



THE MISSION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF WELCOMING & AFFIRMING BAPTISTS IS TO CREATE AND SUPPORT A COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES, ORGANIZATIONS, AND INDIVIDUALS COMMITTED TO THE INCLUSION OF LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER PERSONS IN THE FULL LIFE AND MISSION OF BAPTIST CHURCHES.

Get In Touch:

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WHAT IS AWAB?

50+ Years of Welcoming and Affirming Ministry





History

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 not just to welcoming but to affirmation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons in the full life and mission of Baptist churches.



HOW CAN MY CHURCH JOIN AWAB?

We encourage churches to begin to have the discussion of what being explicitly welcoming and affirming means with their congregations. This discussion is one that should be had with intention and care such that all can support a public stance on affirmation of the LGBTQ+ community.

AWAB would be happy to help your church with this process. Ready to join? Fill out our membership form at awab.org/join for consideration by our Board.

HOW CAN I SUPPORT THIS WORK?

AWAB is supported by our member congregations and those within them. We encourage you to consider joining our Rainbow Circle monthly giving program, which enables regular support of work that helps more people to come home to love, compassion, and affirmation.

What We Do

RESOURCING

Our website features resources to help congregations navigate the welcoming and affirming process and for individuals looking to reconcile being queer and Christian. We can also speak at events or congregations looking for more information on being welcoming and affirming.

LECTURESHIP

We host an annual lecture featuring groundbreaking LGBTQ+ theologians, thinkers, and advocates.

EVENTS

We have a presence at important Baptist events and gatherings, and host our own fellowship events so that the welcoming and affirming community never feels alone in our work.

ADVOCACY

We stand as a voice for LGBTQ+ and Allied Baptists, and take our role in advocating for the presence and affirmation of the queer community in faith spaces seriously.

