

October, 2022

Dear Good Shepherd United Methodist Church Members and Friends,

Our Church formed a “Diversity Team” with the support of the Administrative Council, to help research and provide information on becoming a Reconciling Ministries Network church. This means we will explore what a Reconciling Ministries church means and decide if we would like to join that group. Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) is a national grassroots organization of United Methodist individuals and churches, working for the full inclusion and participation of all people in the life of the United Methodist Church. If we join Reconciling Ministries, we are saying that GSUMC is equally open to all people. This means we are open to those who have been discriminated against including racism, sexism, classism and ableism. This also includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people. This is one way to show we work for equality and welcome all of God’s children.

As we explore this idea, we may find the task challenging. Being mindful of our “Open Minds, Open Hearts, Open Doors” Welcoming Statement may help us through. Clearly the loving words of Christ Jesus will help us.

There are a few Colorado Methodist Churches that have become reconciling. They are Arvada UMC, Christ Church, Fort Collins UMC, St. Andrew UMC, Longmont UMC and Wesley Fellowship in Boulder. If you know anyone at one of these churches, you may want to get in touch and ask how they are proceeding.

For more information on Reconciling Ministries Network contact WWW.RMNETWORK.ORG.

A brochure from Reconciling Ministries Network is on the table in the narthex. Please take one home to read. Thanks for your time. Feel free to contact one of the Diversity Team members if you have questions or want to share your ideas.

Diversity Team at GSUMC

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