

We are welcoming congregations

We celebrate the lives of people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expression.

We are affirmatively inclusive and welcoming of the concerns of people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and/or queer (LGBTQ+) through our congregational life, education, outreach, and advocacy.



We are Welcoming Congregations because our congregations have made the following commitments:

Congregational life

- | To hold services and incorporate into our sermons LGBTQ+ concerns.
- | To use gender-neutral language within our liturgy and preferred pronouns for everyone as a matter of policy.
- | To offer the full range of lifecycle services, such as gender affirmation, marriage and union rites, newborn naming, and memorial.
- | To include a nondiscrimination statement about membership and hiring of LGBTQ+ individuals in our guiding policies.

Outreach

- | To engage our LGBTQ+ members and neighbors by sending affirming media messaging.
- | To use inclusive language and LGBTQ affirming media messaging in social media, publications and websites.
- | To support CoastPride's mission and convene quarterly events in collaboration with CoastPride.

Education

To reflect LGBTQ+ diversity in our stories, readings, and educational programming.

Advocacy

To advocate, as appropriate, for changes in our denominational, social, business, and government institutions toward affirming LGBTQ+ rights and dignity (for example, all LGBTQ+ individuals who are called to serve as spiritual leaders should be affirmed and celebrated in their religions).



Welcoming is a journey

We welcome those who are beginning the welcoming journey to partner with us in dialogue and discernment to understand why we uphold the rights and dignity of LGBTQ+ people.

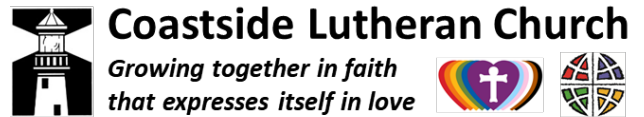
! We advocate for and uphold the rights of LGBTQ+ people by promoting justice, freedom and equality in our congregations, institutions, and broader society.

! We intentionally write LGBTQ+ supportive sermons.

! We create educational programming around LGBTQ+ themed events, such as LGBTQ History Month, National Coming Out Day, Pride Month, and Transgender Day of Remembrance.

! We are always learning about the lived experiences of people of all sexual orientations and genders, including transgender, genderqueer, gender non-conforming, and genderfluid individuals.

! We encourage questioning and learning from one another. We take time to ask, and then always respect each person's multiple identities, self-labels, and pronoun preferences.



For more information contact Pastor Sue Holland, Chair multifaithpartners@coastpride.org

www.coastpride.org