

**RESOLUTION:**  
**WE WILL NOT BE SILENT**  
**A DECLARATION FROM THE ROCKY MOUNTAIN CONFERENCE**  
**OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**WHEREAS** the 2012 General Conference of the United Methodist Church retained language in the Book of Discipline which continues to discriminate against Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) persons; and

**WHEREAS** we believe that LGBT persons should be joyfully embraced as members of the body of Christ, as United Methodists in full standing, and as gifted children of God entitled equally to all of the ministries, ceremonies, and sacraments of the United Methodist Church; and

**WHEREAS** the Rocky Mountain Conference has affirmed the *We Will Not Be Silent* statement adopted by the United Methodist Western Jurisdictional Conference in 2000 and has affirmed amplifications of that statement in subsequent actions,

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rocky Mountain Conference reaffirm its historic commitment to the full civil and ecclesiastical rights and privileges of all persons including LGBT persons, and declares its opposition to continued restrictions of church law on the participation of LGBT people in The United Methodist Church; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Rocky Mountain Conference looks forward to the leadership of our Annual Conference and the Western Jurisdiction Conference in formulating an action plan for a new day in our denomination, based on the 2000 and 2004 statements, *We Will Not Be Silent*, and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the Rocky Mountain Conference of the United Methodist Church invites the United Methodist communities within our region to work joyously and boldly together to build a fully inclusive church. We commit to be in ministry with all people, regardless of their economic status, race, age, ethnicity, gender, sexuality, disability, or immigration status. To this end, we, as a Conference, reaffirm our commitment to evangelism which includes sharing the embracing love of Jesus with all those who live within our boundaries.

**RATIONALE**

No other marginalized group has been singled out in the Book of Discipline for discrimination or special exclusionary treatment. We believe this is in conflict with our traditional and historic emphasis on God's grace being available to all. The discriminatory language is itself in conflict with the inclusive language in other parts of the Book of Discipline, including the Constitution of our denomination.

Footnote: The full texts of the Western Jurisdiction's 2000 and 2004 *We Will Not Be Silent* statements are contained on pages 86-87 of the *Journal of the Seventeenth Session of the Western Jurisdictional Conference of the United Methodist Church, 2004*, which may be found at:

[http://westernjurisdictionumc.org/fileadmin/Documents/SECTION\\_3\\_WJC\\_UMC\\_JOURNAL\\_2004\\_BODY\\_INDEX.pdf](http://westernjurisdictionumc.org/fileadmin/Documents/SECTION_3_WJC_UMC_JOURNAL_2004_BODY_INDEX.pdf)

Approved overwhelmingly by the Rocky Mountain Conference Session, Saturday, June 16, 2012.