

## MARRIAGE & HUMAN SEXUALITY

- We believe God intentionally designed and created humanity male and female:  
**Genesis 1:27:** *So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*
- **Genesis 5:1-2:** *This is the written account of Adam's family line. When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. <sup>2</sup> He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them "Mankind" when they were created.*
- **Matthew 19:4-5:** *"Haven't you read," he replied, "that at the beginning the Creator 'made them male and female, <sup>5</sup> and said, 'For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh?'"*
- We believe marriage is ordained and instituted by God and according to the Bible can only exist and be fulfilled between a man and a woman:
- **Genesis 2:21-24:** *"So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs<sup>[a]</sup> and then closed up the place with flesh. <sup>22</sup> Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib<sup>[b]</sup> he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. <sup>23</sup> The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman, 'for she was taken out of man." <sup>24</sup> That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh." **Matthew 19:3-11; Mark 10:2-12; Ephesians 5:21-33; 1 Timothy 3:2,12.***
- We believe marriage is a picture of the relationship of Christ and the Church and is to be a lifelong, covenant relationship between a man and a woman based on love, respect, mutual submission and personal sacrifice: **Matthew 5:31-32; 19:3-11; Ephesians 5:21-33; 1 Peter 3:1-7; 1 Corinthians 7:10-16.**
- **Malachi 2:14-16:** *"You ask, "Why?" It is because the LORD is the witness between you and the wife of your youth. You have been unfaithful to her, though she is your partner, the wife of your marriage covenant. <sup>15</sup> Has not the one God made you? You belong to him in body and spirit. And what does the one God seek? Godly offspring. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth. <sup>16</sup> "The man who hates and divorces his wife," says the LORD, the God of Israel, "does violence to the one he should protect," says the LORD Almighty. So be on your guard, and do not be unfaithful."*
- We believe God intended sexual intimacy to be enjoyed only within the context of the male and female marriage relationship; and that all other sexual relations outside of marriage are personally destructive, sinful and forbidden by God.
- **1 Corinthians 7:2-5;** *But since sexual immorality is occurring, each man should have sexual relations with his own wife, and each woman with her own husband. <sup>3</sup> The husband should fulfill his marital duty to his wife, and likewise the wife to her husband. <sup>4</sup> The wife does not have authority over her own body but yields it to her husband. In the same way, the husband does not have authority over his own body but yields it to his wife. <sup>5</sup> Do not deprive each other except perhaps by mutual consent and for a time, so that you may devote yourselves to prayer. Then come together again so that Satan will not tempt you because of your lack of self-control.*

Hebrews 13:4: *Marriage should be honored by all, and the marriage bed kept pure, for God will judge the adulterer and all the sexually immoral.* **Genesis 1:28; 2:25; Leviticus 18:1-30; Romans 1:24-32; I Thessalonians 4:1-8; Jude 1:7**

- Because God has ordained marriage and defined it as the covenant relationship between a man, a woman, and Himself, Parkston Congregational Church will only recognize marriages between a biological man and a biological woman. Further, the Pastor shall only participate in weddings and perform marriages between one man and one woman. Finally, the facilities and property of PCC shall only host weddings between one man and one woman.