



TRINITY CATHEDRAL

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The Rt. Rev. Barry L. Beisner, Bishop of the Diocese of Northern California

The Very Rev. Dr. Brian Baker, Dean of the Cathedral

For Use Through:
June 27, 2007, 7 p.m.

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An Evening with Gay Nigerian Activist Davis Mac-Iyalla

SACRAMENTO - Trinity Episcopal Cathedral will host an evening with Gay Nigerian Activist Davis Mac-Iyalla on June 27 at 7 p.m. Admission is free, but donations will be accepted.

Mac-Iyalla, 35, is founder and director of the country's only gay-rights organization, Changing Attitude-Nigeria, which advocates for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the Anglican Church and elsewhere in Nigeria.

The Episcopal Church is the American wing of the worldwide Anglican communion, which includes 80 million members in 164 countries. In 2003, the Episcopal Church consecrated the Rev. V. Gene Robinson, the first openly gay bishop. Nigerian Archbishop Peter Akinola has been a leading critic against the ordination of gay bishops and the inclusion of GLBT persons in the life of the church.

Mac-Iyalla is a leading voice fighting a proposed bill in his country that would make it illegal for gays to organize, meet in public, or even visit a GLBT website. He has received numerous death threats for his activism, has been fired from his job as a school principal, and forced to live in exile in a neighboring country in West Africa. Prior to declaring his homosexuality, he was an active member of the Anglican Church of Nigeria.

In May, he convened a meeting of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender activists from seven West African countries, the first regional conference of its kind. His recent tour of the U.S. has taken him to 20 cities, and he has addressed the executive council of the Episcopal Church about the dangers faced by GLBT Nigerians.

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, located at 2620 Capitol Avenue, is the seat of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California, and is an inclusive parish promoting peace, advocating environmental stewardship and advancing social justice for all through its programs and ministries. For more information, go to www.trinitycathedral.org.

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