



First Unitarian Church of Louisville

Rev. Norm Stewart - Minister
Lisa Willner, DRE
809 South Fourth Street
Louisville, KY 40203

PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release
June 8, 2004**

MARRIAGE EQUALITY RESOLUTION

*The congregation of First Unitarian Church
of Louisville, Kentucky adopted the following resolution
at our annual congregational meeting on June 7, 2004
by unanimous vote.*

WHEREAS Unitarian Universalists affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person;

WHEREAS marriage has served many different functions throughout history and civil marriage today is a respected legal status carrying with it many rights, benefits and responsibilities;

WHEREAS many states and the United States are acting to void the recognition of same-sex marriages and to deny "full faith and credit" to such marriages formalized in any state;

WHEREAS debate about extending legally recognized marriage to same-sex couples has focused on the objections of certain religious communities, and First Unitarian Church of Louisville, Kentucky supports separation of church and state;

WHEREAS the First Unitarian Church of Louisville, Kentucky congregation voted in 1996 to become a Welcoming Congregation, taking on the commitment "to advocate for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people, attend to legislative developments and work to promote justice, freedom and equality in the larger society, and speak out when the rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons are at stake"; and

WHEREAS the Unitarian Universalist Association Board of Trustees, the Unitarian Universalist Ministers Association, and the 1996 General Assembly of the Unitarian Universalist Association have explicitly voted their support for the right to marry for same-sex couples;

THEREFORE be it resolved that First Unitarian Church of Louisville, Kentucky adopts a corporate position in support of legal recognition of marriage between members of the same sex on an equal basis with marriage between members of the opposite sexes; and

BE IT further resolved that First Unitarian Church of Louisville, Kentucky make this position known through the media, through denominational gatherings, through banners and signs, and through all other appropriate means.