

# **Five Practices of Welcome Renewal**

# Welcoming Congregation Movie & Talkback

Pay It No Mind - The Life and Times of Marsha P. Johnson

This feature-length documentary focuses on revolutionary transactivist, Marsha "Pay it No Mind" Johnson, a Stonewall instigator, Andy Warhol model, drag queen, sex worker, starving actress, and Saint. "Pay It" captures the legendary gay/human rights activist as she recounts her life at the forefront of The Stonewall Riots in the 1960s, the creation of S.T.A.R. (Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries) with Sylvia Rivera in the '70s, and a New York City activist throughout the '80s and early '90s.<sup>1</sup>

### Let's Talkback

- What does it mean to "Pay It No Mind?"
- What does it mean that "people wouldn't be caught dead" with her?

### Let's talk about liberation....

- Liberation theology is grounded in the notion of "God's preferential option for the poor." What is it about liberation that calls for the "Marsha's?"
- "Saint Marsha" as we consider liberation theology, why is this an appropriate title/association.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rjN9W2KstqE</u>

#### Let's talk about sex work...

- How does sex work position one for activism?
- Black trans women are being murdered in record numbers year after year. How is Marsha's story, their story.
- How do we honor Marsha or fail to honor Marsha in our response/reactions to trans murder.

#### \* Let's talk about mental health and social activism...

- What does it mean that Marsha suffered mental instability?
- ✤ Was that an asset or liability?

### Let's talk about Unitarian Universalism...

- What do we owe Marsha P. Johnson?
- How does Marsha P. Johnson inform our queer liberation?