



Community of Christ

January, 21, 2025

Dear Beloved Community,

As your Mission Center President in Michigan, I am writing to affirm our continuing commitment to being a community that embraces and celebrates the full spectrum of human identity and experience. Recent public discourse about gender identity calls us to clearly restate our values and beliefs as a faith community.

Our tradition teaches us that each person is created in the divine image, uniquely and wonderfully made. We recognize that gender identity is a deeply personal aspect of human experience that cannot be confined to simple binary categories. This understanding is rooted in our theology of worth of all persons and our commitment to creating a beloved community where all are welcomed, valued, and embraced.

In Community of Christ, we are guided by our [Enduring Principles](#), including the Worth of All Persons and Unity in Diversity. These principles call us to:

- Recognize and respect the sacred worth of every individual
- Celebrate the beautiful diversity of human experience and identity
- Create spaces where all people can fully participate in community life
- Stand with those who face discrimination or marginalization
- Listen to and learn from diverse voices and experiences

To our LGBTQIA+ members, friends, and families: You are seen, valued, and loved. Your experiences and identities are sacred gifts that enrich our community. We stand with you, and we will continue to work toward creating spaces where all can find belonging and acceptance.

As we navigate these conversations together, let us remember that our highest calling is to love one another as we have been loved, to seek understanding rather than judgment, and to build bridges rather than barriers.

In the spirit of community and Christ's love,

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