**Here is a suggested article for your newsletter or website. A little editing, such as changing "our congregation" or "we" to the name of your church will make this more powerful. Thank you for accepting the challenge!**

**You might also add information such as:**

 **- John will be collecting memberships and forwarding them to GLAD for you on Sunday after the service. Look for the table that will be outside the sanctuary.**

 **- Mary would be happy to tell you more about GLAD and the important work that it's doing. Contact her at ...**

**... of course, be sure Mary and John are informed about GLAD themselves! Don't hesitate to contact Mark Johnston at mark@gladalliance.org for information, ideas, and support.**

**We Accept the GLAD Alliance Membership Challenge**

Our congregation has accepted the GLAD Alliance Membership Challenge!

GLAD is an organization of members of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) working to transform the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) into a just and inclusive church that welcomes persons of all gender expressions and sexual identities into the full life and leadership of the church.

The Alliance works with congregations, providing resources and training to help them become Open & Affirming so that Disciples everywhere can experience the kind of welcome that we enjoy.

GLAD is also working to increase justice in all our congregations, striving to connect in the intersections of racial justice and LGBT justice.

GLAD is challenging every Open & Affirming congregation to inspire 10% or more of its membership to join GLAD.

GLAD is **not funded** by the General Church or any of the other Disciples offerings we collect. It is your membership contribution that makes this work possible.

**Our congregation has accepted the membership challenge. We can meet this challenge when you become a member of GLAD. You can do this at http://contribution.gladalliance.org.**

GLAD's Strategic Vision focuses on increasing the number of Open & Affirming ministries in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), educating and supporting the Open & Affirming ministries in the pastoral care of LGBT persons, and empowering the Open & Affirming ministries to respond to justice issues.

**You can find more information and join GLAD at www.gladalliance.org.**