

Kern Road Mennonite Church Extending Hospitality to All in the Midst of Differences

We believe in the God of love, who teaches us to open our hearts and the doors of the church ever wider. We seek to follow the example of Jesus Christ, whose vision of the church includes everyone. We believe in the presence of the Holy Spirit in each person, affirming their dignity and inherent worth as God's creation.

As we walk humbly with each other on our journeys of faith in a congregation of diverse backgrounds and perspectives, we don't expect to be able to agree about everything related to Christian faith and discipleship. Instead, we commit to growing in love as we seek to create a space for all to discern and respond to God's will through reading scripture, sharing in community, praying together, and discerning how to follow Christ. We, therefore, welcome people of any race, ethnic identity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status or faith tradition to participate fully in congregational life and to strive with us to further the work of Christ in our church and community.

Statement of Affirmation to the LGBTQ+ Community

Our denomination has committed to repentance and transformation.¹ And after many years of listening to one another, hearing stories of love and pain, and receiving input from the congregation in the fall of 2022, KRMC adopts the following statement:

KRMC affirms that everyone, including our LGBTQ+ siblings, are welcome to fully participate in the life of our church, including membership, baptism, marriage, leadership, and pastoral ministry.

Our LGBTQ+ siblings have a full and equal claim with all other persons to the love, acceptance, and pastoral concern and care of the Church. You are welcome and affirmed here.

Adopted by the KRMC Church Board, March 2023

¹ See the statement recently adopted by Mennonite Church USA: <https://www.mennoniteusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/A-Resolution-for-Repentance-and-Transformation-Rev-2.0.pdf>