

Revised SCUCC ONA Statement as approved on September 9 2018

Scottsdale Congregational United Church of Christ has been an Open and Affirming Church since 1998, and we are committed to being

- ❖ Intentionally inclusive of people of ALL sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, including transgender people of both binary and non-binary identities, as well as intersex persons
- ❖ Open to identities that we may not fully understand and being clear it is not our place to judge the personal identities of others
- ❖ A voice to challenge theologies, beliefs and doctrines that oppress or exclude anyone
- ❖ Deliberate in finding and designing processes and approaches to best include LGBTQ+ people into the full life of the church and the community
- ❖ Active in the community to bring about justice, love, and full inclusion of ALL LGBTQ+ people
- ❖ Constant learners in how to best live out these commitments
- ❖ Open and honest about the times we have and will fall short of these sacred promises

Scottsdale Congregational United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming Church because

- ❖ We recognize the harm done to LGBTQ+ people in the name of Christianity and seek to combat this marginalization by providing a safe space for ALL within our church home.
- ❖ We have found that the full inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community enriches both our faith and our community.
- ❖ We affirm that ALL sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions are beautiful reflections of God's image.
- ❖ We believe this is core to our calling as followers of Jesus

Scottsdale Congregational United Church of Christ

Unapologetically encourages, nurtures, and supports the full participation of LGBTQ+ persons into the life, leadership, and programs of this church. We strive to celebrate the inclusive love of Jesus by offering a welcome that knows no boundaries and lives out our belief that ALL are made in God's image. Just as Jesus taught us to love ALL people, we have found that in meeting each other in Christian love God's spirit frees us ALL to give, to grow, to be our best selves.