

Randall House Church
Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality

Beliefs

1. 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. 2:26-27). Rejection of one's biological sex is a rejection of the image of God within that person.
2. 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 Holy Scripture (Gen. 2:18-25). We believe that God intends intimate sexual relations to occur only between one man and one 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 intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.
3. We believe that any form of sexual immorality (including adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, and use of pornography) is sinful and offensive to God (Matt. 15:18-20; 1 Cor. 6:9-10).
4. 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).
5. We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, 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 Holy Scripture, the doctrines of our holy faith, nor the example of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

Policies

The church's facilities were provided through God's benevolence and by the sacrificial generosity of church members. The church desires that its facilities be used for the fellowship of the Body of Christ and to bring God glory. We make our facilities available to approved non-members as a witness to our faith, in a spirit of Christian charity and/or community involvement, and as a means of demonstrating the Gospel of Jesus Christ in practice. While we welcome persons who may or may not be Christians to use the facility for certain events like birthday or graduation celebrations, we cannot allow the facility to be used for the purpose of practicing, advocating, or advancing beliefs or practices that would conflict with the church's

faith or moral teachings, which are summarized in, among other places, this statement, our other doctrinal statements, the church's constitution and bylaws, and our other policy statements or contracts. By way of example, such activities would include worship services inconsistent with our doctrinal statement, same-sex unions or celebrations of such, or any other unbiblical, immoral, or illegal activity deemed such by the church.

In order to preserve the function and integrity of Randall House Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to its members and the community, all employees and/or those who serve as volunteers in any capacity agree to and abide by this Statement on Marriage, Gender, and Sexuality (Matt. 5:16; Phil. 2:14-16; 1 Thess.5:22).

Rationale

This restricted facility use policy is necessary for, among others, two important reasons. First, the church may not in good conscience materially cooperate in activities or beliefs that are contrary to its faith (2 Cor. 6:14; 1 Thess. 5:22). We cannot be unfaithful to Christ. Second, the church must present a consistent message to the community and maintain that message as part of our witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.