



***Statement of Support for LGBT Equality
from Albany Multi-faith Roundtable Co-sponsors***

We assemble today from churches, synagogues, mosques, and community organizations, all united through Pride in the Pulpit, New York's faith-based network which openly advocates for equality and justice for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) people and their families.

Through the generosity of the First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany, we gather together to pray for the work that we have ahead of us. Through this morning's liturgy we hope to convey the message that God has created each one of us, that we are each precious in God's sight, that we are all a part of one human family, and that we are each called to reach out in love to one another and work to end injustice within this human family.

We are joined by over 50 leaders of faith from the greater Capital District area to discuss how we can strengthen faith-based advocacy within our community and around the state. Though we may come from different religious perspectives, we are united in our willingness to advocate for LGBT equality. We have witnessed the many ways that communities benefit from diverse and welcoming environments, and we know first-hand the discrimination that LGBT members of our community face each day.

As community leaders and ethical guides, we have a perspective that must be heard around issues that impact LGBT people. To deny equality and justice for all people is to engage in discrimination. Discrimination is immoral.

We invite members of our community to pray for an end to injustice within this human family, and we call upon you to join us in our fight for LGBT equality.

B'nai Sholom Reform Congregation
Canaan Congregational Church
The Capital District Gay and Lesbian Community Council
Congregation Berith Sholom
Congregation Gates of Heaven*
Emmanuel Baptist-Friedens United Church of Christ*
First Congregational United Church of Christ of Gloversville
First Presbyterian Church of Albany
First Unitarian Society of Schenectady*
First Unitarian Universalist Society of Albany
First United Methodist Church of Schenectady*
First United Presbyterian of Troy
Grace Lutheran Church*
Holy Trinity National Catholic Church
In Our Own Voices
Interfaith Impact of New York State
Jewish Family Services of Northeastern New York
Metropolitan Community Church of the Hudson Valley
Slingerlands Community United Methodist Church
St. Stephen's Episcopal Church*
Temple Sinai of Saratoga Springs
Unity Church in Albany
Upper Hudson Planned Parenthood - Pro Choice Volunteers of Faith

* Schenectady Congregations for Sexual Inclusiveness