



## **LINCOLN STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

### **STATEMENT OF RECONCILIATION**

Lincoln Street is a place of rest, laughter, and growth. We come to this family of faith because we know here our questions will be respected and our unique search for God will be encouraged. We believe God is most clearly known when diverse people seek new insights, question hurtful assumptions, employ a multiplicity of images for the divine, and create a warm, playful community. We welcome people of all ethnic groups, income brackets, spiritual traditions, sexual orientations, and gender identities.

We are distressed by the presence of homophobia, transphobia, and heterosexism within the United Methodist Church and in our society. We believe that such fear and hatred reflect neither God's love nor God's intent for the community of faith. We hope our affirmation of the wholeness of all persons will bring reconciliation to people within the church who, because of prejudice, heterosexism, or ignorance, find themselves in exile from the family of God.

We affirm the participation of all persons in all aspects of our life together and join in celebrating all sexual orientations. We seek to address and advocate the needs and concerns of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender persons in our church and society. We strive to utilize the gifts of all persons in our ministry, recognizing that all persons are recipients of God's love and grace.

