

**Open and Affirming Statement**  
**Little River United Church of Christ**

Little River United Church of Christ is an open and affirming church, embracing diversity in our congregation and community, and affirming the dignity and worth of every person as created in the image of God. We continue to honor our founding principle that discrimination is incompatible with Christ's Gospel of unconditional love

We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, economic circumstance, marital status, and faith background.

We affirm and celebrate all loving and committed relationships.

We acknowledge the history of the institutional church in condemning and excluding gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and transgendered persons, and in condoning such discrimination by its silence. We commit ourselves to work diligently to end such oppression and discrimination.

Following the example of Jesus Christ, we hereby declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming church.

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