

ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
South Bend, IN

OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

*“And I have other sheep that are not of this fold: I must bring them also. And they will heed my voice, so there shall be one flock, one Shepherd.”* John 10:16

We, the congregation of Zion United Church of Christ, South Bend, Indiana, recognizing Christ’s great mandate for inclusivity, celebrate and give thanks for the diversity in which God created us, each in God’s image and loved by God.

In this spirit, our family of faith declares itself to be Open and Affirming and a Peace with Justice church, welcoming and affirming all people as children of God regardless of marital status, race, cultural heritage, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, disability, or religious tradition.

We welcome all people seeking a church home into the full life, membership and leadership and employment of this church.

We celebrate family in all its diverse forms and honor, support and bless all loving and committed relationships.

We commit ourselves to work diligently to end all oppression and discrimination which afflicts God’s people in our society.

Guided by the Holy Spirit we pray that we will grow in knowledge, vigilance and sensitivity as we strive to become the community of faith that God is calling us to be.

Adopted by majority vote  
at Congregational Meeting  
June 11, 2006