

## **Welcoming Declaration – Part 1**

### **1. All are welcome at St. Mark's Lutheran Church**

Our common spiritual growth journey of faith is enriched by the diversity of our members.

All of us, as God's children, have an important role to play as we seek to understand our role as a Christian community in the world today. In fact, St. Mark's depends on the commitment and the service of all to continue its mission.

Every person walking through the doors of our church is a sinner. We are a hospital for sinners... and Jesus, our Lord and Savior, is our Healer. All person, regardless of age, race, gender, religious heritage, nationality, sexual orientation, political persuasion, economic status, educational level or physical health and ability are welcome in our church. While such divisions are drawn in the minds of humans, in the eyes of God, we are one. Just as God's love for us is unconditional, we are called to open our doors and our hearts unconditionally to all who seek God. All are welcome.

Billy Graham, the great evangelist, may have captured it... "God is judge of all, the Holy Spirit is the mover and shaker, Jesus is Lord and Savior, and I am called to love."

We encourage each member to reflect prayerfully on what he or she is called to do in the church and then to be proactive in responding to that calling.

You are welcome and needed at St. Mark's. Please join us!

Approved at Annual Congregational Meeting 1-31-10