

WHY IS OUR CHURCH A MEMBER OF AWAB?

Fifty years ago, a small group from the American Baptist Churches-USA had the audacity to speak for God's radical love and welcome for all. This group, named American Baptists Concerned, advocated for their own inclusion as well as the congregations who were on the path to being disfellowshipped for their affirmation of the LGBTQ+ community.

Twenty years later, the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists (AWAB) was formed to create, advocate for, and support a community of churches, organizations, and individuals committed to not just welcome but affirmation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons in the full life and mission of Baptist churches.

Today over 150 congregations from across the United States and Canada have joined with AWAB in their quest for equity, including our congregation.

WHY AWAB?

Among their many resources, AWAB works to provide support, education, and theological expression while honoring scripture and Baptist heritage. They teach us to adapt to the changing cultural and social contexts related to LGBTQ+ issues. And they emphasize the continuous need to celebrate the sacredness and beauty among us all.

As we all look to the next 50 years of AWAB, we find ourselves entering a new era of LGBTQ+ inclusion. We are hopeful that as AWAB grows, we continue to help someone finally come home to love and acceptance today.

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