AFFIRMATION ACTS!

The 1972 General Conference first declared, “we do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider this...to be incompatible with Christian teaching.” There was no voice for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people in The United Methodist Church.

We worked together to form AFFIRMATION, FOUNDED 1975.

As General Conferences voted more restrictively, LGBTQ United Methodists were often isolated and without support in their local area.

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Starting and resourcing local chapters across the nation.

The 1984 General Conference ruled that “self-avowed practicing homosexuals” cannot be UM clergy.

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Inviting local churches to become Reconciling Congregations, explicitly welcoming of LGBTQ people.

The 1988 General Conference finally voted to study homosexuality.

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Insisting that committee members include and talk with us.

The 1992 General Conference refused to listen to LGBTQ voices.

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Demonstrating during the plenary that “The Stones Will Cry Out!”

The 1996 General Conference outlawed “ceremonies that celebrate homosexual unions.”

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Creating Covenant Relations Network (CORNET) on-line, arguing before the Judicial Council, and founding Valentine’s Day services for couples.

The 2000 General Conference reaffirmed discriminatory legislation.

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Participating in civil disobedience, and reaching out to comfort and heal GC wounds.

The 2004 General Conference heard voices of exclusion and division getting louder.

AFFIRMATION ACTED!
Joining the Prayer Vigil outside and the “River of Life” on the conference floor, and revitalizing our vision for the future.

AFFIRMATION ACTS!
YESTERDAY, TODAY, TOMORROW...

AFFIRMATION:
United Methodists for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns

RESPECT
LOVE
JUSTICE

“No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us, and God’s love is made complete in us.”
(1 John 4:12)
We are
AFFIRMATION:
United Methodists for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns

OUR MISSION:
As an independent voice of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer people, Affirmation radically reclaims the compassionate and transforming gospel of Jesus Christ by relentlessly pursuing full inclusion in the Church as we journey with the Spirit in creating God’s beloved community.

As an activist caucus of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer people, family, and friends, together we seek to:

* CREATE *
a spiritually supportive community, and offer programs that affirm and celebrate our unique identities.
* EQUIP *
each other through educational resources and experiences, including leadership development.
* INFORM *
our membership of LGBTQ happenings both within and outside the church.
* EMPOWER *
each other to work for inclusion and justice wherever we are.
* ADVOCATE *
in partnership with other justice-seeking United Methodist groups.
* WITNESS *
and act prophetically in ecumenical, interfaith, and secular arenas.
* PRAY *
into being a new world where every one is cherished and beloved.

I WANT TO JOIN AFFIRMATION
Working for respect, love, and justice in The United Methodist Church and beyond.

Name ________________________________
Address _______________________________
______________________________________
______________________________________
Email ________________________________
Phone ________________________________

__ I want to be more involved in the vision of Affirmation, nationally or locally.
__ I am interested in connecting with like-minded people in my area.
__ I do / __ I do not have internet access.
__ I want to receive communication by email.

I SUPPORT AFFIRMATION’S MISSION
__ I will pray for Affirmation.
__ I will volunteer my skills: _____________
__ $25.00 Annual Membership
__ $10.00 Low Income
__ Other: I pledge $________
__ monthly ___ quarterly ___ one payment
__ Check enclosed
__ Visa ___ Mastercard / Expires ________

Affirmation donations are tax deductible.
All Affirmation correspondence is mailed discreetly. Our mailing list is never shared with other organizations.
For the fastest LGBTQ news, join Affirmation’s "Called Out" (email edition).
Sign up on the web, or send blank email to UM Called Out-subscribe@yahooogroups.com.

Mail to:
P.O. Box 1021, Evanston, IL 60204-1021
or donate via the web at www.umaffirm.org.