

Statement of Inclusion
Aldersgate United Methodist Church
(adopted 8/12/18)

We, Aldersgate United Methodist Church, believe that God loves, honors, and celebrates all people regardless of age, race, nation, gender identity, background, sexual orientation, abilities, or socio-economic position. We believe that God calls us to embody God's radical love by cultivating a space free from harassment, judgment, hate, or discrimination.



Therefore, we reject language in the UMC Book of Discipline, which says that “The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching” (e.g.: ¶161G). We believe that rejecting such statements is a way in which we fulfill our baptismal vows to resist oppression in whatever forms it may present itself.

We believe that all Christians are part of the body of Christ, and there are no restrictions on the roles into which the Holy Spirit may call any believer. God may call any follower of Christ to engage, serve, or lead in any capacity within the Aldersgate community. We affirm and celebrate the sanctity of marriage of any prepared persons, regardless of their identities or orientations. We endorse the pastor's decision to officiate wedding ceremonies for any prepared couple regardless of identity and orientation, and we also welcome such ceremonies to take place in our building, including the sanctuary.

We commit to creating a space of continual learning and understanding of the ever-evolving landscape of orientation and identity. We choose to embrace this path in a spirit of holy love, recognizing that God's dream for the world is one where diversity would thrive in complex, but ultimately beautiful, harmonies.