## Human Rights Conditions of LGBTI Persons in Africa: Toward International Solutions

Of all the countries in the world where homosexuality is illegal, half of those countries are in Africa. In Uganda, homosexuality is punishable by imprisonment, and in some cases, imprisonment for life. Join us as we present two experts on the increasing human rights violations against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons in Africa, and explore potential solutions for the international community to consider.

Date & Time: Tuesday, November 5, 2013. 4:00 – 5:00 pm

Location: Hamline University School of Law, Room 105

1536 Hewitt Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55104

Mark Kiyimba is a Unitarian Universalist (UU) pastor based in Kampala, Uganda. Mark is also an outspoken faith Ally for LGBT persons in Uganda. His visible and vocal support for LGBT

rights has put him in personal danger at times; he spent much of 2011 out of the country because of death threats. Besides his role as a parish pastor, Mark works tirelessly as an advocate for greater understanding toward LGBT persons and for their civil rights, as well as for interfaith respect in a country where conservative religiosity is the norm across all traditions. In 2012 Mark received the National Education Association's Virginia Uribe Award for



Creative Leadership in Human Rights, for his work in human rights and its significant impact on education and equal opportunity for those facing discrimination due to their sexual orientation.

**Amy Bergquist** is a Staff Attorney in the International Justice Program with the Advocates for Human Rights. Prior to joining The Advocates, Amy clerked for the Honorable Ruth Bader



Ginsburg, Associate Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, the Honorable William A. Fletcher of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, and the Honorable John R. Tunheim, District Judge of the District of Minnesota. As the International Justice Staff Attorney, Amy coordinates the Advocates' reporting to the United Nations and regional human rights bodies, including the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. Most recently, the Advocates collaborated with several Cameroonian civil society organizations to submit a report to the African Commission on LGBTI rights in Cameroon. Amy received her law degree from the University of Minnesota Law School in 2007,

and she is a member of the Minnesota Judicial Branch's Committee for Equality and Justice, where she co-chairs the Access to Justice Subcommittee.