

**OLD FIRST REFORMED
United Church of Christ**
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Open & Affirming Resolution

Approved by the congregation, November 19, 1995

The people of God at Old First Reformed Church, United Church of Christ, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, affirm our regard for the worth and dignity of all persons as beloved children of God. We recognize, celebrate, and give thanks for the many diverse gifts of God among us. We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation, welcoming into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, and economic status.

We acknowledge that throughout history the Christian church has often condemned and excluded gay, lesbian and bisexual persons from the community of faith, or has condoned such condemnation and exclusion by its silence. We hold that such discrimination is incompatible with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We commit ourselves to work diligently to end all oppression and discrimination which afflict God's people in our society. We affirm all relationships founded on the principles of God's love and justice.

We pledge ourselves to be a wellspring of faith for a diverse people in the heart of the city.