## STATEMENT OF FAITH: MARRIAGE AND HUMAN SEXUALITY

## **Preamble**

- We believe that all matters of faith and conduct must be evaluated on the basis of Holy Scripture, which is our infallible guide (2 Timothy 3:16–17). Since the Holy Bible does speak to the nature of human beings and their sexuality, it is imperative that we correctly understand and articulate what the Bible teaches on these matters.
- We are committed to the home and family as set forth in Holy Scripture. We believe God has ordained and created marriage to exist between one man and one woman, with absolute marital fidelity. The Bible sets forth specific home and family values, which include the distinct roles of husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, and children. It is our firm conviction that we uphold the dignity of each individual as we embrace the unchanging and longstanding principles of scriptural truth.

## **Religious Beliefs**

Based on Holy Scripture and the constant moral teaching of the universal Church, we believe:

- Marriage Christian Fellowship Church defines marriage as the permanent, exclusive, comprehensive, and conjugal "one flesh" union of one man and one woman, intrinsically ordered to procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child. (Genesis 1:27-28, Genesis 2:18-24, Matthew 19:4-9, Mark 10:5-9, Ephesians 5:31-33)
- **Sexual Immorality** Christian Fellowship Church believes that sexual acts outside marriage are prohibited as sinful. Consequently, Christian Fellowship Church members must resist and refrain from any and all sexual acts outside marriage including but not limited to adultery, fornication, incest, zoophilia, pornography, prostitution, masturbation, voyeurism, pedophilia, exhibitionism, sodomy, polygamy, polyamory, sologamy, or same-sex sexual acts. (Exodus 20:14, Leviticus 18:7-23, Leviticus 20:10-21, Deuteronomy 5:18, Matthew 15:19, Matthew 5:27-28, Matthew 15:19, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-13, 1 Thessalonians 4:3, Hebrews 13:4, Galatians 5:19, Ephesians 4:17-19, Colossians 3:5)
- **Sexual Identity** Christian Fellowship Church believes that God created mankind in His image: male (man) and female (woman), sexually different but with equal personal dignity. Consequently, Christian Fellowship Church members must affirm their biological sex and refrain from any and all attempts to physically change, alter, or disagree with their predominant biological sex including but not limited to elective sex-reassignment, transvestite, transgender, or non-binary "genderqueer" acts or conduct. (Genesis 1:26-28, Romans 1:26-32, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11)

- Sexual Orientation Christian Fellowship Church believes that God created and ordered human sexuality to the permanent, exclusive, comprehensive, and conjugal "one flesh" union of man and woman, intrinsically ordered to procreation and biological family, and in furtherance of the moral, spiritual, and public good of binding father, mother, and child. Consequently, Christian Fellowship Church members must affirm the sexual complementarity of man and woman and resist any and all same-sex sexual attractions and refrain from any and all same-sex sexual acts or conduct, which are intrinsically disordered. (Genesis 1:27, Genesis 2:24, Matthew 19:4-6, Mark 10:5-9, Romans 1:26-27, 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Ephesians 5:25-27, Revelation 19:7-9, Revelation 21:2)
- **Sexual Redemption** Christian Fellowship Church believes that all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God and should seek redemption through confession, repentance, baptism, and faith in Jesus Christ. Consequently, Christian Fellowship Church members must welcome and treat with respect, compassion, and sensitivity all who experience same-sex attractions or confess sexually immoral acts but are committed to resisting sexual temptation, refraining from sexual immorality, and conforming their behavior to [Church's] Statement of Faith. (Matthew 11:28-30, Romans 3:23, Ephesians 2:1-10, I Corinthians 10:13, Hebrews 2:17-18, Hebrews 4:14-16)
- Celibacy Christian Fellowship Church believes that Holy Scripture grants two lifeenhancing options for human sexual behavior: (1) the conjugal "one flesh" marital union of one man and one woman, and (2) celibacy. Either is a gift from God, given as He wills for His glory and the good of those who receive and rejoice in His gift to them. Celibacy and faithful singleness is to be celebrated and affirmed within the [Church]. (Genesis 1:27-28; 2:18, 21-24; Matthew 19:4-6; Mark 10:5-8; Hebrews 13:4; 1 Corinthians 7:1-8; Matthew 19:12; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; Romans 12:10; 1 Timothy 5:1-2)

## **Holy Scripture** Marriage and Human Sexuality

**Pastoral Care** 

Genesis 1:26-28 Genesis 2:18-24 Genesis 19:5-10 Exodus 20:14 Leviticus 18:7-23 Leviticus 20:10-21 Deuteronomy 5:18 Judges 19:22-24

Matthew 5:27-28

Matthew 15:19

Matthew 19:4-9

Mark 10:5-9

Romans 1:26-27

1 Corinthians 6:9-13

Matthew 11:28-30 Romans 3:23

Ephesians 2:1-10 1 Corinthians 10:13

Hebrews 2:17-18

Hebrews 4:14-16

Galatians 5:19

Ephesians 4:17-19

Ephesians 5:25-27

Ephesians 5:31

Colossians 3:5

1 Thessalonians 4:3

Hebrews 13:4

1 Timothy 1:8-10

Jude 1:7

Revelation 19:7-9

Revelation 21:2