

STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATION AND INCLUSION

APPROVED JUNE 5, 2023

Hillside Church is dedicated to inclusion and equality in the church as well as in society as a whole. We affirm that all human beings are made in the image of God, and Hillside Church welcomes all people and acknowledges and respects differences in ability, age, race, economic circumstance, national or ethnic origin, family configuration, sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity or expression. We promise to seek to serve Christ in all persons, to strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.

We firmly believe that personal relationships are the soil in which hearts and minds are most richly nurtured. As a congregation, we encourage and seek to model relationships, conversations, and habits that demonstrate and foster the fruits of the Spirit which are love, joy, peace, long-suffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. As with all spiritual journeys, everyone walks at their own pace. While recognizing that members of our community are not all in the same place on this journey, we endeavour to continue to journey together.

At Hillside Church, we welcome all Jesus followers to participate in all areas of church life - partaking of the sacraments, serving in ministry, joining in membership, and holding leadership and staff roles.

Pastoral care at Hillside is inclusive and available to all. All members and adherents are warmly invited to receive spiritual counsel, prayer, baptism, wedding and funeral rites, as well as visitation and care during illness.