

Seeking God. Caring for Each Other. Improving our Community.

Our mission statement – our guiding light -- is comprised of these nine words. After witnessing the tragic deaths of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery and so many others, this statement feels more necessary than ever before.

These three ideas, our faith, our compassion, and our engagement in the community, are deeply connected. We cannot seek God and attempt to improve our community until we honestly care for each other, irrespective of race, gender, sexual orientation and other traits that make each of us who we are.

Each time we come together to worship, our Pastor begins with the same quote: “No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here”. We pride ourselves in the fact that we are not defined by doctrine or separated by our identities, rather we are united through our combined desire to serve God and work to build a stronger and more inclusive community.

This is not a new revelation for us at First Church. It has long been part of our identity. In recognition of this, our Deacons adopted the following statement in 2013:

“At First Church Congregational we welcome all persons, including those of all races, ethnicities, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, family structures, faith backgrounds, abilities and economic circumstances, into the full life and ministry of the church”.

As the Bible states:

“God has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God”

~ Micah 6:8

“There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus”

~ Galatians 3:28

We are devoted to sparking change in our community and creating a congregation that is accepting and proud of all of our brethren in Christ. We hope that you will join us, doing as we were taught in the Bible, to help our neighbors and advocate for those without a voice to create a more equitable and inclusive nation and world.