

Resolution of Covenant Affiliation

Covenant between The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries and the UCC Coalition for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Concerns (The Coalition)

WHEREAS: The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries (TFAM) seeks to acknowledge and affirm Covenants with Ministries, Denominations, and Networks.

WHEREAS: TFAM and The UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns (The Coalition) have been faithful witnesses to the extravagant grace of God; and

WHEREAS: TFAM and The Coalition strive to reflect broad theological perspectives that embrace aspects of many faith traditions that harmonize with the teaching of a common Christ as expressed in the ageless and timeless reality we collectively embrace; and

WHEREAS: TFAM and The Coalition strive to provide strong leadership and be bold witnesses for global justice, peace and equality; and

WHEREAS: TFAM and The Coalition strive to encourage those in our sphere of influence to evolve and adopt a theology of liberation that will impact our public and private engagement; and

WHEREAS: TFAM and The Coalition seek to thrive theologically, financially and communally, while remaining faithful to our call of authentic witness to the world and to our communities, congregations and organizations;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

- TFAM and The Coalition enter into covenant with one another, affirming our mutual commitment to justice by challenging deep-seated religious beliefs, doctrines, and theologies that are oppressive and exclude people from communities of faith and their institutions;
- As Covenanted Affiliated Ministries and Organizations, TFAM and The Coalition will model solidarity by sharing insights and best practices.
- TFAM and The Coalition are committed to interdependence and mutual collaboration, while maintaining our uniqueness;

- TFAM and The Coalition will continue to strengthen our relationships and communities by intentionally collaborating through ecumenical, ministry, mission, and congregational life; and
- TFAM and The Coalition will deepen ecumenical and collegial contacts among peace, equality, justice and faith based organizations and networks to share the message of radical inclusivity, extravagant grace and relentless hospitality.

[signed June 26, 2013, in Long Beach, California]

Rev. Dr. Yvette A. Flunder
Presiding Bishop
The Fellowship of Affirming Ministries

Phil Porter
Moderator
UCC Coalition for LGBT Concerns