

Oasis United Church

A Spiritual Oasis

Rooted in Christian hospitality,
we are an oasis for all who seek a safe place
for spiritual deepening. We welcome all to this
community of inclusion, learning and compassion.

People matter.

We commit to the wellness of our world,
and work for reconciliation with all of creation.

Affirming Ministry Mission Statement:

To be an oasis of openness, joy and welcome to all who seek spiritual nourishment and community regardless of religious experience, ethnicity, culture, age, differing ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental health challenge, or socio-economic situation. We celebrate the many gifts that diversity brings to our congregation.

We acknowledge that for thousands of years Indigenous Peoples have lived on the lands upon which we live, work, play and worship. We gratefully acknowledge the Syilx/Okanagan Peoples for their love and stewardship of these unceded lands.



After two years of study, dialogue and prayer in 2013, Oasis adopted an open and affirming “covenant” committing our members to welcome LGBTQ+ seekers, support their relationships, and advocate for their basic rights.

All sacraments and rites of an Open and Affirming congregation are available to LGBTQ+ people, including baptism, confirmation, communion, and marriage.

As we widen our circle we move beyond the Golden Rule, *Treat others as we would have them treat us* into the Platinum Rule, *Treat others the way they want to be treated*. Our hearts are changed when we see the world through another’s eyes.

Some past activities:

- ♥ Celebrate our Affirming Ministry anniversary annually in June
- ♥ Participate in the Penticton Peach Fest parade with PFLAG and PRIDE groups.
- ♥ Provide learning and discussion opportunities
- ♥ Support the local chapter of PFLAG (parents, friends, and allies of LGBTQ+)
- ♥ Created a video in 2021 called *From My Perspective* which featured friends of Oasis reflecting on the importance of this designation and continuing to widen our circle of hospitality.
- ♥ Hosted the July 2014 Affirm United national conference

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