## FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HAMPTON, NH UCC OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT

"Love one another as I have loved you."

United by our faith in Jesus and our understanding of His Great Commandment, we at First Congregational Church of Hampton, UCC, delight in welcoming all who enter our church. We are an Open and Affirming (ONA) church that believes every person is a beloved child of God, deserving of love, respect, a safe place to worship, and a caring community in which to thrive.

We affirm and support all people equally, regardless of social, economic or marital status, race, ethnicity, ability, physical or psychological challenge, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, age or previous religious affiliation(s). All are invited and encouraged to participate fully in our church life.

By welcoming the marginalized, the overlooked, and all those who had learned to fear rejection, Jesus has taught us that Love grows as we work to understand, share with, and care for each other and our wider community.

Drawing on Jesus' joyous loving and transformative power to guide us, we strive to nurture an ONA church family that reflects God's grace in each of us.