

First Congregational Church of Lebanon's Statement of Welcome and Open and Affirming Covenant, which was adopted in 2008:

*Welcome!*

*We are glad you are here. We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcomed and included.*

*You are welcomed, no matter your age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, race and ethnicity, physical and mental ability, or economic circumstance, into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church, including its worship, sacraments, and rites. Join us as we grow together in God's love.*

FCC Lebanon's Reaffirmation of Statement of Welcome, which was adopted by the Diaconate and affirmed by the Church Council in 2011:

*The Diaconate of the First Congregational Church of Lebanon, as the duly elected leaders charged with providing for the spiritual care and nurturing of our congregation and the communities we serve, hereby affirm that this Church and its pastor will joyfully offer the rite of Christian marriage to any couples seeking the blessing of holy matrimony within our sanctuary. The Diaconate extends this welcome on behalf of the First Congregational Church to all, regardless of gender or sexual orientation.*

*In the church's 2011 annual report the Diaconate also noted that the Statement of Welcome "extends to all of the sacraments and rites of our church, including marriage, communion and baptism."*