

Lesbian minister to talk at Lafayette

by Nancy Perelli
News Editor

This Friday at noon in Hogg Hall, guest lecturer Reverend Dr. Jane Spahr will hold a brown bag presentation entitled "Homosexuality and the Church". The event is sponsored by Lafayette's Friends of Lesbians, Gays and Bisexuals, the Women's Studies program, and the offices of the Chaplain and the Provost.

Reverend Spahr will focus her discussion on religious issues facing Christian gays and lesbians. She will address questions of Biblical condemnation of homosexuality as well.

Spahr, a Presbyterian minister, was chosen by a Rochester, NY church to be their pastor in 1991, marking the first time that a church chose an openly homosexual pastor. Other churches in the Rochester area

were enraged with the selection of Spahr because of her sexual orientation and worked to prevent her from serving.

Currently, Reverend Spahr works for a group called *That All Freely Serve*, which encourages inclusivity for homosexuals. She travels across the country on speaking tours in hopes of changing attitudes and eliminating discrimination. *That All Freely Serve* is a joint project with the Presbyterian Churches of Rochester, New York and Tiburon, California.

Spahr's visit to Lafayette will include a four day stay in the area, where she will participate at worship services, and hold speeches on women's spirituality as well as homosexuality.