

WHY WORDS MATTER: *Expansive Language and Liturgical Leadership*

- ☞ How do our gendered words for God and God's people form and deform us as the Church?
- ☞ Does this conversation even still matter?
- ☞ And how do congregational leaders actually implement changes to our gendered, liturgical language?

**Co-Hosted by Lifelong Learning at Episcopal Divinity School
& Massachusetts Council of Churches**

Friday, October 4, 2013 ☞ 1:00 to 5:00pm

**First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC
11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA**

Register Online: <https://expansivelanguage.eventbrite.com/>

This ecumenical event will feature EDS professor Rev. Dr. Stephen Burns Associate Professor of Liturgical Theology and the Study of Anglicanism, co-editor of the book "Presiding Like a Woman," congregational leaders, male and female, lay and ordained from a range of Christian traditions. All are welcome to attend. Afternoon snacks will be provided. We envision a highly participatory day for conversation and education about the experience of gendered liturgical language for God and God's people and how this language impacts leadership in the Church. We draw inspiration from the congregational resource "Words Matter" created by the National Council of Churches Justice for Women Working Group <http://wordsmatter.org/>.

Co-sponsors include:

Anna Howard Shaw Center at Boston University School of Theology - <http://www.bu.edu/shaw/> ☞ Church Women United of Massachusetts & Rhode Island - <http://www.churchwomen.org/> ☞ New England Women of the ELCA - <http://www.nesynod.org/welca> ☞ Sacred Threads - <http://www.sacredthreadscenter.org/> ☞ Episcopal Church Women, Diocese of MA - <http://province1episcopalchurchwomen.wordpress.com/diocesan-ecws/ecw-diocese-of-ma/>

We are deeply grateful to First Church Cambridge for the donation of their space.

Questions? Contact 617-523-2771 or email council@masscouncilofchurches.org

Margaret Jewett Hall at First Church Cambridge is accessible.

<http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/community-resources/accessibility-at-first-church>

Logistics: Public transit is strongly encouraged. Harvard Square is your nearest MBTA stop. Car commuters are encouraged to park at the Alewife T stop and take the T to Harvard Square. Alternatively, you may pay for parking at one of the public parking lots: <http://www.harvardsquare.com/maps.aspx>