

## **MapleRidge Church Statement on Marriage, Sexual Orientation & Gender Identify**

1. The following is a statement regarding human sexuality and marriage.

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 doctrines of MapleRidge Church.

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. (Genesis 1:26-27.)

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. (Genesis 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 Corinthians 6:18; 7:2-5; Hebrews 13:4.)

We believe that any form of sexual immorality is sinful and offensive to God and that no one sexual sin is greater or lesser than any other sexual sin. (Matthew 15:18-20; 1 Corinthians 6:9-10.)

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; Romans 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 6:9-11.)

2. Weddings in MapleRidge Church are Christian worship services.
3. The use of ministry facilities is for religious and other purposes as deemed appropriate by the governing board.