



OneBodyOneFaith

Affirming sexuality and gender in Christ

## Visible Congregations Application Form

Visible Congregations are churches where some of OneBodyOneFaith's (formerly the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement) members have felt welcomed and at home. They are spread across a range of traditions, and people there may hold a range of views on sexuality, but some of our members - gay, straight, trans, married, single - have felt sufficiently comfortable to make this their regular place of worship, and have the agreement of the minister to be a Visible Congregation. We can't guarantee that everyone there will agree with you, or that it will be the best place for you to be - but it might be a good place to start.

**Your minister will need to give their consent to be listed as a Visible Congregation. You'll receive a notice to display in church as follows:**

"Within a range of different understandings about the Christian faith and sexuality, some of the people who worship here at (name of church) are also members of OneBodyOneFaith. We have believed since 1976 that:

*It is the conviction of the members of the Lesbian & Gay Christian Movement that human sexuality in all its richness is a gift of God gladly to be accepted, enjoyed and honoured as a way of both expressing and growing in love, in accordance with the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. Therefore it is their conviction that it is entirely compatible with the Christian faith not only to love another person of the same sex but also to express that love fully in a personal sexual relationship.*

If you identify as LGBT we hope you'll feel welcome here, especially if you're new to faith. You can find out more about the work of OneBodyOneFaith by speaking to (contact name) or by going to our website, where you can also find out about becoming a member or supporting our work."

Complete the following in full:

Name of church: _____
Address: _____
Name of minister: _____
Signature of minister: _____
Contact Name: _____
Email address: _____
Website (optional): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> We offer prayers and pastoral support after civil partnerships and marriages.
<input type="checkbox"/> We offer prayers and pastoral support during the process of gender transition.

Please return this form to: OneBodyOneFaith, South Church House, 25-26 Market Place, Newark, NG24 1EA. You will receive a certificate which will run for 1 year from the date printed on the certificate. You must renew your certificate annually. This ensures that our listings of Welcoming Congregations remain up-to-date. Your church will also be listed on OneBodyOneFaith's website.

OneBodyOneFaith reserve the right to remove your Congregation from the list if concerns are expressed about breaching the principles of the Statement of Conviction. This is at the discretion of OneBodyOneFaith.