

## **Open & Affirming - What does it mean?**

Open and Affirming is the designation for congregations in the United Church of Christ that have voted to unequivocally welcome gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered people into the life of the congregation to worship and learn, and in all ways to participate fully in the life and leadership of the congregation.

We have listened for God's call to us and responded with this welcome because we believe that homosexuality is not a sin. Our faithful study of the Bible, and our engagement with human experience, reason and God's continuing revelation have led us to this commitment.

Our study and engagement with the substance of the gospel of Jesus guides us, as a community, in discerning the Word of God in Scripture and in articulating this welcome to all of God's children.

In 1993 University Congregational Church voted to become an Open and Affirming Church. [Please read the covenant we adopted at that time.](#)