



**LOVEboldly Church Partner
Program
2025**



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Mission

LOVEboldly exists to create and develop spaces where LGBTQIA+ people can flourish in Christianity.

Vision

A world where all LGBTQIA+ people can feel safe, belong, and flourish.

A Letter from Our Executive Director



Dear Current and Potential Church Partners,

LOVEboldly remains the only non/inter-denominational Christian organization in Ohio that is working to make the church and the larger world affirming of the LGBTQIA+ community. We're not working for mere tolerance or performative inclusion; we're working for an affirmation that means nothing less than the Kin-dom of God in our midst. Our work fully centers the LGBTQIA+ community and our actions, programs, and initiatives always have Queer people, particularly Queer Christians in mind. Further, as followers of a radically inclusive, brown-skinned, refugee, and rabbi known as Jesus, it is in our DNA to stand up to Christian nationalism and white supremacy in all their forms.

A significant aspect of that work is our engagement of and partnerships with congregations and other faith communities. In this booklet, you will find information on our church partnership program and the opportunities for churches to financially support LOVEboldly while securing free or reduced-cost programming, coaching/consulting, and outreach for their leaders, staff, and congregants. You will also find more details about our programming and our capacity. But no booklet can answer all questions, so we encourage you to reach out and have a discussion with us.

I'm reminded time and again that LOVEboldly could never do this work without the faithful support of our community members and investors. I look forward to engaging with you!

Faithfully,

Rev. Dr. Ben Huelskamp (he/they)
Executive Director
LOVEboldly

Church Partnership Program

The LOVEboldly Church Partnership Program aims to create strong, collaborative relationships between churches, congregations, and other groups and LOVEboldly as well as each other. Each congregation and LOVEboldly agree to provide support to each other consistent with their capacity and ability. The inherent goal of the program is to develop bonds based on trust, rather than on transactions.

LOVEboldly's Commitment to Partner Churches

- LOVEboldly will provide resources and programming to partner churches (including coaching/consulting, small group discussions, large group presentations, etc.)
- LOVEboldly will recognize partner churches on its website (name and link).
- Partner Churches that meet LOVEboldly's criteria for affirming churches* will be recognized as partners on the Affirming Church List (see below).

Church Partner's Commitment to LOVEboldly

- Make a financial commitment to LOVEboldly on a monthly or yearly basis.
- Promote LOVEboldly and its programming to the congregation via its website, social media, bulletins, and word-of-mouth.
- Place a link to LOVEboldly's website on the congregation's website.

Church Partner's Commitment to Other Church Partners

- Support each other by participating in quarterly Zoom calls with other church partners.
- Attend a yearly networking and fellowship lunch with other church partners.
- Pray for and encourage their members to pray for other church partners.

***LOVEboldly does not require Partner Churches to be affirming.**

Church Partnership Categories

Partners and Collaborators

\$5,000 or more

- Every in the “Partners and Colleagues” category.
- Six (6) additional hours (for a total of 12) with LOVEboldly’s ED to be used throughout the year.
- Three (2) additional invitations (for a total of 6) to LOVEboldly’s annual gathering of church partners.
- Recognition (name and link) in all monthly newsletters and action alert emails.

Partners and Colleagues

\$1,000 to \$4,999

- Everything in the “Partners” category.
- Exclusive access to a new and growing toolkit of resources for affirming churches.
- Six (6) additional hours with LOVEboldly’s ED to be used throughout the year.**
- Two (2) additional invitations (for a total of 4) to LOVEboldly’s annual gathering of church partners.

Partners

\$250 to \$999*

- One (1) hour monthly with LOVEboldly’s ED**
- Access to exclusive quarterly calls with LOVEboldly and other church partners.
- Invitation for two (2) people to attend LOVEboldly’s annual gathering of church partners.
- Recognition (name and link) on the LOVEboldly website
- Recognition (name and tag) in regular Church Partner social media posts.

*LOVEboldly recognizes that churches may not be able to make any financial commitment. Please contact us to discuss other options.

**Church Partners may request additional hours of coaching/consulting at the reduced rate of \$50/hour (a \$25 savings).

LOVEboldly Programming Types and Topics

Program Types

- **Presentations** - One or two people from LOVEboldly present to a seated group, usually of more than ten people, either in person or via the internet.
- **Small Groups** - One LOVEboldly facilitator leads a group of no more than 15 people through a focused discussion on a book, passage, or topic, either in person or via the internet.
- **Regular Programs** - A program that LOVEboldly has given previously and requires little or no customization for a different group.
- **Custom Programs** - A program that requires a significant amount of research and creative, including new programs and programs which need extensive alterations

Sample Regular Programs

(Please visit our website, <https://www.loveboldly.net/church-partnership>, to view our current list of regular programs.)

Regular Presentations

- LGBTQIA+ 101
- Queer Characters in the Bible
- The Clobber Verses

Regular Small Groups

- Bible Study - The Clobber Verses
- Bible Study - Queering the Bible
- Queer Theology Topics

LOVEboldly's Honorarium Policy

(You can find the full Honorarium Policy on our website.)

LOVEboldly's policy concerning honoraria and payment for services is rooted in the dual and sometimes conflicting priorities of funding a small nonprofit organization and achieving an equitable distribution of limited human and physical resources.

Honoraria or payments for service are not required. LOVEboldly will NEVER prioritize or de-prioritize a congregation or ministry partner based on ability to contribute financially. Often, ministries without financial resources are blessed with many other gifts that we value, cherish, and enhance our collective ministry in this world.

LOVEboldly maintains a formal Church Partner Program as a way of facilitating support from congregations while providing those congregations with tangible programming opportunities.

Some congregations provide both a personal honorarium to the speaker and a donation to LOVEboldly. For example, an honorarium for preaching and a donation for speaking after worship at a luncheon. However, we are flexible and open to how you wish to structure your contribution.

Below are suggested amounts based on average contributions. We believe that collectively, there is enough, so if your ministry has additional resources, consider making the extra contribution, knowing that another ministry will be able to contribute less.

Suggestions:

Preaching one worship service: \$200

Each additional worship service utilizing the same sermon: \$50

For regular programs (see above): \$100-200 per hour (Church Partners will receive a reduced rate.)

For custom programs: \$200-300 per hour (Church Partners will receive a reduced rate)

Ten Reasons to be a LOVEboldly Church Partner

1. Build a formal and concrete relationship with an organization working for the full affirmation of LGBTQIA+ people in Christianity.
2. Provide substantive resources and training for yourself and your congregation.
3. Signal to your community that your congregation affirms and includes LGBTQIA+ people.
4. Resist the forces of Christian nationalism, white supremacy, and Queerphobia.
5. Join a community advocating at the local and state level.
6. Gain connections to other state and regional organizations making good trouble.
7. Push back on narratives that weaponize faith for political gain.
8. Access a platform for creative programming and innovative learning.
9. Invest in the work of liberation modeled on the life and ministry of Jesus.
10. Team up with passionate people who take their work seriously but not themselves; who exemplify Queer joy!

loveboldly

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