

Broadway UMC
Indianapolis Indiana

***“As followers of Jesus Christ, responding to God’s love,
our mission as the people of Broadway Church
is to be a multicultural, Christian community
that in its ministry seeks, welcome and values ALL people.”***

BUMC Mission Statement, adopted 1989

This is who we are. It is in our DNA to grapple with difficult issues, but the full inclusion of the LGBTQAI+ community is not a difficult issue for us.

Our identity is to always be open to ALL. We have a legacy of speaking prophetically against any oppression through the witness of the Bible, our life in community with one another, our own direct experience of God’s grace, and even our sometimes troubled history as a denomination. All point us to the welcome and generosity of Broadway's mission.

Broadway celebrated its first gay wedding in 1992. LGBTQAI+ people have served in leadership capacities, been endorsed for ordination and welcomed as our pastors. After living as a Reconciling congregation for nearly two decades, we made it official in 2008 by joining the Reconciling Ministry Network.

We are committed to the vows made at our baptism – we accept the freedom and power God gives to us to resist evil, injustice and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves. This is the reason our commitment is addressing explicitly the challenge presented to us as a United Methodist congregation today.

The actions of the 2019 Special General Conference have affirmed the ways in which the denomination’s position is at terrible odds with the Gospel as well as the specific mission of our congregation. We cannot in good conscience remain silent and do nothing about this injustice. We will not be complicit in the systematic oppression of some of God’s holy people. We have no choice but to be authentic to a higher calling. We are compelled to witness for the current church and for future generations.

We recognize that people are hurting now, and we cannot wait until the denomination has a determination by the Judicial Council or subsequent General Conferences.

Therefore, as followers of Jesus Christ, the people of Broadway UMC

- Will be active participants in the formation of a new Methodist movement where ALL are welcome to be married and ordained.
- Will join other churches, districts and jurisdictions who have openly declared that ALL are welcome to full participation in our denomination
- Will be passionate about actions that assume the Gospel is true – that Jesus is among us and with ALL of us
- Will shine light on the abundance of ALL people
- Will embrace the LGBTQAI+ people of God as we embrace people of ALL genders, races, economic status, ability or any other label that divides us

All are welcome, always. All means ALL!