

Falcon Heights Church, United Church of Christ

## Open and Affirming Statement

Originally adopted in 1999; proposed revision in 2017

**Original statement** adopted as part of a larger “Statement of Mission and Identity,” affirmed by the congregation on October 17, 1999:

*We claim as central and foremost in our identity that the gifts of God are bestowed upon all persons, regardless of age, gender, race or sexual orientation.*

**Proposed revision**, from ONA Working Group:

*As seekers and servants growing in God’s transforming love, Falcon Heights Church, United Church of Christ joins with the 15th General Synod of the UCC in recognizing and affirming persons of any sexual orientation, gender identification, and gender expression as equal recipients of God’s love.*

*We celebrate the proclaimed truth in Galatians 3: 26, 28: “In Christ Jesus we are all children of God, through faith. There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female: for we are all one in Christ Jesus.”*

*We pledge to covenant our four core values of inclusivity, love, community, and spirituality as a congregation of faith to work for full inclusion of all. We commit ourselves to making justice and inclusivity a reality in this congregation and in the world.*