### A HELPFUL GUIDE FOR Latter-day saint leadership:

## **Ministering to LGBTQ+ Members**

BASED ON RESEARCH CONDUCTED THROUGH UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY



# Prioritize Listening & Understanding

- Give space to discuss experiences without judgment
  - Listen rather than assuming
- Validate experiences
- Ask questions
- Accept them where
  - they are

#### **Express Christlike Love**

- Seek to understand members' diverse perspectives
- Love them where they are at, and see them for who they truly are

Artwork by Terra & Sage





#### **Be An Ally**

- Learn about the LGBTQ+ community
- Treat LGBTQ+ members equally
- Consider displaying your support for striving members by placing a pride flag on your desk

#### **Focus on Spiritual Counsel**

- Emphasize agency
- Avoid framing LGBTQ+ members as flawed
- Testify of God's love for them





#### **Be Available**

- Be available physically and emotionally
- Prioritize meeting regularly
- Ask how you can support them

The results are based on 33 survey responses collected from Bishops, Bishopric members, Young Women's Presidents, and other church leaders serving on stake councils. These surveys were conducted by researchers at Utah State University. For questions or comments, please contact Dr. Tyler Lefevor at tyler.lefevor@usu.edu