



Eggs in baskets made by Alan & Darlene Silvius
Hot Cross Buns supplied by Worship Committee

Knitted bunnies & chicks made by
Barb Roberds

So wonderful to see
Sheila!!

Changing Course on same-sex marriage – by John Longhurst

Late divinity scholar advocated for welcoming LGBTTTQ+ people in final book



Spectators wave rainbow-coloured flags while cheering parade participants during the San Francisco Pride Parade last year.

(Photo: Carlos Fajardo)

SINCE the mid-1990s, opposition to same-sex relationships in most North American evangelical churches, and many other Protestant denominations, has been informed by the work of theologian and scholar Richard B. Hays.

Hays, the former dean of Duke Divinity School, was author of the widely influential 1996 book *The Moral Vision of the New Testament*. In it, he argued that same-sex relationships were “one among many tragic signs that we are a broken people, alienated from God’s loving purpose.”

His well-respected scholarly work was used by many church leaders as justification for seeing same-sex relationships as sinful and to oppose affirmation of LGBTTTQ+ Christians.

So it was like an earthquake went off in many congregations across the U.S. and Canada when Hays publicly changed his mind on this topic in late 2024.

Hays, who died on Jan. 3 of cancer at the age of 76, made his case for welcoming LGBTTTQ+ people into the family of God in his newest and last book, titled *The Widening of God’s Mercy: Sexuality Within the Biblical*

Story •

As it is for many Christians who change their minds about this topic, Hays’s journey began when he actually met LGBTTTQ+ Christians and saw them in leadership positions in churches — experiences that caused him to

That included his own congregation, where he told the *New York Times* he saw LGBTTTQ+ people who “were exercising roles of gracious and meaningful leadership.”

His new book, he said, was an act of repentance for how his earlier work had been used to harm LGBTTTQ+ people, and to “offer contrition and to set the record straight on where I now stand.”

When the book was published, some conservative Christians saw it as a betrayal. Others went so far as to call it heretical. In an interview, Hays said he knew that would happen, but he was at peace with it.

“So there’s a sense in which I’m eating some of my own words, and I’m concerned that it will perhaps burn some bridges and break some relationships that I’ve cherished,” he said. “But as I age, I wanted my final word on the subject to be out there. And so there it is.”

LGBTTTQ+ Christians have welcomed the book, although a queer Christian friend suggested the title should rather have been “the widening of Richard Hays’ understanding of God’s mercy.”

For my friend, God has always been merciful to everyone; it’s only some Christians over the centuries who have decided to put a limit on God’s mercy and welcome by excluding certain groups of people.

As for Hays, who had been dealing with cancer since 2015, writing the book was also about how he would be remembered after his death.

“I don’t want the first paragraph of my obituary to say ‘New Testament scholar Richard Hays who wrote against the acceptance of gay and lesbian people has died,’” he said, adding he hoped it might also mention his willingness “to rethink, to repent, to receive new information, to have the humility to be able to say I was wrong.”

Editor’s note: This article is a series of excerpts from a column in the Winnipeg Free Press Faith page insert in the Brandon Sun, Saturday, February 22, 2025. For full story, visit: <https://www.winnipegfreepress.com/arts-and-life/life/faith/2025/02/22/changing-course-on-same-sex-marriage>

PRAYER CHAIN



Would you like some prayers or do you know someone who needs prayers?

Please contact

Faye Wilcox 204 728-3654

All information is confidential.

*Thank you Faye, & team,
for your great work!*

Two blondes were
driving to Disneyland.
The sign said:
Disneyland Left..
So they started crying
and headed home.

April Birthday's

24th Ken Mitchell (98
years young)

26th Wilma Seafoot

27th Pat King-Doctrovè



May Birthday's

15th Mickey Dux

17th Lucille Neufeld

Would you like your birthday/
anniversary/special events shared
with others in the newsletter? If so,
please contact me. I love celebrating
and would like to share yours, if you
are willing.

Darlynne



Don't use a big word
when a singularly
unloquacious and
diminutive linguistic
expression will
satisfactorily accomplish
the contemporary
necessity.

FELLOWSHIP FOLLOWING WORSHIP EACH WEEK

Thank you to all who volunteer to be
the snack provider for the day. What
you choose to have is perfect therefore
we have a variety from week to week.

April 27th
Edie Mowat, Helen Hicks,
Frances McKague

May 4th
Mary Wardle, Myrna Lennon

May 11th
Dallas Green, Marion Speers

Thank You to folks who sign up to help!



Myrna Lane
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April 20, 2025



Rev. Doug telling the folks about the knitted chick and bunny. The kids had fun looking for them!



Easter Sunday, 2025

Please be sure to call or e-mail
Marlane Wilson, letting her know of anyone
needing some contact and to
send a card from Trinity.
204 729-8574 marlane.w@yahoo.com

*Our continued love, thoughts &
prayers are with:*

Gail Thickett
Sheila McCausland:
Trevor McLoughlin:
Irene Smith:
Rae Mullens:
Naomi Mahoney:
Norm Poersch:
Deidree Placatka:
Cheryl McClelland & Sherie
Lloyd McCabe
Jean Cory



Thoughts and prayers to Marv & Georgina Pidhorny on the loss
of Georgie's sister, Joan Willey.



Our Friends in Personal Care and Senior Homes

Fairview: Audrey Campbell, Judy Diswinka, Louise Hume,
Eunice Lindenberg

Hillcrest PCH: Don Jessiman, Eric Neufeld

Rideau: Don Chambers

Valleyview: Del Pringle, Frank Skuce

Riverheights Terrace: PHEME Andrew, Ralph & Carolyn
Heard, Dave McClelland, Marlene Shantz,

Rotary Villas: Myrna Barkley, Winnie Black, Florence Wotton

Victoria Landing: Elizabeth Cass, Myrna Hall,
Shirley Kernaghan, Al & Helen Lauder, Betty McFarland,
Pat Rathwell, Wilma Seafoot

Wawanesa PCH: Elsie Franklin, Alice Laminman

Hope you had a Happy Easter!

all I need to know I learned
from the



- DON'T PUT ALL YOUR EGGS IN ONE BASKET.
- EVERYONE NEEDS A FRIEND WHO IS ALL EARS.
- SOME BODY PARTS SHOULD BE FLOPPY.
- ALL WORK AND NO PLAY CAN MAKE YOU A BASKET CASE.
- LET HAPPY THOUGHTS MULTIPLY LIKE RABBITS.
- EVERYONE IS ENTITLED TO A BAD "HARE" DAY.
- KEEP YOUR PAWS OFF OTHER PEOPLE'S JELLY BEANS.

April Showers



Trinitopics & Church Announcements

Delivery is being made to all non email



The next issue will be May 9th, 2025

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'May God hold you in the palm of His Hand'