



CENTRAL CHRISTIAN CHURCH NEW ALBANY, IN

7 Reasons Why We Affirm LGBTQ+ Persons

1

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because we believe all are created in the image of God [Genesis 1:26] and blessed by God [Genesis 1:28]. Our scriptures tell us that God created us and saw that the creation was good. Therefore, we believe LGBTQ+ persons are beautifully and wonderfully made and part of God's creation.

2

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because they are part of God's sacred story in scripture. From the Hebrew Scriptures to the New Testament, gender diverse and sexually diverse people are upheld as models of our faith [e.g. 1 & 2 Samuel; Book of Ruth; Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:1-10; Matthew 19:12; Acts 8: 26-40].

3

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because Jesus taught us about radical love, compassion, sacred relationships, expansive welcome, and justice. Exclusion of LGBTQ+ persons from religious communities is antithetical to Jesus' teachings.

4

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because scripture teaches us that God is love, and that love is a way we come to know God [1 John 4:7-8]. Therefore, we believe not only that God loves LGBTQ+ persons, but the love between LGBTQ+ persons is an expression of God.

5

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because diversity is good for faith communities. We believe that the experiences and spiritual gifts of LGBTQ+ persons expand our understanding of God.

6

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because we wish to end the suffering, humiliation, pain, trauma, oppression, and death that have resulted from the teachings of the church. God desires for humans to flourish and experience life abundantly, which begins when the church proclaims the truth that LGBTQ+ persons are beloved children of God.

7

We affirm LGBTQ+ persons because we envision a future where all can gather at God's welcome table, which is a visible manifestation of the Kingdom of God. God's welcome table will not be full until LGBTQ+ persons are allowed where God has already prepared a place for them.