church and beyond, and we are so grateful for your support. We know the work is far from over. At any moment, harmful ideas can influence policies and institutions, but together, we can stand strong in love and unity. That's why we are reaching out to you today. Your support truly makes a difference in our ability to reach and uplift the community.

With your generous donation, Comunidad can continue to serve as a bridge of support for LGBTQIA+ individuals, offering spaces of connection at events like the Religious Education Congress and Pride celebrations, along with our monthly social and spiritual gatherings. Together, we make a welcoming space for anyone seeking community and understanding.

Each year, we turn to you to help carry forward the message that God's love is for everyone. Through the example of Jesus, we've come to understand the true meaning of DEI—love, compassion, and inclusion for all.

Please consider making a financial contribution to help us continue this important work. We are deeply grateful for your support.

Yours in love and faith,

Steven Nadolny and José Manuel Ruiz-García, Co-Chairpersons

Please make checks payable to "Comunidad."

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Detach here and return with your check.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$50 \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 100 \_\_\_\_\_ Other

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail to:** Comunidad-St Matthew Church, 672 Temple Ave, Long Beach, CA 90814

or even better, bring your check to our meeting!