

**Fox Island United Church of Christ  
Fox Island, Washington**

**Open and Affirming Statement**

We, the members of Fox Island United Church of Christ, believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are loved and blessed equally by God. We take seriously the commandments Jesus taught us, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength, and you shall love your neighbor as yourself." (Mark 12: 29-31)

Therefore, we declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people. We invite and welcome into our community persons of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, ability, age, nationality, education, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing and family structure. In our community of faith, all people are encouraged to participate and share their talents and energy in worship and sacraments, leadership, ordained and lay ministry, mission, fellowship, responsibilities, and in the blessings and joys of our church family.

No matter who you are or where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here at Fox Island United Church of Christ.