

We believe that God wonderfully and immutably creates each person as male or female. These two distinct, complementary genders together reflect the image and nature of God (Gen 1:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person. To reject one's biological gender is to reject the work of the God, our Creator, and imply that God made a mistake. God does not make mistakes.

We believe that the term "marriage" has only one meaning: the uniting of one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture (Gen 2:18-25). We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to occur only between a man and a woman who are married to each other (1 Cor 6:18; 7:2-5; Heb 13:4). We believe that God has commanded that no sexual activity be engaged in outside the context of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, premarital sex, lewd conduct, transgender and homosexual behavior, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, sexual abuse, pedophilia and the distribution and viewing of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt 15:18-20; 1 Cor 6:9-10). We realize that there is a difference between temptation and behavior and while temptation is sometimes unavoidable we are responsible for our behavior.

At LeClaire Christian Church we will seek God to discern ways that we can directly and/or indirectly minister and share God's love with those who struggle with every kind of sin. We will provide the opportunity to worship and participate in community, provided that one's behavior and attitude is not causing disunity to the church body. If any person appears to have an agenda or is flaunting their sinful lifestyle they will be subject to church discipline.

We believe that in order to preserve the function and integrity of LeClaire Christian Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a Biblical role model to the LCC's members, congregants and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed or in leadership positions (elders, deacons or other positions as determined by the leadership team) with LeClaire Christian Church agree to abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt 5:16; Phil 2:14-16; 1 Thess 5:22). We will not affirm for membership or positions of leadership any who have willfully chosen to ignore or disobey God's design for sexuality as stated above.

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ (Acts 3:19-21; Rom 10:9-10; 1 Cor 6:9-11). Leclaire Christian Church will provide biblical counsel and assistance in any repentance and restoration process.

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity (Mark 12:28-31; Luke 6:31). Hateful and harassing behavior or attitudes directed toward any individual are to be repudiated and are not in accord with Scripture nor the beliefs of Leclaire Christian Church.

As a result of these above described beliefs it is our policy that the facilities of Leclaire Christian Church may not be used for any ceremony that is not in agreement with the Leclaire Christian Church Statement on Marriage, Gender and Sexuality. It is also the policy of LCC that no pastor or member of the church staff shall officiate at any ceremony not in agreement with the Leclaire Christian Church Statement of Marriage, Gender and Sexuality. No member of the church may enter into a union that is not in agreement with the Leclaire Christian Church Statement on Marriage, Gender and Sexuality without being subject to church discipline.

Marriage does not originate as a government institution but as a covenant relationship established by God. A civil government's sanction of a union will be recognized as a legitimate marriage by the church only to the extent that it is consistent with the Biblical definition of marriage found in this Policy Statement.

Approved by the Leclaire Christian Church Leadership Team on August 1, 2017