

## **PIPE CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH**

### **Amendment No. 1 to the Bylaws of Pipe Creek Community Church**

#### **Statement on Marriage and Sexuality**

We believe the term 'marriage' has only one meaning and that is "marriage sanctioned by God which joins one man and one woman in a single, exclusive union, as delineated in Scripture."

We believe that God intends sexual intimacy to only occur between a man and a woman who are married to each other. We believe that God has commanded that no intimate sexual activity be engaged in outside of a marriage between a man and a woman.

We believe that any form of sexual immorality, such as adultery, fornication, homosexuality, bisexual conduct, bestiality, incest, pornography, or any attempt to change one's sex, or disagreement with one's biological sex, is sinful and offensive to God.

We believe that to preserve the function and integrity of Pipe Creek Community Church as the local Body of Christ, and to provide a biblical role model to the church members and the community, it is imperative that all persons employed by the church in any capacity, or who serve as volunteers, should abide by and agree to this Statement on Marriage and Sexuality and conduct themselves accordingly.

We believe that God offers redemption and restoration to all who confess and forsake their sin, seeking His mercy and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.

We believe that every person must be afforded compassion, love, kindness, respect, and dignity. 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 the church.

Therefore, because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, Pipe Creek Community Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the pastors/elders/deacons and staff of Pipe Creek Community Church shall only participate in weddings and solemnize marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the facilities and property of Pipe Creek Community Church shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.

**Approved by Congregation August 31, 2015**