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Rev. Dr. Russell Peterman
Senior Minister

For immediate release:

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First Christian Church of Concord Opposes Proposition 8

CONCORD, CA – First Christian Church of Concord has today released the following statement:

We understand that some in California don't believe that God's love is big enough to welcome gays and lesbians. But we believe it is. We believe that God does love everyone, and that's why we welcome everyone, regardless of ethnic or racial heritage, gender, ability, sexual orientation, or economic or political status.

We hope Proposition 8 is defeated and that California will continue to support the marriages of committed people in loving relationships.

But even if it passes, we will continue to perform gay and lesbian weddings in our sanctuary because we believe that all marriages are sacred in the eyes of God.

As the Reverend Doctor Russell Peterman, senior minister of First Christian Church of Concord, states, "We believe strongly that the love of God is unconditional and without limits. And as people of faith we must take seriously the imperative to love in the same way. For many years our congregation has sought to celebrate with our gay brothers and sisters, the glory of creation in all its diversity, and to stand with them in a demand for justice and equality."

First Christian Church of Concord has been an active congregation in Concord, California for 123 years. The congregation is affiliated with the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), one of the oldest mainline Protestant churches in the United States, which has more than 65 congregations in Northern California, approximately 3,800 congregations in the United States and Canada with almost 700,000 members, in addition to more than 270 international church partners in close to 70 countries.

First Christian Church of Concord is an inclusive, loving community of faith and justice, seeking, serving and celebrating Christ through open minds, committed hearts, and willing hands.

For more information on First Christian Church of Concord:

<http://www.concordfcc.net>

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